

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS
Report of the Chairman of the Executive Board
for the period of April 2023 to March 2024

This has been a year of considerable achievement for the Corps and the community we serve. The Corps remains committed to working closely with governments and stakeholders to advance our mission and contribute to the development of our youth. We are dedicated to providing young people with a nurturing environment and hope for the future, enabling them to strive for continuous growth so they can unleash their full potential in society and contribute to our city, our country, and the world.

The Corps maintained its focus on the key indicators outlined in the strategic plan recommended by PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited (PwC). The strategic initiatives formulated by PwC made substantial progress in 2023/24, particularly in operational efficiency. These initiatives not only aligned with the Corps' objectives but also positioned it for sustainable growth and success in the coming years. The Corps also embraced a proactive approach to stakeholder engagement, ensuring that feedback and insights were incorporated into ongoing strategies to enhance overall effectiveness and accountability.

In view that the aviation theme of the activities organized by the HKACC is very similar to the nature of the work of the Government Flying Service (GFS), and considering their long history of close co-operation, GFS will, on 1 April 2024, bring in HKACC as a youth uniformed group under its subvention. On 9 March 2024, both parties signed a Memorandum of Administrative Arrangements, marking the beginning of the next chapter in their long-term partnership. The GFS will further strengthen its support for the Corps, including providing flight simulator and virtual reality training for HKACC members to enhance their aviation education.

The HKACC has been unable to find a suitable venue for its headquarters and training activities for a number of years. In this regard, over the past year, the Security Bureau, in collaboration with other relevant departments, actively assisted HKACC in its application for using 1F, Shiu Fai Terrace, Wan Chai, Hong Kong (the former Pun U Association Wah Yan Primary School), as the Corps' new headquarters and training centre. In August 2023, the HKACC was officially granted a short-term tenancy by the Lands Department for use of the vacant school premises. It has also obtained a subsidy under the Development Bureau's Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to carry out detailed design and site investigation, subject to an upper limit of \$5 million.

The detailed design of the proposed HKACC project is in progress. It is expected that the renovation works of the new headquarters and training centre will commence in the third quarter of 2024. The HKACC endeavours to commission the new headquarters and training centre within 2024, with a view to providing members with higher quality activities and training.

As at 31 March 2024, the Corps' strength stood at 971 cadet members organized into 44 cadet or university squadrons based at secondary schools, university campuses and community centres. They were led, taught and supported by 1,014 volunteer senior members.

Total revenue during 2023/24 was \$4,913,451 (against \$4,502,863 budgeted), with total expenditure at \$3,581,135 (against \$6,184,945 budget estimate). An operating surplus of \$1,332,316 (against a projected loss of \$1,682,082) was reported. The Corps' overall financial position continued to be sound, with a cash balance of \$13.8 million, hence the capacity to maintain the Corps' services for a year without revenue. As always, financial prudence to safeguard public accountability and best value for money remains the primary objective of both the Executive Board and the Senior Management Team.

The Executive Board met on five occasions during the year to exercise governance on the Corps. This included decision on the strategic review of the Corps, future permanent Headquarters for the Corps, approval of major honours/awards, financial control, formulation of long-term strategies, and the promotion/succession planning of Senior Officers. In this Annual Report, I shall provide an overview of our main activities in 2023/24.

Highlights of the Period

As the activities of the Corps are detailed in the Commanding Officer's Reports submitted before each Executive Board Meeting and copies of such Reports are available upon request from the Headquarters, I shall only highlight below the more prominent events and accomplishments:-

- (a) 行動部珠海航空科普及飛行體驗活動 took place from 7 to 9 April 2023, with 47 participants. Participants visited the 珠海太空中心 and 愛飛客航空科普基地. They found the program inspiring and deepened their understanding of the country's development and achievements in aerospace technology, as well as the challenges it faces.
- (b) A contingent from the Ceremonial Squadron participated in the National Security Education Day Flag Raising Ceremony on 15 April 2023, at the Hong Kong Police College.
- (c) Flag Day 2023/24 was held in the Hong Kong Island Region on 15 April 2023. A total of \$277,933.25 was raised, resulting in a net income of \$270,000.01 after deducting expenditures.
- (d) On 15 April 2023, a contingent from the Operations Group participated in the 觀塘區國家安全嘉年華 2023 organized by the Kwun Tong District Office.
- (e) The Interdepartmental Counter-Terrorism Unit 5th Anniversary Fun Day was held on 29 April 2023 at the Hong Kong Science Park, with 4 adult members and 18 cadet members participating in the event.
- (f) The Corps is very grateful to Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited for the generous sponsorship of admission tickets to the Hong Kong Palace Museum (HKPM), donated through the Community Chest of Hong Kong. A total of 24 adult members and 57 cadet members from the Operations Group visited the HKPM on 29 April 2023.

- (g) To enhance UG instructors' understanding of the knowledge and techniques involved in Chinese drill, the Hong Kong Police College organized a six-day Chinese Drill Train-the-Trainer Workshop for instructors of UGs. Six representatives attended the workshop, which was held in April/May 2023.
- (h) On 4 May 2023, the Corps participated in the 香港五四青年節 2023 金紫荊廣場五四升旗禮. The aim is to promote the spirit of the May Fourth Movement and to cultivate a sense of patriotism among young people.
- (i) Following the Executive Board Strategy Implementation Workshop on 1 April 2023, a briefing on the introduction of service terms for senior officers, along with a town hall meeting on strategic review recommendations, was held on 6 May 2023. The Special Projects Group briefed participants on their proposals regarding the introduction of tenure terms and retirement arrangements for senior officers. At the town hall meeting, attendees were informed about the recommendations of the Strategic Review on the governance and operations of the Corps, conducted by PwC. Another briefing on the introduction of service terms for senior officers was held on 21 May 2023.
- (j) Hon Gp Capt Robert LEE, Legislative Council Member and SHO, organized a guided tour of the Legislative Council Complex on 12 June 2023.
- (k) The 8th cohort of the Government Flying Service Aviation Inspiration Programme began in July 2023. 55 candidates successfully completed Module 1, which took place on 8 and 9 July 2023. All candidates undertook classroom and practical training designed to provide a basic yet well-rounded understanding of the various GFS staff positions. 20 candidates completed Module 2 in July and August 2023. Module 3 is a three-month mentorship phase, which was concluded in February 2024, with eight graduates.
- (l) 22 members participated in the 同心同根萬里行 held from 22 to 30 July 2023. The event took place across several prominent cities in China, including Beijing, Shanghai, and Wuxi. During this enriching journey, participants engaged in a variety of cultural and educational activities aimed at deepening their understanding of Chinese heritage and fostering connections with other UGs.
- (m) The educational visit to the 2023 空軍航空開放活動 · 長春航空展 took place from 26 to 29 July 2023 and was financed by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau. The Corps sent two cadets to participate in this tour. The group of over 40 participants, led by Mr Clarence LEUNG, BBS, JP, Under Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, was given unique opportunities to visit the 長春軌道客車有限公司高鐵列車生產線 and 一汽紅旗文化展館.
- (n) 北京、南京航天科技考察團 organized by the Shine Tak Foundation was held from 30 July 2023 to 6 August 2023. The study tour was fully subsidized by the Foundation. Eight cadet members and one adult member from HKACC participated in this trip.

- (o) The Government Flying Service (GFS)/Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps Internship Programme 2023 offered a valuable opportunity for suitable young members of the Corps to gain practical experience in the daily work of the GFS from July to August 2023. This internship programme is meticulously designed to equip interns with knowledge of the routine operations of the GFS and the aviation industry, as well as to foster their communication and problem-solving skills, commitment to serving the community, law-abiding awareness, discipline, and team spirit.
- (p) The Commanding Officer, Deputy Commanding Officer, Operations, and 45 members from the Operations Group visited the Chinese People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison Exhibition Center at Ngong Shuen Chau Barracks on 13 August 2023. Members gained a better understanding of national affairs through the interesting and informative exhibition. This activity was sponsored under the Community Participation Scheme 2022-23, administered by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau and the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education.
- (q) The Summer Camp 2023 was organized for 90 members from 19 to 23 August 2023, with the Day 1 to Day 4 programme held at the HKAYP Jockey Club Duke of Edinburgh Training Camp. Days 4 to 5 took place at the Hong Kong Adventure Corps High Island Training Camp. The camp concluded on a high note, with members enjoying air experience flights provided by the Government Flying Service on an Airbus H175 on the final day. The Skills Development and Support Group was the lead unit and organizer of the programme. A camp reunion was held on 2 September 2023.
- (r) Officials from the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau led members of youth uniformed groups and youth-related non-governmental organizations on a visit to the Chinese People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison Exhibition Center on 30 August 2023. The purpose of the visit was to gain a better understanding of the country's military history and the work of the Hong Kong Garrison. 17 adult and cadet members from the Training Group participated in the event.
- (s) A Junior Non-Commissioned Officer Training Course was organized from August and September 2023, with 40 young cadets selected to participate.
- (t) Three young members have been nominated by GFS/HKACC for the Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum, while two youth members submitted applications through self-recommendation.
- (u) A guided tour to Sha Tau Kok and GFS Headquarters was held on 3 September 2023. The tour aimed to enhance members' understanding of the inheritance and development of Chinese culture, as well as other cultures in Hong Kong. It also helped deepen their understanding of Chinese history and strengthen national education. A total of 42 members participated.

- (v) To align with the policy objectives for youth development and the Youth Development Blueprint, the Government organized the annual youthfest@HK, which began in 2023. The Corps held an HKACC Info Day on 24 September 2023, as one of the activities under youthfest@HK.
- (w) The Corps participated in the 74A Grand Parade and the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy (FASA) Open Day on 1 October 2023.
- (x) The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has approved a two-year programme for eight uniformed groups to nurture youth leadership and commitment to service. The total amount of the donation granted to HKACC under the programme is \$2.66 million. This programme is designed to provide the youth of Hong Kong with opportunities for aviation training and leadership development. It aims to promote interest in and knowledge of aviation among the general public, particularly the younger generation. A launching ceremony and fun day carnival were held on 22 October 2023, at the Tsim Sha Tsui District Kaifong Welfare Association.
- (y) The Chairman, Commandant, Commanding Officer, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and Acting Chief Staff Officer attended a luncheon with the Secretary for Security (S for S) and his team on 15 September 2023, at Police Headquarters. At the luncheon, we briefed the S for S on the challenges faced by the Corps arising from Covid-19, expressed our heartfelt gratitude for the unequivocal support from the Security Bureau (SB) and the Government Flying Service (GFS) regarding a new Training Centre, and discussed the deepening cooperation between the SB, GFS, and HKACC. The S for S fully acknowledged our work and expressed support for our goal of providing our cadets with non-formal education in aviation and discipline training at a new level.
- (z) The Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, the Hong Kong Adventure Corps, the Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps, and HKACC jointly presented the “Drill Performance on National Day 2023” on 1 October 2023. This event provided the public with an opportunity to celebrate National Day, cultivate a sense of belonging to our mother country, and understand the team spirit and discipline of youth uniformed organizations.
- (aa) The Advanced Aviation Education Programme, in collaboration with the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), was held from October 2023 to February 2024. A total of 100 HKACC members, PolyU students, and members of the general public successfully completed the program. Scholarship interviews were held in March 2024, followed by the Closing Ceremony in April 2024.
- (bb) The Ceremonial Squadron of the Training Group successfully conducted the HKACC Golden Bauhinia Square flag-raising mission on 19 November 2023.

