# HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Report of the Chairman of the Executive Board for the period of April 2024 to March 2025

As we reflect on the period from April 2024 to March 2025, we celebrate a transformative year for the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC). This report outlines our achievements, challenges, and future directions as we strive to nurture the next generation of aviation enthusiasts and professionals.

The Corps has become a youth uniformed group subvented by the Government Flying Service (GFS) starting from 1 April 2024, providing us with additional resources and support. This allows us to offer our cadets access to advanced flight simulators and virtual reality training, enhancing their learning experiences.

We have also enhanced training syllabus to focus on three main streams: GFS, Civil Aviation, and Disciplined Services. These streams not only provide practical insights into the aviation industry and disciplined services but also inspire our cadets to pursue careers in these fields. Career-oriented seminars have been organised to assist in recruiting new members and to promote youth development within the aviation industry.

The inauguration of our new headquarters and training centre at Shiu Fai Terrace in Wan Chai on 9 March 2025, marked a significant milestone in our journey. The opening ceremony, officiated by Mr TANG Ping Keung, Secretary for Security, along with distinguished guests, was a testament to our collective efforts and the support we receive from various sectors, including the GFS and the Security Bureau.

The new facility is equipped with state-of-the-art amenities such as flight simulators, virtual reality equipment, and dedicated drill practice areas. These resources will enhance our training programs, allowing cadets to develop their aviation knowledge, discipline, and team spirit. The incorporation of a national education corner within the headquarters aims to foster a sense of pride and identity among our youth, emphasizing the importance of national achievements and developments.

As at 31 March 2025, the Corps' strength stood at 1,356 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 1,024 volunteer senior members.

Total revenue during 2024/25 was \$36,948,897 (against \$8,021,658 budgeted), with total expenditure at \$5,605,152 (against \$7,831,759 budget estimate). A surplus of \$31,343,745 (against a projected surplus of \$189,899) was reported. This increase was associated with a government grant under the Development Bureau's Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-government Organisations for setting to the HKACC's new headquarters and training centre (Government grant \$31,764,568.30). The Corps' overall financial position continued to be sound, with a cash balance of \$12.9 million. 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 future of the new headquarters and training centre, strategic review of 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 2024/25.

# 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) On 12 April 2024, five members visited Xuelong 2, the nation's first domestically built Antarctic research icebreaker. This visit offered insights into advancements in maritime research and the importance of science in national development.
- (b) Members of the Operations Group participated in the 觀塘區國家安全嘉年華 on 14 April 2024, organized by the Kwun Tong District Office, emphasizing the importance of national security in community engagement.
- (c) The AYP 102nd Silver Award Presentation on 29 April 2024 recognized seven cadet members who attained the Silver Award level, alongside 15 adult members awarded Certificates of Appreciation for their exceptional service. This event celebrated the dedication and achievements of our members.
- (d) Commendations were presented to members at the Awards Day Ceremony on 5 May 2024 for their contributions, showcasing the values of excellence, teamwork, and commitment to service that HKACC instills in its members.
- (e) The Corps participated in the Disciplined Services cum Youth Group Dragon Boat Invitation, promoting teamwork and camaraderie among youth groups.
- (f) A Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Training Course was organized in May 2024, selecting six young cadets to enhance their leadership skills, preparing them for future roles within the Corps.
- (g) Five nominations were submitted for the Government Flying Service Internship Programme, which provided cadets with practical experience in aviation operations, fostering skills in communication and teamwork.

- (h) Members participated in the following exchange programmes aimed at fostering international relationships, cultural understanding, and leadership skills among cadets:-
  - 1. International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) (9 to 23 July 2024):
    - Two cadets participated in exchanges in France, while two others went to the Philippines, allowing them to broaden their horizons and gain a deeper understanding of different cultures.
    - o The HKACC hosted 11 cadets and 3 escorts from three countries: Chinese Mainland, France, and the Philippines. Participants experienced cultural exchanges, visits to local attractions, and aviation facilities, providing them with diverse experiences and opportunities to learn from their peers.
  - 2. 同心同根萬里行 (20 to 28 July 2024): Twelve cadets traveled to Beijing and Xi'an, strengthening ties with Chinese Mainland and enhancing their understanding of national heritage.
  - 3. 善德關愛科研青年發展計劃 (19 to 27 July 2024): Four cadets joined this fully subsidized study tour organized by the Shine Tak Foundation, focusing on aerospace technology and research.

These exchange programmes provided cadets with invaluable opportunities for personal development, cultural immersion, and international collaboration, reinforcing their skills in leadership, teamwork, and communication. These experiences not only enriched their understanding of different cultures but also fostered a sense of national pride and responsibility.

- (i) To celebrate the 27th Anniversary of HK's Return to the Motherland, and the PLA HK Garrison's safeguarding of HK for 27 years, nine adult and cadet members attended a theatrical performance named "我和我的祖國" at the Ngong Shuen Chau Barracks on 20 July 2024.
- (j) A Summer Camp, consisted of 79 cadets and officers, was held at the Hong Kong Adventure Corps High Island Training Camp from 8 to 11 August 2024. This camp brought together cadets from various units to foster teamwork and outdoor skills.
- (k) Two cadets were selected to participate in the Security Bureau's Joint Disciplined Services Youth Football Teams Quadripartite Football Competition, which took place in Xiamen from 12 to 17 August 2024.
- (I) In August 2024, the 9th cohort of the Government Flying Service Aviation Inspiration Programme (GAINS) consisted of 29 cadets and officer trainees who completed Module 1, which included theoretical learning about aviation fundamentals and practical handson training. The programme emphasizes leadership and teamwork, with 16 outstanding participants selected for advancement to Module 2. Through this comprehensive training, GAINS not only develops essential skills and knowledge in aviation but also fosters a sense of community responsibility and pride among cadets, preparing them for future roles in the aviation sector and beyond.

- (m) On 17 August 2024, a National Security Seminar was held at the GFS Headquarters, with 76 members participating in discussions on national security, emphasizing its significance in today's society.
- (n) Two adult members attended a National Study Course organized by the Chinese Academy of Governance in Beijing from 25 to 30 August 2024. The course aimed to instill knowledge about the latest developments in Chinese Mainland and to equip volunteer leaders of Youth Groups (YGs) and Uniformed Groups (UGs) with updated insights into national strategies and plans that could affect Hong Kong. Discussions also highlighted the importance of learning and promoting the spirit of the 二十屆三中全會 and national security.
- (o) On 30 August 2024, Chinese Mainland Olympians from the 2024 Paris Olympic Games met with disciplined and auxiliary services, as well as various youth uniformed groups, to share in the joy of the Olympians' achievements and conduct sports demonstrations at the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy. During the exchange activities, the Chinese Mainland Olympians interacted closely with members of the Corps on stage and even pulled a fixed-wing aircraft, demonstrating the spirit of cooperation. This exchange event provided youngsters with a rare opportunity to interact with Olympic athletes and listen to their stories of struggle and success. The enthusiasm and engagement of the participants truly showcased the spirit of the Olympics.
- (p) One cadet was nominated for the Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum. The Leaders Forum is a one-year programme designed to deepen the participation of government departments and civil service grades in youth work.
- (q) In August 2024, multiple visits to the National Security Exhibition Gallery by members underscored the importance of national security education.
- (r) The Corps participated in various National Day Celebrations events from 30 September to 1 October 2024, including 國慶 75 周年 新生代千人合唱賀國慶 and the Flag Raising Ceremony, celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China.
- (s) Twenty five members visited the Safe Community Hub on 5 October 2024, run by the Inter-departmental Counter Terrorism Unit, gaining firsthand knowledge about community safety and counter-terrorism efforts.
- (t) The Annual Parade was held on 24 November 2024 at the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force Headquarters, reviewed by Hon. Gary CHAN Hak Kan, SBS, JP, Chairman of the Legislative Council Panel on Security. The event highlighted the achievements of the Corps and showcased our commitment to discipline and service.
- (u) The Valiant was held from 26 to 29 December 2024. This joint event with the Hong Kong Adventure Corps resulted in 32 cadets successfully completing a course focused on leadership, team building, and communication skills.

