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Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Chairman
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project
Hong Kong Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

(by email to wmcheung@legco.gov.hk and by fax to 2509 9055)

Dear Mr IP,

Thank you for your Subcommittee's invitation, dated 9 February 2009, to me for submitting views on the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) Project.

Since my expertise lies in the analysis of public opinion and its gathering mechanism, I would be most happy to contribute my ideas in this area if and when needed. However, to the best of my knowledge, the new wave of opinion gathering exercises is yet to materialize, so I really do not have anything new to offer at the moment.

You probably know that I have in the past offered my views to the Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District Development when asked to comment on specific survey findings. I shall do the same if I would be asked to do so again.

At this juncture, let me just say that I really hope the government would give full autonomy to whichever researcher(s) or consultant(s) it would engage in studying public opinion on WKCD, and to adhere to prevailing professional standards in the conduct and use of public opinion research.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Ting-Yiu Chung
Director of Public Opinion Programme at the University of Hong Kong