

*The Better Hong Kong Foundation is a privately funded, non-profit organisation and has no political affiliations. It was formed by influential Hong Kong business and community leaders in 1995 to build greater international understanding between the East and the West by facilitating communications between Hong Kong, China and the global community. The Foundation's principal objective is to help build a better Hong Kong.*

## Message from the Director

Dear Friends,

This year, 2009, has so far been eventful though challenging. We have just celebrated the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic of China. In September, the roll out of RMB sovereign bonds in Hong Kong marked a new milestone for cooperation between the Mainland and this city on the financial front. For the world economy, after a year of dealing with the global financial crisis, and with the strenuous effort jointly made by governments, it seems to be stabilizing. To keep abreast of the ever changing environment, people, cities and countries are more cautious about enhancing their competitiveness. It is so for Hong Kong and its people. While looking ahead, we would like to share with you some areas that we have been championing for the past few months.

### Platform to Facilitate Dialogue

Every year, the Foundation organizes a delegation to the U.S. and invites senior journalists from the U.S. to visit Hong Kong and China to promote dialogue and understanding between Hong Kong, China and interlocutors in the U.S. In April this year, we invited Mr. Antony Leung, Chairman of Greater China, the Blackstone Group (HK) Ltd and former Financial Secretary of the HKSAR to join our delegation to the U.S. as guest speaker and to address the audience on China and Hong Kong after the global financial tsunami. In August, six U.S. journalists were invited by the Foundation to visit Beijing, Inner Mongolia and Hong Kong to see the developments by themselves.

We have also organized luncheons and talks to promote dialogue and understanding. In May, we invited Mr. Xu Lin, Director General, Department of Fiscal and Financial Affairs, National Development and Reform Commission to address Hong Kong audiences regarding China's policy on tackling the global financial crisis; in April, the Chinese Ambassador to Japan Mr. Cui Tiankai was invited to speak at a dinner on the Sino-Japanese relationship.

### Platform to Deliberate the Positioning of Hong Kong

Other than the annual luncheon and press conference on the "China Urban Competitiveness Report" (organized with the Institute of Finance and Trade



*The Better Hong Kong Foundation Annual Delegation to the United States*



*Hong Kong Business Community Forum on the Pearl River Delta Development Plan*



*Meeting with H.E. Mr. Song Zhe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Head of the Chinese Mission to the European Union during the European Union Visitors Program in May*



Forum on "Hong Kong and Shanghai: Collaborative Development of International Trade Center and the Internationalization of Renminbi"



The Better Hong Kong Foundation's Spring Luncheon



The 3rd Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest

Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, the Chinese University of Hong Kong) in April, we have organized two seminars and a visit to deliberate the positioning of Hong Kong in response to the release of the "Outline of the Plan for the Reform and Development of the Pearl River Delta 2008-2020" ("the Outline") in January and Shanghai's plan to become an international financial center by 2020.

Amongst the 294 cities in China, Hong Kong is still ranked the most competitive. However, we need to keep pace with the rapid developments in our neighboring cities and to explore the potentials. In March, the Foundation initiated "the Hong Kong Business Community Forum on the Pearl River Delta Development Plan". It was supported by the Central Policy Unit of the HKSAR Government and the Federation of Hong Kong. And in July, the Foundation led a delegation to Guangzhou to learn more about its latest developments and the cooperation opportunities. In August, we organized a forum in Shanghai on "Hong Kong and Shanghai: Collaborative Development of International Trade Center and the Internationalization of Renminbi", with the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences and Shanghai Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Ms. Margaret Ko, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive of the Hang Seng Bank was invited by the Foundation to deliver a keynote speech.

### Nurturing the Youth and Sustainable Development

The Foundation spares no effort in nurturing Hong Kong's youth, especially on lifting their interest in international affairs and knowledge of the nation's foreign policy. The 3rd Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest was successfully concluded on the eve of the National Day at the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC in HK with another record high 135 secondary schools participating. The 5 winning teams were received by Vice Foreign Minister Mr. He Yafei during the tour to Beijing and Tianjin. The Foundation is also keen to work with organizations and media in promoting and recognizing corporations that excel in supporting a green environment and corporate social responsibility. This was exemplified by the Heart of Gold Awards with Ming Pao Weekly, the CAPITAL Outstanding Green Excellence Awards and the Prime Awards for Corporate Social Responsibility.

We are confident that with Hong Kong's "Can Do" spirit, Hong Kong people will seize every opportunity amidst the world's changing environment and this port city will continue to thrive. The Foundation looks forward to working with different parties to work for the betterment of Hong Kong and we count on your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Tang".

Karen Tang  
 Executive Director  
 The Better Hong Kong Foundation

5 – 15 October 2009

### **The National Founding Ceremony – Grand Retrospective Exhibition of the Pictures and Cultural Heritage of the Founding of New China**

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the PRC, the Central Party Literature Research Center of CPC, the National Museum of China, Home Affairs Bureau of the HKSAR Government and Wen Wei Po jointly organized "The National Founding Ceremony – Grand Retrospective Exhibition of the Pictures and Cultural Heritage of the Founding of New China". The Better Hong Kong Foundation is one of the supporting organizations of the exhibition which will open for the public on 5 – 15 October 2009 at the Exhibition Gallery 1 – 5 of the Hong Kong Central Library.

29 October 2009

### **CAPITAL Outstanding Green Excellence Awards 2009**

Organized by the South China Media Ltd's CAPITAL Magazine, the CAPITAL Outstanding Green Excellence Awards 2009 recognizes the achievements of Hong Kong's corporations on green management and serves as benchmarks for other businesses in their continuous pursuit of the best environmental achievement in coming years. The Better Hong Kong Foundation is the supporting organization of the award. The Awards Presentation Ceremony will be held on 29 October 2009.

29 October 2009

### **Prime Awards for Corporate Social Responsibility 2009**

Jointly organized by Prime Communications Ltd and the Hong Kong Institute of Directors, the Prime Awards for Corporate Social Responsibility 2009 is established in recognition for companies' efforts and involvement in taking up corporate social responsibility. The Better Hong Kong Foundation is the supporting organization and Ms. Karen Tang, Executive Director of the Foundation is a member of the panel of judges. Results of this year's awards will be announced at its presentation ceremony to be held on 29 October 2009.

17 November 2009

### **The Heart of Gold Awards**

Since its inception in 2006, the Heart of Gold Awards salutes Hong Kong artists and corporations that have made worthy annual contributions to sustainable developments in the community. The Better Hong Kong Foundation is one of the founding organizers of the award which also include Ming Pao Weekly and the Peace and Development Foundation. This year's award will be announced on 17 November 2009.

1 – 2 December 2009

### **InnoAsia 2009 Conference – Sustainable City, Sustainable Manufacturing & Sustainable Transportation**

To be jointly organized by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, the InnoAsia 2009 Conference is a 2-day event consisting of conference and business matching forum on sustainable innovation and technology. It will be held on 1 – 2 December 2009 at the Hong Kong Science Park. The Better Hong Kong Foundation is the supporting organization of the event. For details of the conference, please visit [www.innoasia.net](http://www.innoasia.net).

February 2010

### **Spring Reception for the Media**

To celebrate the Chinese New Year and to strengthen our communication with our media friends, the Better Hong Kong Foundation will hold its annual gathering with media in February 2010. Members of the Foundation will attend the gathering to celebrate the Year of the Tiger. Details of the gathering will be announced later.

February 2010

### **New Year Luncheon to be Hosted for Consuls General & Chairmen of Chambers of Commerce in Hong Kong**

To express our festive greetings, the Better Hong Kong Foundation will host a New Year Luncheon for Consuls General and Chairmen of Chambers of Commerce in Hong Kong each year. Members of the Foundation will take this opportunity to celebrate the Chinese New Year and share with our guests their wishes in the Year of Tiger. Details of the luncheon will be announced later.



