HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Report of the Chairman of the Executive Board for the period of April 2017 to March 2018

The year 2017/18 was one in which the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) underwent consolidation as the limelight the Corps was put under throughout its 45th Anniversary celebrations also afforded us many opportunities to interact with stakeholders external and internal, who shared with us valuable ideas and insightful views for self-reflection on our way forward. A priority issue carried over from the previous years was the sustainability of the Ha Fa Shan Camp on self-financing basis, given that the three-year subvention from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charitable Trust to the Project effectively ended in FY 2016/17. A task force was formed under the Executive Board to explore operating models on one hand to generate more income to achieve Project breakeven, and to critically review the Ha Fa Shan Camp's viability in an objective manner to advise the Executive Board on a "go or no go decision".

The above notwithstanding, 2017/18, the Government's calling on the uniformed groups to play a bigger role in the furtherance of Youth Development in Hong Kong, and the constantly growing manpower requirement of the local Aviation Industry underpinned by the massive Airport Master Plan 2030 (MP2030) and the Third Runway (3RS) Projects, both ensured that the Corps was kept extremely busy during the Year. We made good on various commitments agreed upon between the Corps and our overseas and Mainland partners, with more training and exchange opportunities abroad thus became available during the year. As always our Senior Management Team and volunteer members under the Commanding Officer ably managed our multi-faceted service portfolios featuring the dual themes of Non-formal Education and Aviation Education, through which over 30 scholarship awards on flying, gliding, range shooting and leadership development were offered in the year to our young people.

As at 31 March 2018, the Corps' strength stood at 3,793 cadet members organized into 49 cadet or university squadrons based at secondary schools, university campuses and community centres. They were led, taught and supported by 1,511 volunteer senior members.

Total revenue during 2017/18 was \$4,659,375 (against \$6,431,500 budgeted), with total expenditure at \$5,027,689 (against a \$7,143,804 budget estimate). A deficit of \$368,315 (against a projected loss of \$712,304) was reported, largely due to an operational loss of \$345,659 incurred by the Ha Fa Shan Project. In spite of the above, the Corps' financial position remained sound (at \$6m) to maintain the Corps' services for a full year without any revenue. As always, financial prudence to safeguard public accountability and best value for money remains the primary objective of both the Executive Board and the Senior Management Team.

The Executive Board met on four occasions over the year to exercise governance on the Corps. This included overseeing the Mui Wo Helicopter Operating Base and Ha Fa Shan Camp Project, approval of major honours/awards, development of flying opportunities, internal financial control review, and the promotion/succession planning of Senior Officers. In this summary Annual Report, I shall endeavor to give an overview and a concise account of the main features of our activities in 2017/18, yet another year of great effort from the Corps in meeting the needs of the Hong Kong Community.

Highlights of the Period

As the activities of the Corps are detailed in the Commanding Officer's Reports submitted before each Executive Board Meeting and copies of such Reports are available upon request from the Headquarters, I shall only highlight below the more prominent events and accomplishments:

- (a) The first cohort of 22 candidates successfully completed the Government Flying Service Aviation Inspiration Programme (GAINS) which took place on 25 March, 26 March and 1 April 2017, all of them undertook classroom and practical training designed to provide a basic but all rounded understanding of different GFS staff positions. The programme culminated in a graduation ceremony on 1 April 2017, hosted by the Controller, GFS.
- (b) 11 candidates completed the No 1 Qualified Aviation Instructor Course (QAIC), introduced this year and held from March to May 2017 to prepare qualified members, especially cadets, to be competent trainers of designated aviation education subjects at Squadron, Wing and Corps levels. QAIC also serves to standardize aviation education training throughout the Corps. Upon successful completion and passing of QAIC, members will be appointed as Qualified Aviation Instructors (QAIs) and cadet members so qualified are eligible to wear a blue lanyard, similar to their UK counterparts. A graduation ceremony for the first intake of QAIs will be held some time during the coming summer.
- (c) Arranged through the UK Naval and Air Attachè, Beijing and as part of an 8-day official "Staff Ride" to Hong Kong, 10 serving members of No 28 Squadron (Chinook and Puma Operational Conversion Unit), Royal Air Force, paid a courtesy visit to the Corps on 8 April 2017, which was kicked off with a visit to the Ceremonial Squadron in the early afternoon, followed by a well attended seminar on the Squadron's history, capabilities and roles at the Aviation Club, and dinner with HKACC and Aviation Club members.
- (d) The Annual Joint HKACC-SDAIA Aviation Camp took place from 13 to 18 April 2017 with 32 HKACC participants, financed through Youth Development in Aviation Fund allocation, Commission on Youth subvention and private sponsorship. The Camp at its different stages was held in Qingdao, Jiaozhou and Jiaonan of the Shandong Province.

- (e) The Annual Operations Group Parade was held on 23 April 2017 at the Police Tactical Unit Headquarters, reviewed by Mr GONG Julong JP, Member of the Standing Committee of the Guangdong Provincial Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Mr GONG contributed to the Joint HKACC-SDAIA Aviation Camp this year.
- (f) The Operations Group organized a one-day management seminar and retreat entitled "Engaging Young People in Hong Kong Equipping HKACC for 2020" on 24 June 2017. The Colloquium attracted more than 100 participants and was divided into two segments, namely, talks given by guest speakers, and panel discussions on topical issues. Dr Rosanna WONG, DBE, JP, former Executive Director, Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, was the keynote speaker. She was joined by Dr Albert CHAU, Vice-President (Teaching and Learning), Baptist University, and Mr LI Chi Fai, Deputy General Secretary (Training and Development), Boys' Brigade, who took turns to speak on various matters relating to youth development and how to engage the younger generation. Findings and recommendations made at the Colloquium were incorporated in the Corps' annual service plan for the Community Chest's consideration, and provided fresh ideas for the Senior Management Team to formulate strategies for future.
- (g) Twenty Corps members, including the Commanding Officer and Executive Board members, were invited to the Military Parade at the PLA Shek Kong Airbase to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Establishment of the HKSAR on 30 September 2017. President Xi Jinping was the Reviewing Officer.
- (h) 『三項達人大賞賽 』陸上攻略競技比賽暨閉幕禮 was successfully held on 9 July 2017 in Tai Po with 350 participants. This marked the conclusion of the joint HKACC-HKAYP programme held over 2016 and 2017 and sponsored by the Commission on Youth.
- (i) 青少年制服團隊大巡遊暨嘉年華, the finale event to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the HKSAR's establishment, took place on 16 July 2017 and involved more than 100 HKACC members. The Corps took a leading role and contributed the Parade Commander, brass and pipe bands and several drill instructors to help bringing it to a resounding success. The Secretary for Home Affairs took the salute at the Parade.
- (j) The Annual Summer Camp was organized for 150 members and Shandong escorts/cadets from 14 to 19 July 2017, with activities held at both the Adventure Corps High Island Training Camp and the HKACC Ha Fa Shan Camp.
- (k) The "1,000 miles Friendly Trek" (「同心同根萬里行」) programme of 2017 saw 17 HKACC members visiting Beijing and Harbin from 21 to 29 July.
- (1) The International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) Hong Kong Phase was held from 18 July to 2 August 2017. 6 escort officers and 27 cadets from abroad and the Mainland joined the Hong Kong programme, in exchange for 5 HKACC escort officers and 23 cadets received by our overseas partners.

