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探索"兩會"啟示 指引香港未來

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團結各界共創新局 UNITING SOCIETY FOR A NEW FUTURE

港中華總商會衷心祝賀李家超先生以99% 極高得 票率當選第六任行政長官,充分反映其務實而具 突破思維的治港理念和施政綱領,獲得選委廣泛 認同與支持。我們亦相信其破舊立新、敢於改變的勇氣和 擔當,定能帶領香港發展再創新輝煌。

強化政策執行力

面對近年內外挑戰不斷,特區政府的決策必須更果斷。中 總認同候任行政長官提出"以結果為目標解決不同問題" 的理念,精簡政府架構和執行程序限制,完善部門之間溝 通協調,改變"少做少錯"的思維文化。

李家超提出建立政府應急動員機制、做好危機處理,確保 可迅速調動公務人員,並透過成立地區服務及關愛隊伍義 工網絡等,積極團結各界力量。中總認同相關安排有助政 策措施更有效推動執行、落到實處。我們建議新一屆政府 可探討增撥資源提升政策研究功能,並加強與傳媒溝通合 作和善用社交媒體平台,讓政府政策能更有效推廣與執行。

提升經濟競爭力

鞏固香港優勢、全面提升競爭實力,是推動經濟和營商發展的關鍵。李家超強調要以戰略目光進行長遠規劃,並就 促進經濟增長、強化整體競爭力提出多項建議。事實上, 香港擁有"背靠祖國、面向世界"的獨特優勢,必須做 好聯通國內國際的橋樑角色,積極吸引全球人才、資金集 聚,為香港經濟拓展新動力、發掘新增長點。

中總一直建議香港要打造金融與創科雙核心都會區,透過 強化離岸人民幣業務樞紐功能,並加快建設"新界北小矽 谷",對接深圳創科發展。期望新一屆特區政府能協助港商 在內地投資經營和業務拓展給予政策支持,並在 CEPA 框 架下引入更多便利香港服務業的開放措施。新一屆政府更 要致力強化與東盟及"一帶一路"市場的交流合作,並積 極爭取加入 RCEP 協定,支援本港工商各業尋找區域經貿 發展新商機。

重建社會凝聚力

經歷過去數年泛政治化的環境,香港極需要和諧穩定的氛 圍,聚焦經濟、改善民生。我們贊同李家超提出共建更宜 居、更有活力、更團結的香港,尤其是着力解決困擾本港 發展多時的土地與房屋供應問題,包括推動"公屋提前上 樓計劃"、成立土地房屋供應統籌組、全面審視及部署北 部都會區和明日大嶼的整體規劃,這將為本港經濟和產業 長遠發展帶來莫大裨益。中總期待新一屆政府能以突破思 維,重新檢討土地房屋供應的相關政策和程序,加強推動 各界持份者的溝通和參與,真正做到提速、提效、提量的 目標,紓緩社會對土地房屋的迫切需要。

我們亦欣見候任行政長官對青年發展和安老服務的重視。 新一屆特區政府應積極推動與商界和社企合作,加強向青 年人提供升學、就業和培訓機會,並資助他們到內地實習 交流,幫助青年重拾信心和向上流動,灌輸正確人生態度 和國家觀念。新一屆政府亦要增撥資源改善公營醫療服務 及效率,加強基層醫療和中醫藥服務,應對未來人口老化 及公共衛生的需要。

今年是香港回歸祖國25周年,是全面貫徹落實 "愛國者治 港"、推動"一國兩制"行穩致遠關鍵之年。我們對李家 超先生出任行政長官充滿信心,期望他盡快就施政理念和 政綱範疇提出更具體措施和執行細節,並積極與工商及社 會各界加強溝通,帶領香港有更好發展,解決社會深層次 問題,更好融入國家"雙循環"大局,在新時代迎來發展 新機遇。

GCC offers its sincerest congratulations to John Lee on his election as the sixth Chief Executive of Hong Kong. The 99% of votes he received from the Election Committee reflects the wide support and approval for his pragmatic and forward-looking governing philosophy and policy agenda. We are confident that his daring to change and strong sense of duty will lead Hong Kong to scale new heights.

Strengthening governance capabilities

The constant internal and external challenges faced by Hong Kong

▲ 我們相信李家超先生破舊立新、 敢於改變的勇氣和擔當,定能帶領香港發展再創新輝煌。 We are confident that John Lee's daring to change and strong sense of duty will lead Hong Kong to scale new heights. ■ ■

in recent years call for more decisive policymaking by the HKSAR government. CGCC agrees with the Chief Executive-elect's resultoriented approach, and his proposal to improve governance by streamlining the government structure and procedures, enhancing interdepartmental communication and coordination, and reforming the culture of "the less I do, the less I do wrong".

To strengthen the government's emergency response capability, Lee proposed establishing a new mobilization protocol to ensure the deployment of civil servants in a timely manner. He also proposed establishing district services and community care teams in all 18 districts, with a network of volunteers, to engage and solidify the community. CGCC believes these initiatives will facilitate the more effective and precise implementation of government measures. To further improve the promotion and implementation of policies, we suggest that the new administration should look into pooling more resources in policy research, strengthening communication and cooperation with the media, and leveraging social media platforms.

Enhancing economic competitiveness

To propel economic and business developments, it is imperative that Hong Kong's strengths be consolidated, and its competitiveness be enhanced in an all-round manner. Stressing the importance of strategic long-term planning, Lee has put forward various proposals on promoting economic growth and enhancing Hong Kong's overall competitiveness. Benefiting from the staunch support of the Motherland and a global outlook, Hong Kong must strive to fulfil its role as a bridge connecting the mainland and the rest of the world, and to attract global talents and capital, to provide new momentum and find new growth areas for Hong Kong's economy.

CGCC has long been proposing a dual-core metropolis focusing on the developments of finance and innovation & technology (I&T) - on the one hand, Hong Kong's position as a global offshore RMB business hub should be reinforced; on the other hand, the construction of a mini-Silicon Vallev in New Territories North should be accelerated to align Hong Kong with Shenzhen in I&T development. Meanwhile, we hope the new administration will provide policy support to help Hong Kong businesses to invest, operate and expand in the mainland, and introduce more liberalization measures under the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) to offer the Hong Kong service sector greater convenience. Furthermore, to support Hong Kong businesses in finding new regional trade opportunities, the new administration should deepen exchange and cooperation with the ASEAN countries and markets along the "Belt & Road", and actively strive for Hong Kong's inclusion in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

Rebuilding social cohesion

Having experienced a politicized environment in the past few years. Hong Kong is in great need of social harmony and stability to be able to focus on developing the economy and improving people's livelihood. Lee's vision of building a more livable, dynamic and united Hong Kong speaks directly to this need. In particular, we agree with him that it is a priority to tackle the problems of land and housing supply that have plaqued Hong Kong for a long time. We believe that his proposals, including the "Public Rental Housing Advance Allocation Scheme", a steering committee on land and housing supply, and thorough review of the development plans and strategies for Northern Metropolis and Lantau Tomorrow Vision, will bring tremendous benefits to Hong Kong's economic and industrial development in the long run. To be truly able to achieve the goal of "speed up, efficiency up, mass up", and address society's urgent housing need, we hope the new administration will adopt breakthrough thinking when reviewing the policies and procedures on land and housing supply, and promote better communication and participation of all stakeholders.

We are also pleased that the Chief Executive-elect attaches great importance to youth development and elderly services. Regarding youth development, we hope the new administration will actively work with the business sector and social enterprises to provide young people with more education, employment and training opportunities, and subsidies for internships and exchanges in the mainland, so as to help them regain confidence, move up the social ladder, and develop a positive attitude toward life and a sense of belonging to the country. As for addressing social needs arising from an aging population and public health, the new administration will have to allocate more resources to improve public healthcare services and efficiency, and strengthen primary healthcare and Chinese medicine services.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with the Motherland. It is a crucial time for the steadfast and successful implementation of the "patriots administering Hong Kong" and "One Country, Two Systems" principles. We have full confidence in Lee as Chief Executive, and look forward to his presentation of the specifics of his governance philosophy and policy agenda soon. All in all, we hope he will strengthen communication and work closely with the business and other sectors to find new development opportunities for Hong Kong and resolve deeply rooted social problems, and lead Hong Kong to further integrate into the Country's "dual-circulation" framework in the new era where new opportunities await.



探索"兩會"啟示 指引香港未來

Discussion on Implications of "Two Sessions" for Hong Kong's Future

在"2022全國人大政協交流分 享會"上,全國人大常委譚耀宗 及多位擔任全國人大代表、全國 政協委員的本會成員出席,共同 探討今年"兩會"重要精神和政 策方向,以及對香港未來發展的 啟示。

At the 2022 NPC & CPPCC Exchange and Sharing Meeting, **Tam Yiu-chung**, **NPC Standing Committee Member** and several members of the Chamber who serve as NPC Deputies and CPPCC National Committee Members jointly discussed the key guiding principles and policy directions of this year's "Two Sessions", as well as the implications for Hong Kong's future.



譚耀宗:國家發展穩字當頭

去一年疫情影響下,不少國家出現負增 長,但國家經濟表現依然表現亮麗,年增 長達到8.1%。譚耀宗指出,承接去年的 復甦勢頭,國家經濟結構將繼續優化,改革開放也 不斷深化。今年將堅持穩字當頭、穩中求進的總基 調,着力穩定宏觀經濟大盤,預期今年國內生產總 值可增長約5.5%。

在疫情防控方面,國家也將繼續做好常態化疫情防 控,堅持外防輸入、內防反彈,不斷優化完善防控 措施,加強口岸城市疫情防控。同時加快新型疫苗 和特效藥物研發,做好疫苗接種工作,更好發揮中 醫藥的獨特作用,科學精準處置局部疫情,確保可 維持正常生產生活秩序。

譚耀宗續指出,今年《政府工作報告》中有關香港 的部分,其中心思想是繼續全面準確、堅定不移貫 徹"一國兩制",因這是對香港最佳的政治安排。 而報告也強調中央將落實對香港的全面管制權,再 次説明香港的所有權力來自中央,這是香港社會必 需建立的共識。 今年人大會議亦通過了新的《港區全國人大代表選舉辦法》,在新的選舉方式下,會在現時選舉委員會的基礎上,組成新的"選舉會議",負責選出新一屆港區人大代表。譚耀宗認為,此舉主要是為落實愛國者治港,確保選出的均是堅定愛國者,而一眾選舉委員均甚具代表性,此安排有利香港社會整體利益與穩定發展。

蔡冠深:推動高質量建言獻策

本會永遠名響會長(全國政協常委)蔡冠深表示, 全國政協主席汪洋在政協工作報告中,堅持團結和 民主兩大主題,以建言資政和凝聚共識為雙向發 力,把迎接中共20大作為全年的重大任務。汪洋 還提出進一步提升愛國愛港愛澳能力建設,以慶 祝中國共產黨成立100周年拓展黨史教育,以促進 "十四五"良好開局。政協提案也須質量並舉,要 以高質量建言服務高質量發展。蔡冠深今年就以大 灣區等議題提出12項提案。政府工作報告方面,重 點則在於穩就業、保民生,防風險;政府要過緊日 子,以雙循環推動經濟發展,推出惠企利民政策。 報告中提及的區域協調發展、銀髮經濟、三孩政 策,以及中醫藥振興發展,均為企業帶來商機。 蔡冠深亦指出,國務院副總理韓正接見政協委員時 表示,中央對於特區政府在抗疫工作的請求是照單 全收、有求必應。經濟方面,中央支持特區謀劃長 遠發展,建設金融創新中心,解決民生短板。國務 院港澳辦主任夏寶龍強調中央對香港有全面的管治 權,但對香港實施"港人治港、高度自治"政策不 變,同時提出愛國者要做到"五有",要有情懷、 有格局、有擔當、有本領、有作為。此外,蔡冠深 認為今年最高人民法院院和最高人民檢察院工作報 告特別提及智慧法庭,凸顯內地司法模式獨具中國 智慧。

Tam Yiu-chung: Stability is the top priority for national development

mid the impact of the epidemic in the past year, while many countries experienced negative growth, China's economic performance remained strong with an annual growth rate of 8.1%. Tam Yiu-chung said that following last year's recovery momentum, the country's economic structure will continue to be optimised, and reform and opening-up will continue to deepen. This year, upholding the underlying principle of making stability the top priority and pursuing progress while ensuring stability, the country will focus on stabilizing the macro economy, with the GDP likely to grow by about 5.5% this year.