19 December 2008

## “Economic Transformation and Development of Shanghai and Hong Kong in the Global Financial Crisis” Forum



The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan (3rd right) at the Opening Ceremony of the forum

Jointly organized by the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation), Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) and Shanghai Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (SCPPC), the Forum on “Economic Transformation and Development of Shanghai and Hong Kong in the Global Financial Crisis” was successfully held on 19 December 2008 in Shanghai. This was organized in an effort for better preparedness in the face of the global financial crisis and to strengthen the cooperation between Shanghai and Hong Kong. Around 200 experts, scholars, government officials and entrepreneurs from Hong Kong and the Mainland attended the Forum. The Forum was supported by the Shanghai International Economic Exchange Foundation.

The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan together with SCPPC Chairman Mr. Feng Guoqiang and SASS President Prof. Wang Ronghua officiated at the Forum's Opening Ceremony. Prof. Lau Siu-kai, Head of the Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong SAR Government and Mr. Zhang Guangping, Deputy Director-General of the China Banking Regulatory Commission, Shanghai Branch, delivered

their keynote speeches on “Challenges arising from the U.S. economic crisis and economic transformation of Hong Kong”, and “Financial crisis and regulation in Shanghai and Hong Kong” respectively.

To facilitate discussions, there were four sessions focusing on the following key issues:

- “Impact of the financial tsunami on the economic transformation of Shanghai and Hong Kong and the way forward”;
- “Economic transformation of Shanghai and Hong Kong: challenges, paths and inspirations”;
- “Economic transformation of Shanghai and Hong Kong, and interaction within the region”; and
- “Financial crisis and interaction between Shanghai and Hong Kong”

Twelve speakers were invited to share their views on the topics. They included:

- Mr. Kwok Kwok-chuen  
Former Government Economist and Honorary Senior Research Fellow of The University of Hong Kong;
- Mr. Antony Hung  
Asia Pacific Global Wealth Management Head of Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Ltd;

- Dr. Zhou Bajun  
Senior Research Fellow of China Everbright Holding Co Ltd;
- Prof. Francis Lui  
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology;
- Prof. Tuan Chyan and Prof. Linda Ng  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong;
- Dr. Thomas Chan  
Head of the China Business Center of Hong Kong Polytechnic University;
- Mr. Qiao Yide  
Secretary of the Shanghai Development Research Foundation; and others.

The Foundation's Executive Director, Ms. Karen Tang was one of the moderators and Foundation's Council Members Ms. Winnie Ng and Mr. Albert Ip participated in the Forum.



(L to R) Dr. Zuo Xuejin, Mr. Kwok Kwok-chuen, Mr. Li Liangyuan (Deputy Chairman of SCPPC), the Foundation's Council Member Ms. Winnie Ng, Ms. Ding Zhijian and the Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang at the closing ceremony

In conclusion, Dr. Zuo Xuejin, Executive Vice-President of SASS was grateful to the speakers and participants for sharing their insights which would be consolidated and presented to related authorities in due course. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Li Liangyuan, Deputy Chairman of SCPPC thanked the organizers, speakers and participants for their efforts made to the Forum. He hoped that the economic cooperation and development between Shanghai and Hong Kong could be further enhanced and strengthened. After the Forum, the Foundation hosted a dinner for the organizers and speakers at the Xintiendi Club.



(L to R) Mr. Ronnie Chan (Executive Committee Chairman of the Foundation), Mr. Feng Guoqiang (Chairman of SCPPC) and Dr. Zuo Xuejin (Executive Vice-President of SASS)

22 January 2009

## The Better Hong Kong Foundation Spring Luncheon & Media Gathering

To celebrate the Year of Ox with the Foundation's members and to strengthen our communication with our media friends, the Better Hong Kong Foundation held its annual spring luncheon and media gathering at the Grand Hyatt Hong Kong on 22 January 2009. The event was hosted by the Foundation's Advisory Council Chairman Dr. Henry Cheng and

chaired by the Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan. Members of the Foundation including Trustees Mr. Victor Cha and Dr. Sumet Jiaravanon's representative Ms. Li Xuhua; Council Members Dr. Roy Chung, Mr. Thomas Woo, Ms. Winnie Ng, Ms. Judy Yu, Mr. David Fong, Mr. Tony Choi, Mr. Albert Ip and Mr. Eric Leung; and



The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan (middle) introducing the Council Member Ms. Winnie Ng (2nd left) as well as the five new Council Members Ms. Judy Yu (3rd right), Mr. David Fong (2nd right), Mr. Albert Ip (1st right), Mr. Tony Choi (1st left) and Mr. Eric Leung



The Foundation's members sending Chinese New Year greetings to people of Hong Kong: (front row, R to L) Ms. Judy Yu, Mr. Ronnie Chan, Dr. Henry Cheng and Mr. Victor Cha; (back row, R to L) Dr. Roy Chung, Ms. Karen Tang, Ms. Li Xuhua, Mr. Eric Leung, Ms. Winnie Ng, Mr. Albert Yip, Mr. Thomas Woo, Mr. Tony Choi and Mr. David Fong

Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang joined the luncheon where they exchanged views on the future development of the Foundation as well as to welcome its new members.

The media gathering that followed was well attended by some 40 journalists. The Foundation's members and friends from the media enjoyed the sharing and good wishes for prosperity for 2009.

14 February 2009

## 43rd Hong Kong Brands & Products Expo Photography Competition

Sponsored by the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) and organized by the Chinese Manufacturers' Association, the 43rd Hong Kong Brands & Products Expo Photography Competition has been successfully concluded. The photography competition aimed to encourage people to portray the future of Hong Kong industry from their perspective and arouse their awareness on the importance of local brands towards the future development of Hong Kong as well as to enhance their sense of belonging to the city. The prize presentation ceremony was held on 14 February 2009 at the secretariat of the Chinese Manufacturers' Association.

The judges, including the Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang, selected 5 winning entries out of over 400 entries in total. The judges were impressed by both the number and quality of the entries which captured the spirit of the Expo as well as the aspirations of the contestants towards Hong Kong's future.



Group photo of the judges and the awardees



19 February 2009

## The Better Hong Kong Foundation's Spring Luncheon

At the beginning of each Chinese New Year, the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) organizes a Spring Luncheon for Foundation's members, Consuls-General and Chairmen of international chambers of commerce in Hong Kong. This year's luncheon was successfully held on 19 February 2009. The Foundation's Advisory Council Chairman Dr. Henry Cheng together with the Foundation's members hosted the luncheon for over 30 guests. Mr. Ronnie Chan, Executive Committee

Chairman of the Foundation shared with guests his observations and views on the recent developments in the world economy. All participants were enthusiastic in exchanging views and to looking forward to a brighter future.

The Foundation's members who attended the luncheon were Trustee Tan Sri Dato' David Chiu; Council Members Dr. Roy Chung, Mr. Oscar Chow, Mr. Thomas Woo, Mr. Winnie Ng, Dr. Gerald Chow, Mr. Joseph Yu, Mr. David Fong, Mr. Tony Choi and Mr. Albert Ip; and Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang.



(L to R) The Foundation's Council Member Mr. David Fong and Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan, Mr. Alexander Romanov (Deputy Consul-General of the Russian Federation), the Foundation's Advisory Council Chairman Dr. Henry Cheng and Council Member Mr. Albert Ip, Mr. Zhan Yongxin (Deputy Commissioner of Commissioner's Office of China's Foreign Ministry in the HKSAR), the Foundation's Council Member Mr. Thomas Woo and Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang



Mr. Ronnie Chan, the Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman sharing with guests his observation and views on the recent developments in the world economy



Over 30 guests attending the Spring Luncheon

27 February 2009

## China Universities Alumni (Hong Kong) Association – Spring Forum on the Prospect of China in 2009

Organized by the China Universities Alumni (Hong Kong) Association (CUAA) and co-organized by the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation), CUAA-Financial Association, the CUAA-Legal Association and the Hong Kong Association of Mainland Graduates, the "CUAA – Spring Forum on the Prospect of China in 2009" was successfully held on 27 February 2009 at the Hong Kong Exhibition Centre of the China Resources Building.

