# HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Report of the Chairman of the Executive Board for the period of April 2022 to March 2023

This has been a year of significant achievements for the Corps as it transitioned into the post-pandemic era. Thanks to resilience, agility, the dedication of our members, and an enormous commitment of resources, we were able to fully resume our programmes and activities from the second half of the season with great success. This success is demonstrated by our accomplishments and record community contribution this year.

With the increase in demand for the manpower of aviation, we are working closely with the Government Flying Service (GFS) and our partners to provide aviation-related professional courses to cultivate talented people in Hong Kong. HKACC is very pleased that the GFS has deepened its collaboration with HKACC to provide intensive enrichment training to its members. Through organizing various types of visits, training and activities, this provides exposure on the various interesting and inspirational roles of the GFS to the youth members.

To enhance members' sense of belonging to the country and national identity, one of the initiatives is the full adoption of Chinese-style foot drills and flag-raising in the regular assemblies with effect from 1 January 2023. The Annual Parade at the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force Headquarters on 26 March 2023 marked the very first time the Corps has adopted the protocols of the Chinese-style foot drill for parade. The full implementation of the Chinese-style foot drill demonstrates the Corps' national sentiment and patriotic feelings for the country, and showcases the demeanour of HKACC.

We continue to enhance the Corps' management and operations. PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited (PwC) conducts an ongoing strategic review of the Corps' current leadership and operations as well as to consider the way forward for the Corps in the years ahead. Through the ongoing collaboration with PwC and the implementation of the strategic recommendations, this will enable the Corps to better fulfill its mission and provide valuable opportunities for its members.

As at 31 March 2023, the Corps' strength stood at 2,906 cadet members organized into 44 cadet or university squadrons based at secondary schools, university campuses and community centres. They were led, taught and supported by 1,311 volunteer senior members.

Total revenue during 2022/23 was \$4,436,828 (against \$5,093,030 budgeted), with total expenditure at \$2,715,735 (against \$6,166,636 budget estimate). An operating surplus of \$1,721,093 (against a projected loss of \$1,073,606) was reported. The Corps' overall financial position continued to be sound, with a cash balance of \$12.8m, 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 five occasions during the year to exercise governance on the Corps. This included decision on the strategic review of the Corps, future permanent Headquarters for the Corps, approval of major honours/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 2022/23.

## 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) As the epidemic situation in Hong Kong has substantially alleviated in a continuous manner and the relaxation of social distancing measures by the Government, the Corps has relaxed the conditions for members to participate in actual activities, effective from 21 April 2022.
- (b) On 30 April 2022, the Executive Board Members and the Senior Management Team attended a Design Thinking Workshop hosted by PwC. The workshop served as a key deliverable of the strategic studies conducted by PwC. It facilitated participants in exploring HKACC's positioning and co-creating strategic recommendations for the Corps.
- (c) The Ceremonial Squadron (C Sqn) attended an intensive course on Chinese-style foot drill, which covered basic knowledge and skills of drill movements, between April and June 2022 at the Immigration Department Training and Youth Development Centre. Furthermore, the C Sqn participated in the flag-raising ceremony on 1 July 2022 at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.
- (d) The Chairman of the Executive Board and the Commanding Officer had a meeting with the President of the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy (HKIAA) on 25 May 2022. The meeting discussed the collaboration between HKIAA and the Corps to provide systematic training for young people.
- (e) Vocational Qualifications Unit organized an info session on 21 May 2022 for members who are interested in the Diploma in Aviation Operations offered by HKIAA. A total of 25 members attended the session.
- (f) Upon the restoration of Mui Wo Helipad (LT16), the site was handed over to the Lands Department on 30 May 2022.

