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Young Power Programme Nurtures Future Leaders to Work on Solutions for Climate Change

Hong Kong young people inspired to create their Visions for year 2050

Fifty enthusiastic young people from the senior secondary level of 10 schools overwhelmed community leaders with questions on the climate change issue today at the Young Power Programme 10th Anniversary Kick-off Ceremony co-organised by CLP Power Hong Kong Limited and Junior Achievement Hong Kong (JA).

The event is a celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Young Power Programme (YPP), a youth development programme initiated by CLP in 1999 to promote environmental awareness and sense of social responsibility amongst the younger generation. With the 5-year partnership with JA since 2004, the programme has evolved into a 6-week programme during every summer to cultivate the young talents to be all-round individuals who would understand and contribute to their community while realising their own full potentials.

The highlight of the event is a climate change forum held in the hall of the venue partner Hong Kong Science Museum. At the forum, Mrs Betty Yuen, Managing Director of CLP Power, Ms Vivian Lau, Chief Executive Officer of Junior Achievement Hong Kong, Ms Christine Loh, Chief Executive Officer of Civic Exchange, Mr Leung Wing Mo, Senior Scientific Officer of Hong Kong Observatory, and Mr Tom Chan, programme participant of 2006 and first Hong Kong winner of 1st Class Award – ITEL International Science & Engineering Fair 2007, discussed with the students their views on climate change, and answered questions raised by the students.

Mrs Betty Yuen said at the ceremony, “The YPP has been highly successful in providing students with a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience and knowledge of the power industry and how we tackle challenging issues such as energy and environment. This will be achieved through a variety of activities that go beyond traditional classroom learning. Participating students will learn to appreciate the importance of sustainable development through balanced solutions.”

Ms Vivian Lau expressed that “The future of Hong Kong is in the hands of our young people – young leaders who truly appreciate the value of sustainable development. The
YPP is a platform for our young people to explore and to develop their social and environmental awareness. We look forward to their Vision 2050 in providing breakthroughs to the critical issue of climate change.”

The participating students will go through an array of workshops, seminars, visitations and activities to develop their career aspirations, creativity, teamwork, leadership skills, business acumen, sense of social responsibility, and also knowledge in the power industry, engineering profession and environmental issues.

With the support and personal guidance of 20 CLP mentors, the students will set their own visions for the year 2050 and develop their projects to tackle climate change to compete for the “Young Power Award” title, which would lead them to an experiential trip to CLP’s latest power station in Guangxi, China, to understand more about how the advanced super-critical technology can help conventional power generation to achieve high efficiency.

About CLP Power

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited is the largest electric utility in Hong Kong serving the business and domestic community in Kowloon, the New Territories, Lantau and most of the outlying islands. Operating a vertically integrated electricity generation, transmission and distribution business, CLP Power provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to over 5.5 million people in its supply area.

About JA

JA is a registered charitable organisation which is dedicated to inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy. In partnership with the business and education communities, JA encourages young people to participate in a range of activity-based education programmes, designed to help them understand the world of work and develop the entrepreneurial thinking, financial literacy, career aspiration and other life-wide values essential for their future success.

The Junior Achievement worldwide network now serves over eight million students a year in over 110 countries. Since its establishment in 2001, JA has engaged the support of over 5,000 business volunteers to serve over 48,000 students. Please visit www.jahk.org for more information.
Fifty Young Power Programme (YPP) students, 20 CLP mentors, and guests joined to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the programme and kicked start this year’s YPP by declaring their commitment to tackle climate change.

Students from Tuen Mun Government Secondary School formed the team “CLP” with their CLP mentors Ms Lee Yan Yan and Mr Ken Chan to develop their own visions and projects to deal with the climate change issue.

2008 Young Power Programme participating students from Christian Alliance Cheng Wing Gee College will develop their project under the mentorship of CLP engineers Mr Evan Ng and Mr Chapman Yung during the upcoming 6-week programme.

Guests joining the Young Power Programme 10th Anniversary Kick-off Ceremony were interested in the calculation of individual’s carbon footprint through the newly launched carbon calculator on CLP group website.
Mr Tom Chan, Young Power Programme participant of 2006 and first Hong Kong winner of 1st Class Award – ITIEL International Science & Engineering Fair 2007, Mrs Betty Yuen, Managing Director of CLP Power, Mr Leung Wing Mo, Senior Scientific Officer of Hong Kong Observatory, Ms Christine Loh, Chief Executive Officer of Civic Exchange, and Ms Vivian Lau, Chief Executive Officer of Junior Achievement Hong Kong, discussed with the students their views on climate change, and answered questions raised by the students, at the forum held during the Young Power Programme 10th Anniversary Kick–off Ceremony.

Ms Christine Loh, Chief Executive Officer of Civic Exchange, told the Young Power Programme students that immediate actions from all parties are needed in order to tackle climate change.
Mr Leung Wing Mo, Senior Scientific Officer of Hong Kong Observatory, said that the reduction of carbon footprint can help maintain the environment for our future generation.

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