Mr. Ronnie Chan, Executive Committee Chairman of the Foundation was the keynote speaker of the Forum. Other speakers included Mr. Fang Fang, CEO and



The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan (1st left) sharing his insightful views on the prospect of China economy

Managing Director of JP Morgan Chase & Co (China); Mr. Li Jialin, Chairman of VST Holdings Ltd; Mr. Oliver Lu, Director of News of Phoenix TV's InfoNews Channel; Mr. Li Wei, well-known commentator of

current affairs; Mr. Bai Ren, Vice President of BOCI Research Ltd; and Dr. Frank Song, Director of the Centre for China Financial Research of The University of Hong Kong. Over 200 participants attended the Forum, including the Foundation Trustee Dr. Sumet Jiaravanon's representative Ms. Li Xuhua and Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang as well as the Foundation's invited guest Mr. Charles Ng, Director of Somerley Ltd. The speakers shared with guests their views and comments on the economic and social developments of China in 2009. The Foundation Council Members Mr. Joseph Yu and Mr. Albert Ip joined the dinner after the Forum.

4 March 2009

## The Better Hong Kong Foundation Luncheon for Fulbright Scholars

On 4 March 2009, the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) hosted a luncheon for around one hundred American Fulbright scholars and students who were attending the Fulbright China Research Forum 2009 in Hong Kong from 2 – 6 March 2009. Organized by the Hong Kong America Center, the Forum was an annual meeting of American Fulbright research scholars who were conducting research in Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The Forum was sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in China,



*The Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang giving her warm welcome to the Fulbright Scholars; at her left is Dr. Glenn Shive, Director of Hong Kong America Center*



*The Foundation hosting a luncheon for about a hundred American Fulbright scholars*

the Foundation for Scholarly Exchange in Taiwan and the U.S. Consulate in Hong Kong, and also supported by 8 local universities.

Foundation members and its guests joined the luncheon to exchange views about the development of China and Hong Kong with the scholars. They included Council Members Dr. Roy Chung, Mr. Thomas Woo, Dato' S J Wong, Ms. Winnie Ng, Dr. Gerald Chow, Mr. Joseph Yu and Mr. Albert Ip; Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang; and guest Director of Somerley Ltd Mr. Charles Ng.

9 March 2009

## Joint Business Community Luncheon: 2009-2010 Budget

The Honourable John Tsang, the Financial Secretary of the HKSAR Government, delivered the 2009-2010 Budget Speech on 25 February 2009. On 9 March 2009, members and guests of the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) attended the Joint Business Community Luncheon where Mr. Tsang addressed the Hong Kong business community and elaborated this year's budget. They were the Foundation's Council Members

Mr. Thomas Woo, Dr. Gerald Chow, Mr. Joseph Yu and Mr. Albert Ip; Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang; Mr. Li Xuhua and Mr. Chris Hoong, representatives of Trustees Dr. Sumet Jiaravanon and Tan Sri Dato' David Chiu respectively.



*The Foundation's Council Member Dr. Gerald Chow (left), Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang (right) and guest Vice Chairman of Shun Hing Group Mr. David Mong (middle)*



27 March 2009

## Hong Kong Business Community Forum on the Pearl River Delta Development Plan

Initiated by the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation), and joined by the Central Policy Unit of the HKSAR Government (CPU) and the Federation of Hong Kong Industries (FHKI), the Hong Kong Business Community Forum on the Pearl River Delta Development Plan was successfully held on 27 March 2009 at the City University of Hong Kong. More than 180 professionals from various business fields attended the Forum. The Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong (CMA) and City University of Hong Kong (CityU) were the co-organizers and the media partner was the Hong Kong Economic Times.



Over 180 professionals from various business fields attending the forum



The Foundation's Trustee Mr. W F Leung giving his warm welcome to participants

the CPU, FHKI and CMA organized the forum where members of Hong Kong business community could share and exchange their views and experiences, to explore opportunities as well as to meet challenges that arise ahead.

The Foundation's Trustee Mr. W F Leung; the CPU's Head Prof. Lau Siu-kai; the FHKI's Chairman Mr. Clement Chan; CityU's President Prof. Way Kuo; and the CMA's Chief Executive Officer Mr. Paul Leung gave their warmest welcome to the participants as a kick-off of the forum. The Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang was the Forum's host.

We were honored to have Ms. Jin Ping, Deputy Director General of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the People's Government of Guangdong Province; Mr. Cai Yunge, Deputy Director, Development and Reform Commission of Guangdong Province; and Mr. C Y Leung, Convener of the Executive Council giving keynote addresses at the Forum. Ms. Jin and Mr. Cai explained the background and introduced the Outline. Mr. Leung shared his views on various areas of cooperation between Guangdong and Hong Kong as well as the possible role and functions that Hong Kong could play under the Outline. It was followed by three panel discussions:

In January 2009, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) released "The Outline of the Plan for the Reform and Development of the Pearl River Delta (2008-2020)" (the Outline). The Hong Kong business community has been intimately involved in the development of the Pearl River Delta region for years. Noting the importance of the implementation of the Outline on the future development of Hong Kong, the Foundation in collaboration with



Group photo after the keynote session: (L to R) Ms. Karen Tang (the Foundation's Executive Director), Mr. Paul Leung (CMA's Chief Executive Officer), Mr. Cai Yunge (Deputy Director, Development and Reform Commission of Guangdong Province), Mr. Clement Chan (FHKI's Chairman), Prof. Lau Siu-kai (CPU's Head), Mr. C Y Leung (Executive Council's Convener), Ms. Jin Ping (Deputy Director General of HongKong and Macao Affairs Office of the People's Government of Guangdong Province), Mr. W F Leung (the Foundation's Trustee) and Prof. Way Kuo (CityU's President)





Prof. K C Chan (Secretary for Financial Services & the Treasury) (1st right) answering questions from the floor; sitting by his side (R to L) are Mr. Fang Fang (CEO and Managing Director of JP Morgan Chase & Co (China)), Mr. George Leung (Advisor, Strategy and Economics, Asia-Pacific of the HSBC) and Dr. Frank Song (Director of Centre for China Financial Research of the HKU)



Speakers of the Logistics Session: (L to R) Dr. Thomas Chan (Head of the China Business Centre of PolyU), Mr. Ambrose Linn (Member of Hong Kong Logistics Development Council), Mr. Anthony Wong (Immediate Past President of the Hong Kong Logistics Association) and Mr. Chang Ka-mun (Managing Director of the Li & Fung Research Centre/ Staff Officer of the Greater Pearl River Delta Business Council)

• **Financial Session**

**Speaker:**

Prof. K C Chan  
Secretary for Financial Services & the Treasury of the HKSAR Government

**Moderator:**

Dr. Frank Song  
Director of the Centre for China Financial Research of The University of Hong Kong

**Discussants:**

Mr. Fang Fang  
CEO and Managing Director of JP Morgan Chase & Co (China)  
Mr. George Leung  
Advisor, Strategy and Economics, Asia-Pacific of HSBC

• **Logistics Session**

**Speaker:**

Mr. Anthony Wong  
Immediate Past President of the Hong Kong Logistics Association

**Moderator:**

Dr. Thomas Chan  
Head of the China Business Centre of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University

**Discussants:**

Mr. Chang Ka-mun  
Managing Director of the Li & Fung Research Centre/Staff Officer of the Greater Pearl River Delta Business Council  
Mr. Ambrose Linn,  
Member of the Hong Kong Logistics Development Council

• **Industries/Manufacturing Session**

**Speaker:**

Mr. Peter Leung  
Former Director of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs, Guangdong

**Moderator:**

Mr. Cliff Sun  
Deputy Chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries

**Discussants:**

Mr. W F Leung  
Group Managing Director of Lam Soon (Hong Kong) Ltd  
Mr. C K Yeung  
Vice Chairman of Blue Box Holdings Ltd  
Ms. Iris Lam  
Business Promotion Manager of Onlen Fairyland (HK) Co Ltd  
Mr. Michael Yu  
Executive Committee Member of the CMA/Director of Sunnex Products Ltd



Speakers of the Industries/Manufacturing Session: (L to R) Mr. Cliff Sun (Deputy Chairman of FHKI), Mr. Michael Yu (Executive Committee Member of the CMA/Director of Sunnex Products Ltd), Ms. Iris Lam (Business Promotion Manager of Onlen Fairyland (HK) Co Ltd), Mr. C K Yeung (Vice Chairman of Blue Box Holdings Ltd), Mr. W F Leung (Group Managing Director of Lam Soon (Hong Kong) Ltd) and Mr. Peter Leung (former Director of HKET Affairs, Guangdong)

Participants enthusiastically exchanged their views with speakers at the Q&A session. Mr. Shiu Sin-por, Member of the CPU gave the concluding remarks. The details and implementation plan of the Outline are yet to be mapped out at this stage. By organizing the forum, we hoped that views gathered could be useful to Guangdong and Hong Kong Governments and can serve as a good reference to the business community.

