

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Board
for the period of April 2018 to March 2019

In my predecessor's report for the financial year 2018/19 it was pointed out that a priority issue to be resolved by the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) during 2018/19 would be the sustainability of the Ha Fa Shan Camp (HFSC) on self-financing basis, for which a task force was formed under the Executive Board to explore operating models to achieve financial breakeven, and to critically review viability of the HFSC project. Having considered all possible alternatives, the Executive Board decided to scale down the operation of HFSC from April 2018. This, unfortunately, necessitated retrenchment of HFSC staff, who were duly compensated according to the Employment Ordinance (Cap 57) and relevant Labour Department guidelines.

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 20 February 2019 several Executive Board (EB) Members were unsuccessful in their attempts to seek re-election, and an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) was deemed necessary to pass an ordinary resolution to appoint the Chairman as so elected by the Executive Board for a term of two years. The EGM was later held on 21 March 2019, at which I was elected and appointed Chairman of the Executive Board on the platform of securing a long term headquarters site for the Corps, amongst other undertakings of strategic significance. I am deeply grateful for your confidence, trust, and support. Together in a steady and stepwise manner we shall achieve our goals, and bring our Corps to new heights.

As at 31 March 2019, the Corps' strength stood at 3,342 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 1,435 volunteer senior members.

Total revenue during 2018/19 was \$5,038,614 (against \$6,009,400 budgeted), with total expenditure at \$4,500,610 (against a \$6,747,219 budget estimate). An operating surplus of \$538,004 (against a projected loss of \$737,819) was reported. The Corps' overall financial position continued to be sound, with a cash balance of \$6.9m, hence the capacity to maintain the Corps' services for a year without 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 six occasions during the year to exercise governance on the Corps. This included decision on the future of HFSC Project, approval of major honors/awards, financial control, formulation of long term strategies, and the promotion/succession planning of Senior Officers. In this Annual Report, I shall provide an overview of our main activities in 2018/19.

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) Mr CHAN Man Lang, IDSM, former Assistant Director of Immigration, was commissioned Group Captain and appointed Commanding Officer Designate at the EB Meeting of 11 April 2018.
- (b) Flag Day 2018/19 was held in the Hong Kong Island Region on 5 May 2018. \$403,143 was raised and a net income of \$390,755 was achieved after deducting expenditures.
- (c) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between HKACC and the University of Wollongong in Hong Kong/the Community College of City University (UOWHK/CCCU) on 18 May 2018 in the Headland Hotel, Cathay Pacific City to formalize the partnership between the three organisations for offering the Associate Degree in Aviation and Pilot Studies from September 2018 onward by UOWHK/CCCU. Representing HKACC at the Ceremony was the Commandant, with the Deputy Director-General of Civil Aviation present as a witness. The Ceremony was followed by the 20th Anniversary Dinner of the Advanced Aviation Education Programme (AAEP) celebrating the programme's two decades of success in grooming local aviation talents, and providing a get together occasion for teachers, administrators and students past and present.
- (d) The "1,000 miles Friendly Trek 2018" (「同心同根萬里行 2018」) programme was organised in 佛山, 貴陽 and 桂林 from 21 to 29 July with 9 HKACC participants.
- (e) The International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) Hong Kong Phase was held from 17 July to 1 August 2018, which included an excursion trip to the Mainland from 27 to 29 July. 6 escort officers and 30 cadets from abroad and the Mainland joined the Hong Kong programme, in exchange for 4 HKACC escort officers and 29 cadets received by overseas exchange partners.
- (f) Dr CHOW Yei Ching, GBS, OBE, Honorary Adviser to the Corps since 2006, passed away peacefully on 29 July 2018. The Chairman, Commanding Officer, Commanding Officer Designate and Chief Staff Officer attended the memorial service on 6 August 2018. In lieu of flowers, the late Dr CHOW's family graciously urged friends and associates to donate to the Corps, and close to \$200K was raised.
- (g) The Summer Camp 2018 was organized from 22 to 26 August for 111 campers, including 2 teacher-escorts and 4 air cadets from Shandong. The Camp was primarily based at the Scout Association Tung Tsz Camp, with activities staged at the GFS HQ, the Junior Police Call Youth Training Camp in Pat Heung, and the HKACC Piper's Hill Adventure Activities Base.