- (g) To tie in with the direction of the Northern Metropolis Development Strategy and promote the local culture of Sha Tau Kok and the North East New Territories, the Chairman of the Executive Board and the Commanding Officer representing the Corps attended the opening ceremony of Sha Tau Kok Pier on 3 June 2022. A subsequent tour for the Corps' members was held on 12 June 2022.
- (h) Qualified Aviation Instructor (QAI) Refresher Course was held on 11 June 2022. This course equips registered QAIs with the necessary professional knowledge to stay updated on constantly evolving aviation education topics.
- (i) ISSF Elementary Air Pistol Shooting Course was held on 11 and 18 June 2022 at the South China Athletic Association.
- (j) Seven members enrolled in an online Commercial Pilot Licence Course held between June 2022 and February 2023. The course covers diverse subjects into six main chapters: flight manoeuvres, weather, performance, high altitude systems, navigation and regulations. Members who completed the course received partial reimbursement of their course fee, with \$800 out of \$2,000 sponsored by the Community Chest.
- (k) With the steering from Security Bureau to enhance youth engagement, the Corps has also established a strategic alliance with the GFS and led to an enrichment of the Government Flying Service Aviation Inspiration Programme (GAINS). Participants will undergo intensive classroom lectures and practical training on various knowledge and skills relevant to different positions in the GFS. This cohort of 24 youth members completed the Module 1 programme in July 2022. 12 outstanding graduates from Module 1 were selected for advancement to Module 2. The candidates underwent a 2 full-day GFS attachment phase including intermediate training and operation exposures during weekends in October 2022 at the Headquarters of Government Flying Service (GFS Headquarters). Four outstanding graduates from Module 2 were selected for advancement to the next Module. Module 3 was a 3-month mentorship phase held between December 2022 and February 2023. The candidates were assigned GFS Mentors of different professions, including Pilot, Air Crewman Officer and Aircraft Engineer. Upon successful completion of Module 3, candidates were awarded the newly introduced GAINS Observe Brevet, which was presented in the Annual Parade.
- (1) 飛機工程探索之旅 was held on 9 July 2022 and 17 December 2022 respectively at the Hong Kong International Airport. The course provided members with an introduction to aircraft engineering, followed by a guided walkaround of flight inspection of a Boeing 767 aircraft.
- (m) The Skills Development and Support Group (SD&S Gp) served as the lead unit in organizing the Flag Day in the Hong Kong Island Region on 30 July 2022. A total of 478 members were turned out for the operation and a total of \$284K was raised via flag selling on the day and the gold flag donation scheme.

- (n) The Celebration of 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Variety Show cum Inauguration Ceremony of "Heart to Root Association" took place on 21 August 2022. The "Heart to Root Association" strives to promote collaborations, co-operations, communications and friendships, interactions and exchanges among youth uniformed groups in Hong Kong and youth groups and young people in the Mainland and other parts of the world, whilst the Corps is an Institution Member. A total of 147 members participated in the events.
- (o) Members of No 401 Squadron organized an online meeting with the New Zealand Cadet Forces on 27 August 2022. The aim of this activity was to address some of the mission directives of the International Air Cadet Exchange Association, such as fostering international friendship and building relationships around the subject of aviation. Cadets from both sides exchanged ideas and learned a lot about each other's cultures.
- (p) 中式步操導師訓練課程 co-organized by the Correctional Services Department and the Corps took place between August and September 2022. This 5 full days course equipped members with the necessary skill sets for Chinese-style foot drill. A total of 30 members successfully completed the training course and were awarded a Chinese-style Drill Instructor Rating. In October and November 2022, three intensive training courses were organized to enables squadron members to undergo training and adopt Chinese-style foot drill for various ceremonial events.
- (q) The Corps has established a school unit at the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi). The Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony took place on 31 August 2022.
- (r) The Commanding Officer attended the Ceremony to Commemorate the Victory Day of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression on 3 September 2022.
- (s) The Corps participated in the "Together We Prosper" Grand Parade held by Disciplined Services and Youth Groups for Celebrating the 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of the HKSAR. The event took place at the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy in Tseung Kwan O on 24 September 2022.
- (t) Three outstanding members aged between 16-25 were nominated for the Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum (Leaders Forum). The Leaders Forum offers a wide range of activities aimed at helping members develop their potential, broaden their horizons, and strengthen their national identity.
- (u) The Operations Group (Ops Gp) Guard Flight took part in the flag-raising ceremony on 1 October 2022 at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