15 April 2009

## Luncheon and Press Conference of the 2009 China Urban Competitiveness Report (Hong Kong)

The Press Conference of the 2009 China Urban Competitiveness Report (Hong Kong) was held in Hong Kong on 15 April 2009. It was organized by the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) and co-organized by the Institute of Finance and Trade Economics of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies (HKIAPS) of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). The Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang together with Prof. Ni Pengfei from CASS, Prof. Yeung Yue-man

from CUHK and Prof. Shen Jianfa from HKIAPS attended the press conference to introduce and elaborate on the findings of the report to the media.

"The 2009 China Urban Competitiveness Report" project is led by Prof. Pengfei Ni. The urban competitiveness of 294 cities in the Mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau is analyzed. The top 10 cities in overall urban competitiveness are: Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Beijing, Taipei, Guangzhou, Qingdao, Tianjin, Suzhou and Kaohsiung. Hong



*The press conference is well attended by the media*



*(L to R) Ms. Karen Tang (the Foundation's Executive Director), Prof. Yeung Yue-man (CUHK), Prof. Ni Pengfei (CASS) and Prof. Shen Jianfa (HKIAPS)*

Kong also ranked 1st in development cost competitiveness and quality of life competitiveness. Hong Kong is ranked 2nd in scale competitiveness, economic efficiency and industrial competitiveness after Shanghai, Taipei and Beijing respectively. Compared with rapidly growing cities in the Mainland, Hong Kong is ranked 288th in growth competitiveness.

For more details of the report, please visit the Foundation's website [www.betterhongkong.org](http://www.betterhongkong.org).

20 April 2009

## "The Future of Sino-Japanese Relations": An Evening Presentation by Ambassador Cui Tiankai, China's Ambassador to Japan

The Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) and the Asia Society Hong Kong Center jointly hosted a dinner for Ambassador Cui Tiankai, China's Ambassador to Japan on 20 April 2009. Ambassador Cui shared with guests his views on the future of Sino-Japanese relations at the occasion. He expressed that it was important that the relationship go beyond bilateral specifics and be viewed in a global context.

Hosted by Mr. Ronnie Chan, Chairman of the Foundation's Executive Committee as well as Chairman of the Asia Society Hong Kong Center; Foundation's Council Members Dr. Roy Chung and Mr. Joseph Yu, and the Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang joined the dinner.



*Ambassador Cui Tiankai shared his views on Sino-Japanese relations*



23 - 29 April 2009

## The Better Hong Kong Foundation Annual Delegation to the United States

The Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) organized its annual delegation to the United States from 23 to 29 April this year. Led by the Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang, members of this year's delegation included:

- Mr. Antony Leung  
Chairman of Greater China,  
the Blackstone Group (HK) Ltd and  
former Financial Secretary of the  
HKSAR
- Ms. Winnie Ng  
Foundation's Council Member and  
Director of the Kowloon Motor Bus  
Co. Ltd
- Mr. Albert Ip  
Foundation's Council Member and  
International Advisory Council Asia of  
Washington University, St. Louis



At the Harvard Conference's reception:  
(L to R) Mr. Albert Ip, Mr. Antony Leung, Mr. C.H. Tung, Ms. Winnie Ng, Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong and Ms. Karen Tang

### The U.S. Visit

The main purpose of the delegation was to provide an annual update about Hong Kong's present situation, to share our perspectives on the developments in China, exchange views with interlocutors in the United States and gauge the temperature in the Beltway, as well as learn of their views on developments in Hong Kong, China, the U.S. and the China-US relationship, especially under the new Obama Administration.

The delegation visited financial institutions (Morgan Stanley and HSBC); rating agency (Standard & Poor's) and think tanks in New York (National Committee on US-China Relations, Council on Foreign Affairs); the Executive Branch (U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration and National Security Council); the Legislative Branch (Senator, Congressman and staffers); think tanks inside the Beltway

(Brookings Institution, CATO Institute, Heritage Foundation, US-Asia Institute); and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Washington DC. The group met with Senator Jim Webb, Member Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Congressman Rick Larsen, Co-Chair of the U.S.-China Working Group, to brief them on recent developments in Hong Kong.



Photo with Mr. Paul Haenle (Director for China, Taiwan and Mongolia,  
East Asian Affairs, National Security Council) (3rd right)

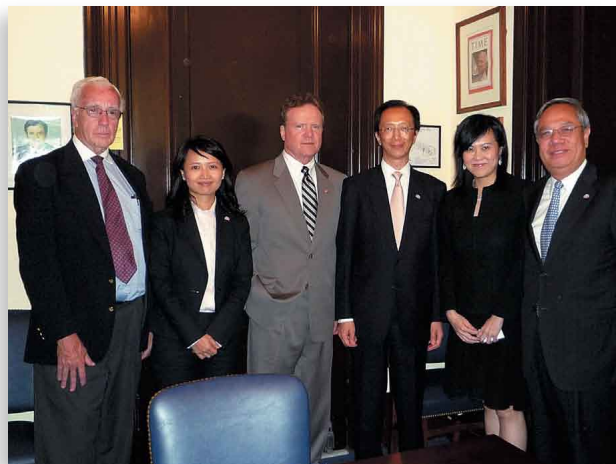


Photo with Senator Jim Webb (3rd left)



Mr. Antony Leung (2nd right), Ms. Karen Tang (1st right) and Mr. Albert Ip (1st right) having a photo with Mr. Victor Menezes, Trustee Emeritus of Asia Society (middle) after the speaking luncheon



Group photo with Ambassador Zhang Yesui (4th right) at the Permanent Mission of the PRC to the UN

During the mission in New York, Mr. Antony Leung gave a speech entitled “China and Hong Kong: Post Financial Tsunami” at a luncheon hosted by the Asia Society. More than one hundred people attended. (The speech is available on the Foundation’s website [www.betterhongkong.org](http://www.betterhongkong.org).) In Washington D.C., Mr. Leung spoke at the Fund for American Studies, sharing his views on China and Hong Kong’s Economic Outlook. Mr. Leung was also Chair of the Panel on the session “Working Towards Economic Recovery and International Balance” at the Harvard Conference – Power and Restraint: Perspectives on the U.S. and Chinese Relationship.

The delegation were invited to luncheons and dinners hosted by the Permanent Mission of the PRC to the UN (Ambassador Zhang Yesui); the Consulate-General of the People’s Republic of China in New York (Ambassador Peng Keyu); the Embassy of the PRC in the US (Minister and DCM Xie Fung); and the Hong Kong-United States Business Council.

A detailed itinerary is available on the Foundation’s website [www.betterhongkong.org](http://www.betterhongkong.org).

### Post-trip Press Conference

A post-trip press conference was held on 5 May 2009 to brief members of the local media about the main issues dealt with during the delegation’s stay in the U.S. Members of the delegation shared their observations and experiences gained from the trip at the press conference.