- (h) The Commanding Officer and the Officer Commanding International Exchange Unit joined the International Air Cadet Exchange Association (IACEA) Annual Conference in Brisbane, Australia, from 9 to 13 September 2018. Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing, Commanding Officer was elected at the Conference as President of the IACEA for a two-year term.
- (i) A \$10m top up of the Home Affairs Bureau Uniformed Groups/AYP/AVS subvention budget (currently at about \$100m/annum) was announced under the Chief Executive Policy Address 2018. This was translated into a \$248k increase in annual recurrent subvention to HKACC.
- (j) The Annual Parade 2018 was held on Sunday, 4 November at the Hong Kong Police College, with over 800 members on parade, on supporting duties, or otherwise presented themselves as spectators. The Honorable WONG Kam Sing, GBS, JP, Secretary for the Environment, stood in as Reviewing Officer as Acting Chief Secretary for the Honorable Matthew CHEUNG, GBM, GBS, JP, who unfortunately was not able to attend the event due to urgent official business. Apart from reviewing and addressing the Corps, the Acting Chief Secretary also presented qualified members with decorations and medals at the Officers' Mess.
- (k) Group Captain CHAN Man Lang, IDSM, assumed command of the Corps from 5 December 2018 as Commanding Officer, succeeding Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing upon the latter's successful completion of two four-year terms.
- (l) Air Vice-Marshal Warren "Bunny" JAMES, CBE, Air Officer Commanding No 22 (Training Group), RAF, paid a courtesy visit to the Corps on 10 November 2018 after the Zhuhai Airshow. A sunset parade featuring continuity drill and music performance was jointly organised by the Ceremonial Squadron, Music Services Flight and Pipe Band to greet AVM JAMES on his arrival at our HQ, followed by a sharing and interaction session and a formal dinner. The Corps also took the opportunity to present the HKACC Gold Medal of Special Merit to Air Commodore Dawn McCAFFERTY, CBE, Commandant Royal Air Force Air Cadets "for services to Friendship and Cooperation between the RAFAC and HKACC". AVM JAMES, as Air Cdre McCAFFERTY's supervising officer, received the Medal on the latter's behalf.
- (m) A formal application for tenancy for use of the entire Sung Wong Toi Road site to accommodate the Corps' headquarters, training and supporting facilities was submitted to the Lands Department on 22 March 2019. Meetings have since been held with members of the Legislative Council and the Kowloon City District Council to lobby for the Corps' request.
- (n) Brigadier Tim LAW, the British Defence Attaché to Beijing appointed in December 2018, visited the Corps on Saturday, 16 March 2019, accompanied by Group Captain Mike LAVENDER, Air and Deputy Defence Attaché. They were treated to a warm reception hosted by close to 200 members of the No 1 (HKI) Wing.

Executive Board Appointments and Resignations

At the Executive Board Meeting of 11 April 2018, Mr CHAN Man Lang, IDSM, was appointed Commanding Officer Designate in the rank of Group Captain. He was also co-opted as a Board Member to fill a casual vacancy on the Board until the next Annual General Meeting.

Mr Peter T W YAM, SBS, PDSM, CPM resigned from the Executive Board on 15 April 2018.

Mr Peter C C CHAU, BBS, MBE, QPM, CPM, resigned from the Executive Board on 26 October 2018.

Group Captain CHAN Man Lang, IDSM, assumed command of the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps on 5 December 2018, and was appointed an *ex-officio* member of the Executive Board on the same date.

