



EAA celebrates its 10th Anniversary

(2 November 2007) The Estate Agents Authority (EAA) held a reception to celebrate its 10th anniversary today. The reception, officiated by the Secretary for Transport and Housing Ms Eva Cheng, was attended by over 200 guests.

Guests included former Secretary for Housing Dr Dominic Wong, Executive Councillor Mrs Selina Chow, former and current EAA members and board-appointed members, as well as representatives of estate agency trade associations, developers, government departments, public bodies, and tertiary and training institutions.

Mr Lao Yingxun, Director of the Department of Construction of the Guangdong Province, Ms Liu Ruiping of the Department of Construction of the Guangdong Province and Mr Shi Xiaoming, Secretary of the Guangzhou Real Estate Agent Service Administration Centre, also attended the reception from Guangzhou.

Secretary for Transport and Housing Ms Eva Cheng said in the past decade, there had been considerable changes in the local economy and the real estate market. The estate agency trade had also attained higher professional standards.

She said the Estate Agents Authority, established in November 1997, had set up a solid regulatory regime in accordance with the Estate Agents Ordinance. With vigorous support from the trade, EAA had raised the standards of the trade and therefore enhanced consumers' protection in property transactions. EAA's achievements were widely recognised.

Chairman Mr Steven Poon said, "In the past 10 years, we have witnessed the growth of EAA and, together with the estate agency trade and the public, experienced the ups and downs of the property market. Today, EAA has developed into an able regulatory body, and the professional standards of the trade have been enhanced. The path has not been easy, but the hard work we put in over the past 10 years has paid off.



“EAA held over 2,000 qualifying examinations and nearly 900 inquiry hearings, and has issued 90 practice circulars over the last 10 years. In recent years, the total number of individual licensees has remained at over 20,000,” he added.

“In the years ahead, EAA will further propel the estate agency trade towards the goal of professionalism and tackle all new challenges bravely and effectively. Our goal is to provide top-quality services to the general public in Hong Kong, and to win the respect and trust of society at large,” concluded Mr Poon.

Mr Poon also paid tribute to EAA members and staff, past and present, for their contribution to the work of EAA. He also thanked the policy secretaries – Dr Dominic Wong, Mr Michael Suen and Ms Eva Cheng – for their support of EAA’s work over the years, and expressed gratitude to many government departments, trade associations, various organizations, the media and the public for their support and assistance.

EAA was established under the Estate Agents Ordinance in 1997, and has been regulating the estate agency trade in Hong Kong since then. For the last 10 years, EAA has been responsible for the licensing of the trade, receiving public complaints against estate agents, carrying out compliance inspections and inquiry hearings and launching initiatives to facilitate consumers’ understanding of their rights and responsibilities in property transactions.

EAA also held the final of the Chinese Calligraphy Competition for the Estate Agency Trade at a reception and awarded prizes to the winners of the Writing Competition. All winners received CPD subsidies and trophies.



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ESTATE AGENTS AUTHORITY

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Press Release



EAA Chairman Mr Steven Poon delivers a speech at the 10th anniversary reception of EAA.



Secretary for Transport and Housing
Ms Eva Cheng congratulates EAA on
its 10th anniversary.



(From left) EAA Chief Executive Officer Ms Sandy Chan, former Secretary for Housing Dr Dominic Wong, EAA Chairman Mr Steven Poon, Secretary for Transport and Housing Ms Eva Cheng, EAA Vice-chairman Mrs Amy Liu, former Vice-chairman Mr Anthony Chow and member Mr Lun Chi-yim cut a cake to celebrate the 10th anniversary of EAA.



EAA Chairman Mr Steven Poon (5th left, front row), Secretary for Transport and Housing Ms Eva Cheng (5th right, front row), former Secretary for Housing Dr Dominic Wong (4th right, front row), former Vice-chairman of EAA Mr Anthony Chow (4th left, back row) and EAA members and Chief Executive Officer toast to guests of the 10th Anniversary Reception.



Former Secretary for Housing Dr Dominic Wong awards a souvenir to two colleagues who have served EAA since its inception.



Director of the Department of Construction of the Guangdong Province Mr Lao Yingxun (right) presents a prize to the champion of the Chinese Calligraphy Competition for the Estate Agency Trade.



Director of the Department of Construction of the Guangdong Province Mr Lao Yingxun (4th right, front row), Chairman of panel of judges of the Chinese Calligraphy Competition and the Writing Competition for Estate Agency Trade Prof Richard Wong (2nd left, front row), judges Dr Ho Man-wui (3rd right, front row), Ms Yi Fei (3rd left, front row), Ms Katherine Hung (4th left, front row) pose with the winners of the competitions.

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