Mr. Antony Leung said interlocutors in the U.S. basically understood and agreed that the proximity to China, low tax rate and simple tax regime, legal and regulatory systems that are predictable and consistent, and accepted by international

investors, freedom of information, safe and convenient place to live and work are Hong Kong’s fundamental competitive edges. Regarding the announcement that Shanghai would be an international financial center in 2020, he expressed that with such a huge economy, it is possible for China to have more than one international financial center. The U.S. also has several financial centers, including New York, Chicago and San Francisco. Being an international financial center, Hong Kong should further strengthen its existing advantages, strive to be the global offshore Renminbi center and regional center for derivatives, develop its business in Renminbi bonds as well as other well-regulated financial instruments. Hong Kong and Shanghai could achieve a win-win situation. However, for a long-term and sustainable development to be viable it is crucial for Hong Kong to attract and retain more global talents to work and live here. Moreover, Mr. Leung proactively explained to the U.S. that Hong Kong is not a “tax haven” and expressed our concerns about the possible rise of protectionism (no matter on trade, human resources, capital flow, etc) that may be caused by a further downturn of the world economy. The U.S. promised that they would keep a close watch on development of these issues.



(L to R) Mr. Antony Leung, Ms. Karen Tang and Mr. Albert Ip sharing their observations and experiences gained from the trip at the press conference



Ms. Karen Tang concurred that there was not much concern over Hong Kong. People in the U.S. were more concerned about their local economic issues and how to better engage China. Hence, there was much more interest in knowing if and how China can maintain 8% GDP growth and the impact of its economic stimulus package. "However, we do share our belief that with the increasing importance of China as a global economic powerhouse, the proximity of Hong Kong to the Mainland and the strong support from the Central Authority to Hong Kong, Hong Kong definitely can benefit and can rebound faster.", said Ms. Tang. Overall, people are positive about the China-US relationship and the direction that the new U.S. Administration is taking.

Mr. Albert Ip emphasized the importance of the quality of human capital to the success of Hong Kong. He thought that it was crucial for university faculty members and students to have strong international skills and exposure, hence there should be more joint programs and exchanges arranged between universities in the U.S. and Hong Kong. "The world is getting smaller, and there is much more interaction and interdependency", said Mr. Ip. Universities in Hong Kong aim to get the best talents from the world, including the recently hired Chancellors at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Hong Kong Polytechnic University who came from the U.S. Both held important positions at prestigious universities before the appointments.

Having leaders with a Western academic background and experience will further build on the reputation and quality of local universities in Hong Kong.

Ms. Winnie Ng commented that the meetings with leaders from American political and business sectors during the mission and the participation in activities of the Committee of 100 and Hong Kong-United State Business Council held concurrently in Washington D.C. provided excellent platforms for ideas exchange and communications. She was gratified to see that the Foundation played a contributory role as a non-government diplomat to promote mutual understanding between Hong Kong, China and the U.S.

30 April – 2 May 2009

### Committee of 100 18th Annual Conference

The Committee of 100's (C100) conference served as a critical forum for the discussion of issues pertaining to U.S.-China relations and Chinese American progress. With a focus on the impact of China's rising global influence, this year's conference covered topics relevant to academic, business, and political communities around the country. The Better Hong Kong Foundation's Council

Member Ms. Winnie Ng and Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang also participated in the conference which was held right after the Foundation's U.S. delegation in Washington D.C. The Foundation's Executive Chairman and member of the C100 Mr. Ronnie Chan was the moderator of the panel entitled "Impact of the Economic Crisis on China: A View from the Ground" at the conference.



Photo at the conference's gala dinner: (L to R) Ms. Karen Tang, Mr. Ronnie Chan and Ms. Winnie Ng

19 May 2009

### "China's Economic Stimulus Package": A Luncheon Talk by Mr. Xu Lin, Director General, Department of Fiscal and Financial Affairs, National Development and Reform Commission



Mr. Ronnie Chan thanked Mr. Xu Lin for his insightful speech

The Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation) was pleased to have Mr. Xu Lin, Director General of the Department of Fiscal and Financial Affairs, National Development and Reform Commission to give a speech entitled "China's Economic Stimulus Package" at a luncheon on 19 May 2009. Co-hosted by the Foundation and the Asia Society Hong Kong Center, the luncheon was well attended by over a hundred of guests. Before the speech, Mr. Ronnie Chan, Executive Committee Chairman of the Foundation and Chairman of the Asia Society Hong Kong

Center gave a warm welcome to Mr. Xu. In his presentation, Mr. Xu highlighted China's policies on tackling the global financial crisis and the current economic situation in China.

The Foundation's Council Members Dr. Roy Chung, Mr. Thomas Woo, Ms. Winnie Ng, Ms. Judy Yu, Mr. Joseph Yu, Mr. David Fong and Mr. Tony Choi, and the guest Managing Director of Home Swallows Ltd Mr. Frank Pak attended the event.

16 - 17 July 2009

## The Better Hong Kong Foundation Delegation to Guangzhou

With the release of the Outline of the Plan for the Reform and Development of the Pearl River Delta, strengthened cooperation within the region is believed to benefit the region, Hong Kong and the country as a whole. In view of this, the Better Hong Kong Foundation organized a delegation to Guangzhou on 16 - 17 July 2009, to explore opportunities for further cooperation within the region. The visit was supported by the Guangzhou Municipal Board for International Investment.

During the 2-day trip, the delegation visited Zhujian New Town Central District, Tianhe Software Park Gaotang New Zone, the new Guangzhou railway terminus at Shibi, Nansha and Panyu Districts to learn more about the latest developments of the commercial, trade, technology and innovation, research and development activities in Guangzhou. Members of the delegation were impressed by the rapid developments of Guangzhou in recent years. They were interested in the future development plan of the city where numerous investment opportunities were provided.

Led by the Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang, the delegation comprised:

### The Better Hong Kong Foundation

- Dr. Roy Chung, Council Member  
*Vice Chairman & Executive Director, Techtronic Industries Co Ltd*
- Mr. Thomas Woo, Council Member  
*Executive Managing Director & General Manager, Hsin Kuang Restaurant (Holdings) Ltd*



Visit the showroom of Taikoo Hui



Meeting with representatives of Tian An Hi-tech Ecological Park

- Ms. Judy Yu, Council Member  
*President, Carsac Limited*
- Ms. Li Xuhua, Representative of Trustee Dr. Sumet Jiaravanon  
*Special Assistant, Chia Tai Group*
- Mr. Edmond Yew, Representative of Trustee Mr. Peter Lam  
*Senior Vice President, Lai Fung Holdings Ltd*



(L to R) The Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang and Council Member Dr. Roy Chung and the Guangzhou Municipal Board for International Investment's Deputy Director Ms. Linda Sun and Director General Mr. Cao Zhicong

### International Chambers of Commerce

- Mr. David Whitwam, Chairman, The New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong  
*Executive Director, Mace Consulting Ltd*
- Ms. Vicky Wong, China Committee Member, The French Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
*Managing Consultant - Hong Kong & China, EPC Consulting Ltd*

### Other Guests

- Mr. K. C. Lung, Editor-in-Chief of Ming Pao Weekly and Editorial Director of One Media Group
- Mr. Kenneth Leung, Vice President – Corporate Affairs, Lai Sun Group
- Mr. Clarence Ling, Director, Kwai Hung Group

A detailed itinerary is available on the Foundation's website [www.betterhongkong.org](http://www.betterhongkong.org).



Visit the Startoon City



28 July – 12 August 2009

## The 2009 Hong Kong Journalism Fellowships

### Overview

Since 1996, the Better Hong Kong Foundation has been working with the U.S.-based East-West Centre, in organising the annual Hong Kong Journalism Fellowships program which is targeted at senior journalists from major U.S. media organisation. This year's program included a 2-day seminar in Honolulu and a 12-day study tour to Beijing, Inner Mongolia and Hong Kong from 1 – 12 August 2009. Led by Ms. Karen Tang, Executive Director of the Foundation, the delegation comprised 6 journalists from the United States and was accompanied by Ms. Sara Liu of the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Jimmie Chow, Communications Manager of the Foundation and Ms. Marilyn Li, Seminar Specialist of the East-West Center.