- (m) The Corps turned out in strength to support the World Helicopter Day (Hong Kong) organized by the Aviation Club at the Central Waterfront on 20 August 2017
- (n) The Commanding Officer joined the IACE Association Annual Conference 2017 in Tokyo from 10 to 14 September 2017.
- (o) A Mess Night centrally organized by the Corps was held on 22 September 2017 at the Jockey Club, Happy Valley, with over 210 participants. The Hon CHAN Hak Kan, BBS, JP, Chairman of the Panel on Security, Legislative Council, and former officer, was the Guest of Honour.
- (p) The National Day Flag Raising and HKACC Medal Presentation Ceremony 2017 organized at the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence was the first such occasion where the Corps contributed the Parade Commander, MC and band support all at the same time.
- (q) Courtesy of the Commandant, arrangement was made for representatives of the Royal Air Force Central Flying School to meet young members of the Corps on 24 October 2017 at the Aviation Club.
- (r) A Flag Day was held in the Kowloon Region on 11 November 2017. \$543,603 was raised and a net income of \$523,901 was achieved after deducting expenditures.
- (s) The Annual Parade was held on 19 November 2017 at the Hong Kong Police College, Wong Chuk Hang, reviewed by the Hon LAU Kong Wah, JP, Secretary for Home Affairs. It marked the first very time an HKSAR Government policy secretary overseeing Civic Affairs, Youth Development and the Uniform Group portfolios served as the Guest of Honour at an HKACC Annual Parade.
- (t) Apart from the Annual Parade 2017, there were two other major parades which fell within the reporting period, namely the Training Group Parade of 21 January 2018 (inspected by Hon Air Cdre CHAN Kwok Chiu, BBS, MH, JP), and the Operations Group Parade held on 18 March 2018 (reviewed by Mr AU Chi Kwong Sonny, PDSM, PMSM, JP, Under-Secretary for Security). Both were held at the Police Tactical Unit Headquarters, Fan Ling.
- (u) As the first step toward a closer affiliation with the PLA Hong Kong Garrison, 220 HKACC members were invited to the PLAAF Air Base at Shek Kong for a 3 hour visit on 25 March 2018. Apart from tour of barrack facilities, the visitors were treated to a briefing on the role of the Garrison, and "close encounter" with two each of Z8 and Z9 helicopters.
- (v) Further development toward a closer tie of PLA Hong Kong Garrison culminated in a four day drill training course held at the San Wai Barrack on 25 March, 1 April, 2 April and 8 April 2018. 16 HKACC members completed this course, which was the largest contingent among the five uniformed groups invited to participate (Air Cadets, Adventure Corps, Sea Cadets, Army Cadet Association and the Association of Flag Guards).

Executive Board Appointments and Resignations

At the Executive Board Meeting of 7 June 2017, Captain Michael C P CHAN, MBS, MBB, GMSM, AE, was appointed Commandant in the rank of Air Commodore on a four-year term, effective 1 July 2017.

At the first Executive Board Meeting of 10 January 2018, Mr Edmund W C CHOW, AE, was elected Honorary Treasurer on a one-year term. The appointment was confirmed by majority vote at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE, was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 10 January 2018, for a term of one year.

Captain Joe Y C FUNG was appointed Honorary Secretary of the Executive Board at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 10 January 2018, for a term of one year.

Honorary Group Captain Patrick K M MAK was co-opted as a Board Member to fill a casual vacancy since 10 January 2018 until the next Annual General Meeting (to be held on 9 January 2019).

Mr Arnold K K CHENG resigned from the Executive Board on 31 May 2017.

Ms Scarlett O L PONG, BBS, JP resigned from the Executive Board on 10 January 2018 for personal reasons.

Raymond Y K TSE & Co CPA Limited was appointed Auditor for the Financial Year 2017/18.

Finance

The Corps continues to rely on subventions through the Home Affairs Bureau and the Community Chest as its principal funding for capital and recurrent expenditures. Additional funding was available in the form of corporate, personal and charitable trust donations, as well as Honorary Officer endowments. In order to balance the budget, the Corps also generates income from membership fees, course fees, and sales of stock items. The Corps' audited accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2018 will be presented later at the meeting.

