

President's Report

In my capacity as your President, I have continued to focus on strengthening the Institute's role in representing our collective interests, promoting architectural excellence, and contributing meaningfully to public discourse. It is my pleasure to present this report highlighting the Institute's key activities and achievements over the past quarter.

1. LegCo Sharing by President

During the reporting period, I continued to engage with the Legislative Council to share professional perspectives on issues affecting the architectural profession and the built environment. These engagements reflect the Institute's ongoing commitment to constructive dialogue with policymakers and to ensure that the voices of architects are heard in legislative and policy discussions.

2. Basic Housing Units (BHU) Regime – Professional Sharing

The Basic Housing Units (BHU) regime, which came into effect on 1 March 2026, aims to address the long-standing issue of substandard subdivided units through the establishment of a statutory regulatory framework.

In collaboration with the Government, I provided an introductory overview of the BHU regime, outlining its policy rationale, key features, and potential implications for the profession and the wider community. This sharing sought to enhance members' understanding of the new regulatory landscape and its impact on housing design and delivery.



3. Roundtable Discussion on the National 15th Five-Year Plan

This year marks the commencement of the National 15th Five Year Plan. In parallel, the HKSAR Government is actively formulating Hong Kong's first five year plan. Under the executive led governance framework, the Chief Executive has established a collaborative research and public opinion gathering mechanism between the Government and the Legislative Council. A public consultation exercise is expected to be launched in the second quarter of this year.

On 7 May, HKIA was invited to participate in a roundtable discussion organised by the Subcommittee on Hong Kong's Work to Actively Dovetail with the National 15th Five Year Plan – The Third Working Group: Land, Housing and the Northern Metropolis. I attended the meeting together with:

- Ar. POON Chi Mei Anika, Chair of BMBRA
- Ar. CHEUNG Wing Man, Vivian, Deputy Chair of BLA
- Ar. TUNG Jing Kong, Jeff, Council Member

Following the discussion, the Institute submitted a proposal setting out professional views on aligning Hong Kong's development in land, housing, and the Northern Metropolis with the national 15th Five Year Plan.

4. HKIA x Saint-Gobain Architecture Student Contest and Seminar

Nurturing the next generation of architects remains a key priority of the Institute. One of the highlights of the quarter was the successful completion of the Saint Gobain Architecture Student Contest 2026 – Hong Kong Stage, co-organised by HKIA.

The event concluded on 8 May at the HKIA Premises, with nine university teams from Hong Kong and Macau presenting creative and highly innovative proposals for the construction and renovation of a recreational area in Belgrade, Serbia. The exceptional calibre of work left a strong impression on both the distinguished jury and the audience.

Complementing the competition, an expert led panel discussion entitled "Sustainable Architecture: Designing Delight for Tourism & Recreational Projects" was held. The seminar provided valuable insights into balancing environmental responsibility with the aesthetic and functional demands of contemporary leisure and tourism projects.





5. Professional Development and Member Services

The Institute has continued to deliver a robust programme of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities. Recent topics included:

- Sustainability and carbon neutrality
- Modernising Environmental Impact Assessment through AI
- AI applications in construction site management
- Innovative building surface protection strategies for Hong Kong's urban environment

These programmes attracted strong participation and received positive feedback, reflecting members' keen interest in emerging technologies, sustainability, and professional advancement.

6. HKIA Annual Awards 2026: Open for Nominations

I am pleased to announce that the HKIA Annual Awards 2026 are now open for nominations. Nomination period is from 1 June 2026 to 10 July 2027.

The Awards continue to evolve in response to the profession's ongoing pursuit of design excellence. The 2026 Awards reaffirm the Institute's commitment to providing a respected and rigorous platform for recognising outstanding architectural achievements across a broad spectrum of project types, scales, and professional endeavours.

With a clear and structured framework, the Awards encourage thoughtful submissions and meaningful evaluation, fostering constructive dialogue within the architectural community. I look forward to receiving your outstanding submissions.



7. 70th Anniversary (70A) Celebrations – Progress Update

As previously shared, the Institute is preparing a series of signature initiatives to celebrate our 70th Anniversary. I am delighted to update members on the key 70A projects currently in progress, all of which will be rolled out in the coming months:

- 70A Logo Stamp Tablet
- 70A Commemorative Publication
- 70A Photography Exhibition, showcasing Hong Kong architects' contributions to the city's built landscape over the past seven decades
- 70 Year Photo Retrospective of HKIA, highlighting the evolution of Hong Kong's architectural styles across each decade and inviting members' photographic submissions
- 70A Tree Planting Initiative, with the planting of a commemorative pine or cypress tree in the name of HKIA
- 70A URA Street Art Initiative Project
- HKIA International Conference 2026

HKIA International Conference will be held on 24 November 2026 till 25 November 2026, our Annual Dinner will also be held on 25 November 2026 evening, we have invited KK Chan, Chief Secretary for Administration as our Guest of Honour.

In addition to these signature events, the Institute will be hosting and co-organising a range of upcoming activities aimed at strengthening our professional community and international presence, including:

- **HKIA at Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards (CADA) Architectural Design Expo 2026 (Shanghai)** – Showcasing Hong Kong's talent on a regional stage. Submission period from 18 May 2026 to 10 July 2026.
- **HKIA at International Union of Architects (UIA) World Congress of Architects 2026 (Barcelona)** – Engaging with the global architectural community. The Congress will last from 28 June 2026 to 2 July 2026.
- **HKIA Member & ARB Registration Certificates Presentation Ceremony 2026**
- **HKIA "The Voice of Architects" Singing Contest 2026** on 18 July 2026
- **Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards (CADA) and Presentation Ceremony 2026**
- **HKIA 36th Young Architect Award**

I thank you all for your continued support and warmly invite every member to join us in celebrating this remarkable milestone in the Institute's history.

In closing, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Council members, committees, and the Secretariat for their dedication and hard work. My gratitude also extends to all members whose continued support and active participation are vital to the Institute's success.

Together, we will continue to uphold the highest standards of our profession and contribute meaningfully to the built environment of Hong Kong and beyond.

Thank you.

Best regards,

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

President

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

