



**[PRESS RELEASE] – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Social Enterprise Summit 2017 International Symposium**

Gathered great minds to pave way for a better future for the community

**(Hong Kong, 8 November 2017)** The Social Enterprise Summit (SES) 2017 International Symposium hailed great success with a record high of over 3,000 visitors in the two-day conference on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November. Changemakers from the civic sector, businesses, the government and the academia gathered minds to bring about systemic changes and positive impacts for the community.

With an overarching theme of “Unleashing Systemic Change” this year, the 18 conference sessions spanned across five major themes and all pointed to actionable and achievable goals to drive systemic progress. Over 50 leaders from locally and worldwide shared experiences and knowledge in turning ideas and visions into sustainable and measurable social impacts.

The International Symposium came to an inspiring end today, with a panel discussion facilitated by Mr Antony Leung, Group Chairman and CEO of Nan Fung Group, on “Business for Social Good”. Three prominent speakers joined the panel and they are: Mr Reagan Dou, Executive Secretary-General of Tencent Foundation, Mr Colin Downie, Sales and Partnership Director at The WildHearts Group, the largest B2B social enterprise in the U.K., and Mr Kyle Westaway, author of *Profit and Purpose*. They shared an array of practical cases to demonstrate how businesses reinvent themselves to become a force for good to the mankind.

Mr Matthew Cheung, Chief Secretary for Administration of the HKSAR Government said in the Concluding Session that the theme of this year’s Summit “Unleashing Systematic Change” is indeed timely and sits well with the Government’s policy objective of promoting social enterprises and creating social impact by supporting innovations that address poverty and promote social inclusion. He thanked the organiser for successfully staging this meaningful Summit.

Mrs Rebecca Yung, Chair of the Organising Committee of Social Enterprise Summit, said: “The fantastic growth of the Summit over the last decade could not have happened without the unfailing trust and support of the HKSAR Government, as well as the continuous commitment of our sponsors, partners and supporting organisations. They have contributed immensely to the development of the Summit and the social enterprise sector over the years. As we celebrate the fruitful



completion of the 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium today, there is still a long way for us to track on and there are still many new discoveries yet to be unfolded. We look ahead at the mountains we will climb. And by joining hands, we can build a better future.”

The Social Enterprise Summit 2017 began in April with a series of community engagement activities including hackathons, school talks and social enterprise bazaars in six districts in Hong Kong, namely Central and Western District, Sham Shui Po, Southern District, Yuen Mun, Wong Tai Sin and Yuen Long, planting seeds of social innovation in the community. During 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> November, a series of flagship events including Hong Kong Jam, “A Dinner to Remember”, International Symposium and a series of community tours and social innovation visits are being held extensively to gather momentum in driving social change in Hong Kong through cross-sector collaboration.

#### Photo Captions

1. Mr Matthew Cheung, Chief Secretary for Administration delivering a closing speech for Social Enterprise Summit 2017 International Symposium.





2. Mrs Rebecca Yung, the Chair of the Organising Committee of Social Enterprise Summit thanked partners for the fruitful completion of this year's Summit



3. Mr Antony Leung, Group Chairman & CEO of Nan Fung Group hosted the panel discussion with three keynote speakers on "Business for Social Good".



-END-



This press release is released by Mention PR Consultants Limited on behalf of Social Enterprise Summit 2017. For media enquiries, please contact:

Candy YUEN

Tel: 3749 9877/ 6379 3729

Email : [candy.yuen@mansumpr.com](mailto:candy.yuen@mansumpr.com)

Alana WAN

Tel : 3749 9878 / 6718 3127

Email : [alana.wan@mansumpr.com](mailto:alana.wan@mansumpr.com)

### **About Social Enterprise Summit**

The Social Enterprise Summit is a non-profit event organised by Hong Kong Social Entrepreneurship Forum, co-organised by Home Affairs Bureau and Efficiency Unit of the HKSAR Government together with 13 civic groups. The Summit is an annual event since 2008, attracting some 2,000 visitors every year from the Asian region and Greater China. It shows that social innovation and social entrepreneurship is attracting increasing attention and support in the region. The Summit has become a major cross-sector platform among the government, businesses, civic sector and the academia in the region in promoting innovative entrepreneurship for social change.

Official Website: <http://www.ses.org.hk>