HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Report of the Chairman of the Executive Board for the period of April 2021 to March 2022

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has posed many challenges to our operations over the past year, but we have achieved satisfactory progress in all areas that will secure the Corps' long-term success. In March 2021, the 14th Five-year Plan was approved by the National People's Congress and Hong Kong was positioned as the country's international aviation hub. HKACC has been striving to offer quality aviation education programmes to prepare young people for possible future services in the local aviation industry. The Corps believes that global connections are crucial to the development of aviation education and has established and maintained close collaboration with different education institutions, professional organizations, industry practitioners and government bodies including but not limited to the University of Wollongong College Hong Kong (UOWCHK), Hong Kong International Aviation Academy (HKIAA), Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK), Government Flying Service (GFS) which have formed a strategic partnership with the Corps, Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) and Air Accident Investigation Authority (AAIA).

As the Corps celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 2021, it was an opportune time for HKACC management to strategically review its current leadership and operations as well as to consider the way forward for the organization in the years ahead. To this end, the Corps has engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited (PwC) in providing advice for the strategic review of the HKACC (Review). The objectives of the Review are to ensure the continued relevance of HKACC to the community and to identify potential areas for improvement in terms of its management and operations, particularly against the backdrop of the changing economic landscape and community expectations.

Further to the establishment of a formal strategic alliance between GFS and the Corps under the Youth Engagement Work of HKSAR Disciplined and Auxiliary Forces, GFS would arrange officers to take part in HKACC's leader training programme and give professional coaching the HKACC members, providing experiential activities to help them learn more about the different facets of GFS's work (including the work of Pilots, Air Crewman Officers, Aircraft Engineers, Air Medical Officers and Air Medical Nursing Officers). This could promote young people's understanding of GFS and their interest in the aviation industry.

As at 31 March 2022, the Corps' strength stood at 2,551 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 1,339 volunteer senior members.

Total revenue during 2021/22 was \$4,974,065 (against \$4,975,520 budgeted), with total expenditure at \$3,413,666 (against \$6,063,399 budget estimate). An operating surplus of \$1,560,399 (against a projected loss of \$1,087,879) was reported. The Corps' overall financial position continued to be sound, with a cash balance of \$11.0m, 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 2021/22.

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) Mr Robert W W LEE assumed the position of Senior Honorary Officer in the Honorary Rank of Group Captain, with effect from 1 April 2021.
- (b) The Commanding Officer, Deputy Commanding Officer, Training, and Staff Officer had a meeting with Ms Rebecca C F YUEN, the Commanding Officer of the Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps and her team on 14 April 2021. We exchanged views on topics of mutual interest such as youth development and Government funding support, and would continue to work in close collaboration to reach new heights across organizations.
- (c) A flag raising ceremony in memory of the May Fourth Movement at Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) was held on 4 May 2021. The Ceremonial Squadron deployed a colour party and several members to the event.
- (d) Members of the Ceremonial Squadron underwent training on Chinese-style footdrill at Hong Kong Stewards High Rock Centre on 16 May 2021. An Officer and two Non-Commissioned Officers from the Immigration Department were invited to share their experience in Chinese-style footdrill.
- (e) The Commanding Officer, Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing, Deputy Commanding Officer, Operations and Staff Officer had a meeting with the representatives from the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government (LOCPG) on 26 May 2021. At the meeting, we briefed LOCPG the challenges and impacts arising from social unrest and COVID-19, our attempts to have a permanent Headquarters and discussed the possibility of cooperation. LOCPG fully acknowledged our work and expressed support for our proposal. LOCPG also put forward concrete proposals on the Corps' development including nurturing youth officers, providing cares of youth members from the grassroots, and enhancing youth members' understanding of the development and opportunities through exchange programmes (e.g. Greater Bay Area) in the Mainland.
- (f) 13 candidates completed the No 5 Qualified Aviation Instructor Course (QAIC) held between June and August 2021. The candidates took part in both online and face-to-face lectures and assessments.

- (g) Visits to the Air Accident Investigation Authority (AAIA) were held on 6 June 2021 and 11 August 2021. The AAIA is an independent investigation authority responsible for the investigation of civil aircraft accidents and serious incidents in Hong Kong in accordance with the principles of ICAO Annex 13 to the convention on International Civil Aviation – Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation as incorporated in Hong Kong Civil Aviation (Investigation of Accidents) Regulations (Chapter 448B).
- (h) Cadet and adult members of 108 Sqn organized an online meeting with the New Zealand Cadet Forces on 14 August 2021. The aim of this activity was to address some of the IACEA mission directive – build relationships around the subject of aviation and fosters international friendship. Cadets from both sides exchanged ideas and learned a lot about each other's cultures.
- (i) With the aim to give more members hands-on experience on flying without leaving the ground using X-plane flight simulation software, Vocational Qualifications Unit (VQU) provided a series of flight simulator training sessions with the University of Wollongong College Hong Kong (UOWCHK) (formerly known as Community College of City University). The Corps' instructors covered the topics of basic flight control, effects of control, takeoff and landing procedures. The training sessions were held from 16 to 20 August 2021 with 225 participants.
- (j) To foster the enhancement of backwoods cooking skills of our fellow members, Expedition and Mountaineering Flight (E&M Flt) organized a cooking workshop on 22 August 2021.
- (k) To bring loyalty between our fellow cadets, the Valiant Bugle 2021 Fun Day was organized on 29 August 2021 for 50 participants. The aim for the activity was to gather cadets together and create bonding. The activity provided outdoor experience, expedition and campcraft training to our cadets who are willing to participate in Corps' activities and can meet both old friends and new friends.
- (1) The Commanding Officer and five senior officers attended the 2021 香港青少年制服團 體國情研習班 from 6 to 11 September 2021. This was the first blended course organized by the 香港中聯辦 and 國家行政學院. The course aims at instilling the latest development in the Mainland and equipping volunteer leaders of Uniformed Groups with updated knowledge of the national strategies and plans that could affect Hong Kong. There was also discussion about the implementation plan for promoting patriotism in the Uniformed Groups.
- (m) The Skills Development and Support Group (SD&S Gp) served as the lead unit in organizing the Flag Day in the Hong Kong Island Region on 18 September 2021. 361 members were turned out for the operation and a total of \$392,171 was raised via flag selling on the day and the gold flag donation scheme.
- (n) Upon the restoration of Pipers Hill Adventure Base, the site was handed over to the Lands Department on 26 November 2021.

