Dear HKPUECA Alumni and members,

It is my great pleasure to report to you the activities/events that your Board has organized for you in the first half year of 2018, and what are in store for the rest of the year.

March : Spring Dinner - March 9

This annual event was very well attended by 137 members and friends. The event was fun-filled and action-packed with entertaining programs, lucky draw, auction of 9999 gold plated miniature "God of Fortune", karaoke, etc. The highlight of the night was the "God of Fortune" appearance. From the photo-op with God of Fortune, and other fund raising initiatives, e.g. 50-50 tickets, sponsors, auction and wine sale, a record amount of \$1,450 was raised which will be contributed to HKPU as part of the Scholarship from HKPUECA for 2018.

We also had major breakthrough in our membership : 17 new life members and 4 regular members were recruited. Special thanks to our Membership Director, Dr. Raymond Wong.

To ensure the contact information of our members are up-to-date, attendees were requested to complete a questionnaire with their current contact details if changed, and to respond to a survey on items of interest which will serve as a roadmap for the Board to plan for future activities. Thanks to 61 respondents who completed the survey which showed hiking, health and photography rank top 3 of the interests/activities surveyed.

We are also pleased to know that many of our members agreed to be volunteers when needed.

Your Board of Directors spent a lot of time and efforts in planning and organizing the event months in advance. Although the venue and sound system at the restaurant was somewhat to be desired which was unexpected, the warmth and constructive comments from those who attended gave us great encouragement and support. Special mention to our Secretary, Tommy Chang, who posed as "God of Fortune" and our Programs Director, Kenneth Lai, in arranging the costume.

For Moments at the Spring Dinner, please click :

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOs5FiRL_lf0NTzvIAko0yLZqsfUbpkDTQzg4u5CEKcgvLWPsW1ywrLz_ QSUkowOfw?key=RWJrWVRhTXVaY094SFdTQ25iem9lTTRYYmRDdEln_

April : Orchid Seminar - April 28

Presenter : Mr. Mak Ching

This topic was an encore from last year. This time, we had the pleasure of inviting Mr. Mak Ching as the presenter who is an expert in orchid and landscaping.

The seminar was well attended and Mr. Mak explained and answered many questions from the audience related to growing and maintaining orchids. 3 lucky attendees went home with an orchid plant from lucky draw.

Thanks to our VP, Michael Shiu, who helped organize the seminar and invited Mr. Mak and escorted him from/to his home before/after the seminar. Also thanks to all the other Directors for their support and attendance.

For Moments of the Orchid Seminar, please click : <u>https://photos.app.goo.gl/mGxpjGTYCxQkby3M9</u>

May : Healthy Snack for Mom Seminar - Mother's Day, May 13

Presenter : Ronnie Wong

Ronnie was our previous Communications Director and also an award-winning Chef. She represented Canada to join the 6th World Championship of Chinese cuisine in Beijing and awarded Bronze Medal of Hot Dish category.

Cooking can be fun and simple. This was the impression from the audience watching Ronnie's demonstration of 3 health-inspired recipes.

We were so happy to see Tommy's mom, aged 90, at the seminar.

Every female attendee was also presented with a rose to celebrate the day.

Thanks to our VP, Michael Shiu, who came up with this great idea of celebrating Mother's Day, and thanks to all the other Directors for their support and attendance.

For Moments of the seminar, please click : <u>https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZsnrJuqJFDHT5jcN8</u>

June :

(a) Welcome HKPU social work students having practicum in Toronto

2 BSW and 1 MSW students from HKPU arrived Toronto in June to embark on their 3 months fieldwork placement at different organizations, 2 at Yee Hong, 1 at Chinese Family Services of Ontario.

Our Programs Director, Mei-Ling Kwan, hosted a BBQ at her house, also attended by some Directors, to extend a warm welcome to these 3 students and to make them feel at home in Toronto. They were also invited and sponsored to join the river cruise on June 30.

For Moments of the BBQ, please click : <u>https://photos.app.goo.gl/LGByZb7qS7bb1WWj8</u>

(b) Grand River Cruise - June 30

This was a Joint U initiative which started planning and organizing since the beginning of the year by the Sub-Committee of which HKPUECA was also represented. The Grand River Cruise was open for members/friends/families of the 9 universities so you can imagine the extent of planning, communication, co-ordination and co-operation involved from the inception of the idea to the day of the cruise.

Thanks to the on-going efforts of the JU sub-committee, the event was very successful, attended by 152 people on 3 chartered boats. From the photos, the cruise and lunch was very enjoyable to everyone attended.

Our VP, Albert Fok, was very involved during the whole process and made special on-site trip to check for logistics and safety prior to the cruise date.

For Moments of the Grand River Cruise, please click : <u>https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMod1-FVTnw21rhFDb1TjmzilcGFaVHTO1n-</u> <u>1aGzaa7FNtbdVY9coO0mP6wsDj98Q?key=d25xRnlHSmhEQXhMQmN2QTd3aEVyT1FPSi1JUnpB</u>

July : Dinner Gathering with Billy Pang - July 15

Billy Pang, our Life member, was elected as MPP for Markham-Unionville at the recent Provincial election, a dinner gathering was arranged as a token of recognition for his personal achievement.