- (v) Advanced Aviation Education Programme, in collaboration with the HKIAA and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), was held between October and December 2022. This marked the first large-scale aviation education programme since the epidemic. A total of 73 HKACC members, PolyU students and general public successfully completed the programme. The Closing Ceremony took place on 25 February 2023. Ten best candidates were awarded overseas flying scholarships with round-trip tickets sponsored by Cathay Pacific Airways, while four candidates were awarded flying simulation scholarships sponsored by HKIAA.
- (w) Six adult members have successfully completed the "香港開新篇 青年創未青年"人才培訓班之 2022 香港青少年制服團體國情研習班(第 10 期)co-organized by 國家行政學院、全國青聯、中央政府駐港聯絡辦 in November 2022. The course aims to provide volunteer leaders of Uniformed Groups with the latest developments in the Mainland and equip them with updated knowledge of national strategies and plans that could affect Hong Kong. There were also discussions emphasizing the significant importance of learning and promoting the spirit of the 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China.
- (x) The Commanding Officer and five senior officers paid tribute and offered profound condolences to the late Former President of the PRC Jiang Zemin at a mourning hall set up by the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR.
- (y) On 4 December 2022, the Corps participated in two events: the Constitution Day Flag Raising Ceremony at the Hong Kong Customs College, and the "Promotion of Constitution Day 2022 by Different Sectors of Kwun Tong – Display of National Flag" activity organized by the Kwun Tong District Office.
- (z) The Commanding Officer and three senior officers attended the Constitution Day Seminar on 4 December 2022.
- (aa) The Corps was awarded 香港義工獎 2022-年度十大最高義工時數(非商業機構)獎 and 香港義工獎 2022-企業及非商業機構卓越金獎. The Hong Kong Volunteer Award, co-organized by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau and Agency for Volunteer Service, aims to recognize the contributions and achievements of outstanding volunteers, corporations, organizations from different sectors, and cross-sectoral partnership projects. The award echoes the direction of government policy in motivating more people particularly the youth, to participate in volunteering to care for the under-privileged, and in uniting the power from the community to building a caring and inclusive society.

- (bb) The Valiant 2022 was held from 24-27 December 2022. A total of 65 cadet members successfully completed the course, where they learned and practiced various skills including leadership, team building, public speaking, to navigation, orienteering and interpersonal communication. The course aims to develop leadership potential and prepare them for additional responsibilities in the Corps and their daily lives. To achieve this, the programme was designed in a way that required cadets to rely on each other as a team while also striving to emerge as key individuals within the team. Various tasks and arrangements were made to encourage cadets to consider the three key "needs" in a functional approach to leadership. It was our great privilege to have the support from the following government officials who visited the course on Day 1 and Day 4, delivering encouraging and insightful speech to our cadets:-
  - Mr. CHEUK Hau Yip, Michael, PDSM, JP, Under Secretary for Security
  - Mr. LEUNG Wang Ching, Clarence, BBS, JP, Under Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs
  - Mr. CHAN Siu Yum, Kenneth, Principal Assistant Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs
  - Honorary Group Captain Robert W W LEE, Legislative Council Member and Senior Honorary Officer
  - Mr. Wallace LAU Ka Ki, JP, Commissioner for Youth
- (cc) A promotion booth manned by the Ops Gp was set up at the exhibition of 航空行業「深」 方向 on 14 January 2023.
- (dd) Following the strategic partnership with the GFS, 12 Executive Board Members and Honorary Officers had a familiarization visit to the GFS Headquarters on 28 January 2023. During the visit, the aircrew provided participants with a detailed introduction to the GFS daily operation and conducted a guided tour of the aircraft and equipment. It was an enjoyable experience to all participants.
- (ee) Advanced Aviation Education Programme (Helicopter), in collaboration with PolyU, kicked off in February 2023. A total of 44 HKACC members, PolyU students and the general public participated in the programme.
- (ff) The Community Chest Sports for Millions was held on 18 March 2023 at the Disciplined Services Sports and Recreation Club. The event aimed to raise funds for the Chest "Youth Services" by featuring a variety of sports competitions and team-building games, promoting a healthy lifestyle and team spirit. The Corps sent a team to participate in the event.
- (gg) The Annual Parade 2023 was held on 26 March 2023 at the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force Headquarters. The parade was reviewed by Miss MAK Mei Kuen, Alice, SBS, JP, Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs (SHYA). In addition to reviewing and addressing the Corps, SHYA also presented decorations and medals to qualified members at the Officers' Mess.

