

Nominations for election to Council on Professional Conduct in Education to close on February 22

Schools and education organisations are reminded to send in nominations for the 13th election of the Council on Professional Conduct in Education (CPC) before noon on February 22.

"Each school may nominate one serving regular registered teacher, including the school head, to stand for the election," a spokesman for the Education Bureau (EDB) said today (February 12).

"Serving regular registered teachers may also run for election as independent candidates if they have the support of 60 serving teachers teaching in the same category of schools.

"Local teacher education universities and school sponsoring bodies, as well as school councils, associations of school principals and associations of teachers that have been approved to join the Hong Kong Teachers' Centre as organisation members on or before December 31, 2018, may also make nominations."

The bureau called on teachers, schools and education organisations to support and participate in the council election. All nominations must reach the bureau by noon on February 22. The school voting day is scheduled for April 10.

The CPC was set up in April 1994 on the recommendation of the Education Commission Report No 5. Its terms of reference are:

- * To advise the Government on measures to promote professional conduct in education;
- * To draft operational criteria defining the conduct expected of an educator and to gain widespread acceptance of these criteria among all sectors of the education community through consultation; and
- * To advise the Permanent Secretary for Education on cases of disputes or alleged professional misconduct involving educators.

The CPC has a total of 28 seats in four categories: the teacher-nominated category (13), the organisation-nominated category (8), the parent representative-nominated category (3) and the Permanent Secretary for Education-nominated category (4).

Candidates elected to the coming term of the CPC will serve for two years from May 1, 2019, to April 30, 2021.

For enquiries about the election, please call 2780 8432, email cpcoffice@edb.gov.hk or post to Room 702, 7/F, Kowloon Government Offices, 405 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results

Tender date	: February 12, 2019
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Q1907
Issue date	: February 13, 2019
Maturity date	: May 15, 2019
Amount applied	: HK\$88,680 MN
Amount allotted	: HK\$44,311 MN
Average yield accepted	: 1.20 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 1.23 PCT
Pro rata ratio	: About 89 PCT
Average tender yield	: 1.26 PCT

Tender date	: February 12, 2019
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: H1936
Issue date	: February 13, 2019
Maturity date	: August 14, 2019
Amount applied	: HK\$42,885 MN
Amount allotted	: HK\$10,000 MN
Average yield accepted	: 1.23 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 1.25 PCT
Pro rata ratio	: About 84 PCT
Average tender yield	: 1.36 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tenders to be held in the week beginning February 18:

Tender date	: February 19, 2019
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Paper on offer : EF Bills
Issue number : Q1908
Issue date : February 20, 2019
Maturity date : May 22, 2019
Tenor : 91 Days
Amount on offer : HK\$50,716 MN

Tender date : February 19, 2019
Paper on offer : EF Bills
Issue number : H1937
Issue date : February 20, 2019
Maturity date : August 21, 2019
Tenor : 182 Days
Amount on offer : HK\$14,000 MN

Tender date : February 19, 2019
Paper on offer : EF Bills
Issue number : Y1986
Issue date : February 20, 2019
Maturity date : February 19, 2020
Tenor : 364 Days
Amount on offer : HK\$1,300 MN

Transcript of remarks by CE at media session before ExCo meeting (with video)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, at a media session before the Executive Council meeting this morning (February 12):

Reporter: Mrs Lam, how much can Hong Kong people expect from the Greater Bay Area Development Plan? And secondly, regarding the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge construction, do you yourself think it is serious that some 10 000 RISC forms have been submitted late? And you mention that the proposal to limit Link REIT rent prices is a bit special- using a private bill, can you explain that?

Chief Executive: First of all, about the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, this latest discovery about the absence of a large number of RISC forms, the Requests for Inspection and Survey Checking forms, in the process of building

this infrastructure, the Director of Highways has already appointed an independent consultant some time ago to review the construction process and has issued a press release to confirm the safety and the integrity of the construction works, so I hope there is no question about the safety of this piece of infrastructure which is now being patronised by thousands of passengers on a daily basis. But in the process of monitoring the project, whether there is room for improvement, whether there are lessons to be learned as a result of this incident, I have asked the Secretary for Transport and Housing together with the Director of Highways to thoroughly review the process and once they have some findings I have asked them to explain in public.

As far as the Greater Bay Area, if I may just repeat in English, I am very pleased to say that this Outline Development Plan for the Greater Bay Area will be formally promulgated by the Central Authorities within days. And as a result, we have already planned to organise a symposium on February 21, and that is next week, which means that the promulgation will take place before February 21. The benefits of the Greater Bay Area to Hong Kong and also to Guangdong and Macao are multiple because we are all very committed to building a Bay Area economy which is open, which is international, which will consist of an international innovation and technology hub which has the personal support of President Xi Jinping himself. So, there's a lot to be talked about on the Greater Bay Area, but the important thing is- it should emphasise on complementarity- that is the nine cities in Guangdong Province and Hong Kong and Macao should each of us leverage on our strengths and advantages in order to create a much bigger economy. Anything that is just fierce competition should be avoided as far as possible.

The second thing is we want the people – the people of Hong Kong, Macao and Guangdong – to share the benefits of this Bay Area economy, so one of the first things that we have agreed to do together with Guangdong and Macao is to facilitate the flow of people, goods, capital and information within the Greater Bay Area. Some of the helpful initiatives, as far as facilitating Hong Kong people to live and work in the Greater Bay Area and beyond, have already been announced in the last 12 months or so, but we will continue to work on that.

I am as concerned as some of the members of the Legislative Council and the public about the way that the Link conducts its business. And this is not only my concern as the Chief Executive. You will recall that when I was Chief Secretary for Administration, I had talked about this subject. I had met with the two successive chairmen of Link with a view to impress upon them that the Link properties are not just any commercial property in Hong Kong. They are properties supposed to be serving the residents of our public housing estates. But in light of the continuous concerns about the way that Link conducts its business and manages its assets, I can fully understand why some Legislative Council members have contemplated to use another instrument, and that is a legislative means through a private member's bill. But using legislation to regulate business activities, after all, is very unusual, so I'm sure we need to look at it in detail and the members of the Legislative Council will also need to examine and study this idea very thoroughly before

we go down this route.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

Cancellation of LegCo subcommittee meeting

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The first meeting of the Legislative Council Subcommittee on Immigration (Amendment) Regulation 2019 originally scheduled for tomorrow (February 13) at 9.30am has been cancelled.

SHA to visit Guangzhou

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Lau Kong-wah, will depart for Guangzhou tomorrow morning (February 13) to meet with officials who are responsible for youth development in Guangzhou. They will discuss youth exchange and co-operation programmes between the two places.

Mr Lau will return to Hong Kong in the afternoon of the same day.