- (cc) The Rule of Law Education Train-the-Leaders Programme, organized by the Department of Justice, was successfully conducted on 25 November 2023 and 2 December 2023. Nine adult members attended. Participants found the program to be rich in content and easy to understand, enabling them to promote consistent and accurate messages related to the rule of law to youths and the general public.
- (dd) Eight members visited the static display of the C919 and ARJ21 at Hong Kong International Airport during their stay in Hong Kong on 14 December 2023. Participants were invited on board for a close encounter with the aircraft.
- (ee) The Operations Group Parade took place on 17 December 2023, at the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force Headquarters, reviewed by Mr TANG Ping Keung, GBS, PDSM, JP, Secretary for Security. Speaking at the parade, Mr TANG commended the Corps for its dedicated efforts in nurturing youth leaders and developing talent for Hong Kong's aviation industry. He also emphasized that cadets should be familiar with the country, stay true to their original aspirations, and strive for excellence while serving the community and contributing to the nation.
- (ff) “The Valiant 2023 – The Tenth” was held from 23 to 26 December 2023. 50 cadet members successfully completed the course, during which they learned and practiced various skills, ranging from leadership and team building to public speaking, navigation, orienteering, and interpersonal communication. The course aims to develop leadership potential and prepare cadets for additional responsibilities within the Corps and in their daily lives. In this context, the programme was designed to encourage cadets to rely on each other as a team while making constant efforts to emerge as key members of the group. Various tasks and arrangements were made to encourage cadets to consider three key “needs” in a functional approach to leadership.
- (gg) The Commanding Officer and Deputy Commanding Officer, Skills Development and Support attended the Starting Ceremony of the Community Chest 55th Anniversary Walk for Millions (Hong Kong – Zhuhai – Macao Bridge – Hong Kong Link Road) on 7 January 2024. The Corps also provided crowd management support for the event.
- (hh) 24 cadet members attended Inter Miami CF’s open training session on 3 February 2024, at the Hong Kong Stadium.
- (ii) The No. 7 Qualified Aviation Instructor Course started in February 2024 with 12 successful applicants.

(jj) A Memorandum of Administrative Arrangements was signed between GFS and HKACC, witnessed by Mr Michael CHEUK, PDSM, JP, Under Secretary for Security, on 9 March 2024. The introduction of HKACC as a youth uniformed group subvented by GFS will deepen the cooperation between the two parties and promote the development of HKACC. In the future, GFS will strengthen its support for HKACC, including the provision of flight simulators and virtual reality training for HKACC members to enhance aviation education. It was our great privilege to have the support of the following unofficial members and guests who attended the ceremony:-

- 中央人民政府駐香港特別行政區聯絡辦公室警務聯絡部部長陳楓
- 青年工作部二級巡視員崔峰
- Honorary Group Captain Robert LEE Wai-wang, Legislative Council Member and Senior Honorary Officer
- The Hon Edmund WONG Chun-sek, Legislative Council Member

(kk) Two cadets and one officer were nominated as 義務導賞員 to attend training provided by the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR to promote national security education.

Executive Board Appointments and Resignations

Group Captain Leonard K P LEUNG, MH, AE, was elected Honorary Treasurer for a term of one year at the first Executive Board held on 7 December 2023. The appointment was confirmed by majority vote at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

Air Commodore Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP and Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing were appointed Vice-Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the Executive Board respectively at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 7 December 2023, for a term of one year.

Raymond Y K TSE & Co CPA Limited was appointed Auditor for the Financial Year 2023/24.

Staff Movements

Mr Stanley T S HO was appointed Operation Manager on 3 October 2023. He left the position on 31 March 2024.

Sqn Ldr Caroline K Y FUK was appointed Project Officer of the Jockey Club Badges: Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Project on 1 December 2023.

Finance

The Corps continues to rely on subventions through the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (formerly known as Home Affairs Bureau) and the Community Chest as its principal funding for capital and recurrent expenditures. Additional funding was available in the form of corporate, personal and charitable trust donations, as well as Honorary Officer endowments. In order to balance the budget, the Corps also generates income from membership fees, course fees and sales of stock items. The Corps' audited accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 will be presented later at the meeting.

