

## Opening Ceremony of VTC STEM Education Centre 15 May 2017

## Dr Clement Chen Cheng-jen, SBS, JP Chairman of the VTC

Prof Tsui (Professor Tsui Lap-Chee, President of the Academy of Sciences of Hong Kong),WK (Ir Dr the Hon Lo Wai-kwok, Member of the Legislative Council), Brian (Mr Brian Lo, Deputy Secretary for Education), David (Dr David Chung, Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology), Frank (Mr Chan Fan, Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services), Eric, Carrie, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon.

Let me first extend a very warm welcome to you all. We celebrate today the official opening of the VTC STEM Education Centre which is also a celebratory event of the VTC 35th anniversary. I am delighted to see so many friends joining us here.

At VTC, we always strive to empower students in the development of their potentials to succeed. In today's rapidly changing globalised world, success is driven not only by what we know, but by what we can do with what you know. It is therefore more important than ever for our youth to be equipped with cross-disciplinary knowledge and skills, and the abilities to apply them in the real-world contexts. Echoing Government's direction and international education trends, VTC established the STEM Education Centre on three different campuses including IVE (Tsing Yi), IVE (Chai Wan) and Youth College (Kowloon Bay) to support the teaching and learning of STEM subjects and promote STEM amongst academics and industry.

Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, the Centre will also deliver various activities such as workshops and seminars to promote STEM education, and serves as a platform for the exchange of knowledge and expertise between academics and industry practitioners. Later today, we will arrange guided tours to the Centre where you can have hands-on experience of various STEM training facilities. I hope you enjoy visiting the Centre.

In promoting STEM, we are also arranging different events and programmes. The International STEM Students' Forum will soon be held on 16 & 17 June at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. STEM students from around the world (Finland, Australia, Japan) will gather to share new ideas and learning outcome of their STEM projects. I believe that it would be another great platform for students to expose their talents and enrich their knowledge on STEM. In conjunction with this STEM student forum, we shall also organise the WorldSkills Hong Kong Competition as well as the VPET International Conference as a major event under the VTC 35th anniversary programme.

Ladies and gentlemen, your presence here today is a strong show of encouragement for our new STEM Education Centre and for the work of VTC. Let me take this opportunity to thank you all for your long-standing support. We will continue to nurture STEM talents for the sustainable development of Hong Kong.

Thank you.