

The Government Local Civil Engineers Association

P.O. Box 28515, Gloucester Road Post Office, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.
Tel. No. : 21293711 Fax No. : 26289060

GLCEA 2002 Newsletter

My warmest festive greetings to all our members. This year 2002 has not been better as the Government is overshadowed by an extremely large deficit and there are a lot of disagreements between the Government and staff unions on a number of issues. Although the civil servants have a pay cut this year, we are facing tremendous pressure from both inside and outside the Government on further cuts.

We acknowledge that Hong Kong is now facing challenges from globalisation and the economic downturn. We understand the Government must introduce reforms to cope with the situation. The Government, however, should not overlook the concerns and fears of the civil servants, and under-estimate the impact they may have on Hong Kong as a whole. We, engineers, must stay united during this time.

I would append below a brief account of various issues which the Council has done in the last few months.

The Present Council

The 23rd Annual General Meeting was held on 13 June 2002. I am honoured to be elected as the Chairman; and a well- balanced team comprising experienced members was formed to serve the Council. Please refer to the Annex for details of the council members. The Council meets on a regular basis to discuss a wide range of issues. If you have any suggestions/problems, please feel free to contact any one of the council members.

Hon. Adviser : The Hon. Ir Dr. Raymond Ho Chung-tai

Hon. Presidents : Ir Ching Kam-cheong Ir Peter Chan Pak-fong

Chairman : Ir Stephen Chu Kin-hong **Vice Chairman :** Ir Lau Wing-kam

Immediate Past Chairman : Ir Martin Cheung Kin-keung

Hon. Secretary : Ir Ip Shing-tim

Hon. Treasurer : Ir Lau Chi-wan

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The New Secretary for Environment, Transport and Works

We welcome Dr. Sara LIAO Sau-tung on board of the engineers' flagship. We wrote to her on a number of occasions regarding our members' concerns such as staffing reduction, cessation of promotion, young engineers' prospect and out-sourcing. We look forward to working closely with her for the interest of our members and the civil engineering industry.

Meetings with Works Directors

The Council had a meeting with DCE (Ir Dr. C. K. LAU), DTD (Ir H. K. Wong) and DWS (Ir William C. G. Ko) on 14 November 2002, 25 November 2002 and 10 December 2002 respectively to exchange views on a wide range of issues. We have scheduled to meet DDS (Ir Raymond T.K. Cheung) in January 2003 and other Directors in the future.

We are, in particular, concerned about some staff thinning proposals. We wish the Government could take a positive view on all contract staff. We simply do not want to see the situation whereby the contract staff is laid off simply to achieve a small saving.

Meeting with Secretary for the Civil Service

On 5 July 2002, our Association together with other engineering-related associations met the Secretary for Civil Service to discuss the legislation on pay cut. We reiterated our stance that we honor the agreed pay-adjustment mechanism and the dispute resolution mechanism, but objected against legislation on pay cut. We were disappointed that the bill was eventually enacted despite strong objection from the civil servants.

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Our Association together with 10 other engineering-related associations, also met the Secretary for the Civil Service on 30 December 2002 to exchange views on various issues including the need to conduct the pay level survey at this moment, the morale of civil servants, pay cut, terms of the new voluntary retirement scheme, promotion to fill vacant posts etc. Due to the limited time available, we were unable to discuss these items in depth. From this meeting, we expect more pain before any gain for civil servants!

Employment of Contract Assistant Engineers

Under the present economic downturn, the outlook for graduates in 2002 is not quite as rosy as in the past. The Association is of the view that the graduates are valuable asset of the Government; and a clear career path should be set to attract candidates of the right calibre to join the Government and to nurture them to become competent engineers in the public sector.

The Government has successfully operated the CEG training scheme which forms an integral part of the human resources management system of the engineer grade in the past 30 years. We are disappointed to see that the Government has now deviated from the right track,

Election of Ordinary Members of HKIE Council

With the unity of our members, our Hon. President, Ir Ching Kam-cheong, had a landslide victory in the captioned election held on 26 June 2002. Ir Ching received the record-high number of votes. This proves once again unity is strength.

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Petrol Discount Card

At the beginning of this year, we managed to secure special discount for Mobil/Esso petrol from one of the petroleum suppliers. Response from members has been positive and encouraging. We aim to secure other benefits for members in the future.

Membership Drive

The Council would like to thank you for your continuous support, and earnestly request you to rally your colleagues to join GLCEA as a member. The growth and success of the Association depend on your help.

Last but not the least, may I wish you and your family a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Original Signed

(Ir Stephen K.H. Chu)

Chairman

31 December 2002

Annex

- 1. Council Members List*
- 2. Membership Application Form*

Hon. Adviser : The Hon. Ir Dr. Raymond Ho Chung-tai

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Annex 1 – Council Members List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Tel. No.</u>
<i>Ir CHU Kin-hong</i>	<i>HyD</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>27077426</i>
<i>Ir LAU Wing-kam</i>	<i>DSD</i>	<i>Vice Chairman</i>	<i>25947599</i>
<i>Ir IP Shing-tim</i>	<i>HD</i>	<i>Hon. Secretary</i>	<i>21293711</i>
<i>Ir LAU Chi-wan</i>	<i>CED</i>	<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>	<i>27625621</i>
<i>Ir CHEUNG Kin-keung, Martin</i>	<i>HD</i>	<i>Immediate Past Chairman</i>	<i>21293701</i>
<i>Ir CHAN Pak-fong, Peter</i>	<i>WSD</i>	<i>Hon. President</i>	<i>28295633</i>
<i>Ir CHING Kam-cheong</i>	<i>CED</i>	<i>Hon. President</i>	<i>27625008</i>
<i>Ir BOK Kwok-ming</i>	<i>ETWB</i>	<i>Council Member</i>	<i>28481108</i>
<i>Ir Cheung Tze-king</i>	<i>HyD</i>	<i>Council Member</i>	<i>22315724</i>
<i>Ir CHOI Chun-ming</i>	<i>DSD</i>	<i>Council Member</i>	<i>23001472</i>
<i>Ir LAI Kuen-lap, Victor</i>	<i>TDD</i>	<i>Council Member</i>	<i>21585619</i>
<i>Ir LAM Kin-chung</i>	<i>GEO</i>	<i>Council Member</i>	<i>27605300</i>
<i>Ir WAI Chi-sing</i>	<i>ETWB</i>	<i>Council Member</i>	<i>28482704</i>
<i>Ir Yip Hung-wai, Hengy</i>	<i>TDD</i>	<i>Council Member</i>	<i>24176536</i>

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Annex 2 - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name in full : Ir/Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss*
(in BLOCK LETTERS please)

Name in Chinese : HKIC No. :

Date of Birth : Age :

Department/Office :
.....

Division/Section :
.....

Rank/Grade :
.....

Correspondence :
.....

Address
.....
.....

Tel. No. : (Office) (Home)

Terms of Service : P.E. / Probation / Agreement / Contract/ Temporary Terms*

I enclose herewith HK\$100 in cheque as life membership subscription of the Association.

Signature of Application :

Date :
.....

Please delete whichever is inappropriate.

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NOTE : This form when completed should be returned to the Hon. Secretary of the Association at the above-mentioned address or any of the Council Members. Cheques should be crossed and made payable to The Government Local Civil Engineers Association.

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