Votes of Thanks

I would like to express my gratitude to our donors and sponsors for their financial support, which is crucial to the continuation of our work. The following individuals and organizations deserve special mention for their long-standing support of the Air Cadets:-

- (a) The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for recurrent subventions released through the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau and the Commission on the Promotion of Civic Education, and for policy support to our key projects by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau.
- (b) The Security Bureau, for organizing diverse activities including visits, seminars and leadership training, etc., thereby helping members equip themselves to contribute to Hong Kong and our country, and nurturing all-rounded development of young people and broadening their horizons.
- (c) The Government Flying Service, for further enhancing youth work, including its operational support to the Summer Camp and offering the Government Flying Service Aviation Inspiration Programme (GAINS) exclusively to HKACC as a platform to inspire and empower young people for a possible career in the aviation industry.
- (d) The Development Bureau under the Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-government Organisations (NGOs) for setting to a youth training centre at Shiu Fai Terrace, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.
- (e) The Community Chest, for its recurrent and one-off subvention.
- (f) The Cathay Pacific Airways, the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, for their support to the Advanced Aviation Education Programme and the Advanced Aviation Education Programme (Helicopter).
- (g) PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited, for conducting pro bono strategic review of the Corps' governance and operations.
- (h) PUMA sneakers, donated through the coordination of the 4th Hong Kong Youth Service Leader Award Scheme, to encourage our members to serve society enthusiastically.

- (i) The Honorary Officers, for their financial contributions and support to the Corps' events, projects, programmes and individual units.
- (j) Wg Cdr John LI, Flt Lt (sp) and Mr David TONG for contributing helicopter flying activities to the Corps.
- (k) Volunteer helicopter and aeroplane pilots of the Flying Squadron, for organising air experience flights for members and friends of the Corps.

Epilogue

I must thank my fellow members on the Executive Board, officers, honorary officers, warrant officers, instructors, civilian instructors, salaried staff and cadets, who have given the Corps their time, wisdom, and professional expertise generously. As we turn a new chapter along with the rest of the community, I am confident that the Corps will continue to thrive. Our commitment to nurturing young leaders, promoting aviation knowledge, and serving the community remains as strong as ever. Together, we will continue to soar to new heights.

(Edwin W C LAU)
Chairman of the Executive Board
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

19 December 2024

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS
Executive Board as at 31 March 2024

Chairman

Mr Edwin W C LAU, AE

- Former Vice President, Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Taiwan, Emirate Airlines

Vice-Chairman

Air Commodore Peter Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP

- Honorary Commandant
- Former Commanding Officer, Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Air Force
- Retired Banker

Commandant

Captain West W H WU, MBS, GDSM, AE

- Controller, Government Flying Service

Commanding Officer

Group Captain CHAN Man Lang, IDSM

- Former Assistant Director, Immigration Department

Honorary Treasurer

Group Captain Leonard K P LEUNG, MH, AE

- Commanding Officer Emeritus and Special Adviser
- Former Air Crewman Officer I, Government Flying Service

Honorary Secretary

Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing

- Former Commanding Officer
- Senior Security Consultant

Members

Captain Joe Y C FUNG

- Deputy Flying Training Manager (Pilot Development), Cathay Pacific Airways Limited

Dr Joseph LEE, GBS, OStJ, JP

- Former Hong Kong Deputy to the National People's Congress
- Former Chairman, Commission on Youth
- Former Chairman, Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education

Mr TAM Kwok Chi

- Architect

Mr Simon S P TANG

- Solicitor
- Partner, P. C. Woo & Co.
- Accredited Mediator

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS
Executive Board as at 31 March 2024 (cont'd)

Mr Paul S P CHENG

- Senior Consultant, Hong Kong International Aviation Academy / Hong Kong International Airport Consultancy
- Part-time university lecturer
- Former General Manager, Market & Connectivity Development, Airport Authority Hong Kong

Ms Karen Y T LOK

- Head of Listing Operational Risk and Control, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd

Mr Adrian C T Yip, BBS, MH, JP

- Executive Chairman, Hong Kong Volunteers Association

Captain Cody Y H WONG, MBB

- Air Cadet Liaison Officer, Government Flying Service
- Senior Pilot (Helicopter Training)1, Government Flying Service
- Chief Pilot (Training and Standards) (Acting), Government Flying Service