For epidemic prevention and control, the country will continue effective routine COVID-19 control, adhere to preventing inbound cases and domestic resurgences, continually refine epidemic containment measures, and strengthen epidemic controls in port-of-entry cities. It will also accelerate R&D of new vaccines and effective medicines, continue implementing vaccination programs, better leverage the unique role of traditional Chinese medicine, deal with occurrences of local cases in a scientific and targeted manner, and ensure the normal order of work and life.

Tam added that the core idea of this year's *Report on the Work of the Government* in relation to Hong Kong is to maintain firm commitment to the policy of "One Country, Two Systems" in a comprehensive, targeted and unwavering manner, because this is the best political arrangement for Hong Kong. The report also stressed that the Central Government will exercise overall jurisdiction over Hong Kong, once again showing that all the powers of Hong Kong come from the Central Government, which is a consensus that the people of Hong Kong must establish.

This year's NPC also adopted the new Measure for Election of Deputies of the HKSAR to the NPC, under which a new Election Council will be formed based on the current Election Committee, and will be responsible for electing the new NPC deputies for Hong Kong. In Tam's view, this is mainly aimed at upholding the principle that Hong Kong should be governed by patriots and ensuring that all those elected are firm patriots, while Election Committee members are representative of a considerably broad crosssection of the people. This arrangement is conducive to the overall interests and stable development of the Hong Kong society.

Jonathan Choi: Fostering quality advice

Speaking of CPPCC Chairman Wang Yang, Jonathan Choi, the Chamber's Permanent Honorary President (CPPCC National Standing Committee Member) shared that Wang has upheld the two main themes, namely unity and democracy, in the CPPCC work report. Wang rode on two driving forces of advising the government and converging common consensus, setting the stage for the 20th National Congress of the CPC. Wang further proposed to celebrate the centenary of the Communist Party of China and to extend the study of the history of the CPC, so as to elevate the patriotic sense and constructive competence for the country, for Hong Kong and for Macao. These would enable a good start for the "14th Five-year" Plan. Quantity and quality are both important to CPPCC proposals, as quality advice will support quality growth. This year, Choi submitted 12 proposals on Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area) and other topics. The government work report, on the other hand, focuses on stabilizing employment, safeguarding people's livelihood and preventing risks. The government will operate leanly, and dual circulation will be employed to promote economic development through policies that will benefit businesses and Chinese nationals. Businesses will enjoy ample opportunities from the coordinated regional development, elderly economy, three-child policy, as well as vitalizing traditional Chinese medicine strategies, as mentioned in the work report.

Choi also shared that when CPPCC National Committee Members met with Vice Premier Han Zheng, it was mentioned that the central government fully supports the HKSAR government's battle against the pandemic. Economically, the central government supports the HKSAR in planning long-term development, in establishing a financial innovation hub, and in resolving the inadequacies of people's livelihood. The Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council Xia Baolong stressed that the central government's jurisdiction over Hong Kong will not affect its implementation of the policy of "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong with a high degree of autonomy". He also pointed out five expectations for patriotic governors, who should bring faith, integrity, commitment, competence and practical work to their roles. Furthermore, Choi reckoned that the special mentioning of smart courts in the work reports of the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate underscored the unique Chinese wisdom in the mainland's judicial model.



"兩會"體現國家高膽遠矚 National Visions Presented in "Two Sessions"

本次交流分享會設有對談環節,多位擔任全國人大 代表、全國政協委員的本會成員交流與會感受。對 於國家在經濟發展及防控疫情方面的高瞻遠矚,眾 人感受殊深。

本會副會長(全國政協委員)曾智明表示,疫情令 香港年青人對大灣區的關注度減少,建議廣東省及 特區政府、青年團體等共同構建大灣區青年交流網 上平台,為有意在大灣區創業和就業的香港青年人 提供有用資訊。曾智明亦注意到,不少在大灣區發 展的港人,皆十分關注子女在內地就學的銜接問 題,而目前大灣區予港人子女的學位供不應求,他 建議大灣區應設立更多港澳子女學校,可解決就學 問題之餘,亦能讓他們及早認識國情。 國務院副總理韓正接見港區全國人大代時,表達了 中央對香港疫情的高度關注和關心,明言對香港的 請求是有求必應、照單全收,本會副會長(全國人 大代表)李應生表示,中央對香港的關懷如同甘 露,港人應心存感恩。談及香港的未來發展,他鼓 勵愛國陣營要多發言,特別面對一些不實和抹黑的 言論,更需要團結發聲,不要自亂陣腳;加上中央 的無限量支持,香港只要更好融入國家發展大局, 定能走出困境。

本會副會長(全國人大代表)胡曉明表示,全國人 大在過去一年做了大量工作,起草、審議、修訂了 多項法律,人大代表亦提出近9,000項建議。他在 今年"兩會"提案涵蓋多個範疇,從發揚中國飲食 文化、提升學生健康意識,到強化科技教育以至促 進國家科研發展等。今年"兩會"讓他感受到國家 已發展一套有效推動社會及經濟發展的中國式管治 模式,既獲人民支持,亦符合國情發展,充分顯示 以民為本、堅持穩中求進的發展路向。

本會副會長(全國政協委員)張學修十分關注疫情 防控工作,並支持國家採取動態清零策略,以最小 的影響取得最大的成效。香港委員亦一致認為,動 態清零符合香港實際情況,有助減少重症和死亡 率,減少對醫療系統的壓力。嚴謹的抗疫措施短期 難免對市民日常生活、行業營運造成影響,但長遠 可通過最快速度結束疫情,最大程度保障市民生命 健康,讓社會逐步回復對外正常交流,有利香港長 期穩定發展。

本會永遠榮譽會長(全國政協委員)方文雄指出, 因應國家面對當前內外的挑戰,政府工作報告着重 穩字當頭,其中一個特點是減稅降費,以協助企業 渡過難關。他相信國家目前的政策,即增強"四 個意識"、堅定"四個自信",以及做到"兩個維 護",足以應對經濟下行壓力。↔

A number of discussion panels were planned for this exchange session, during when many of the Chamber's members, who are also NPC deputies or CPPCC National Committee Members, shared their experiences as "Two Sessions" attendees. They are most impressed with the Country's visionary ideas in economic development as well as pandemic prevention and control.

Ricky Tsang, the Chamber's Vice-Chairman (CPPCC National Committee Member), said that the epidemic has caused young people in Hong Kong to pay less attention to the Greater Bay Area. Therefore, he suggested the governments and youth groups of Guangdong Province and the HKSAR to jointly build an online platform for youth exchanges in the Greater Bay Area, with the purpose of providing useful information for Hong Kong's young people who are interested in starting businesses and seeking employment in the Greater Bay Area. Tsang also noticed that many Hong Kong people furthering their career in the Greater Bay Area are very concerned about the pathway for their children to attend school in the Mainland, and school places for Hong Kong children in the Greater Bay Area are in short supply. Therefore, he suggested to set up more schools for Hong Kong and Macao children in the Greater Bay Area to resolve the issue of them attending school and enable them to understand the national situation at an early stage.

Han Zheng, Vice-Premier of the State Council, expressed the Central Government's high level of concern and care for the epidemic situation in Hong Kong as he met with HKSAR deputies to the NPC, making it clear that it will take in all of Hong Kong's requests for help. **Tommy Li**, **the Chamber's Vice-Chairman (NPC Deputy)**, said that the Central Government's care and attention for Hong Kong is like a long-awaited boost, for which the people of Hong Kong should be grateful. With regard to Hong Kong's future, he encouraged the patriotic camp to speak out more. In particular, they must unite their voices against some false and slanderous rhetoric, and avoid self-inflicted chaos among themselves. Coupled with the unlimited support from the Central Government, Hong Kong will certainly emerge from the difficulties as long as it is better integrated into national development.

Listing his work for the NPC over the last year, Herman Hu, the Chamber's Vice-Chairman (NPC Deputy) drafted, deliberated, and amended a few laws. NPC deputies also made around 9,000 suggestions in total. The proposals that Hu put forward to the "Two Sessions" covered a range of areas, from promoting the food culture of China, improving student's health awareness to strengthening technology education, as well as fostering national science and research development, etc. This year's "Two Sessions" has enabled Hu to experience an effective Chinese-style governance model that could drive social and economic development. This is not only supported by the people, but also meets the State's development needs. It has fully illustrated the Country's growth direction by always putting people first and then by seeking improvement amidst stability.

Disease prevention and control is close the heart of Charles Cheung, the Chamber's Vice-Chairman (CPPCC National Committee Member), who supports the Country's adoption of the dynamic zero COVID-19 strategy to maximize the efficiency with minimal impact. Hong Kong deputies unanimously agree that the dynamic zero strategy suits Hong Kong's actual circumstances, and could help reduce serious cases and fatality rate, which in turn alleviates the burden onto our healthcare system. Stringent anti-virus measures would inevitably affect the day-to-day living of the public and business operation. However, in the long run, this is the guickest route to end the pandemic and to provide the maximum protection the citizen's health and livelihood. This is the shortest path for our society to resume normal external connections and will be conducive to the long-term stability and development of Hong Kong.

David Fong, the Chamber's Life Honorary Chairman (**CPPCC National Committee Member**), pointed out that the government's work report placed a titular focus on "stability" in the face of internal and external challenges. One of the main features is to reduce tax and fees to help companies weather through the difficult situation. Fong trusts that the current state policy, which is to enhance the "four consciousnesses", to cement the "four confidences", as well as to actualize the "two upholds", should be able to cope with the downward economic pressure.