### Honolulu - Beijing

Before visiting China, a series of seminars on China and Hong Kong issues were arranged in Honolulu for the delegates. With the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Foundation organized the study tour to China and Hong Kong with the first stop in Beijing. On 1 August 2009, the delegation started their journey in China. To kick-off, sightseeing tour was organized the following day. The delegation was given an opportunity to get a feel for the capital of ancient and modern China. They were amazed and fascinated by the historic and the state-



Meeting with Mr. Zhou Xisheng, Vice President of the Xinhua News Agency (5th right)

of-the-art buildings as well as the capital's rapid development.

The delegation first visited the headquarters of Xinhua News Agency and the office of Xinhuanet to learn more about the operation of the media industry in China. We were honored to be received by Mr. Zhou Xisheng, Vice President of the Xinhua News Agency. Moreover, the delegation also met with Mr. Cai Mingzhao, Deputy Director of the State Council Information Office where the journalists were briefed on the overall development in China over the last 30 years. On the financial front, the delegation had a fruitful discussion with experts from the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation under the Ministry of Commerce, led by Prof. Chen Wenjing,

Vice President of the academy. The sustainable development of China depends much on the nurturing of young talents. In this regard, the delegation also visited the Guanghua School of Management of Peking University where

Prof. Zhang Weiyang, Dean of the school introduced the education system and shared his views on the competitiveness of Chinese students. Environmental protection was another hot topic for the journalists. The delegation was pleased to meet with Mr. Jia Feng, Deputy Director General of the Department of Communication and Education of the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The exchange of views and discussions on the environmental protection policies in China were conducted enthusiastically.



Visit the Guanghua School of Management of the Peking University

During their stay in Beijing, the delegation also met with Mr. Ma Zhaoxu, Spokesman and Director General of the Information Department, and Mr. Zheng Zeguang, Director General of the Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Moreover, the Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing hosted a luncheon for the group and explained the role of the Hong Kong Government's Offices in Beijing and in other parts of the Mainland.



Meeting with Mr. Cai Mingzhao, Deputy Director of the State Council Information Office (4th left)

## Inner Mongolia

The second part of the study tour included a 5-day program in Huhhot and Hailar, Inner Mongolia. Ms. Liu Juru, Vice Mayor of the People's Municipal Government of Huhhot gave her warmest welcome to the delegation by hosting a dinner where she also briefed the delegation about the overall development of Huhhot. Besides, a joint meeting was held with senior officials from various government departments in Inner Mongolia, including the Development and Reform Commission, Foreign Affairs Office, Ethnic Affairs Commission, Culture Department, Department of Commerce, Environmental Protection Department and the Tourism Bureau. The group also visited the Huitengxile wind power field. The journalists were especially interested in the success of making the wind power field a tourist attraction. The delegation

grasslands as well as the first national forest park in Hailera. On its last night in Inner Mongolia, the group enjoyed a fantastic outdoor performance of the life of Genghis Khan on the grasslands.



Visit the production plant of Yili Group



Visit the wind power field

## Hong Kong

On 9 August 2009, the delegation arrived in Hong Kong, the last stop of the study tour. As an international financial center, the recovery of Hong Kong's economy after the global financial crisis was still a hot issue for the journalists. Meetings with Ms. Julia Leung, Undersecretary for Financial Services & the Treasury and Mr. Archie Tsim, Chief Financial Officer of the Hong Kong Stock Exchanges and Clearing Ltd provided with them first-hand information about Hong Kong's



Meeting with Mr. Lu Xinhua, Commissioner of the Commissioner's Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Hong Kong

status as an international financial center. The group was grateful to have a meeting with Mr. Henry Tang, Chief Secretary for Administration. Mr. Tang shared his views with the delegation on the overall development of Hong Kong as well as recently discussed topics such as the integration and collaboration between Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta region and the West Kowloon Cultural District.

Mr. Lu Xinhua, Commissioner of the Commissioner's Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Hong Kong briefed the delegation on the relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland and the responsibilities of his office in dealing with external affairs for Hong Kong. The group also visited the Office of the Former Chief Executives where Mr. Tung Chee-hwa, the first Chief Executive of the HKSAR and now the Vice Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, shared his views on the developments of Hong Kong as well as those in the Mainland. In addition, meetings with Mr. Christopher



Ms. Liu Juru, Vice Mayor of the People's Municipal Government of Huhhot (2nd left) giving her warmest welcome to the delegation by hosting a dinner

was also excited to visit the production plants of Yili Group. During the tour, Mr. Hu Liping, Executive Director of Yili Group shared with the delegation information regarding production flows, safety measures, testing procedures and marketing strategies.

The beauty of the nature in Inner Mongolia has earned international acclaim, which was echoed by the delegation. They visited the Old Cow Crescent, a former strategic military place in ancient times. It is also the place where the Great Wall reached the Yellow River. The group did not miss the chance to visit the famous



Meeting with Mr. Henry Tang, Chief Secretary for Administration (middle)





Meeting with Mr. Tung Chee-hwa, the first Chief Executive of the HKSAR and now the Vice Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (4th right)



Mr. Barry Cheung, Chairman of Urban Renewal Authority (right) introducing the re-developed Pawn to the journalists

Marut, Acting American Consul-General and the representatives from the American Chamber of Commerce provided a good platform for the journalists to learn more about the interests of Americans in Hong Kong.

The delegation enjoyed very much the luncheon hosted by Mr. C Y Leung, Convenor of the Executive Council of the HKSAR and the opportunity to discuss with its Council Members Mrs. Laura Cha, Mr. Ronald Arculli, Mr. Marvin Cheung, Ms. Marjorie Yang and Mr. V Nee Yeh various issues in Hong Kong. Another luncheon hosted by Mr. Barry Cheung, Chairman of Urban Renewal Authority was also informative and enjoyable. The Pawn and the re-developed of old buildings nearby were good examples of efforts made towards building a sustainable Hong Kong.

To show the spectacular night scene of Hong Kong to the journalists, the Foundation organized a boat trip from Victoria Harbour to Lamma Island where

a delicious seafood dinner was arranged on 11 August 2009. The journalists not only met Foundation members but also guests from the local business sector, academia and media. Mr. Ronnie Chan, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Foundation together with Council Members Dr. Roy Chung, Dato' S J Wong, Mr. Joseph Yu and Mr. Albert Ip hosted the dinner as well as an open discussion on their thoughts on the developments on China and Hong Kong.

Ms. Karen Tang, the Foundation's Executive Director expressed her gratitude to the East-West Center and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their support and was grateful to all the participants for their active participation and cooperation to make the trip a success.



The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan (standing) has enjoyable conversations with the journalists and guests on the boat

**List of Participants:**

1. **Mr. Charles Bennett**, Reporter/Staff Writer, New York Post, New York, NY
2. **Ms. Vicki Curry**, Producer, KCET-TV (PBS for southern and central California), Los Angeles, CA
3. **Mr. Rami Grunbaum**, Deputy Business Editor, The Seattle Times, Seattle, WA
4. **Mr. David Klepper**, State Government Reporter, The Kansas City Star, Kansas City, MO
5. **Mr. Daniel McGinn**, Senior Articles Editor, Newsweek, Boston, MA
6. **Ms. Stacy Perman**, Staff Writer, Business Week, New York, NY

A detailed itinerary and more photos can be found at the Foundation's website [www.betterhongkong.org](http://www.betterhongkong.org).



The Foundation specially arranged environmental-friendly teddy bags as souvenirs for this trip



Mr. C Y Leung, Convenor of the Executive Council of the HKSAR (6th right) hosting a luncheon where members of the Executive Council also participated

21 August 2009

## Forum on "Hong Kong and Shanghai: Collaborative Development of International Trade Center and the Internationalization of Renminbi"

In the wake of the global financial crisis and the increasing opportunity arising from the internationalization of the Renminbi, the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation), Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) and Shanghai Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (SCPPC) jointly organized the Forum on "Hong Kong and Shanghai: Collaborative Development of International Trade Center and the Internationalization of Renminbi" on 21 August 2009 in Shanghai, to promote further collaboration between Hong Kong and Shanghai. It was the third forum that is jointly organized every year by the three organizations. It was supported by the Shanghai International Economic Exchange Foundation. Around 200 experts, scholars, government officials and entrepreneurs from Hong Kong and the Mainland attended the Forum.



