



**Launching Ceremony of VPETCity
24 August 2018 (Friday)**

**Welcome Address by
Mrs Carrie YAU, GBS, JP
Executive Director of the VTC**

Permanent Secretary YEUNG (Mrs Ingrid YEUNG, Permanent Secretary for Education),

Mr WONG (Mr Wilfred WONG, Chairman of Self-financing Post-secondary Education Fund Steering Committee),

Professor BLIGH (Professor Annie BLIGH, Provost, Caritas Institute of Higher Education),

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good afternoon! On behalf of the VTC, it is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the Launching Ceremony of VPETCity. I would also like to thank Mrs Ingrid Yeung, Permanent Secretary for Education for gracing this occasion.

Today's Ceremony marks the launch of VPETCity, the first open online learning and teaching platform for VPET learning community building and educational resources sharing. I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the Government for its strong support, making this meaningful pioneer project happen. My heartfelt thanks also go to our partner institutions, and all parties involved for their contributions to this project all along.

With advances in technologies, education around the world is taking off in new directions. New technologies enable multi-modal teaching and learning, and also usher in rich forms of online collaboration. No doubt that Technology Enhanced Learning is one of the major VPET trends in the 21st century, which could enhance the access and effectiveness of learning, as well as creating better teaching and learning experience.

The newly launched VPETCity is Hong Kong's first cross-institutional online teaching and learning platform for VPET and open educational resources. With this online platform in place, teachers, learners and industry practitioners can co-develop, share and exchange learning and teaching materials and teaching practices anytime, anywhere, taking VPET learning to the next level. We will show you more about the platform shortly.

2018 has been an eventful year for the VTC in driving the VPET agenda. We shall be officially opening the new International Culinary Institute in October and a new BIMiHub in November to provide state-of-the-art facilities for skilling young talent. We have also launched a new Vocational Baccalaureate (VB) programme for 15 to 16 years old young people to take the vocational education route as tomorrow's designers and engineers. Coupled with the technology enhanced teaching and learning initiatives, we will continue to empower our younger generation for a bright future.

We have arranged a series of seminars and workshops later today and tomorrow for participants to experience using technology to make learning more exciting and refreshing. I wish you all a very fruitful exchange.

Thank you.