- (v) Three cadet members were appointed as National Security Youth Ambassadors, enhancing their roles in promoting national security awareness.
- (w) The Sunday morning Golden Bauhinia Square Flag Raising Ceremony on 9 March 2025 was conducted by the Ceremonial Squadron.

### **Executive Board Appointments and Resignations**

At the first Executive Board Meeting on 19 December 2024, 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 19 December 2024. 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 19 December 2024, for a term of one year.

Captain Eddie K C LIU assumed the *ex officio* position of Commandant, in the rank of Air Commodore, with effect from 13 March 2025, in succession to Captain West W H WU, MBS, GDSM, AE.

Captain Martin H B YU as Air Cadet Liaison Officer (GFS) with effect from 13 March 2025, *vice* Captain Cody Y H WONG, MBB.

Raymond Y K TSE & Co CPA Limited was appointed Auditor for the Financial Year 2024/25.

## **Staff Movements**

Mr Stanley T S Ho resigned from the post as Operation Manager effective 1 April 2024.

Mr John P K CHAN assumed duty as Project Coordinator on 22 May 2024.

Sergeant LUI Wai Fung was employed as Part-time Clerk on 3 March 2025.

#### Finance

The HKACC has become a youth uniformed group subvented by the Government Flying Service starting from 1 April 2024. The Corps continues to rely on subventions from the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region 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 2025 will be presented later at the meeting.

### Votes of Thanks

The Corps is deeply thankful to donors and sponsors for their financial assistance which is crucial to the continuation of our work. The following individuals and organizations deserve special mention for their long-standing support to the Air Cadets:-

- (a) The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for recurrent subventions released through the Government Flying Service, and for policy support to our key projects by the Government Flying Service, Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, and Civil Aviation Department.
- (b) The Security Bureau, for organizing diverse activities including visits, seminars, leadership training, and exchange activities, 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 strengthening its support for the HKACC, 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, as well as provided internship places for members to experience working in GFS.
- (d) The Development Bureau under the Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-government Organisations (NGOs) for setting to a youth training centre at Shiu Fai Terrace, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.
- (e) The Community Chest, for its recurrent and one-off subvention.
- (f) The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, for initiating the "Jockey Club Badges: Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders" to support the Corps to organise activities that aim to build future skills of young people and empower them to contribute to the betterment of society.

- (g) 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).
- (h) Ms Vi Vi CHOW, for donating the YCC Glider Scholarships to support our members to undergo a three weeks' glider pilot training.
- (i) The Honorary Officers, for their financial contributions and support to the Corps' events, projects, programmes and individual units.
- (j) Wg Cdr John LI, Flt Lt (sp) and Mr David TONG for contributing helicopter flying activities to the Corps.
- (k) Volunteer helicopter and aeroplane pilots of the Flying Squadron, for organising air experience flights for members and friends of the Corps.

### Epilogue

2024/25 marks the beginning of a new era brimming with opportunities. I would like to thank my fellow members on the Executive Board, officers, honorary officers, warrant officers, instructors, civilian instructors, salaried staff and cadets for their valuable contributions. The Corps will continue, as always, to provide quality non-formal and aviation education to Hong Kong's next generation. Working together, I am confident we can achieve greater success for the Corps and Hong Kong.

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

11 December 2025

## HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Executive Board as at 31 March 2025

#### 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 Eddie K C LIU, GDSM

- 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 2025 (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 Martin H B YU

- Senior Pilot (Training & Development)2, Government Flying Service