It was a very intimate evening where Billy gave us a glympse of his life experience from being a volunteer for community work, to School Board Trustee for York Region District School Board, to MPP now.

During the interview by Michael, Billy shared with the audience his vision as MPP and answered many questions which were curious for the public to know, from : what are the roles and

responsibilities of a MPP, the daily work schedule of a MPP, to some of the hot topics like cannabis, real estate, cap and trade etc.

Thanks also to Mei-Ling to help organize for the event. Also thanks to the other Directors for their support and attendance.

For Moments of the Dinner, please click : <u>https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipNJ9hzO8UcM4QugApRs2Mm0pzx3CDY72Rs86D26S9_nzqip1xNAkSvk</u> <u>xyEgs47Jvw?key=OXQ1d3VWS1pMYnZpS1lrU3M5UU9JeGw0dVJQVlh3</u>

As you can see, with the joint efforts and co-operation among the Directors, it was a very accomplished first half year. Next, what are in store for the rest of the year

August - Hiking - August 11

Hiking ranked #1 among interests/activities responded by members from the survey.

As in the past years, our Membership Director, Dr. Raymond Wong, will give you a professional guided tour.

As well, our VP, Albert Fok, also an experienced and professional expert on photography, will be on hand to share his photo taking expertise during the hike. For those photo-taking lovers, this will also be an excellent opportunity to flex your photo-taking muscles with the beautiful scenery during the hiking.

So, don't miss this 2-experts-in-one-event !!

September - To be arranged

We have received numerous requests from members on topics like financial planning/estate planning.

With so much talent, experience and expertise from within the association, we look for volunteers to be the speakers. Anyone who is interested to share his knowledge and experience on these fields, please let us know.

October - JU Day (October 14)

(a) Table Tennis Tournament (day)

Calling for players! Calling for players !!

This year, CU is the chair of JU and is organizing a cross-university table tennis tournament this year. HKPUECA has been involved in regular JU meetings, represented by Michael Shiu, Albert Fok, Mei-Ling Kwan, Kenneth Lai and myself.

HKPUECA, together with CU, LNU, City U & UST, formed "Team Red". We will be competing with "Team White" which is made up of HKU, BU, CHU & SYU !!

To date, we only have 42 players (8 female) registered but we need minimum 48 to form the team. Those table tennis enthusiasts who have not registered, please send email to <u>hkpueca@yahoo.ca</u> right away!

HKPUECA was the champion of HKJU Table Tennis tournament in 2012, and 1st Runner-Up in 2013. For Badminton tournament, we were the champion in 2013. We look forward to your continued support and participation to repeat the success history !!

Stay tuned for updates on the tournament !

(b) Gala Dinner (evening)

The day is climaxed with a gala dinner which is a yearly ritual. The gala dinner is open to all members/friends from the 9 universities. Venue will be at Casa Victoria restaurant at Warden/Highway 7. Stay tuned as more details unfold.

November - AGM - November 3

Please mark this date on your calendar as we will be having our annual AGM & Dinner, which will be another highlight of the year. It will be another fun-filled and action-packed evening for all the attendees' entertaining pleasure!

For the administration year 2019, four (4) vacancies in the Board of Directors are open for nomination and election. A letter for Nomination of Directors will be emailed to all members in due course. Please note the deadline for nomination submission is October 19, 2018.

Further details of the AGM/Annual Dinner will be announced in due course stay tuned!

Others :

(a) Update Contact Information :

It has been an ongoing effort by our Board and especially our Membership Director to update members' contact information. To make our job easier, those who have moved/changed phone #/changed email address, please inform us or email to <u>hkpueca@yahoo.ca</u> ASAP, to ensure you won't miss being notified for future events.

(b) Interest Groups :

Photography - Albert Fok has formed a Photography group which is meeting regularly to discuss/share with like-minded members/friends on the ins-and-outs of photography. Be sure to

join if you want loving memories captured via photography. Albert can be reached at 416-889-6234.

Tai Chi - Tommy Chang, our long time serving Board Secretary, is a professional Tai-Chi master. Tai-Chi can help improve body & mind with proper guidance and practice. Tommy teaches Tai-Chi every Wednesday at Milliken Park Community and Recreation Centre, 4325 McCowan Road, Wednesday evening between 7:30 - 9 pm. Tommy can be reached at 416-605-2375.

(c) Whatsapp group

There are 5 whatsapp groups :

- 1. HKPUECA Social Group
- 2. HKPU Hiking Blog
- 3. JU Social Group
- 4. HKJUTTP (table tennis playing) please email to sign up at "hkjuttc@gmail.com"
- 5. JU Photography (photography interest group, please contact Albert Fok 416-889-6234

Anyone who is interested to join any or all of the above groups, please contact us or email to : <u>hkpueca@yahoo.ca</u>.

In conclusion, there are many exciting activities planned till the end of the year.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank you all for your past support and look forward to your continued support and participation for the events ahead !!

Enjoy summer the fullest !

Susan Wong President HKPUECA