



International Police Association (Hong Kong)

President's Report 2020

I believe all of you should agree with me that 2019 is a year of challenge to Hong Kong people. The pandemic of COVID-19 has seriously exerted a great impact to the livelihood of people in the world and Hong Kong as a world city cannot avoid the adverse influence. Even worse is the social unrest triggered by the proposed amendment to the Fugitive Offender Ordinance which brought the whole Force into full mobilization in Operation TIDERIDER since Mid-2019. The unpleasant social situation has inevitably resulted to almost full suspension of IPA activity since the second half of the year up to this moment.

2. IPA Hong Kong used to celebrate our anniversary in early June every year. Owing to the persistent COVID-19 and with due consideration of many members are still engaging in the Operation TIDERIDER, the Executive Council has reluctantly made the decision to cancel the Annual Dinner 2020 and postpone the AGM in order to comply with the government's recommendation to keep social distance. As the pandemic remains serious in the recent months, we therefore conduct our AGM via online and I sincerely welcome to those members who are joining with us in this Zoom Meeting tonight.

(Special Thanks: Mr. Welton LEE)

Behind the Protests – The Truth of Hong Kong

3. Since the emergence of anti-government protests in June 2019, Hong Kong has turned from a vibrant and welcoming city into one which is filled with

violence and irrationality. The qualities which Hong Kong used to be mostly proud of, including diversity of opinions and discernment, have somehow mostly vanished.

4. Numerous public events have been organised and more and more of them have been hijacked by radical protestors. In spite of the law-breaking nature, only certain radical protestors' violence has been broadcasted. Jointly with PPRB, IPA Hong Kong has published a special edition booklet named "Behind the Protests – The Truth of Hong Kong" which depicts many life-threatening acts and disturbances caused by radicals in this continuous social unrest. Apart from the English edition, we have also translated it into Chinese version and distributed to Force members and the general public.

5. This first ever special edition booklet has received overwhelming applauses from the community, as well as from our overseas counterparts. We have also made the history of IPA working together with the Police Force in this difficult situation, helping in the dissemination of accurate information and crackdown the malicious intent of activists who are trying to play down the role of Police in maintaining law and order.

6. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the generous financial support of our Honorary Presidents to sponsor the cost of production and the effort made by PPRB officers in the preparation of this booklet.

(Special Thanks: Ms Cheryl WONG)

Membership

7. There are 68 national sections in the IPA with a total membership more than 372,000. Although the size of our membership is relatively smaller than our European counterparts, we plays a very important role in Asia.

8. I am delighted to inform you that IPA Hong Kong is currently assisting

friends from Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines to establish their own section. Though they are merely progressing at the very early stage by joining Hong Kong Section as Foreign Associate Members (FAMs), I am confident that these pioneers could play a much more active role in the recruitment of new FAMs next year in order to fulfil the requirement of 50 FAMs so that IPA Hong Kong can initiate the application to IEB.

Breakdown:	Singapore	15
	Malaysia	8
	Thailand	9
	Philippines	4

9. For the recruitment of local members, we have 1,146 members as at 31 December 2019. It represents an increase of 115 new members (more than 10% increase) when compare with the same period in 2018. Membership fee remains unchanged as HKD 200 for annual and HKD 2,000 for life.

10. In view of the almost suspended IPA activity in 2020, the Executive Council has come up with the decision to waive the membership fee of 2020 for all members. As a result, those members who had already paid annual fee of 2020 are not required to pay in 2021 while those unpaid can continue their membership by making payment of HKD 200 to the IPA Hong Kong HSBC account for 2021 by the end of this year.

(Special Thanks: Mr. Lawrence LOK)

Overseas Events

11. Between 8 and 13 October 2019, EC member Mr. Frankie Lai and I attended the 64th World Congress held at Dubrovnik, Croatia. It was also the election year for IEB apart from a number of IPA matters to be discussed. In the conference, I delivered a 20-minutes presentation to all the delegates about the protests in Hong Kong and what are the challenges faced by Hong Kong

Police Force. It was well received by the audiences and many sections had expressed their support to us to execute our police duties to maintain law and order of the city.