# **Executive Board Appointments and Resignations**

At the first Executive Board Meeting on 8 December 2022, Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE was elected Chairman of the Executive Board for a term of two years. The appointment was confirmed by majority vote at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

Group Captain Leonard K P LEUNG, MH, AE, was elected Honorary Treasurer for a term of one year at the first Executive Board held on 8 December 2022. The appointment was confirmed by majority vote at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

Air Commodore Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP and Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing were appointed Vice-Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the Executive Board respectively at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 8 December 2022, for a term of one year.

Air Commodore Michael C P CHAN, MBS, MBB, GMSM, AE resigned from the Executive Board on 16 June 2022.

Raymond Y K TSE & Co CPA Limited was appointed Auditor for the Financial Year 2022/23.

## Finance

The Corps continues to rely on subventions through the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (formerly known as 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 2023 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 the Air Cadets:-

(a) The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for recurrent and oneoff subventions released through the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, and for policy support to our key projects by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau.

- (b) The Security Bureau, for organizing diverse activities including visits, seminars and leadership training, etc., thereby helping members equip themselves to contribute to Hong Kong and our country, and nurturing all-rounded development of young people and broadening their horizons.
- (c) 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.
- (d) The Community Chest, for its recurrent subvention.
- (e) The Cathay Pacific Airways, the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, for their support to the Advanced Aviation Education Programme and the Advanced Aviation Education Programme (Helicopter).
- (f) PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited, for conducting pro bono strategic review of the Corps' governance and operations.
- (g) The Honorary Officers, for their financial contributions and support to the Corps' events, projects, programmes and individual units.
- (h) Wg Cdr John LI, Flt Lt (sp) and Mr David TONG for contributing helicopter flying activities to the Corps.
- (i) Volunteer helicopter and aeroplane pilots of the Flying Squadron, for organising air experience flights for members and friends of the Corps.

#### Epilogue

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all members: Executive Board, uniformed and non-uniformed members, salaried staff of the Corps for their tireless efforts to develop new initiatives of youth development as set out in the Chief Executive's Policy Address. We faced an immensely trying period, but our commitment to our community has never wavered. I am confident that with our shared commitment and dedication, the Corps will continue to thrive and inspire generations of future leaders.

(Edwin W C LAU)

Chairman of the Executive Board Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

#### HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS

#### Executive Board as at 31 March 2023

#### 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

Captain West W H WU, MBS, GDSM, AE

- Controller, Government Flying Service

# **Commanding Officer**

Group Captain CHAN Man Lang, IDSM

- Former Assistant Director, Immigration Department

## **Honorary Treasurer**

Group Captain Leonard K P LEUNG, MH, AE

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

## **Honorary Secretary**

Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing

- Former Commanding Officer
- Senior Security Consultant

#### Members

Captain Joe Y C FUNG

- Deputy Flying Training Manager (Pilot Development), Cathay Pacific Airways Limited

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 TAM Kwok Chi

Architect

#### Mr Simon S P TANG

- Solicitor
- Partner, P. C. Woo & Co.
- Accredited Mediator

# HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Executive Board as at 31 March 2023 (cont'd)

## Mr Paul S P CHENG

- Senior Consultant, Hong Kong International Aviation Academy / Hong Kong International Airport Consultancy
- Part-time university lecturer
- Former General Manager, Market & Connectivity Development, Airport Authority Hong Kong

# Ms Karen Y T LOK

- Head of Listing Operational Risk and Control, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd

# Mr Adrian C T Yip, BBS, MH, JP

- Executive Chairman, Hong Kong Volunteers Association

# Captain Cody Y H WONG, MBB

- Air Cadet Liaison Officer, Government Flying Service
- Senior Pilot (Helicopter Training)1, Government Flying Service