At the Executive Board Meeting of 30 November 2018, Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing was appointed a co-opted member of the Executive Board with effect from 5 December 2018, to replace his *ex-officio* membership.

At the first Executive Board Meeting of 20 February 2019, 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.

Executive Board Chairman *cum* Member Mr Hogan LOH, Executive Board Member Honorary Air Commodore CHAN Kwok Chiu, BBS, MH, JP, and Executive Board Member Honorary Group Captain Patrick K W MAK were not re-elected at the Annual General Meeting of 20 February 2019.

Air Commodore Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 20 February 2019, for a term of one year.

Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing was appointed Honorary Secretary of the Executive Board at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 20 February 2019, for a term of one year.

Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE was elected Chairman of the Executive Board at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 20 February 2019, for a term of two years. The appointment was confirmed by majority votes at the Extraordinary General Meeting of 21 March 2019.

Mr Alan K L WONG resigned from the Executive Board on 21 February 2019.

Mr Edmond P K CHAN resigned from the Executive Board on 3 March 2019.

Raymond Y K TSE & Co CPA Limited was appointed Auditor for the Financial Year 2018/19.

Staff Movements

(a) Headquarters Staff

Flight Lieutenant LEUNG Chun Fui was re-titled as Operations and Training Officer from his original position of Operations and Training Assistant with effect from 1 April 2018. He stepped down from his full-time position and was re-employed as Part-time Operations and Training Officer on 1 November 2018.

Mr LAI Cheuk Fung was employed as Part-time Operations and Training Assistant on 17 January 2019.

Mr WONG Pak Yin was employed as Part-time Operations and Training Assistant on 1 February 2019.

(b) Ha Fa Shan Camp Staff

Mr LEUNG Hin Lung ceased to serve as Camp Programmer on 16 August 2018.

Mr MAK Sui Lun ceased to serve as Camp Officer of the Ha Fa Shan Camp on 21 September 2018.

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 2019 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 ongoing support to HKACCs:

- (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 its operational support to the Annual Summer camp and 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 Cathay Pacific Airways, for offering the Cathay Aviation Certificate Programme and its support to the Advanced Aviation Education Programme.
- (f) The Honorary Officers, represented on the Executive Board by Honorary Air Commodore CHAN Kwok Chiu, BBS, MH, JP and Honorary Group Captain Patrick K W MAK, for their financial contributions and support to the Corps' events, projects, programmes and individual units.
- (g) Volunteer helicopter and aeroplane pilots of the Flying Squadron, for organizing air experience flights for members and friends of the Corps.

Epilogue

It is my great honour to serve the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps in the new position of Chairman of the Executive Board since 21 March 2019. I am greatly indebted to all members for their concerted and continued efforts to make the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps one of Hong Kong's most innovative and forward looking uniformed groups. The Corps will continue, as always, to provide quality non-formal and aviation education to Hong Kong's next generation. Acting on my election platform of securing a long term headquarters site for the Corps, together we shall take the Corps to new heights.

(Edwin W C LAU)
Chairman of the Executive Board
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

11 December 2019

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS
Executive Board as at 31 March 2019

Chairman

Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE

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

Vice-Chairman

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

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

Commandant

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

- Controller, Government Flying Service

Commanding Officer

Group Captain CHAN Man Lang, IDSM

- Former Assistant Director of Immigration

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Edmund W C CHOW, AE

- Engineer, Airport Authority

Honorary Secretary

Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing

- Former Commanding Officer

Members

Captain Joe Y C FUNG

- Training Captain, Cathay Pacific Airway

Group Captain Leonard K P LEUNG, MH, AE

- Commanding Officer Emeritus and Special Adviser

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

Dr Angus H W CHEUNG

- Chief Executive Officer, China Aircraft Services Limited

Mr Mason W C NG, MBB, AE

- Air Cadet Liaison Officer (Government Flying Service)
- Air Crewman Officer I, Government Flying Service