Votes of Thanks

The Corps is highly appreciative to donors and sponsors for their financial support which is crucial to our operation. Special praises go to the following individuals and organizations for their staunch backing of the Air Cadets:

- (a) The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for recurrent and one-off subventions released through the Home Affairs Bureau and the Commission on Youth, and for policy support to our key projects by the Home Affairs Bureau.
- (b) The Government Flying Service, for offering the Government Flying Service Aviation Inspiration Programme (GAINS) exclusively to HKACC as a platform to inspire and empower young people for a possible career in the Aviation Industry. .
- (c) The Community Chest, for its recurrent subvention.
- (d) The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, for sponsoring overseas trips of cadet members under the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) programme..
- (e) The Hong Kong Cathay Pacific Dragon Airlines, for offering the Cathay Pacific Dragonair Aviation Certificate Programme.
- (f) The Cathay Pacific Airways, for their support to the Advanced Aviation Education Programme.
- (g) The Honorary Officers, represented on the Executive Board by Hon Air Cdre Capt CHAN Kwok Chiu, BBS, MH, JP and Hon Gp Capt Patrick K W MAK, for their financial contributions and support to the Corps' events, projects, programmes and individual units.
- (h) Volunteer helicopter and aeroplane pilots of the Flying Squadron, for organizing air experience flights for members and friends of the Corps.

Epilogue

I am delighted to have taken over as Chairman of the Executive Board of the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps from December 2016. The position of the Board Chairman is a delicate one in terms of ensuring the Corps adheres to the policy recommendations and guidance of the Executive board in an appropriate manner. I am therefore greatly indebted to my Executive Board, uniformed and salaried staff colleagues for a fruitful year of lively engagement and cooperation. As we moved past the stage of consolidation and reflection, the scene is set for us together to take the Corps to new heights.

(Hogan LOH)
Chairman of the Executive Board
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS

Executive Board as at 31 March 2018

Chairman

Mr Hogan LOH

- Merchant
- Committee Member and Former President, Hong Kong Aviation Club

Commandant

Air Commodore Michael C P CHAN, MBS, MBB, GMSM, AE

- Controller, Government Flying Service

Vice-Chairman

Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE

Vice President, Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Taiwan, Emirate Airlines

Commanding Officer

Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing

- Senior Security Consultant, Asia Pacific Security Services Limited

Honorary Secretary

Captain Joe Y C FUNG

- Pilot, Cathay Pacific Airway

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Edmund W C CHOW, AE

- Civil Servant

Members

Mr Peter C C CHAU, BBS, MBE, QPM, CPM

- Merchant
- Honorary Commandant, Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force

Mr Alan K L WONG

- Former Senior Executive, Cathay Pacific Airways

Group Captain Leonard K P LEUNG, MH, AE

- Commanding Officer Emeritus and Special Adviser
- Former Air Crewman Officer I, Government Flying Service

Honorary Air Commodore CHAN Kwok Chiu, BBS, MH, JP

- Honorary Air Commodore

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS

Executive Board as at 31 March 2018 (cont'd)

Air Commodore Peter Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP

- Honorary Commandant
- Former Commanding Officer, Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Air Force
- Retired Banker

Dr Joseph LEE, GBS, OStJ, JP

- Former Hong Kong Deputy to the National People's Congress,
- Former Chairman, Commission on Youth
- Former Chairman, Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education

Mr Peter Tat Wing YAM, SBS, PDSM, CPM

- Former Deputy Commissioner of Police

Mr Edmond PK CHAN

- President, Hong Kong Aviation Club

Dr Angus H W CHEUNG

- Chief Executive Officer, China Aircraft Services Limited

Honorary Group Captain Patrick K W MAK

- Senior Honorary Officer

Air Cadet Liaison Officer (Government Flying Service)

Mr Mason W C NG, MBB, AE

- Air Crewman Officer I, Government Flying Service