Looking to the New Chief Executive Leading Hong Kong into a New Chapter



✔ 政長官選舉早前圓滿舉行,李家超以99%極高 得票率當選香港特別行政區第六屆行政長官,本 會致以衷心祝賀,並將全力支持新任行政長官和 配合新一屆特區政府依法和有效施政,貫徹落實"一國兩 制"、"愛國者治港",以香港發展利益為依歸,實現良政 善治新局面,共同為香港譜寫新篇章。

中總選委一直全力支持李家超參選行政長官,對其提出強 化政府管治、增加土地房屋、提升競爭能力、建立關愛社 會的四大施政綱領十分認同和期待,既為解決香港深層次 問題給予有力的政策建議,亦就提升香港長遠發展潛力提 出遠景規劃綱領,對推動香港構建經濟新動力、助力更好 對接國家"雙循環"奠定重要根基。

選舉前,本會亦邀請李家超與本會擔任選舉委員會委員的 多名成員會面,就其參選抱負、治港理念和施政方向,與 本會選委交流意見。中總選委認同李家超是行政長官的合 適人選,相信憑其務實作風、敢於擔當的精神,加上在公 共服務多年的豐富經驗,可帶領香港長遠經濟與營商有更 好發展,解決社會深層次問題,推動香港更好融入國家發 展大局,為香港發展奠定穩固基石。❹

t the recently concluded Chief Executive election for the 6th term of the HKSAR Chief Executive, **John Lee** secured a very high 99% of all ballots cast to be elected to Hong Kong's highest office. The Chamber would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the new Chief Executive and offer our full support to him and the new-term Government in exercising effective and law-based governance, maintaining firm commitment to the policy of "One Country, Two Systems", and upholding the principle of patriots administering Hong Kong so as to form a new landscape for good governance in the interest of Hong Kong's development, hence jointly starting a new chapter for Hong Kong.

The Chamber's members of the Election Committee for Commercial (Second) Subsector have been in full support of Lee's candidacy for the Chief Executive post as they have high recognition and expectation of the four tenets of his vision outlined in his political manifesto: strengthen governance capability, increase land and housing, improve competitiveness, and build a caring society, which are not only solid policy suggestions for solving Hong Kong's deep-seated problems, but also outline the vision and plan for enhancing Hong Kong's long-term development potential, thus laying an important foundation for Hong Kong to create new economic drivers and better integrate into the country's "dual circulation" development paradigm.

Prior to the election, the Chamber invited Lee to meet with its members of the Election Committee for Commercial (Second) Subsector to exchange views on his aspirations, philosophy of governing Hong Kong, and direction of governance. The Chamber's Election Committee members acknowledged that Lee was a suitable candidate for the Chief Executive post and were convinced that with his pragmatic style, spirit of daring to take responsibility and years of extensive experience in public service, he could lead Hong Kong to better economic and business development in the long run, solve deep-seated social problems and better integrate into national development, thereby setting Hong Kong on a solid footing for development.





若要數過去一年全球大熱的數碼議題, 相信除了 NFT 之外,元宇宙想必榜上 有名。到底元宇宙是一時的潮流玩意, 還是未來世界的新形態呢?而當全球科 技巨企爭相發掘箇中機遇之際,一眾企 業又應該如何迎接這股浪潮呢?

Of the world's hottest digital topics of the past year, the metaverse is sure to be on the list, in addition to NFTs. Is the metaverse a temporary trend, or is it a new form of the future world? And how should businesses hop onto this bandwagon while global tech giants are scrambling to tap into the underlying opportunities?

黃錦輝:新風潮成大勢 先理解後投資

Wong Kam-fai: Understand First Before Investing as the New Fad Becomes a **General Trend**



宇宙一詞最早見於美國知 名小説家尼爾·史蒂芬森在 1992年出版的科幻小説《潰 雪》,該詞乃用作描述一個虛擬實境 的網絡世界,而人們可在當中化身成 不同角色。香港中文大學工程學院副 院長、香港廣州創新及科技協會執行 **會長黃錦輝**説:"但真正令元宇宙這 個概念變得火熱的原因是去年綫上遊 戲公司 Roblox 上市,以及 Facebook 宣佈改名為 Meta 之後。"

科技巨企掀起元宇宙熱潮

黃錦輝表示, Roblox 是以綫上遊戲 平台為基礎的虛擬社群,玩家建立帳 號後可創造自己的虛擬角色,繼而在 平台上體驗不同的遊戲,而該公司於 2021年3月在紐約證交所上市後,估 值一度升破450億美元,不但是2021 年最大規模的首次公開招股之一,更 被形容為"元宇宙第一股"。

"同年十月,Facebook 行政總裁朱克 伯格宣佈 Facebook 將易名為 Meta, 並鋭意打造一個元宇宙平台,此舉進 一步把元宇宙的討論推至更高位置。" 黃錦輝闡釋,元宇宙屬於三維空間, 它容許參與者在這個虛擬世界內進行 現實生活中的各項事情,包括打造個 人角色、結交朋友,甚至創造自己的 工具。

"若純文字的電郵或論壇屬於一維空 間,Facebook 這類包含文字及影像的 社交媒體則是二維空間。至於三維空 間的元宇宙,其特點在於打破社交媒 體的概念,讓所有人均可參與這個虛 擬世界並進行創造。"黃錦輝續指, 有別於一般角色扮演的電子遊戲,元 宇宙能為參與者提供更大彈性,給予 他們更多的創造空間,"例如你可在元 宇宙購買已有的工具,更可自行創造 工具或物件,情況猶如電影《挑戰者 —號》。"

開發更多引擎滿足生活所需

儘管市場對元宇宙概念仍在消化階 段,但隨着大眾對這種現實世界數碼 化、虛擬世界現實化的嚮往,預期各 行業均會密切關注其發展,並逐步加 大有關投資。

"根據市場研究公司 IDC 發表的研究 報告,預期元宇宙的發展除會加快 VR 裝置、手套和耳機等五感配件,以至 電腦顯示卡等硬件的更新和發展步伐 外,亦會推動其他行業開發更多適用 於元宇宙的引擎,包括遊戲內容、廣 告內容或社交和商業用內容等,藉此 滿足參與者的生活和工作所需。"黃 錦輝説。

然而,由於元宇宙概念與發展路徑尚 處摸索階段,黃錦輝坦言,目前學術 界普遍視元宇宙為炒賣平台。"元宇 宙的技術發展與可能性固然十分有趣 並值得研究,但由於當中涉及虛擬貨 幣交易,加上相關的數碼資產是否具 有實質且匹配的價值仍有待討論,所 以現時在元宇宙中的商業活動存在相 當濃厚的炒風,商界宜多了解及觀察 後再決定是否或何時參與其中。"

仍處摸索階段 商界不宜過分進取

商業世界從來有危有機,發展尚在起

步階段的元宇宙雖然充滿風險,但黃 錦輝認同當中亦有值得商界了解和探 索的空間。

"就元宇宙內的交易情況而言,它有 點像香港聯合交易所成立前的股份買 賣一樣缺乏適當的監管,令買賣雙方 均承擔相當大的風險。"因此,黃 錦輝認為,政府或有關當局可考慮配 合市場發展,成立像港交所角色的數 碼資產交易所,在不阻礙創意發展的 同時,保障元宇宙內買賣雙方的公平 性。"香港作為國際金融中心,擁有健 全的法制,加上是國際城市,具備良 好基礎發展這類數碼資產交易所。"

此外,因應網絡安全風險,黃錦輝提 醒商界及大眾在參與元宇宙發展時要 留意網絡安全如私隱及身分識別等事 項。"無論如何,大家在參與元宇宙發 展時,必須先了解其風險,同時不要 '瞓身'投資,以免損失超出預期。"

he term metaverse first appeared in the well-known American novelist Neal Stephenson's 1992 science fiction novel Snow Crash, where he coined the term to describe an online world of virtual reality in which people can transform into different characters. Wong Kam-fai, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and Executive President of the Hong Kong & Guangzhou Innovation and Technology Association, said: "But what really made the concept of the metaverse become a hot topic was last year's listing of online gaming company Roblox and the announcement of Facebook's renaming to Meta."

Tech giants triggered the metaverse fervor

Wong explained that Roblox is a virtual community based on an online game platform where players can create their own virtual characters after setting up an account and then experience different games. After its listing on the New York Stock Exchange in March 2021, the company's valuation once rose above USD45 billion, making it not only one of the largest initial public offerings in 2021, but also described as "the first metaverse stock".

"In October of the same year, Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook CEO, announced that Facebook would change its name to Meta, with the aim of creating a metaverse platform, which further elevated the discourse on metaverse to a higher level." Wong explained that the metaverse is a three-dimensional space that allows participants to do everything in real life within this virtual world, including creating avatars, making friends, and even creating their own tools.

"If text-only emails or forums are onedimensional, social media such as Facebook, which includes text and images, are two-dimensional. As for the threedimensional metaverse, it is characterized by breaking through the concept of social media, enabling everyone to participate and create in this virtual world." Wong added that, unlike general role-playing video games, the metaverse can provide participants with greater flexibility and give them more room for creativity. "For example, in the metaverse, you can buy existing tools or create tools or objects yourself, just like in the movie Ready Player One."

Develop more engines to meet living needs

Although the market is still digesting the metaverse concept, with the public's interest in the digitalization of the real world and the realization of the virtual world, various industries will likely keep a close eye on its development and gradually increase related investments.

"According to a research report published by the market research firm IDC, the development of the metaverse is expected to not only accelerate the pace of updating and development of five-senses peripherals such as VR devices, gloves and headsets, as well as hardware such as computer graphics cards, but also drive other industries to develop more engines suitable for the metaverse, including game content, advertising content, or social and commercial content, to meet the needs of participants in their lives and jobs," said Wong. Nevertheless, since the concept and development path of the metaverse are still in the exploratory stage, Wong said that the metaverse is now widely viewed in the academia as a platform for flipping. "The technological developments and possibilities of the metaverse are certainly interesting and worth studying. However, since it involves virtual currency transactions and whether the related digital assets have real and matching value remains to be discussed. business activities in the metaverse are highly speculative in nature at the moment. Therefore, the business community should understand and observe more before deciding whether or when to participate in it."

Businesses should not be too committed as it is still in exploratory stage

There has always been challenges and opportunities in the business world. Although the metaverse, which is still in its infancy, is full of risks, Wong recognizes that there is also room for the business community to understand and explore.

"As far as trading in the metaverse is concerned, it is a bit like trading in shares before the establishment of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, i.e. there is a lack of proper regulation, which exposes both buyers and sellers to considerable risks." Therefore, Wong believes that, in line with market development, the Government or relevant authorities can consider setting up a digital asset exchange that plays a role like that of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to safeguard the fairness for both buyers and sellers in the metaverse while not impeding creative development. "Due to its sound legal system as an international financial center, and as it is an international city, Hong Kong is well positioned to develop such a digital asset exchange."

In addition, to cope with cybersecurity risks, Wong reminded the business community and the public to pay attention to cybersecurity issues such as privacy and identity when participating in the development of the metaverse. "In any case, when participating in the development of the metaverse, you must first understand its risks, and at the same time, don't go all-in and invest all your money in order to avoid losing more than expected."



楊全盛:港具發展元宇宙有利條件 創科界積極研發拓商機

Eric Yeung: Hong Kong I&T Rides on Conducive Environment to Explore Metaverse Opportunities

元宇宙橫空出世,當中的虛擬土地價 值連城,引來超級富豪及跨國企業紛 紛"插旗"。近年香港積極推動創科 發展,料可為進軍元宇宙奠下穩固根 基。有創科界人士更預期,元宇宙會 如同千禧年的互聯網浪潮帶來重大影 響,為未來經濟發展帶來另一個黃金 新機遇。

提到最近的創科界熱門話題,元宇宙 肯定榜上有名,早前南韓政府更公佈 《元宇宙新產業領先戰略》,包括投入 55億韓元創辦元宇宙學院。天旭科技 投資集團聯合創辦人暨行政總裁楊全 盛指出,元宇宙的概念和發展軌跡, 與2000年的互聯網甚為相近,當時大 家也不太相信,互聯網的影響力將遍 及普羅大眾生活,並改變大部分人的 工作、娛樂與消費模式,元宇宙也會 發揮同等作用。

多元技術發展 助概念成真

楊全盛闡釋,互聯網讓用戶運用聽 覺和視覺接觸資訊世界;元宇宙將 提供更豐富的感官體驗方式,包括 味覺和觸覺等,創造一個比虛擬 界更廣闊的"平行世界"。"元宇宙 並非脱離現實,而是採用另一種方式 將將現實世界呈現出來,只是以往受 技術局限,以致未能由概念轉化為現 實。直至近年區塊鏈技術及 NFT等 相繼興起,配合 AR 及 VR 等技術日 趨成熟,正為進入元宇宙帶來堅實的 技術基礎。"

"元宇宙並非純屬創科界的大事,在 可見的未來將會改變人類現有的生活 方式,從而提升我們的生活質素。" 楊全盛舉例,現時利用網上平台可處 理購物、外賣餐飲、銀行帳項等生活 上各種事務。引入新技術的元宇宙料 可再進一步,日後人們或只需戴上VR 頭盔,便可經歷一趟真實感十足的虛 擬旅行;以至進入虛擬商店,除選購 商品外,更可"觸碰"商品,了解其 用料及質感。而元宇宙的出現,亦將 產生很多新的工種,如專屬的服務行 業等,帶來更多元化的商機。

大型企業"插旗" 冀政府擔當 推手

正因如此,楊全盛預視元宇宙勢將顛 覆整個社會生態及經濟活動,現時如 滙豐及港鐵等很多大型企業已透過在 元宇宙買地率先"插旗",如同在互 聯網購置網域(Domain)一樣。"千 禧年,不少傳統企業認為毋須進駐互 聯網亦可如常做生意。但來到今時今 日,無論是大、中小企業,若連一個 網頁也沒有,卻會讓人感覺匪夷所 思。"

針對元宇宙方興未艾,楊全盛指本港 創科業不乏正積極研發或應用相關技 術,期望可在這個潛力無限的市場分 一杯羹,以化身20年前的騰訊或百 度。"我為不少初創企業平台擔任審 批工作,留意到近半年有很多與元宇 宙相關項目,可見很多創業人士也看 到商機。"

楊全盛同時認為,政府在當中可擔當 推動者的角色,引發社會各界更關注 元宇宙發展,一方面鼓勵更多創科企 業加入研發行列;另一方面也可吸納 更多莘莘學子報讀相關範疇,為本港 培育更多具潛力的創科人才,增強競 爭力。

助傳統品牌蛻變 力求早着先機

提到旗下公司正開發結合 NFT 元素 的遊戲,並協助傳統大型品牌的商品 虛擬化及在元宇宙呈現,楊全盛表 示,公司於本月初已公佈與英皇娛樂 合作,率先為一向深受港人歡迎的藝 人張敬軒發行相關的 NFT,同時通過 推出虛擬遊戲及建立虛擬博物館等方



式,助他進入元宇宙,以全新方式與 "粉絲"互動。

"元宇宙發生在數碼世界或電子世界 之中,與傳統科技發展不同,將極其 重視與寬社會結合,而非完全架空 或虛擬。在這種條件下,一個地區的 營商環境、法制及融資環境,對企 發展元;宙將有重大影響。"楊全盛 強調,這亦是他選擇以香港作為元 常之 調發展起於NFT等創科項目的投 調意投資於NFT等創科項目的投資 者、法制完善、尊重知識產權、對 有 方面,在這個城市皆取得很好 的平衡,皆是支持元宇宙發展的有利 條件。 ④

The metaverse maybe intangible, but the super-rich and MNCs cannot wait to plant their flags in its virtual land. The solid foundation laid out by Hong Kong's recent innovation and technology (I&T) development efforts is expected to open doors for tapping into the metaverse. Certain members of the I&T sector even envisage seminal impact from the metaverse, which will be comparable to that of the internet at the turn of the millennium and bring about golden opportunities to drive future economic growth.

The metaverse is undoubtedly one of the latest hot topics in the I&T sector. The South Korean government, for example, announced a pan-government strategy







on metaverse. The plan involves building a metaverse academy backed by an earmarked funding of 5.5 billion won. According to **Eric Yeung**, **CEO and Cofounder of Skyzer VC Group**, the concept and development trajectory of the metaverse resemble that of the internet in 2000. Back then, people were skeptical about the internet and how it could affect our everyday life or change that way most people access work, entertainment and consumption. The metaverse will generate a similar effect.

Concept realization driven by diverse technology

Yeung explained that the internet has enabled users to employ their auditory and visual senses to connect with the world of information. The metaverse will offer a more enriching and immersive experience that involves additional sensory dimensions such as taste and touch. A "parallel world" that is wider than the cyberspace will be created. He said, "The metaverse is not severed from reality. Instead, a new format is adopted to present the real world. The concept was not actualized earlier owing to past technological limitations. The emergence of blockchain technology and NFT in recent years will team up with the maturing AR and VR technologies to establish a solid technological foundation for entrance into the metaverse."

"The metaverse is not only huge for the I&T industry. In the foreseeable future, it is going to change the way that people live. Our quality of living will be improved because of it." Yeung explained this vision by an example. At present, we can run a long list of errands, such as shopping, ordering takeaways, banking and account maintenance, etc. via online platforms. The metaverse is expected to take all these to a new level with the introduction of new technologies. In the future, people may only need to put on a VR headset to experience a highly realistic virtual journey. They may enter a virtual store and do much more than browsing. Perhaps they can "touch" a product to learn more about its materials and textures. The advent of the metaverse will give rise to a host of new jobs, including services dedicated to that dimension. The business landscape will become more diverse.

Corporate giants "planting flags" and longing for government facilitation

In the light of all these advances, Yeung foresees the metaverse will turn into a big trend and cause radical changes to the social ecology and economic activities. Corporate giants such as HSBC and MTR are already "planting flags" in the metaverse by purchasing virtual land lots – an act that is similar to shopping internet domains. "In 2000, many traditional corporations thought there was no need to build an internet presence and business could be stunned if you don't have one searchable web page, no matter if you are a sizeable or a small to medium enterprise."

Speaking of the rise of the metaverse, Yeung said that some members of the local I&T sector are actively developing or applying the relevant technologies, hoping to secure their share in this new market with unlimited potentials. Many are seeing themselves as Tencent or Baidu 20 years ago. "I have been vetting proposals for many start-up platforms. Over the past six months, I have come across many metaverse-related projects. That means many start-uppers are aware of the opportunities in this area."

Yeung also believes that the government could play a facilitator's role in the process, and work to enhance other sectors' awareness about the development of the metaverse. On one hand, more I&T companies can be encouraged to join the relevant research and development, and on the other, more students can be attracted to get enrolled in relevant programs, so as to groom more potential I&T talents and enhance our competitiveness.

Helping traditional brands transform to gain first-mover advantage

One of Yeung's companies is developing games with built-in NFT elements. It is also helping traditional brands to virtualize their products for the metaverse. He shared that his company has announced earlier this month on a collaboration with the Emperor Entertainment Group. NFTs related to Hins Cheung – a highly popular Hong Kong artiste – will be issued, alongside a virtual game and a virtual gallery. All these will help him tap into the metaverse and interact with his fans in a whole new way.

"The metaverse happens in the digital or electronic dimension. Unlike conventional technology development, it will maintain a very strong connection with integrating with the real world instead of completely setting it aside or being completely virtual. Under such a condition, the business environment, the legal system and the financing ecosystem of a certain region will have a huge impact for companies growing in the metaverse." Yeung stressed that this is why he has chosen Hong Kong as the development base for his metaverse presence. In fact, Hong Kong possesses a mature business and financing environment and there are a vast number of investors who are willing to invest on NFTs and other I&T initiatives. There is also a sound legal system and strong respect for intellectual property rights. People are readily accepting new technologies, and there is strong collaboration with I&T in the mainland. All these aspects are well balanced in Hong Kong and they provide favorable conduits to support the development of the metaverse. 🔇

同心抗疫 走出困境 We Together Fight the Epidemic and Get out of the Woods



立法會功能界別商界(第二)議員 廖長江 Martin Liao, Legislative Council Member,

Commercial (Second) Functional Constituency

香港須切實提高長者及兒童的疫苗接種率、研究及購買 新疫苗、準備足夠的隔離和治療設施,並為進行廣泛的 檢測而配備的有效家居檢疫或隔離的措施。如此方能奠 定長期抗疫路線的基礎,為經濟民生的恢復創造條件。

Hong Kong must effectively increase the vaccination rates for its elderly and children, study and source new vaccines, prepare adequate isolation and treatment facilities, as well as equip the HKSAR with effective stay-home quarantine or isolation capacity to complement extensive testing. This is the only way to establish the foundation for our long-term fight against COVID and to create a conducive environment for economic recovery and betterment of people's livelihood. 冠疫情已持續逾兩年,全球 社會經濟民生廣受影響。香 港2022年1月初開始爆發的 第五波疫情,是本地所歷經最嚴峻的 疫情局面:單日新增確診宗數曾超過 七萬宗,累積確診多達119萬人,逾 9,000人失去生命,當中超過九成為 65歲或以上的長者。疫情亦對香港經 濟造成沉重打擊,失業率升至4.5%, 且呈持續上漲趨勢;中小企業務收益 指數由一月在收縮區域的37.8顯著下 跌至29.9,是自2020年年初以來的 最低水平;而恆生指數則發生大幅波 動,曾兩天內急跌一成。第五波疫情



的大爆發,超出港府應變能力,香港 民生及經濟一度風雨飄搖。

國家援助香港"重生"

