

Dear Members:

2017 is an important year for the housing management industry in Hong Kong. Following the enactment of the Property Management Services Ordinance (PMSO) in May 2016, the Property Management Services Authority (PMSA) was established at the end of the year. In 2017, APB has actively participated in the discussion of the PMSO and diligently submitted our views on the formulation of licensing criteria, codes of conduct, assessment of qualification, etc. to the PMSA. Also, we continued to promote APB and professional property management standards, fostering good communication with other professional bodies and related government departments in the Asia-Pacific region.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to thank our Executive Committee for their contributions and our members for your active engagement, without which we would not be able to enhance the service level of property management and be recognized by the industry in the Asia-Pacific region. We will continue to promote the professional status of housing managers and collaborate with fellow counterparts to meet the upcoming opportunities and challenges.

Below please find the highlights of some of the achievements we have accomplished:

1. Promoting Business in the Asia Pacific Region

In September, APB delegates visited Hanoi, Vietnam to meet the officials of the local housing authorities, including the Head of Housing Department of Hanoi Construction Department, the Director of Vietnam Institute of Architecture, Ministry of Construction and the Head of Research and Development Division of Hanoi Urban Planning Institute to learn more about the public housing schemes and private housing projects of Hanoi.

In October, China Property Management Association invited APB to participate in the first international Property Management Industry EXPO. The EXPO provided an excellent platform for property management companies and relevant service providers to communicate directly, and demonstrated innovative ways to improve property management service performances. Apart from joining APB to visit Shenzhen, Ms. Julie Fadden, immediate past President of CIH, also delivered a speech in the China Property Management Innovation and Development Forum. We came to realize that “Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Region” would form a cluster leveraging our strength to foster overall development in the area. In the forum, participants also discussed the possibility to collaborate for better property development and management opportunities, which would in turn benefit our members in the long run.

2. Collaboration with Headquarters in UK

As always, APB maintains a close collaboration and good communications with Headquarters at all times. In August, Mr. Paul Fung, our Deputy Chairman, visited Coventry to meet the Executive Team of the CIH Headquarters. We also conducted video conference meetings with CIH headquarters to exchange views and explain the new laws in the Mainland and Hong Kong, such as “Property Management Services Ordinance” in Hong Kong and “The People’s Republic of China outside the non-governmental organizations Management law”. These new legislations will bring new challenges and opportunities to the property management industry in Hong Kong and the development of our Institute in Mainland China.

3. Local Property Management Legislation

The Property Management Services Ordinance was enacted in May last year. Property Management Services Authority (PMSA) was also established to examine the licensing mechanism and procedures for property management companies and property management practitioners. APB was invited by PMSA to attend two focus group meetings along with other professional bodies in October 2017. We will continue to take part in relevant meetings and reflect the views of the industry.

In addition, the Building Management Ordinance is currently under review by the government. APB attended a meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs of the Legislative Council earlier this year, and submitted our views on the amendments.

4. Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

It is a pleasure to note that Continuing Professional Development (CPD) received an enthusiastic support from our members. In 2017, we held a number of seminars, workshops, professional forums and other activities to provide an access to new industry information and a platform to share knowledge and generate innovative ideas for and from our members. We are glad to see that a positive attitude has been developed among members to cope with the needs of the everchanging demand on our industry from the society.

5. Validation of Professional Training Programmes

APB has been professionally implementing the educational and training policies of CIH HQ. This year, we validated the “Higher Diploma in Surveying, Quantity Surveying and Property & Facility Management Stream” and “Bachelor of Science (Honors) in Surveying, Quantity Surveying and Property & Facility Management Stream” of The Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi), Vocational Training Council.

6. Membership Promotion and Management

In order to manage membership affairs effectively, we re-formulated various policies such as professional codes of conduct, complaints handling mechanism and application for Re-admission to or Re-instatement of Membership by Ex-members.

We are glad to announce that our membership has exceeded 3,000 this year, including members from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan and Macao. Although we expect there may be challenges from the new statutory requirements in Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao in the foreseeable future, we are still confident that APB will keep moving forward to achieve sustainable development with the concerted efforts of the Executive Committee and our members.

Looking ahead to year 2018, there are full of opportunities and challenges in the field of property management. We will continue to collaborate with fellow professional institutes to monitor government's progress in legislation, make every effort to uphold the professionalism of the industry, and update our members on any latest development in our newsletters on a timely basis.

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Chairman

Chartered Institute of Housing Asian Pacific Branch