

SCED visits Central and Western District

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, visited Central and Western District today (January 12). He toured a non-profit-making conservation group and the first-ever art-themed commercial building in Hong Kong, and met with members of the Central and Western District Council to learn more about the district's latest developments.

Mr Yau first visited the Conservancy Association Centre for Heritage (CACHe), a non-profit-making conservation group located at the Western District Community Centre. The group aims to promote the conservation of history, culture and heritage in Hong Kong by organising guided tours, workshops, thematic seminars, exhibitions and more in order to raise community awareness of heritage conservation. CACHe has taken part in the promotion of the Hong Kong Tourism Board's tourism project named Old Town Central by producing websites and organising guided tours featuring the history of small shops in the district.

Mr Yau also spoke with young people on participation in community services, local tourism, business start-ups and more. He said the Government is committed to providing support to small and medium enterprises, including the provision of various funding schemes. He encouraged young entrepreneurs to make good use of the schemes.

Mr Yau then visited an art-themed commercial building located at Queen's Road Central and toured an art gallery there. The 24-storey building houses a wide variety of business including art, catering and retail services.

Mr Yau said the Government has been developing cultural tourism projects with local characteristics in recent years. For example, the Government is now revitalising the Dr Sun Yat-sen Historical Trail by incorporating artistic elements in the Trail. Together with the opening of the former Central Police Station Compound (commonly known as Tai Kwun) in the near future, Central and Western District will be transformed into a community with an "art-across-time" theme.

Before concluding his visit, Mr Yau met with Central and Western District Council members to exchange views on local matters relating to tourism supporting facilities, creative industries and consumer rights.

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