

#### Institution of CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS

Hong Kong Region PO Box 2526, GPO, Hong Kong

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# Regional News for July 2009

16 July 2009: 95 members from ICES and Hong Kong Mediation Centre (HKMC) attended "*Practical Approach in Dispute Resolution by Mediation with Cases Sharing*" at Lecture Theatre, Hong Kong Productivity Centre, Kowloon Tong. Speakers Dr. Raymond Leung and Ir. Paco Tsang introduced the collaboration between HKMC and various societies in Hong Kong. The process about success settlements for a construction dispute case and a property management dispute case were also discussed. The speakers also commented on the future development of mediation in Hong Kong to cope with the Civil Justice Reform instigated by the Hong Kong Government. Experience sharing in respect of culture, educational background and negotiation techniques were further elaborated.



Speakers and our Committee Members after the seminar



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HKMC President Ir. Paco Tsang (left) and Founding President Dr. Raymond Leung addressing the audience

25 July 2009: Chairman Eric Poon attended the RICS Urban Renewal Strategy Conference on 25 July. ICES was invited as one of the supporting organizations. Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet Ngor JP, Secretary for Development, Hong Kong SAR Government was the keynote speaker of the talk. Three other international experts Mr. Nigel Smith, Mr. Chris Brown and Mr. Tom Murphy talked on matters of Urban Renewal experiences in UK and USA. It was a very interesting conference and hopefully our Government representative will learn/listen the experiences from other countries.

## Coming Events

Aug 2009:	Topic on Health and Safety at Work. This will be a joint function with ICE –
	Graduate & Student and Lighthouse Club
24 Aug 2009:	Seminar to be given by Mr. John Molloy, venue and topic to be confirmed.
23 Sep 2009:	"Civil Justice Reform" by Stephen Yip of Minter Ellison at the Lecture
	Theatre of Hong Kong Productivity Centre
Sep/Oct 2009:	"How to make Target Cost & Reimbursement Contracts Work" by Ian
	Heaphy of EC Harris.

## Charter Update

Preparations are continuing for the Charter Celebration on 2nd September and we have started the process which will formalize our new name "Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors" to be effective from that date. It has now

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been confirmed by Crown Office that our Royal Charter will be available on this morning. For Hong Kong, we will organize a Reception to launch our new status in coming October / November.

### Construction News

As part of the economy stimulus strategy, the Hong Kong government have endorsed MTR Corporation development plan. Over the next decade, there will be many railway projects in the pipeline, eg Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, Shatin to Central Link and the Island Line extension.

Our members working in MTR Corporation have informed us that with the Kowloon Southern Link ready for commissioning on 16 August, the construction works for West Island Line (WIL) have commenced in July 2009. Six civil construction contracts have been awarded and a ground-breaking ceremony was held on 10 August to mark the commencement of its construction works.

The WIL is an extension of the existing Island Line from Sheung Wan to Kennedy Town for the provision of domestic passenger service. It provides an approximately 3 kilometres long electrified double-track railway system with three proposed railway stations at Sai Ying Pun, near the University of Hong Kong and at Kennedy Town. The project is scheduled to complete in end 2014. The project cost is estimated to be around \$15.4 billion.

More and more construction projects are rolling out, it must be good news for our members as we are finally riding out the storm.