



President's Report

This year, as we celebrate seven decades of the Institute, it is a proud and significant moment for us all.

Serving as both your President and your representative in the Legislative Council, I have been focused on fulfilling my duties to the Institute while advocating for our functional constituency. The past few months have been particularly productive, and let's go through some key activities and developments.

Report from Legislative Council



(1) Highlight of the 2026-27 Budget Speech by Financial Secretary

- \$128 B Capital works expenditure
- \$30 B \$10 billion for San Tin
 - \$10 billion for Hetao Co-operation Zone Hong Kong Park
 - \$10 billion loan to support campus development in NM University Town
- \$1 B Built Heritage Conservation Fund
- \$200 M NM Urban-rural Integration Fund
- \$220 M Establish first national manufacturing innovation centre
- \$1 B Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF)
- \$65 M Additional government-funded training places for construction professionals



(2) Highlights of suggestions and initiatives put forward –

- 3rd part suspension for large scale maintenance
- Need to address how large-scale building maintenance is managed when the contract sum is often in the range of a few hundred million.
- More professionals needed to offer professional advice at initial stage of the tendering process
- Advocate the biennial or triannual "Architecture, Arts & Cultural Festival"
- Advocate mobility on demand to provide better services, reduce waiting time and uncertainties
- Suggested high speed rail short ride exempted from prior seat arrangement to enable larger carrying capacity
- Suggested for STT (short term tenancy) the period to be longer e.g. 10 years

Regarding a LegCo member's motion on "**Comprehensively reforming the complaints handling and disciplinary inquiry mechanism of the Medical Council of Hong Kong**", there were 7 amendments to this motion. I voted against one of the 7 amendments which proposed the "inquiry committee" to have more than 50% of members being non-professional. I voted this one down because we need to maintain our professional autonomy.

Report on the Institute

(1) HKIA Spring Reception 2026 – Welcoming the Year of the Horse (27 February 2026)

To begin the year on a festive note, we held the HKIA Spring Reception—an exclusive networking gala that brought together our cherished members and friends to celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Horse. It was a great honour to have Starry Lee, President of Legislative Council to be our GOH and delivered a speech for us, along with Winnie Ho, Secretary of Housing Bureau, Mr Ye Shui-qiu, Deputy Director General of the Department of Educational,



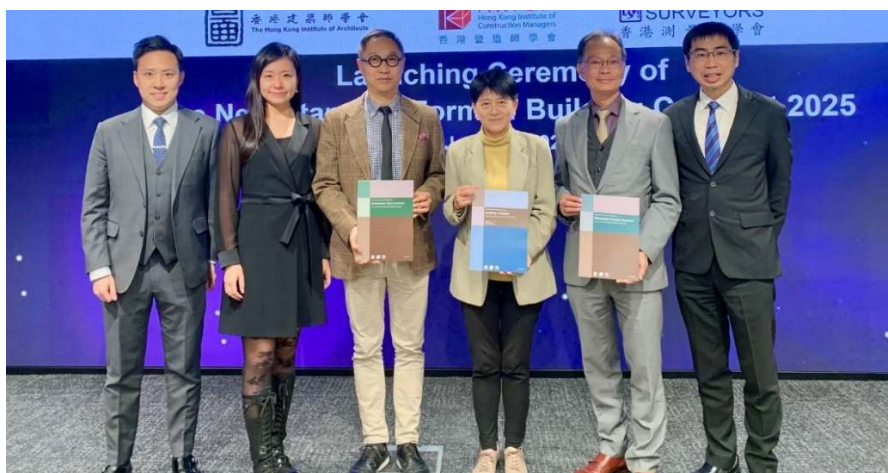
Scientific & Technological Affairs, Liaison Officer of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, and more than 10 Legislative Council Members.