(Special Thanks: Mr. Frankie LAI)

12. Between 1 and 3 November 2019, I was invited by Manila District Police Chief Eugene Extremadura (also our FAM in the Philippines) to attend their official opening of IPA Hong Kong office. It is a center for all Philippines FAMs to recruit new members and organize activities for IPA. If any member would like to visit Manila in the near future, please check with our ECs and make necessary arrangement to visit our FAMs there. I am confident that our FAMs there would provide every support and assistance to you.

(Special Thanks: Mr. Brian KWAN, Mr. Stanley CHAN and Mr. John CHAN)

Activities in HK

13. “Service Through Friendship” is also greatly realized in local context. We used to have three major local events for IPA members: Spring Reception in February after Lunar New Year holidays; AGM cum Annual Dinner in June; and Christmas Party in December. Although we have been affected by the local social unrest in 2019 and unable to hold the Christmas Party in December, we managed to organize a Mainland Trip to Guilin between 5 and 9 November 2019.

14. During this 5-day trip, around 30 members and their families were given a warm hospitality by Mr. CHEN Rongmao, Vice Mayor of Guilin City and Director of Guilin Public Security Bureau. We dined on typical Guilin dishes in the heart of city after visiting the Traffic Headquarters, Special Police Squad and a Neighborhood Police Centre. The visit also comprised tour at other famous tourist spots, both the spectacular scenic mountains and rivers in addition to some newer attractions like shopping streets, which were an eye-opener for those who have not been there for a few years.

(Special Thanks: Ms Christy YEUNG and Mr. Jacky CHAN)

60th Anniversary of IPA Hong Kong

15. IPA Hong Kong was established and formally registered in Hong Kong on 9 June 1960. Without the political disturbance and COVID-19, we could organize a series of events to celebrate our 60th Anniversary this year. In July 2020, we produced some new items of souvenirs such as challenge coin gift pack, octopus key chain, commemorative envelope and stamp sheet to mark the anniversary which are available for sales. If you are interested to buy, please approach our EC members.

(Special Thanks: Mr. Stephen FU, Mr. Edwin WONG, Mr. Otto WONG, Mr. Frankie LAI and Mr. Stanley CHAN)

Finance

16. I am glad to report that the financial situation of the Association has been remaining sound, healthy and stable over the years. Thanks to the hard work of our Treasurer, Flora TING, who paid tremendous effort in maintaining the financial efficiency. I will leave it to her to report in details later.

(Special Thanks: Ms Flora TING)

Honorary Presidents and Consultants

17. Some years ago we decided to appoint some carefully selected prominent members of the community as Honorary Presidents who shared with our values and mission but not members of the Police Force. They were invited to attend some of our activities, and they supported the Association with donations in cash or kind. This year, we are very delighted that Mr. Calvin YIP and Mr. Mike NG were invited to become our new Honorary Presidents.

18. It is with great sadness that our Honorary Legal Consultant Mr. Peter Nguyen passed away on 16 June 2020. Retired judge Peter Nguyen had been appointed as our Legal Consultant since 2010 and actively participated in our events over the past years. We are truly and deeply grateful for all his contributions to the association and his memories will stay with us forever.

19. I must emphasize that the association has been benefited greatly from the professional service, unfailing support and generosity of our Honorary Presidents and Consultants. I would like to take this opportunity to express my wholehearted thank you to all of them.

Conclusion

20. All in all, I would like to thank all EC members and COs who worked very hard to contribute to the Association. They deserve our big applause and our wholehearted recognition. Without them, the mentioned success and good works could not be attained so effectively and smoothly. Lastly, I wish all our members good health and to stay in happiness always. I look forward to seeing a joyful you with IPA friends in the coming events.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jack Tam', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'J'.

(Mr. TAM Man-hoi, Jack)

President

International Police Association (Hong Kong)

Date: 1 December 2020