千鈞一髮之際,國家伸出援助之手, 二月國家主席習近平作出重要指示, "把盡快穩控疫情作為當前壓倒一切 的任務"。中央各有關部門和地方 全力支持和幫助特區政府作好防疫抗 疫工作,實現內地專家組快速到港、 核酸檢測人員從各地匯集;火眼實驗 室、移動檢測車、七天建成方艙醫 院;物資經水路、陸路抵達,盡力維 持了香港鮮活食品的正常供應、平穩 物價。凡此種種,無不充分體現國家 對香港的關懷和照顧,為港抗疫工作 注入了強心針。

然而,"打鐵還需自身硬"。雖然有 國家的支援,在香港的抗疫過程中, 特區政府應負起主體責任。特區政府 在參考內地專家意見後,三月起集政 力量以"減少感染、減少重症、減少 五量以"減少感染、減少重症、減少 死亡"為目標,全力推進抗疫工作。 通院等醫院轉為救治重症病人的定點 醫院、支持醫管局購入口服藥、提升 亞博社區治療設施容量、設立多間暫 託中心、加強支援居家抗疫人士,及 向全港市民派發"防疫服務包"等 措施,將香港日確診人數從高峰期的 每日三至七萬餘人,降至每日200餘 人,取得階段性勝利。

漫漫前路 長期路線

在疫情稍為回穩,民眾抗疫疲勞之 時,香港抗疫之路應何去何從?面對 新冠疫情,不同國家或地區採取主要 兩種策略,即"動態清零"或"與病 毒共存"。兩者並非意識形態或原則 之爭,而是根據當地實際條件,包括 醫療資源、人道取態、政治經濟體制 等,採取最適合當地的措施,但所追 求的均是同一個目的,即群體免疫。 這有三種方法可以做到,一是接種疫 苗,二是自然感染,三是兩者兼俱。 中國側重接種疫苗,英國側重自然感 染。雖然"動態清零"未有明確的定 義,我們所知的做法包括"早發現、 早隔離、早治療",及"外防輸入、 內防反彈",目的是為拯救生命。"動 態清零"並非要求"絕對清零"。 實際上,從某程度上來說,在抗疫過 程中,隨着新冠病毒的變異,間中會 有與病毒共存的時刻。我們不能接受 的,是某些國家所採取的"躺平式" 與病毒共存。為在合適的時機下採取 更開放式的"動態清零",香港須切 實提高長者及兒童的疫苗接種率、研 究及購買對變種新冠病毒俱更高防疫 能力的疫苗、準備足夠的隔離設施和 治療設施,以及為進行廣泛的檢測而 配備的有效家居檢疫或家居隔離的措 施。唯有如此,方能奠定長期抗疫路 線的基礎,並為處於抗疫疲勞的市民 帶來希望和喘息空間,為經濟民生的 恢復創造條件。

組合拳促經濟復甦

眾所皆知,香港2022年經濟第一季 度無可避免會因疫情陷入收縮,打斷 之前連續四個季度復甦的勢頭。全力 抗疫不僅關乎市民的生命健康,更關 乎企業的營運空間及市民的生計和生 活。立法會急市民之所急,議員在諮 **詢過程中各抒己見**,並將市民和業界 聲音帶入議會,提出優化"防疫抗疫 基金"和重新推出"保就業計劃"的 建議,並強調加強監管,確保公帑合 理使用。財務委員會二月中迅速審議 通過第六輪270億元"防疫抗疫基金" 撥款申請,大幅增加各範疇資助金 額,並涵蓋上一輪未獲支援的行業, 更首次對失業人士提供一次性支援, 以解燃眉之急;四月中通過經完善的 新一輪保就業計劃,以協助中小企渡 過難關,為香港經濟保留元氣。

此外,復甦經濟須重新與外接軌。香 港作為外向型經濟體,雖短期未能達 至群體免疫,但應未雨綢繆,不能獨 善其身或自閉封關,須及早考慮和商 討應該在什麼時候、什麼情況和什麼 條件下,以及在不放棄"動態清零" 的前提下,開放邊境與國際社會和經 濟接軌。❹

he COVID-19 pandemic has been lingering for more than two years and affecting societies, economies and people's livelihood around the world. In Hong Kong, the fifth wave that began in early January 2022 is the most severe round. The daily number of new confirmed cases once exceeded 70,000. Cumulatively, 1.19 million COVID cases have been confirmed, and more than 9,000 lost their lives to the disease. Over 90% of COVID deaths involves elders over 65. The pandemic has also dealt a heavy blow at Hong Kong's economy. Unemployment rate rose to 4.5% and has continued with an upward trend. The current diffusion index (DI) on business receipts amongst SMEs decreased markedly from 37.8 in January 2022 in the contractionary zone to 29.9 in February 2022 - the lowest level since early 2020. At the same time, the Hang Seng Index had substantial fluctuation and once plummeted 10% in two days. The outbreak of the fifth wave was beyond the response capability of the Hong Kong government, and the general livelihood and economy of Hong Kong were once in turmoil.

Hong Kong to "reborn" with State assistance

At the most crucial juncture, the State offered Hong Kong with timely assistance. In February, President Xi Jinping issued an important directive to "assume the main responsibility to stabilize the epidemic situation early as the overriding mission at present". Central government and local authorities fully supported and assisted the HKSAR Government on preventing and fighting COVID. Mainland expert groups were quickly mobilized to Hong Kong, and nucleic acid testing professionals were gathered across the country. Dedicated laboratories and mobile testing vehicles were made available; mobile field hospitals were built in seven days. Supplies were transported through water and land routes to maintain the normal supply of fresh produce in Hong Kong and to stabilize prices. All these reflect the State's unconditional care for Hong Kong, giving the special administrative region a boost of confidence in fighting COVID.

As the saying "it takes a good blacksmith to forge good tools" goes, while the State is offering strong support, the HKSAR government must assume the major responsibilities in its fight against the coronavirus. Following the advice of mainland experts, the HKSAR government has been focusing its antiepidemic resources to actualize the goal of lowering the number of deaths, severe cases and infection since mid-March. The communication of COVID information has been improved; Queen Elizabeth Hospital and other facilities have been converted into designated hospitals for admitting critical COVID patients; the Hospital Authority is supported in sourcing oral medications; the capacity of the community treatment facility at AsiaWorld Expo has been expanded; a number of holding centers have been set up; support for stay-home quarantine has been enhanced; and "anti-epidemic service bags" have been distributed to all Hong Kong citizens. The long list of measures has brought down the number of new confirmed COVID cases in Hong Kong from the peak of 30,000 to 70,000 per day to around 200. Initial success has been achieved.

Long-term anti-epidemic strategy for the future

As the number of COVID cases gradually

reduces and with the anti-epidemic fatigue, how should Hong Kong plan for fighting the coronavirus in the future? While countries are adopting different strategies to combat COVID-19, the plans adopted can be broadly classified as "pursuing dynamic zero-infection" or "living with the coronavirus". The two approaches are not a battle of ideologies or principles. Rather, they were meant to help implementing measures that are most suited for the actual local circumstances, including medical resources, humanitarian attitudes, as well as political and economic systems. They do share a common pursuit to achieve herd immunity, which could be made possible through vaccination, natural infection, or a combination of both. China places a stronger stress on vaccination, while the UK tends to rely on natural infection. Although there is not yet a concrete definition for "dynamic zeroinfection", we understand that measures such as "early detection, early isolation, early treatment", "guarding against the importation of cases and the resurgence of domestic infections" are adopted to save lives. "Dynamic zero-infection" does not mean a requirement of an absolute zero. With the coronavirus mutating as we fight it, there are certain periods of time that we are in fact living with it to a certain extent. What we cannot accept is how certain countries are doing nothing to co-exist with the virus. To adopt a more inclusive type of "dynamic zero-infection" at the right moment, Hong Kong must appropriately increase the vaccination rate amongst elders and children, study and source vaccines that could better respond to mutant strains of COVID, prepare adequate capacity for isolation and treatment facilities, as well as to equip ourselves with effective stay-home quarantine or stay-home isolation capacity to complement extensive testing. This is the only way to cement the foundation for our long-term fight against COVID, to bring hope and a breathing space for citizens who are exhausted from fighting the virus, and to create a conducive environment for economic recovery and the betterment of people's livelihood.

A suite of measures to reinvigorate the economy

Hong Kong's economy will inevitably shrink in Q1 2022 owing to worsened epidemic circumstances. In other words, the rebound momentum of the last four consecutive quarters will be interrupted. Fighting COVID at all costs is not only about safeguarding the lives and health of the Hong Kong public, but also about creating a favorable environment for business operation and the public's livelihood. Understanding the urgent needs of citizens, legislators have been speaking up for the public and the industry at consultation meetings. Proposals to optimize the "Anti-epidemic Fund" and to relaunch the Employment Protection Scheme were made. Legislators also underscored the importance of strengthening monitoring and control to ensure reasonable use of public funds. The Legislative Council Finance Committee swiftly examined and approved to inject HKD27 billion into the sixth round of the "Anti-epidemic Fund" in mid-February. This does not only enhance funding availability in various fields but is also covering industries that were not supported in the previous rounds. To address the urgent needs of the unemployed, a one-off unemployment relief is also introduced for the first time. In mid-April, a new and enhanced round of the Employment Support Scheme was approved to help SMEs tide over difficulties and maintain some strengths for Hong Kong's economy.

Besides, economy recovery must reconnect with the world at large. As an externally oriented economy, Hong Kong may not be able to achieve herd immunity in the short term. Yet, it should make hay while the sun shines. It cannot simply stay outside of the matter or completely shut off the border. Hong Kong should consider and discuss the optimal time, the preferrable conditions, as well as the approaches to open up its border to reconnect with the global communities and economies under the premise of upholding the "dynamic zero-infection" strategy.

This is a free translation. For the exact meaning of the article, please refer to the Chinese version.

如對上文內容有任何意見,歡迎向廖長江 議員反映。

Should you have any comments on the article, please feel free to contact Mr Martin Liao.

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Academy Adds Prestige to Vegetarian Cookery



"無肉經濟"抬頭,素食風氣漸 盛,坊間最接地氣的快餐店也紛 紛推出新款植物肉菜式作招徠。 素食人客既是不缺,專擅烹調素 食的廚師,自是需求漸殷。

With vegetarianism gaining momentum amid the rise of the "meatless economy", even the most grounded fastfood eateries have launched new plant-based meat items on their menus to attract customers. Since there is no shortage of vegetarian customers, chefs specialising in vegetarian cuisine are naturally in growing demand.



辦廚藝學院 迎茹素新風

論是為了健康環保,還是為 了潮流嚐鮮,近年香港的 了潮流嚐鮮,近年香港的 素食風景確是與前大異其 趣。新興素食店逐漸撕走宗教與老派 的長年標籤,在小資味濃的門面裝潢 下,迎來年輕時尚的革新。從以前初 一十五持齋的煞有介事,到今天茹素 終於可以輕鬆地"不當一回事"。

本地芸芸素食店中,Green Common 可算是異軍突起的一家。除設有多家 分店,找來明星代言之外,更不時推 出廣受談論的噱頭菜式,顛覆了大眾 對素食的認知。例如他們與麥當勞推 出"新餐肉"創意餐點,就使不少 港人首嚐植物肉的風味。營運 Green Common 食店的社會企業 Green Monday 馬不停蹄,最近又有創辦素 食廚藝學院的新猷。

激發廚師素食創意

Green Monday 聯合創辦人兼行政 總裁楊大偉指,之所以興起創辦素食 廚藝學院之念頭,皆因有感素食烹飪 必須專門學習。有別於傳統的葷素交



融, 廚師若然不能再用肉類或相關產 品,只能以菜蔬、植物肉,甚至無蛋 無奶去烹調,難度實在大增。故素食 菜式要能吸引、惠及大眾,必須仰仗 廚師的創意與知識。建立系統,加以 培訓,實在是素食餐飲業未來迴避不 了的一環。

素食廚藝學院誕生於疫情蔓延之時。 楊大偉坦言,新冠疫情確令大眾進一 步意識到依賴動物的食物系統存在不 少風險。為了保護動物、可持續發展 和健康原因,不少千禧一代和 Z 世代 已自覺接受素食。每有更方便、更健 康的新食品出現,更會備受關注。如 何善用這些新食材發揮創意,十分考 驗廚師的功夫,故素食烹飪漸成一門 獨立的學問。

新一代影響力不容忽視

楊大偉續指,食物教育、氣候變化和 健康等議題,一直是 Green Monday 的核心關注焦點。而他們的對象,並 不一定是傳統學校的師生,可以是專 業廚師和普羅大眾。他特別提到,青 少年和 Z 世代不僅較關注氣候變化, 而且對"彈性素食"(指飲食內容不 完全排除動物性成分,但比例上以植 物性食材居多的飲食形態)抱更開放 的態度。這一族群是影響年長一輩和



消費決策者的關鍵,間接為飲食業業 者帶來新機遇,促使飲食界加快推出 更環保、創新和有益的菜式,以滿足 這批新世代顧客。

目前,素食廚藝學院曾分別針對學 徒、餐廳廚師及酒店廚師舉辦過三次 課堂。楊大偉透露,目前課堂每次 有20至30名參加者,涵蓋理論和實 習兩部份:理論環節介紹食物生產跟 環境的關係,而實習部份則由專業導 師指導參加者烹調植物肉菜式。他更 指,未來更擬邀請餐飲業界管理層參 與培訓。

疫中求變 健康制勝

身為全港首個素食廚藝學院,楊大偉 期望學員在參與課程後,可掌握到創 新的廚藝技巧,為食客炮製精緻素 菜。同時,他亦希望就此進一步推動 植物性飲食,最終糅合美味、健康、 大眾化的可持續的飲食潮流。疫情畢 竟顛覆了餐飲業,居家令等限制措 施令社會興起在家烹飪的熱潮。楊大 偉覺得,業者須把握機遇調整業務模 式,迎合未來的市場需要,推出環 保、創新和有益健康的食物,方能為 顧客帶來更多選擇和驚喜。❹

Embracing new vegetarianism trend through culinary arts academy

n recent years, emerging vegetarian eateries in Hong Kong have gradually removed the long-standing labels of them being religion-related and old-school to get a youthful and chic makeover. Consequently, having a vegetarian diet can finally be easy and enjoyable.

Among the local vegetarian eateries, Green Common has emerged as a new force to be reckoned with. Besides having many branches and engaging celebrity spokespersons, it also launches widely-talked about gimmick dishes from time to time. Green Monday, a social enterprise that runs Green Common eateries, has been working relentlessly and launched a plant-based culinary arts academy recently.

Inspiring chefs' creativity in vegetarian cooking

David Yeung, CEO and co-founder of Green Monday, said that the idea of starting a plant-based culinary arts academy came about because he felt that vegetarian cookery required specialized learning. Compared to traditional dishes, preparing vegetarian dishes is a lot more difficult since the chef can only cook with vegetables and/or plant-based meat alternatives. Therefore, the creativity and knowledge of the chef are essential to make vegetarian cuisine appealing. Establishing a system in addition to training are really an inevitable part of the future of the vegetarian food industry.

The plant-based culinary arts academy came into being during the spread of the COVID-19 epidemic. Yeung said that the epidemic has indeed made people more aware of the many risks in animalbased food systems. Many millennials and Gen Z-ers have consciously embraced vegetarianism. How to be creative in using these new ingredients is a test of the chef's skills, so vegetarian cookery has gradually become an independent discipline.

Influence of the new generation cannot be overlooked

Yeung added that issues such as food education, climate change and health have always been the core focus of Green Monday. Young people and Gen Z-ers are not only more concerned about climate change, but also more open to "flexitarianizm". This group is the key to influencing the older generation and consumer decision makers, which indirectly brings new opportunities for the food and beverage industry, thus prompting the industry to accelerate the introduction of more environmentally-friendly, innovative and beneficial cuisine to meet this new generation of customers.

The plant-based culinary arts academy has held three separate classes to date. Yeung revealed that each class currently accommodates 20-30 participants and covers both theory and practice: The theoretical section describes the relationship between food production and the environment, while the practical section involves participants preparing plantbased meat dishes under the guidance of a professional instructor.

Focus on healthy foods to stand out amid epidemic

Yeung looks forward to the plant-based culinary arts academy, the first-ever in Hong Kong, further promoting plant-based diets and ultimately forming a sustainable trend of delicious and healthy diets that cater to the masses. Yeung believes that vegetarian eateries must seize the opportunity to fine-tune their business models to meet future market needs, introducing environmentally-friendly, innovative and healthy foods in order to offer customers more choices and pleasant surprises.





數碼科技急速發展,隨之而來製造了大量電子垃圾,現 時香港每年產生的電子垃圾約有70,000公噸,當中約 八成半是"四電一腦"。隨着各地收緊廢電器電子產 品的進口管制,香港極需要一套持之以恆、可妥善處理 香港電子垃圾的有效解決方案,並從中轉廢為材、創造 商機。

The rapid development of digital technology has resulted in the production of a large amount of e-waste. At present, about 70,000 tonnes of e-waste are generated in Hong Kong annually, about 85% of which are regulated electrical equipment (REE, i.e., air-conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines, televisions, computers, printers, scanners and monitors). With the tightening of import control over waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in other jurisdictions, Hong Kong desperately needs a set of consistent and effective solutions that can properly dispose of its e-waste, and convert them to useful resources and create business opportunities. 長遠有效處理本港電子垃 圾,歐綠保綜合環保(香港), 有限公司獲特區政府委託, 設計及興建位於屯門環保園、佔地三 公頃的廢電器電子產品處理及回收設 施WEEE·PARK,並提供回收服務及 營運該設施。歐緣保首席技術總監鄭 堅明表示,廠房採用先進科技,透過 收集、分類、拆解、破碎以處理廢電 器電子產品,把當中所含的有害物料 進行無害化處理,轉化為二次原料。

處理量龐大 推動循環經濟

"'四電一腦'均屬大型電器,當中 不乏含有鉛、水銀及溫室氣體等有害 物質,直接堆填區棄置更會衍生嚴重 的環境問題,更會加劇堆填區壓力並 浪費珍貴資源,如不妥善處理或棄置 或會對環境和人體健康構成危害。 WEEE·PARK的設立足見政府對推動 回收業界的發展及促進本地循環經濟 的決心。"



該園設計處理量為每年30,000公噸, 若有需要可延長運作時間,最高處理 量可提升至57,600公噸。"我們的循 環再造率高達87%,包括塑膠、銅、 鐵等有用物料可再成為原材料供工廠 製成其他產品,而經處理後本是可廢 置的物料更可轉化為有用原料。"

鄭堅明以雪櫃的保溫層物料聚胺脂 (PUR)為例,指出經廠房處理抽離, 該類似發泡膠的化學物料本屬可棄置 物料,但在廠房與政府共同協調努力 下,去年總共送出108公噸的PUR到 青洲英泥作替代燃料。

免費上門收集 提高回收率

現時供應商須向環保署登記並繳付每 件產品15元至165元不等的循環再造 費方可分發電器予銷售商。市民在不 需額外付費下,可要求銷售商安排同 日送新件和移走一件同類舊電器。鄭 堅明表示,即使沒有購買新電器,亦 可通過歐綠保回收熱線2676-8888預



約免費上門收集服務,"上門免費回收 服務相信只有香港有,未見其他城市 或地區有提供同類的貼心服務。"

隨着社會環保意識提高,市民自覺性 明顯增強,現時平均每月有約一萬個 市民查詢或預約電話,表現非常踴 躍,"回收量也有季節性高峰期之分, 夏天時期的冷氣機回收明顯增加,而 農曆新年前夕送舊迎新都會增加回收 率。"鄭堅明相信,這項服務可達致 環保回收之餘,亦免除市民要自行或 自費棄置舊"四電一腦"的煩惱,有 助提高回收率。

積極推動"五電一腦"

政府近年致力推動香港2050年前實現 碳中和,又鼓勵碳中和夥伴制訂各減 碳領域的目標和時間表。"我們積極 回應和實行減碳目標,除了結合綠色 建築元素外,廠房亦增設太陽能板以 用於發電和太陽能熱水系統,亦積極 與環保署、新加坡有關公司探討雪種 的淨化處理,積極尋求物料回流市場 再加以使用。"

廠房高效的回收處理流程及運作亦吸 引不少國家或地區相關業者的參觀及 考察,運作至今順暢。隨着社會愈加 富庶,家庭常見大型電器已不僅限於 "四電一腦",香港春夏天天氣潮濕嚴 重,抽濕機成為不少家庭的必需品, "抽濕機與冷氣機一樣含有雪種,且 具一定體積,不便隨意棄置堆填區, 因應現時 '四電一腦'回收日益順 暢,長遠可把抽濕機均納入受管制電 器,令廢電器電子產品回收更臻完善 及貼近社會需要。"�



or the long-term effective management of e-waste in Hong Kong, the HKSAR Government commissioned ALBA Integrated Waste Solutions (Hong Kong) Ltd (ALBA IWS) to develop an integrated solution which includes collection and the design and building and operation of WEEE PARK, a treatment and recycling facility located on a 3-hectare site at EcoPark, Tuen Mun. Vincent Cheng, Chief Technical Officer of ALBA IWS, said that the facility adopts advanced technologies to turn regulated WEEE into secondary raw materials through a series of collection, sorting, dismantling and shredding processes. The hazardous components contained in WEEE are put through detoxification in the process.

Huge treatment volume drives circular economy

"REE are large electrical appliances that contain harmful materials such as lead, mercury and gases with a high global warming potential. Direct landfill disposal will lead to serious environmental problems, increase pressure on landfills and is a waste of valuable resources. They may cause harm to the environment and human health if not properly treated or disposed of. The establishment of WEEE-PARK showed the Government's determination to drive the development of the recycling industry and promote the local circular economy."

The park has a design capacity of 30,000 tonnes per year, which, if required, can be expanded to 57,600 tonnes by extending the operating hours. "Our recycling rate is as high as 87%. Useful materials such as plastics, copper and iron can be turned into raw materials for factories to make other

products, while materials that are otherwise disposable can be converted to useful raw materials after treatment."