(2) Launching Ceremony of the New Standard Form of Building Contract 2025 (6 January 2026)

This was a landmark moment for Hong Kong's construction industry. The updated suite—developed collaboratively by HKIA, HKIS and HKICM—incorporates the requirements of the Security of Payment Ordinance and reflects extensive input from stakeholders. The new contracts include the Building Contract (Private Edition): With/Without Quantities (2025), the Nominated Sub-Contract (2025), and the Nominated Supply Contract (2025). They represent a significant step forward in aligning our standard forms with contemporary statutory and commercial needs.





(3) Urban Renewal Design Ideas Competition – Award Presentation Ceremony (27 January 2026)

Co-organised with the Urban Renewal Authority, this competition invited local, Mainland and international teams to propose forward-thinking, feasible solutions for the Yau Ma Tei and Mong Kok districts. The winning entries demonstrated innovative ways to integrate redevelopment, restoration, conservation and revitalisation—providing valuable references for future urban renewal strategies.





(4) Professional Assessment Interview Sharing Session & Interview Clinic (15 March 2026)

To support candidates preparing for the Professional Assessment, we organised 2 well-attended sessions. These provided practical guidance on interview requirements and content, and feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive.





(5) Beijing Visit (21-24 March 2026)

Following our 2024 mission, the Institute again organised a joint visit to Beijing together with Architects Registration Board. The highlight was a meeting with the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, where we exchanged views on the “full-process architectural services” model, mutual recognition of professional registration, and talent mobility between Hong Kong and the Mainland. Besides, we also visited the China Building Decoration Association, the China International Contractors Association, and the Architectural Society of China. Moreover, a seminar was held on 23 March 2026, covering smart technology integration, urban regeneration, and Belt and Road opportunities - a highly meaningful engagement that strengthened cross-boundary collaboration.







In addition to the activities I have just outlined, I would like to share with you 2 matters of close relevance to the interests of our profession.

The first is our continued focus on the **Wang Fuk Court Fire Incident**. Since February, we have been calling for members' input on large-scale building maintenance and renovation works (MBIS) via e-weekly. To date, over 10 submissions have been received and all of them are under careful review. I strongly encourage more Members to share your views, as collective input is essential to shaping practical and effective recommendations and preventing similar tragedies in the future.

Looking ahead, as we mark this milestone year to celebrate our **70th Anniversary**, I am delighted to share the several events either planned or under contemplation as follows -

- **70A Logo Stamp Tablet**
- **70A Publication**
- **70A Photography Exhibition** (to showcase HK Architects contribution to HK built landscape over the past seven decades)
- **70 Year Photo Retrospective of HKIA** (to showcasing the Hong Kong urban architectural styles and changes of each decade, the exhibition will also invite members to submit photographic works featuring Hong Kong signature architecture)
- **70A Tree-Planting** (under the name of HKIA, we will find a suitable location to plant a commemorative pine or cypress tree for the 70th anniversary)
- **70A URA Street Art Initiative Project**
- **HKIA International Conference 2026**

This is the global forum for thought leadership and innovation. We are profoundly honored to announce that the *Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, The Honourable, John Lee*, will officiate the opening of the conference as our Guest of Honour.

- **HKIA at Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards (CADE)**



Architectural Design Expo 2026 (Shanghai) – Showcasing Hong Kong's talent on a regional stage.

- **HKIA at International Union of Architects (UIA) World Congress of Architects 2026 (Barcelona)** – Engaging with the global architectural community.

In addition to the above signature events, we will host key member-focused activities to strengthen our community:

- **HKIA Member & ARB Registration Certificates Presentation Ceremony 2026**
- **HKIA "The Voice of Architects" Singing Contest 2026**

Our anniversary year will also feature prestigious award ceremonies:

- **Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards (CADA) and Presentation Ceremony 2026**
- **HKIA 36th Young Architect Award**

I thank you all for your continued support, and I warmly invite every one of you to join us in celebrating this remarkable milestone together. In the coming months, I remain fully committed to ensuring that our voices are heard and that our profession continues to thrive.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Ar. Hon. Julia LAU, *FHKIA, JP*

President

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects