

Immediate Release

Project *WeCan* Job Tasting Programme Offers Internship Places to More Than 100 Deserving Students Three More Schools to Join Project *WeCan* Making the Total Number of Beneficiary Schools to 14 Benefiting Over 12,000 Students

October 2, 2013 (Hong Kong) — Project WeCan - Job Tasting Programme 2013 offered more than 100 internship places to secondary school students in the past summer. The Programme was a success and concluded today with a presentation ceremony officiated by the Honourable John Tsang, JP, Financial Secretary of the Government of HKSAR and Mr Stephen Ng, the Chairman of Project WeCan Advisory Committee. The Job Tasting Programme aims at providing students with real work life experience so as to better understand their strengths and weaknesses as well as identify their career aspirations at an early stage.

The Job Tasting Programme is held for the second year in 2013. It is one of the major programmes under Project *WeCan* which was launched in 2011. It is probably Hong Kong's largest and most comprehensive summer internship programme for secondary students with humble backgrounds and less competitive academic performance, allowing students to earn real work life experience, widen horizons and understand their career interests by working in sizable companies for a period of two to four weeks.

This year's programme started in mid July. More than 100 students from 11 Project *WeCan* participating schools were placed in 15 sizable companies. Students were required to go through normal application procedures from identifying their desired jobs, preparing resumes,

submitting application letters, to attending panel interviews and briefings. They were then assigned to a mentor in their respective work places as they take up the two to four weeks placement.

Speaking at the presentation ceremony, Mr John Tsang commented, "I am impressed by the programme, it is a thorough and comprehensive programme allowing students to gain real-life work experience as well as understand required job skills, proper work attitude and job requirements of specific industry."

Mr Stephen Ng, Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of The Wharf (Holdings) Limited and the Chairman of the Project *WeCan* Advisory Committee said, "The Internship Programme not only provides valuable learning opportunity to the students but it also allows the so-called "post-90s" generation to demonstrate their passion and energy at work. They may have encountered difficulties during the internship period as it is a brand new experience to them. We hope that they found this summer a rewarding and fulfilling one, and will make good use of what they have learnt in their future endeavors."

Fifteen companies supported this programme included City'Super, Harbour City, Harriman Property Management, Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals, i-CABLE Communications, Lane Crawford, Marco Polo Hotels, Modern Terminals, Pacific Club, Plaza Hollywood, Star Ferry, Times Square, Wharf, Wharf T&T and Wheelock Properties (Hong Kong).

Total number of Project WeCan schools reaches 14 with three new joins in September

Mr Ng added, "I am pleased to share another new milestone for Project *WeCan*, starting September 2013, the new academic year, we have three secondary schools joining Project *WeCan*. They have gone through a stringent selection process with the Advisory Committee and demonstrated their passion to collaborate and potential to excel; we hope this meaningful project will attract other members of the business sector, who are passionate about our young people and education to join force, to sponsor more schools and enable more students to benefit."

With the three additional schools joining, the total number of Project *WeCan* schools has increased from 11 to 14 benefiting over 12,000 students.

The three recently joined schools are Buddhist Wong Wan Tin College in Shatin, HHCKLA Buddhist Ching Kok Secondary School in Tiu Keng Leng and Hong Kong Sea School in Stanley. They are supported by i-CABLE Communications, Harriman Property Management and Pacific Club respectively throughout the six-year programme, realising collaboration between business and education sectors.

14 Project WeCan Schools:

- Buddhist Ho Nam Kam College
- CCC Kei Heep Secondary School
- Chiu Chow Association Secondary School
- Cotton Spinners Association Secondary School
- Fung Kai No 1 Secondary School
- Lok Sin Tong Yu KanHing Secondary School
- Nam Wah Catholic Secondary School
- Ng Yuk Secondary School

- Po Chiu Catholic Secondary School
- Po Leung Kuk C W Chu College
- Yan Oi Tong Chan Wong Suk Fong Memorial Secondary School
- Buddhist Wong Wan Tin College (joined 2013)
- HHCKLA Buddhist Ching Kok Secondary School (joined 2013)
- Hong Kong Sea School (joined 2013)

Please visit <u>www.wharfholdings.com/projectwecan</u> or Facebook fan page <u>www.facebook.com/projectwecanhk</u> for more details.

About Project WeCan

Launched in 2011, Project *WeCan* is a pioneer 360° school improvement programme aiming at uplifting secondary school students' total performance covering a wide spectrum ranging from teaching, academic learning, extra-curriculum development, conduct and behaviour, life-goal planning, to learning environment and support, care and counseling as well as parent collaboration. To date, over 25,000 student counts have joined a wide variety of Project *WeCan* activities and programmes.

Major programmes since launch include:

- Assisted schools in hardware enhancements such as refurbishing mulit-media learning centres, building of study rooms and English corner as well as computer and server upgrades
- Mentorship programmes
- Job Tasting programme
- Chinese New Year Sales Bazaar
- Sponsorship of overseas study trips to China, Taiwan, US and New Zealand
- 1,000 students concert with Sinfonietta
- Table Manner class @ Pacific Club and Marco Polo Hongkong Hotel
- Over 100 company visits throughout the year
- Teachers training and workshops by Quality School of Improvement Program, School of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Teachers gatherings
- Star Talks for students, teachers and parents

Photo caption:

The Honourable John Tsang, JP, Financial Secretary of the Government of HKSAR and Mr Stephen Ng, the Chairman of Project *WeCan* Advisory Committee officiate the presentation ceremony of Job Tasting Programme 2013 and meeting student representatives for a sharing session.



###