Using polyurethane (PUR), the insulating material for refrigerators, as an example, Cheng said that the foam-like chemical material could have been discarded after being extracted from the refrigerators and treated at the facility, but thanks to the joint efforts of the facility and the Government, a total of 108 tonnes of PUR was sent to Green Island Cement for use as an alternative fuel last year.

Free door-to-door collection service improves recycling rate

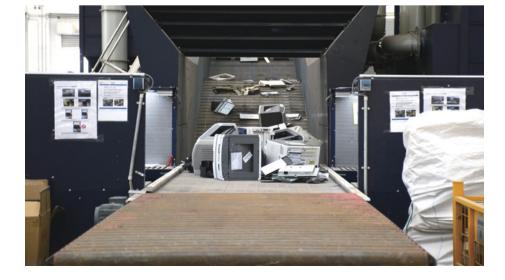
At present, suppliers are required to register with the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and pay a recycling levy ranging from HKD15 to HKD165 per product before they can distribute REE to sellers. A member of the public is entitled, upon purchasing a REE, to ask the seller to arrange for delivery of the new item and removal of the used item of the same class on the same day at no extra charge. According to Cheng, a member of the public can make an appointment for a free door-to-door collection service through ALBA IWS's recycling hotline 2676-8888 even if he/she has not purchased a new REE, "I believe that the free door-to-door recycling service is only available in Hong Kong, as I have not seen other cities or regions that offer similar services.'

The public has become markedly more conscientious along with the increase in social awareness of environmental protection. At present, about 10,000 members of the public inquire or make appointment calls every month on average, showing an enthusiastic response, "There are seasonal peaks in the recycling volume, e.g., the recycling of air conditioners increases significantly in summer, and the recycling rate also rises just before the Lunar New Year, when people replace old items with new ones." Cheng is convinced that this service can achieve eco-friendly recycling and relieve the public of the trouble of disposing of old REE themselves or at their own expense, which will help increase the recycling rate.

Adding another electrical appliance to list of REE

In recent years, the Government has been driving Hong Kong to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. It also encourages carbon neutrality partners to set targets and timetables for various decarbonisation areas. "We actively respond to and pursue the carbon reduction targets, e.g., besides incorporating green building elements, the facility has also installed solar panels for generating electricity and hot water. We also actively discuss with the EPD and companies, including places like Singapore, on the purification treatment of refrigerants for example, striving to return materials to the market for reuse."

The facility's efficient recycling process and operation have attracted relevant industry players from many countries or regions to come here for visits and inspections. It has been running smoothly so far. As the society becomes more prosperous, common large household appliances are now not limited to REE. The weather in Hong Kong is very humid in spring and summer, so dehumidifiers have become a necessity for many households, "Dehumidifiers contain the same refrigerants as air conditioners and as they are also sizeable, they cannot be easily disposed of in landfills. As the recycling of REE is running more smoothly, we hope dehumidifiers can be included as a REE item in the long run so that the recycling of WEEE can be better and meet the needs of the society."







現在去旅行,只要打開酒店格價 APP,大小酒店的價 錢、位置、裝潢皆一目了然,豐儉由人,任君選擇。但 有否想過,連寄貨也可用手機格價?港產全球快遞預約 平台 Spaceship 透過整合不同快遞服務資訊,為顧客羅 列不同物流方案,令快遞就如預約酒店般方便,儼然是 "快遞版 trivago"。

Have you ever thought that even a mobile app can be used for shipping cost comparison? Spaceship, a Hong Kong-based global courier reservation platform, integrates the information of different courier services to make couriering as convenient as booking a hotel room, so it is in a way the "Trivago of courier services". 寄嘢唔駛諗 快人一步

第市民對物流並不太認識。" Spaceship 首席 識。" Spaceship 首席 執行長及聯合創辦人林 換枝直接了當說到。"市民每天仍是 拿着大包小包,排隊等寄貨;也有市 民湧到快遞公司寄件,結果人數太多 弄得要截龍。我們就想,難道沒有更 便捷的物流解決方案嗎?於是便有了 快遞平台的念頭,把繁複的寄貨程序 簡單化,一部手機便可完成,為市民 帶來全新體驗。"

的而且確,若打開 Spaceship 的應用 程式,會發現其界面就如一眾酒店格



(左起) 黃錦熙與林焕枝 (from left) Stanley Wong and Chilam Lam

價 APP 般簡潔明瞭,只要輸入寄 貨目的地、貨物種類、大小、重 量等,便會即時出現不同快遞公 司的報價和配送時間,選好心水 服務,便會有專人前來取貨。其 便利程度,就正如公司宣傳語所 言"寄嘢唔駛諗,只需兩步,快 人一步。"難怪只成立兩年多, 已迅速在物流界打響名堂。

出師不利"斬件"重生

但回想創業之路,也非一帆風順。林煥枝早年已有涉獵電子商 貿生意,後來看中日本產品的潛 力,期窒將之推廣到歐美市場, 便找來"波友"黃錦熙 - 即另 一位 Spaceship 聯合創辦人 齊拍檔創業。無奈日本人作風乾 人作風較, 要接受一套新系統需時甚 久,但對一家 Start-up 來說, 卻無法承受這種等待。"當時所 有積橘個月營運資金,要麼關門大 吉,要麼另尋出路。"

在存亡之際,二人重新檢視整家 公司,發現物流這個環節,在 電子商貿中其實是最必需、也 是最不可或缺的,因此毅然決 定把公司"斬件",只留下物流 業務重點發展。"經歷數個月艱 苦轉型,2019年中終於出現了 Spaceship 的早期版本,感恩開



目前 Spaceship 分手機 APP 和網頁版[,]皆以簡單易用為賣點 Spaceship is currently available as mobile app and web versions, both with ease of use as their selling point

業第一天便成功獲得訂單,其後 更迅速成長。"

寄卡樂 B、湯包 貼地取勝

目前 Spaceship 與多家大型快 遞公司合作,形成強大的配送網 絡,但當初商討合作時,也費了 一番功夫。"快遞公司也直接面 對客戶,其實無需多一個也費面 人。但我們發現傳統快遞公司問 人。但我們發現傳統快遞公司問 人都中小企,因此便則此 為切入點,提議通明代科技, 令個人和中小企也可便捷地使 用快遞服務。可幸成功説服不少 公司,雙方結成夥伴關係,令 Spaceship 踏出最重要的一步。"

至於寄送的物品,林煥枝表示可 說保羅萬有,由個人用品、衣 物到食物皆有;商業客戶則視乎 業務內容,由時裝、玩具到電子 產品都有。公司更會不定期與商 戶合作,推出寄送月餅、港式湯 包、卡樂 B 薯片等服務,讓海 外親友也可感受香港味道,一解 鄉愁"以前市民總覺得寄東西很 麻煩,但我們相信,科技不僅令 繁瑣的程序便捷化,更可把人與 人之間的距離拉近,即使身處海 外,也可與親友維持密切聯繫。"

今年三月 Spaceship 更成功衝出 香港,把業務版圖拓展至台灣。 林焕枝表示台灣是一個試點, 期望可把香港的成功經驗複製。 若進展順利,未來將繼續開拓不 同市場,真正做到如 Spaceship (太空船)般遨遊天際,覆蓋全 球。❹

Be a step ahead of others with hassle-free shipping

Control Control Contr

platform is to simplify the complicated shipping process so that it can be completed with a mobile phone, bringing a new experience to the public."

On the Spaceship app, the quotes and shipping times from various courier companies will be displayed promptly after the user has entered the destination, category of the items, and size and weight of the parcel. The user just needs to choose the desired service and the items will be picked up after that. No wonder it has quickly made a name for itself in the logistics industry in just over two years since its launch.

A fresh beginning with narrower focus after starting badly

Looking back, it has not been smooth sailing in getting the business off the ground. Lam saw the potential of Japanese products and wanted to promote them to the European and American markets, so he asked **Stanley Wong**, another **co-founder of Spaceship**, to start a business together. Unfortunately, the Japanese have to take a long time before adopting a new system as they are used to warming up slowly to new stuff, but a start-up cannot afford to wait. "At that time, we only had about two months of working capital remaining, so it was either closing down or finding another way out."

Caught in such a sink-or-swim situation, they re-examined the entire company and found that logistics was actually the most indispensable part of e-commerce, so they resolutely decided to focus on only the logistics business. "After months of painstaking transformation, Spaceship finally introduced an initial version in mid-2019, and has grown rapidly since then."

Winning through delivery of moon cakes, soup dumplings and Calbee chips

Spaceship currently works with several major courier companies, but negotiating those partnerships had required a lot of effort. "We found that traditional courier companies focus more on large business customers and ignore individual customers and SMEs, so we used this as an entry point to successfully convince many companies to form partnerships with us." Regarding items to be couriered, Lam said that they include personal items, clothes, food, etc. for individual customers, and fashion, toys, electronic products, etc. for business customers. The company also collaborates with businesses from time to time to launch delivery of moon cakes, Hong Kong-style soup dumplings, Calbee potato chips, etc., so that overseas relatives and friends can also savour the flavours of Hong Kong. "In the past, people used to find sending items a hassle, but we believe that technology can not only simplify cumbersome processes, but also bring people closer together."

Spaceship has also been successful in going beyond Hong Kong and expanded its business footprint into Taiwan in March this year. Looking to replicating the success they have had in Hong Kong, Lam said that expanding into Taiwan is a pilot project. If all goes well, they will continue to tap into different markets in the future with the aim of truly establishing a global presence by roaming across the world, just like a spaceship.



