



**International Fortnight – Creating Value, Perfecting Skills  
Opening Ceremony  
28 February 2017**

**Dr Clement CHEN Cheng-jen, SBS, JP  
Chairman of VTC**

---

**Consul General NANKIVELL** (Mr Jeff NANKIVELL, Consul General, Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong and Macao),  
**Consul Press MALIK** (Mr Ali Nawaz MALIK, Consulate-General of Pakistan),  
**Vice Consul QUINTIN** (Mr Robert D. QUINTIN, Vice Consul, Philippines Consulate General in Hong Kong),  
**Distinguished guests, colleagues, students, ladies and gentlemen:**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the opening ceremony of the “International Fortnight” as we also celebrate the VTC’s 35th anniversary. We are glad to have members of Consular Corps with us today, who have been very supportive of this meaningful event. From now until the tenth of March, a series of events will take place across the VTC to celebrate cross-cultural values and skills development for the global workplace.

Nowadays, the world becomes smaller and ever more connected, we are working to ensure that not only are our graduates highly skilled in their field, but they are able to work with peers from different countries, cultures and backgrounds, and add value to society. The VTC is also keen to enrich staff and students’ international experience through different endeavours, International Fortnight is definitely one of them, as we have just seen from the video.

Contributing to society is important to the VTC, and as the International Fortnight goes from strength to strength we are proud to share the learning opportunities that it brings. When we first launched the International Fortnight in 2014, we simultaneously introduced the International Student Ambassador Scheme. Today, I am proud to be appointing the third intake of ambassadors later today. Let's give a round of applause to our 60 ambassadors for their effort and commitment.

This year is the 35th anniversary of the founding of the VTC. To celebrate this significant milestone, we have prepared a series of celebration events and activities that showcase the outstanding achievements and talent of our students, staff and alumni, and the invaluable support from our friends and partners. In addition to the International Fortnight, some more exciting celebratory activities have been scheduled for the coming months, including the Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPET) International Conference, WorldSkills Hong Kong Competition (WHKC) and Carnival, a two-day mega event supported by the HKSAR Government; the HKDI Gallery Presents Exhibitions in collaboration with international museums and design organisations, as well as a series of culinary demonstrations by international chefs. These events are all orchestrated to reflect our mission for VPET: "Creating Value . Perfecting Skills".

Approach everything with an open mind and there is no limit to what you can learn through these activities and, of course, from each other. May I wish the International Fortnight every success and I hope that you all have fun, educational and memorable experiences. Thank you very much.