Ms. Margaret Ko delivering her keynote speech

The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan together with SCPPC Chairman Mr. Feng Guoqiang and SASS President Prof. Wang Ronghua officiated at the opening of the Forum. By the invitation of the Foundation, Ms. Margaret Ko, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive of the Hang Seng Bank delivered a keynote speech entitled "Cross-border RMB Trade Settlement and Internationalization of RMB: Role of Hong Kong". Other keynote speakers included Mr. Sha Hailin, Deputy Secretary General of the Shanghai Municipal People's Government and Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Commerce, and Mr. Andrew Yao,



The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Ronnie Chan (3rd left) together with SCPPC Chairman Mr. Feng Guoqiang (6th left) and SASS President Prof. Wang Ronghua (4th right) officiate the opening ceremony of the forum

SCPPC member and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Van Shung Chong Holdings Ltd.

To facilitate detail discussions, three breakout sessions focused on:

- "Impact of the global financial crisis on the international trade centers in Hong Kong and Shanghai and the tackling strategies";
- "Study of the policy structure for international trade centers and their business environment"; and
- "Cooperation between Shanghai and Hong Kong on the promotion of the cross-border RMB trade settlement and the research of RMB internationalization"

Nine speakers were invited to share their views on the topics. They included:

- Mr. Patrick Chan  
Director of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs, Shanghai, the HKSAR Government;
- Prof. Tuan Chyan and Prof. Linda Ng  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong;
- Prof. Zhang Hongming  
Researcher of SASS, Councilor of the Shanghai Municipal People's Government and member of CPCC;
- Mr. Jacky Chung  
Regional Director of Eastern & Central China, HKTDC;
- Mr. Tse Kwok-leung  
Head of Economic Research, Bank of China (Hong Kong);
- Mr. Dicky Yip  
Executive Vice President, Bank of Communications;

- Mr. T. C. Kwan  
Executive Director & Chief Executive, Bank of East Asia (China) Ltd; and
- Mr. He Liangliang  
Deputy Director of Commentary Department, Phoenix TV

Ms. Karen Tang, Executive Director of the Foundation and Mr. Kwok Kwok-chuen, former Government Economist and Honorary Senior Research Fellow of The University of Hong Kong were the moderators. Ms. Tang also chaired the concluding session of the Forum. Dr. Zuo Xuejin, Executive Vice-President of SASS made his remarks at the concluding session, by thanking the speakers and participants for sharing their insights, which will be submitted to the authorities in formulating relevant policies in the future. After the Forum, the Foundation hosted a dinner for the organizers and speakers.

A detailed program rundown and the ppt presentations of some speakers are available on the Foundation's website [www.betterhongkong.org.hk](http://www.betterhongkong.org.hk).



(L to R) Mr. Tse Kwok-leung (Head of Economic Research, Bank of China (Hong Kong)), Ms. Karen Tang (The Foundation's Executive Director), Mr. Ronnie Chan (The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman), Mr. K. C. Kwok (former Government Economist) and Dr. Wang Chunxin (Principal Researcher of Central Policy Unit)



16 December 2008 – 25 September 2009

## The 3rd Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest



(L to R) Mr. Benjamin Yung, Ms. Karen Tang, Deputy Commissioner Yang Zigang, Mr. Michael Suen, Commissioner Lu Xinhua, Mr. Ronnie Chan, Deputy Commissioner Zhan Yongxin, Mr. Raymond Wong and Mr. Song Ronghua

### Launching Ceremony

Since its inception in 2006, the Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest (the Contest) has been jointly organized by the Better Hong Kong Foundation (the Foundation), the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC in HKSAR (the Commissioner's Office) and the Hong Kong Education Bureau (the EDB). The launching ceremony of the 3rd Contest was successfully held at the Commissioner's Office on 16 December 2008. Commissioner Lu Xinhua; Secretary for Education, Mr. Michael Suen; Permanent Secretary for Education, Mr. Raymond Wong; the Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman, Mr. Ronnie Chan and Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang officiated at the launch. Representatives of supporting organizations included the Hong Kong Jockey Club's Chairman Mr. John Chan and Chief Executive Officer Mr. Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges; Cable TV Assistant Controller Mrs. Ellen Wu; Ming Pao Chief Operating Officer Mr. Keith Kam; Wen Wai Pao Associate Publisher Ms. Han Li, also attended the ceremony.

### First Briefing and Press Conference

The first briefing of the Contest for representatives of schools in Hong Kong and the media was held at the EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre on 14 February 2009. The Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang, the Commissioner's Office Spokesman Mr. Song Ronghua and the EDB's Principal Education Officer Mr. Benjamin Yung co-chaired the event. Achievements on the diplomatic front of the PRC was the main theme of this year's contest as the nation celebrates the 60th anniversary of its founding, a period in which China has been transformed, with its international standing and influence much enhanced. It is hoped that, through this event, more young people and the general public in Hong Kong will gain a more

comprehensive understanding on the development of China in the context of international relations. The briefing was well attended by more than 100 teachers and students from some 50 schools. Regulations and prizes of the Contest were introduced on the occasion.

### First Round Competition

A total of 135 secondary schools of which 46 never participating previously in the contest submitted application. It set a new record for the number of schools applying for the contest. On 28 March 2009, they attended the first round competition which was in the form of



A total of 135 secondary schools sent their teams to participating in the First Round competition

a written test. A total of 20 secondary schools were then shortlisted for the semi-final at the end. Within 30 minutes, they were required to complete the written test which covered a wide range of contents, including the history of foreign diplomatic affairs of the PRC, Hong Kong-related foreign affairs, national and international



Regulations and prizes of the contest are introduced to the students at the first briefing



The scenario improvisation section is a challenge to the contestant at the Semi-final

### Semi-final

affairs, international relationship and diplomatic etiquette. The 20 shortlisted schools were (in alphabetic order) :

- Baptist Lui Ming Choi Secondary School
- Carmel Pak U Secondary School
- Chan Sui Ki (La Salle) College
- Christian Alliance College
- CNEC Christian College
- Diocesan Girl's School
- Fanling Lutheran Secondary School
- Hon Wah College
- Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club College
- Kwun Tong Maryknoll College
- La Salle College
- Liu Po Shan Memorial College
- Po Leung Kuk Centenary Li Shiu Chung Memorial College
- Po Leung Kuk Tang Yuk Tien Colleg
- Queen's College
- Shatin Pui Ying College
- Sing Yin Secondary School
- St Mark's School
- The Chinese Foundation Secondary School
- Ying Wa College

The 20 teams were divided into four groups with each comprised of 5 teams. Each group had to compete in three sessions, namely "must-answer questions", "fast-answer questions" and "simulations" in 90 minutes. Over 100 students and teachers attended the match grouping drawing on 21 April 2009. They were given a chance to tour around the Commissioner's Office.

On 9 May 2009, the Semi-final was successfully held at the Hong Kong Baptist University Affiliated School Wong Kam Fai Secondary and Primary School. The Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang, Deputy Commissioner Yang Zigang, Spokesman Song Ronghua, and Mr. Benjamin Yung of the EBD were the judges of the competition. They were all impressed by the outstanding performance of the students who showed their extensive knowledge of the history of the PRC's foreign affairs, Hong Kong-related foreign affairs, diplomatic etiquette as well as the latest developments in China and the world. Their well-composed performance and sober-minded analysis during the limited



The judges (back row, L to R) Ms. Karen Tang, Deputy Commissioner Yang Zigang, Mr Benjamin Yung and Mr. Song Ronghua taking photo with contestants and their teacher

three minutes at the "simulations" session made one believe that they were real diplomats. After intense competition, 5 teams excelled in the Semi-final. They were (in alphabetic order):

- Baptist Lui Ming Choi Secondary School
- CNEC Christian College
- Kwun Tong Maryknoll College
- Queen's College
- Shatin Pui Ying College.