公司名其實由物流兩大要素 Space (倉存) 和 Ship (運送) 組成 [,] 湊起來剛好是 Spaceship(太空船) The company's name is actually composed of Space (warehousing) and Ship (delivery), both of which are elements of logistics





Not the Ordinary Pet Owner -A Reptile Lover

"貓奴"、"狗奴"總有一個在身邊,原來近年越來越 多人愛上爬蟲類寵物,紛紛成為了"爬蟲奴",到底 這些非一般的寵物有何吸引之處,甚至有愛好者將之 變成事業。

We all know Hong Kong has a big population of cat and dog lovers, but did you know reptiles are the new stars and reptile lovers are growing in numbers in recent years? These extraordinary pets definitely appeal to many pet owners. Some have even made a career out of this hobby. 為一名資深爬蟲愛好者,任 天恩年幼時家中已飼養兩隻 陸龜,耳濡目染下與爬蟲動 物結下不解之緣。2019年,他毅然辭 去正職,與澳洲就讀獸醫回流香港的 中學同學投入六位數字金額,在金魚 街不遠處的大廈租用一間樓上舖,創 辦 AOG 爬蟲及兩棲動物專門店。

主打獸醫駐場吸客

"當年向漁護署申領牌照時,我年僅 24歲,被告知已多年未有新的年輕申 請人,更以勇敢來形容我們",新手 爬蟲寵物店老闆的任天恩懵懵懂懂, 什麼都不懂,連到哪裡取貨都摸不着 頭腦,幸好飼養陸龜多年結識不少業 內人士,遂"膽粗粗"請教之,幸獲 指點,店舗生意慢慢上軌道。

AOG 主打獸醫駐場,為各位爬蟲主人 的"愛寵"提供優質專業的護理服務, "爬蟲寵物店行業較狹窄,估計現時 本港約有20間,惟甚少可與我們一樣





提供獸醫診症服務,並會處方杜蟲藥 物服務,確保每隻動物的健康。"

女性初養者居多

回憶創業初時,多靠獸醫駐場吸引客 戶上門,隨着顧客的口耳相傳,店舖 逐漸打出名堂,在市場漸站穩腳,主 打陸龜、守宮、蜥蜴等爬蟲類寵物, 估計現時每月營業額約六位數字,平 均每月售出20至30隻爬蟲動物。

開店至今,經歷疫情起伏,見證爬蟲 寵物行情逐漸走出低谷,大眾更愈發 接受爬蟲類寵物,老中青等不同年齡 層的新手顧客均明顯上升,當中以年 輕女性居多。"可能因各防疫措施的 實行,市民留家時間增加,對動物 陪伴的需求上升。而守宮及龜的照 顧需要較少,入場門檻較低而吸引 新手購買。"

分享飼養正確資訊

任天恩從一知半解的新手飼養員,到



現時成為飼養十多隻陸龜的"達人", 他回想中五時與友人流連金魚街逛爬 蟲寵物店,購入人生首隻爬蟲動物盾 臂龜,豈料三個月內便去世,"當時 新手飼養,盲目跟從網上教學,忽略 了不同品種的個別需要,加上估計該 龜本身亦或有健康問題,令其情況轉 差。"他飼養第三隻約六歲的豹龜亦 疑因染上鉤端螺旋體菌,致腎衰竭而 需安樂死,一度自責自己未盡照顧好 寵物的同時,亦明白正確飼養爬蟲動 物的資訊的重要性。

"我們會定期拍攝飼養教學短片並在 社交媒體分享,向公眾介紹各類爬蟲 動物及飼養注意事項等資訊,推廣爬 蟲飼養文化之餘,亦有助每位初養者 更好地照顧寵物。曾有顧客疑貪方 便,想把變色龍和陸龜放置在同一飼 養箱內飼養,忽略了它們各自品種的 溫度等環境需要,幸在我們力勸之下 放棄了。"

決心推廣爬蟲飼養文化

學生時代常年與友人流連金魚街,兒 時經營爬蟲寵物店的童言如今成真, 任天恩坦言現在每天都可以照顧喜歡 的動物,做喜歡的事,很開心把興趣 發展成終生事業,又興致勃勃地分 享飼養爬蟲動物的趣事,"以陸龜為 例,主要在餵食及交配時會有較明顯 的步伐加快等可見的歡樂情緒,雖 然其餘時間都較少情緒起伏,沒什 麼大起大落,但它們同樣都會認主 人,對長期餵飼的人物會有明顯的親 近反應。"

與常見的爬蟲類店舖不同,AOG店 舖明亮,店員主動健談,會為顧客講 解飼養爬蟲寵物的所需資訊,"我們 希望可以慢慢改變大眾對爬蟲動物店 舖的陰暗等負面固有思想,逐步把爬 蟲飼養成為主流的寵物飼養文化,讓 大家認識到爬蟲動物並不是想像中可 怕,同樣都可以與毛孩一樣可愛、討 人歡喜。"



aving grown up with two family pet tortoises, long-time reptile lover **Samuel Yam** has developed a bond with reptiles since childhood. He quit his job in 2019 and invested a six-digit sum to open a pet shop with a high school friend who had just returned to Hong Kong after completing veterinarian training in Australia. They rented an upper floor shop unit not far from "Goldfish Street" in Mongkok. AOG Exotics Services opened for business.

Resident vet as a special attraction

"I was only 24 when I applied to AFCD for a license. They told me it's been years since they had a young new applicant and even said I was courageous." New to the game, Yam the novice pet shop owner did not know the first thing about running the business. He did not even know where to get stock and supplies. Luckily, having kept pet tortoises for years, he has friends in the business. He was not shy to ask for guidance and many were happy to help. Slowly but surely, his business got on the right track.

AOG's main attraction is a resident vet who provides quality professional care to pet owners' reptiles. "The reptile pet sector is relative small. There are only about 20 reptile pet shops in Hong Kong and very few offer vet consultation service like ours. Our vet can also prescribe wormers to keep every animal in good health."

Most first-time owners are women

Yam said the resident vet was a major feature that attracted customers in the early days. As word-of-mouth played its role, the shop gradually made a name and secured a foothold in the market. Reptiles like tortoises, geckoes and lizards are AOG's key offers, and Yam estimates a six-digit monthly turnover. On average, the shop sells 20 to 30 pet reptiles every month.

AOG has sailed through surges of COVID-19 since opening. The downturn is gradually bottoming out now and the public is becoming more acceptive of keeping reptiles as pets. Novice pet owners across all age groups are clearly growing in numbers, and young women are the majority. "With anti-pandemic measures in place, people are spending more time at home and this might have pushed up demand for pet animals that can provide company. Geckoes and tortoises appeal to novice owners because they are relatively easy to keep and start-up cost is budgetfriendly."

Sharing knowhow to ensure pet reptiles are properly cared for

From a novice keeper to a tortoise expert with more than a dozen tortoises. Yam has come a long way. He remembers buying a grooved tortoise, his first pet reptile, from a reptile pet shop while strolling along "Goldfish Street" with a few friends. He was a F.5 student with no experience and the tortoise died three months later. "I was a beginner and relied on online tips for keeping tortoises. I overlooked that each tortoise species had its individual needs, plus the fact that my tortoise probably had health problems and its condition deteriorated quickly." His third tortoise, a leopard tortoise, was put down at the age of six due to kidney failure. Leptospirosis was suspected. He felt really guilty for not taking good care of his pet and this sad incident brought the message home that it is vital to get information on how to raise pet reptiles properly.

"We make beginner's guide videos regularly and post them on social media to feature different reptiles and share important caring tips. We hope to promote the pet reptile culture and help beginners to looking after their new pets properly. One of our customers wanted to keep chameleons and tortoises in the same enclosure for easy handling, not realizing they had different requirements for temperature and living environment. Fortunately, the customer listened to our advice and gave up the idea."

Committed to promoting reptile pet culture

"Goldfish Street" was a favorite destination for Yam and his friends back in the high school days. His childhood dream of opening a reptile pet shop has now come true. He is so happy to look after his favorite animals and do what he likes every day. Indeed, it is a blessing to turn one's interest into a lifelong career. He has many interesting stories about keeping reptiles too. "Take tortoises as an example. Signs of joyful emotion like accelerated pace are only obvious during feeding and mating. For the rest of the time, they remain very calm. They can recognize their owners and are clearly more affectionate to people who feed them on a regular basis."

Unlike ordinary reptile pet shops, AOG is bright and clean, and the friendly shopkeepers are always ready for a good chat about how to raise reptiles. "We want to change the negative impression of reptile pet shops as being cold and dark. It's our goal to bring pet reptiles into the mainstream pet culture so that people will see reptiles are not as creepy as they think. They are just as adorable as furry pets."



香港工商界婦女 "繼往開來 再創輝煌"專輯 Commemoration Video for Women's Day and HKSAR Anniversary



港工商界婦女紀念"三八"國際婦女節籌備委員 會於3月8日發佈"香港工商界婦女紀念'三八' 國際婦女節暨慶祝香港回歸祖國25周年 - 繼往開 來 再創輝煌"專輯,邀請了行政長官林鄭月娥、原全國人 大常委范徐麗泰、原全國人大常委會基本法委員會副主任 梁愛詩等多位主要嘉賓,聯同本會婦委會主席蔡關頴琴、 廣東省婦聯主席許紅、多個大灣區城市婦聯主席、澳門婦 女團體代表,攜手錄製專輯,輯錄籌委會過去25年的活動 片段,作為慶祝香港特區成立25周年的獻禮,並呼籲廣大 市民齊心抗疫,為所有前線抗疫人員打氣,冀香港儘快恢 復正常生活及經濟發展。

本會婦委會主席蔡關頴琴代表籌委會致歡迎辭,副主席何 超蕸與籌委會副主任委員雷蔡菊芬及高明分別以英語、廣 東話及普通話致祝賀辭,祝願香港盡快戰勝疫情。(8/3)

he Preparatory Committee of the Hong Kong Business Women Commemorating the International Women's Day has released a video for commemorating the international women's day and celebrating the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR on 8 March, distinguished guests including Carrie Lam, Chief Executive of the HKSAR; Rita Fan, former Standing Committee Member of the NPC; Elsie Leung, former Deputy Director of the Basic Law Committee; Janice Choi, Chairman of the Ladies' Committee of the Chamber; Xu Hong, Chairman of the Women's Federation of Guangdong Province and representatives of Women's Federation from Greater Bay Area Cities and Macao were invited to participate. In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, the video has reviewed activities of the Preparatory Committee in the past 25 years for advocating all citizens to fight the virus together and for showing support to frontline staff.

Janice Choi, Chairman of the Ladies' Committee of the Chamber delivered a welcome speech on behalf of the Preparatory Committee. **Maisy Ho, Vice-Chairman of the Ladies' Committee of the Chamber; Lui Choi Kook-fun** and **Gao Ming, Vice-Chairmen of the Preparatory Committee**, delivered congratulatory speech in English, Cantonese and Putonghua respectively on behalf of the Preparatory Committee for wishing Hong Kong to conquer the pandemic as soon as possible. (8/3)







 婦女委員會邀請香港註冊中醫學會會長 陳永光擔任主講嘉賓,介紹中醫藥防治新冠 病毒的功效、服用方法,以及不幸染疫後的 調理方法等。(7/4)

The Ladies' Committee has invited **Chan Wing-kwong**, **Chairman of the Hong Kong Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners Association**, to introduce the curative effect of Chinese medicine on COVID-19. (7/4)

 青年委員會和工商及社會事務委員會舉行網 上講座,邀請投資推廣署財經及金融行業主 管兼家族辦公室環球主管黃恆德、畢馬威中 國私人和家族企業服務主管合夥人楊嘉燕、 畢馬威中國企業稅務諮詢合夥人梁愛麗和 本會會董及凱銀環球信託有限公司執行董事 兼總經理梁頴雯,一同探討香港家族辦公室 行業的最新發展。(14/4)

Wong Hang-tak, Head of Financial Services and Global Head of Family Office of Invest Hong Kong; Kamen Yeung, National Head of Private Enterprise of KPMG in China; Alice Leung, Partner & Corporate Tax Advisory of KPMG in China and Connie Leung, Committee Member of the Chamber and Executive Director and General Manager of the Kylin Global Trust Limited were invited to share their views about the latest development of family office industry in Hong Kong in an online seminar co-organized by the Young Executives' Committee and Commerce, Industry and Social Affairs Committee. (14/4)