- (o) With support from Wg Cdr John LI, Flt Lt (sp) and Mr David TONG, two helicopter air experience flights were held on 4 and 18 December 2021 at Kadoorie Base (KDB) for 27 members.
- (p) Dr the Honourable Sir Michael David KADOORIE, GBS was appointed as Patron of the Corps with effect from 5 December 2021.
- (q) The Golden Jubilee Celebration Mess Night was successfully held on 5 December 2021 at the Hong Kong Club.
- (r) A series of "Valiant 2021 Bugle" activities were organized between 6 November 2021 and 27 December 2021. The event offered central training for a total of 170 cadet members, aiming to provide a chance to train them up with basic skills and knowledge for their advancement. This event also provided a good opportunity to reintegrate our cadets into the Corps.
- (s) Captain West W H WU, MBS, GDSM, AE, Controller, Government Flying Service (C, GFS), was commissioned Air Commodore and appointed Commandant with effect from 1 January 2022.
- (t) Air Commodore Michael C P CHAN, MBS, MBB, GMSM, AE was appointed Honorary Commandant with effect from 1 January 2022.
- (u) In view of the rapid evolving pandemic, to control the spread of the virus and to fight the pandemic together, the Corps had mobilized a total of 50 adult members to support in some anti-epidemic voluntary activities. With the joint efforts of Executive Board Members and adult volunteers from different units, the anti-epidemic service bags were smoothy packed and delivered in district between late March and early April 2022.

Executive Board Appointments and Resignations

Ms Karen Y T LOK and Mr Adrian C T YIP were co-opted as a member of the Executive Board with effect from 23 September 2021.

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 9 December 2021. The appointment was confirmed by majority vote at the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

Air Commodore Dicky YIP, BBS, MBE, AE, JP was appointed Vice-Chairman and Group Captain LEE Kwok Wing was appointed Honorary Secretary of the Executive Board at the second Executive Board Meeting held on 9 December 2021, for a term of one year.

Captain West W H WU, MBS, GDSM, AE was appointed Commandant in the rank of Air Commodore with effect from 1 January 2022, succeeding Air Commodore Michael C P CHAN, MBS, MBB, GMSM, AE.

At the second Executive Board Meeting of 9 December 2021, Air Commodore Michael C P CHAN, MBS, MBB, GMSM, AE was appointed Honorary Commandant and a co-opted member of the Executive Board with effect from 1 January 2022, to replace his ex-officio membership.

Captain Cody Y H WONG replaced Mr Mason W C NG as Air Cadet Liaison Officer, Government Flying Service and Executive Board Member, with effect from 1 January 2022.

Raymond Y K TSE & Co CPA Limited was appointed Auditor for the Financial Year 2021/22.

Staff Movements

Ms Mandy Y C WONG resigned from the post of Administrative Manager on 30 September 2021.

Ms Sylvia K F TUNG assumed duty as Part-time Administrative Manager on 1 October 2021.

Sgt LAI C F Ian ceased to serve as Operations and Training Assistant on 31 January 2022.

Ms Iris Y C FONG left the post of Assistant Accounting Officer on 28 February 2022.

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 2022 will be presented later at the meeting.

Votes of Thanks

The Corps is highly appreciative to donors and sponsors for their financial support which is crucial to our operation. Special praises go to the following individuals and organizations for their ongoing support to the Air Cadets: -

(a) The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for recurrent and oneoff subventions released through the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, and for policy support to our key projects by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau.

- (b) The Government Flying Service, for 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 in the past years.
- (c) The Community Chest, for its recurrent subvention.
- (d) PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited, for conducting pro bono strategic review of the Corps' governance and operations.
- (e) The Honorary Officers, for their financial contributions and support to the Corps' events, projects, programmes and individual units.
- (f) Wg Cdr John LI, Flt Lt (sp) and Mr David TONG for contributing helicopter flying activities to the Corps.
- (g) Volunteer helicopter and aeroplane pilots of the Flying Squadron, for organising air experience flights for members and friends of the Corps.

Epilogue

While I believe we have every reason to be proud of the Corps' achievement over the past year, I also believe it is prudent to be alert to the wider challenges ahead. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude and sincere appreciation to my fellow members on the Executive Board for their support and would also like to recognise every officer, honorary officer, warrant officer, instructor, civilian instructor, salaried staff and cadet member for their commitment and hard work. The Corps will continue to strive for excellence in providing quality non-formal and aviation education to Hong Kong's next generation.

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

December 2022

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS Executive Board as at 31 March 2022

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

- Senior Training Captain and Deputy Flying Training Manager (Boeing), Cathay Pacific Airway

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 2022 (cont'd)

Mr Paul S P CHENG

- Former General Manager, Market & Connectivity Development, Airport Authority Hong Kong

Ms Karen Y T LOK

- Head of Listing Compliance, 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

Co-opted Member

Air Commodore Michael C P CHAN, MBS, MBB, GMSM, AE

- Honorary Commandant
- Former Controller, Government Flying Service