In August 2009, they were invited to join a study tour to Beijing and Tianjin where they would meet diplomats at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, see tourist attractions in Beijing and experience the development in Beijing and Tianjin. The remaining shortlisted 15 teams would join another study tour to the Pearl River Delta region in October.



Student competing in the "must-answer questions" session





Visit the Bird's Nest during the study tour to Beijing and Tianjin

### Training Day

A training day was specially organized for the 5 final teams at the Commissioner's Office on 5 June 2009. Experts from the Commissioner's Office shared with the students their knowledge of diplomatic policy of China, international laws, public diplomacy and other topics. The students enjoyed very much the exchange and discussion with the real diplomats.

*Note: In view of the wide spread of H1N1 virus in the community and taking into consideration the health management issue, the Final was cancelled and the 5 teams were all named winning teams with no distinction, and the study tour to the Pearl River Delta region has been replaced by book coupons.*



Students are giving their full attention to the briefing by experts from the Commissioner's Office on the Training Day

### Study Tour to Beijing and Tianjin

The 5 winning teams with a total of 45 members started their study tour by visiting Tianjin on 10 August 2009. During their stay in Tianjin, the group visited the Binhai New Area to learn about the planning of new urban developments in Tianjin, and toured the Tianjin Museum. On 12 August 2009, the study tour moved to Beijing where Ms. Karen Tang, Executive Director of the Foundation joined the group to support the event. During the 4-day visit in Beijing, the group visited the China Foreign Affairs University and the Training Bureau of General Administration of Sport, and toured Olympic Venues like the "Bird's Nest" and the "Water Cube" as well as tourist attractions like the Great Wall and Forbidden City. The highlight of the trip was meeting with

the Vice Foreign Minister Mr. He Yafei at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where they also had exchanges with leading officials of the Department of Hong Kong,



Visit the China Foreign Affairs University

Macau and Taiwan Affairs, the Policy Planning Department and Information Department. On 16 August, the group returned to Hong Kong and was received by Commissioner Lu Xinhua at the airport. After the study tour, students should have gained a more comprehensive and in-depth understanding of China's foreign affairs and national conditions as well as the history, development and culture of Beijing and Tianjin.



Students are thrilled to meet with Vice Foreign Minister Mr. He Yafei (7th left) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Group photo of guests and winning teams after the prize presentation ceremony

### Prize Presentation Ceremony

On 25 September 2009, the prize presentation ceremony of the 3rd Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest was held at the Commissioner's office. Commissioner Mr. Lu Xinhua, the Secretary for Education Mr. Michael Suen and the Foundation's Trustee Mr. Victor Cha were the guests of honor. They delivered speeches and presented trophies to the winning teams. Over hundred guests including representatives from the supporting organizations and sponsors, i.e. Mingpao, Cable TV, Wen Wai Pao, CCTV, Sino United Publishing (Holdings) Ltd, Hong Kong Jockey Club and Hong Kong Disneyland, as well as representatives from the 5 winning teams and the 15 shortlisted teams, attended the event. The Foundation's Council Members Dr. Roy Chung, Mr. Thomas Woo, Ms. Winnie Ng, Mr. Joseph Yu and Mr. Tony Choi together with Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang were also present to support the event.

On the occasion, the 5 winning teams sent its representative to share with guests experiences gained during the



The Foundation's Trustee Mr. Victor Cha congratulating the success of the contest

contest and the study tour to Beijing and Tianjin. Through the contest, they all agreed that their knowledge of the country and its diplomatic policies were enhanced. The invaluable experience gained would definitely benefit them in advancing themselves for the betterment of Hong Kong and China in the future.

After the ceremony, a celebration dinner was held at the Commissioner's office. Representatives of the organizers, supporting organizations and sponsors as well as staff enjoyed the dinner which concluded the hard work of the past 10 months.

### Public Group Contest

A Public Group Contest for this year's Diplomatic Knowledge Contest was held from 10 to 30 May 2009. Over 7,000 contest papers were handed out, and 106 winners emerged. The winners ranged from civil servants, lawyers, taxi drivers, business people, teachers,



Winners of the open category

students to homemakers. The Award Ceremony for public group winners of the 3rd Diplomatic Knowledge Contest was held at the Commissioner's Office on 19 June 2009. Each winner was awarded a certificate, a Chinese Diplomats' DVDs, Ten Episodes in China's Diplomacy by former Vice Premier Qian Qichen and two tickets to Disneyland Hong Kong.



At the celebration dinner: (L to R) Ms. Karen Tang, Dr. Roy Chung, Mr. Kenneth Chen (Under Secretary for Education), Mr. Joseph Yu, Commissioner Lu Xinhua, Mr. Victor Cha and Ms. Winnie Ng

#### Milestones

16 December 2008	Launching Ceremony
14 February 2009	First Briefing
28 March 2009	First Round Competition
21 April 2009	Match Grouping Drawing and Tour of the Commissioner's Office
9 May 2009	Semi-final
5 June 2009	Training Day
19 June 2009	Prize Presentation Ceremony for the Public Group Contest
10 – 16 August 2009	Study Tour to Beijing & Tianjin by the 5 Winning Teams
25 September 2009	Prize Presentation Ceremony

Details of the contest are also available at the following websites:

The Foundation : [www.betterhongkong.org](http://www.betterhongkong.org)

The Commissioner's Office : [quiz.fmcopec.gov.hk/chn/](http://quiz.fmcopec.gov.hk/chn/)

Mingpao : [marketing.mingpao.com/foreign\\_affairs/index.cfm](http://marketing.mingpao.com/foreign_affairs/index.cfm)



18 June 2008

“Perspectives on India & Sino-Indian Relations” – A Luncheon Presentation by Ambassador Zhang Yan, China’s Ambassador to India

15 August 2008

“The 2008 Presidential Campaign Trail: Where Does It Lead?” – A Luncheon Presentation by New York Times Columnist Mr. David Brooks and Political Commentator Mr. Charlie Cook

26 – 27 July 2008

The 5th International Forum on Global Urban Competitiveness



(L to R) Mr. Ronnie Chan, Mr. David Brooks, Mr. Charlie Cook and Committee of 100’s Executive Director Ms. Alice Mong



The Foundation’s Council Members Ms. Judy Yu (right) and Ms. Winnie Ng (left) together with the Foundation’s Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang (middle) attended the forum

11 – 27 September 2008

The 2008 Hong Kong Journalism Fellowships

13 – 16 August 2008

Study Tour to Beijing for the Winners of the 2nd Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest



Meeting with Mr. Liu Mingkang (6th right), Chairman of China Banking Regulatory Commission



The study tour visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was received by Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs (6th right)

22 October 2008

**“Financial Market Turmoil in Perspective”  
– A Luncheon Presentation by Mr. David  
McCormick, Under Secretary for International  
Affairs, U.S. Treasury Department**



*Mr. David McCormick sharing with the audiences his views on the recent global financial turmoil and the way forward*

7 November 2008

**Luncheon with Mr. Li Gang, Deputy Director  
of the Chinese Liaison Office in Hong Kong**



*(R to L) Dr. Gerald Chow, Mr. Ronnie Chan, Mr. Li Gang, Data\* David Chiu and Ms. Judy Yu*

12 November 2008

**The Heart of Gold Awards 2008**



*The Foundation's Executive Director Ms. Karen Tang (3rd left) taking a group photo with awardees of the Heart of Gold Awards 2008*

8 December 2008

**“China’s Role in the World Economy &  
Financial Reforms” – Luncheon Speech by Mr.  
Claude Smadja, Former Managing Director of  
the World Economic Forum**



*(R to L) Mr. Ronnie Chan, Ambassador Wu Jianmin, Mr. Claude Smadja and Ms. Karen Tang*