

**For discussion
on 14 January 2013**

Legislative Council Panel on Education

**Development of International Culinary College of
Vocational Training Council**

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' views on the proposal for the development of the International Culinary College (ICC) of the Vocational Training Council (VTC) at Pokfulam.

Background

2. The VTC is a statutory body established in 1982 offering vocational education, training and professional development education in Hong Kong. At present, the Chinese Cuisine Training Institute (CCTI) and the Hospitality Industry Training and Development Centre (HITDC) under the VTC are providing pre-employment training to school leavers and career advancement opportunities for in-service personnel in Chinese and western cooking to support the Chinese catering and hospitality industries. It was proposed in the 2011 Policy Address to set up an ICC under the VTC.

Justifications

3. The ICC will provide training for students and in-service practitioners in Hong Kong aspiring to become professional chefs proficient in international cuisines. In addition, it will help attract renowned chefs and other talents of the culinary profession from around the world, and promote the development of related sectors, such as tourism, catering, retail and wine trading in Hong Kong. Apart from helping to brand Hong Kong as a Gourmet's Paradise, the ICC will support Hong

Kong's education services through the provision of valued progression pathways for youth and in-service personnel.

4. The VTC plans to offer a diversified array of programmes, through the ICC, to promote the economic development of Hong Kong –

- (a) International cuisines programmes, including European, Mediterranean, American, Middle Eastern and Asian (Korean, Japanese, Southeast Asian and Indian);
- (b) Programmes on food and wine pairing, sommelier and other wine-related courses; and
- (c) Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) related programmes.

5. The VTC plans to commence the operation of the ICC as from the 2014/15 academic year, initially on a smaller scale. At steady state, the college will provide some 2 000 study places annually for secondary graduates and in-service personnel, leading to qualification awards at different levels, including certificate, diploma, higher diploma and beyond.

6. To support the operation of these programmes, the construction of a purpose-built new campus for the ICC is required. The VTC has identified the site at 145 Pok Fu Lam Road of about 3 770 square metres as a suitable site for the new campus for the ICC. This location is adjacent to the VTC's Pokfulam Complex where the CCTI, HITDC and a training hotel are currently located, thereby enabling the VTC to achieve synergy through shared use of infrastructure, facilities and resources, and economy in use of land.

7. The VTC has conducted a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) arising from the proposed development of the ICC. The TIA concludes that the impact of the proposed development on local road network would be minimal as majority of the students (estimated to be around 300 to 350 during morning/afternoon peak hour on each school day) are expected to use public transport. The conditions of the various pedestrian routes leading to the proposed development, including the existing pedestrian crossing across Pok Fu Lam Road and a service road leading to the site have been assessed. The level of services at these routes could be

improved by strengthening the public transport services and the addition of a bus stop. The Transport Department has expressed no objection in principle to the TIA.

Project Scope

8. The new campus will be a six-storey with two basement floors building with a maximum height of about 36 metres and a total net operating floor area of about 6 600 square metres. Facilities to be provided in the new campus include training kitchens for various international cuisines with pastry and bakery facilities, a multi-purpose tiered demonstration kitchen, wine cellar and wine appreciation room cum food pairing kitchen, a training restaurant with self-sufficient production kitchen, food science laboratory, classrooms, computer room, language laboratory, conference rooms and multi-purpose rooms to support teaching and learning, offices and areas for student support services as well as stores, changing rooms and plant rooms, etc.

9. A site plan for the ICC, an artist impression of the new campus, and a cross-sectional building plan of the ICC are set out at **Enclosure 1**, **Enclosure 2** and **Enclosure 3** respectively. As the site is adjacent to several graded historic buildings¹, the VTC has appointed a heritage consultant to carry out a Heritage Impact Assessment study to assess the impact of the proposed development on the historic buildings nearby. The report will be submitted to the Antiquities Advisory Board for approval in early 2013. The VTC will also incorporate various features in the design of the building so as to better match with the surrounding environment, such as reduced site coverage and building footprint and the inclusion of a heritage trail.

10. As part of the construction project, the access road to the ICC building will be widened and an underground linkage with the VTC's Pokfulam Complex is planned to be built.

¹ The proposed site for the ICC is located in close proximity to Bethanie (Grade 1) and a group of old Dairy Farm buildings, namely the Senior Staff Quarters (Grade 1), the Main Office Building (Grade 2) and the Cowshed (Grade 2).

Financial Implications

11. The estimated project cost is about \$658 million in money-of-the-day prices for the construction of the new ICC campus².

Implementation Timetable

12. Subject to the funding approval of the Finance Committee, VTC plans to commence the construction works of the ICC campus in Q3 2013 for completion in late 2015. The ICC will take in its first batch of students in the 2014/15 academic year, using the facilities at the CCTI and HITDC prior to the completion of the new campus.

Public Consultation

13. The proposed development of the ICC was discussed at the meeting of the District Development and Environment Committee (DDEC) of the Southern District Council on 28 May 2012. Members supported the development of the ICC at the proposed site. The VTC has reported progress on the development of the ICC at the meeting of the DDEC on 26 November 2012. Members had no objection to the proposed design of the ICC campus.

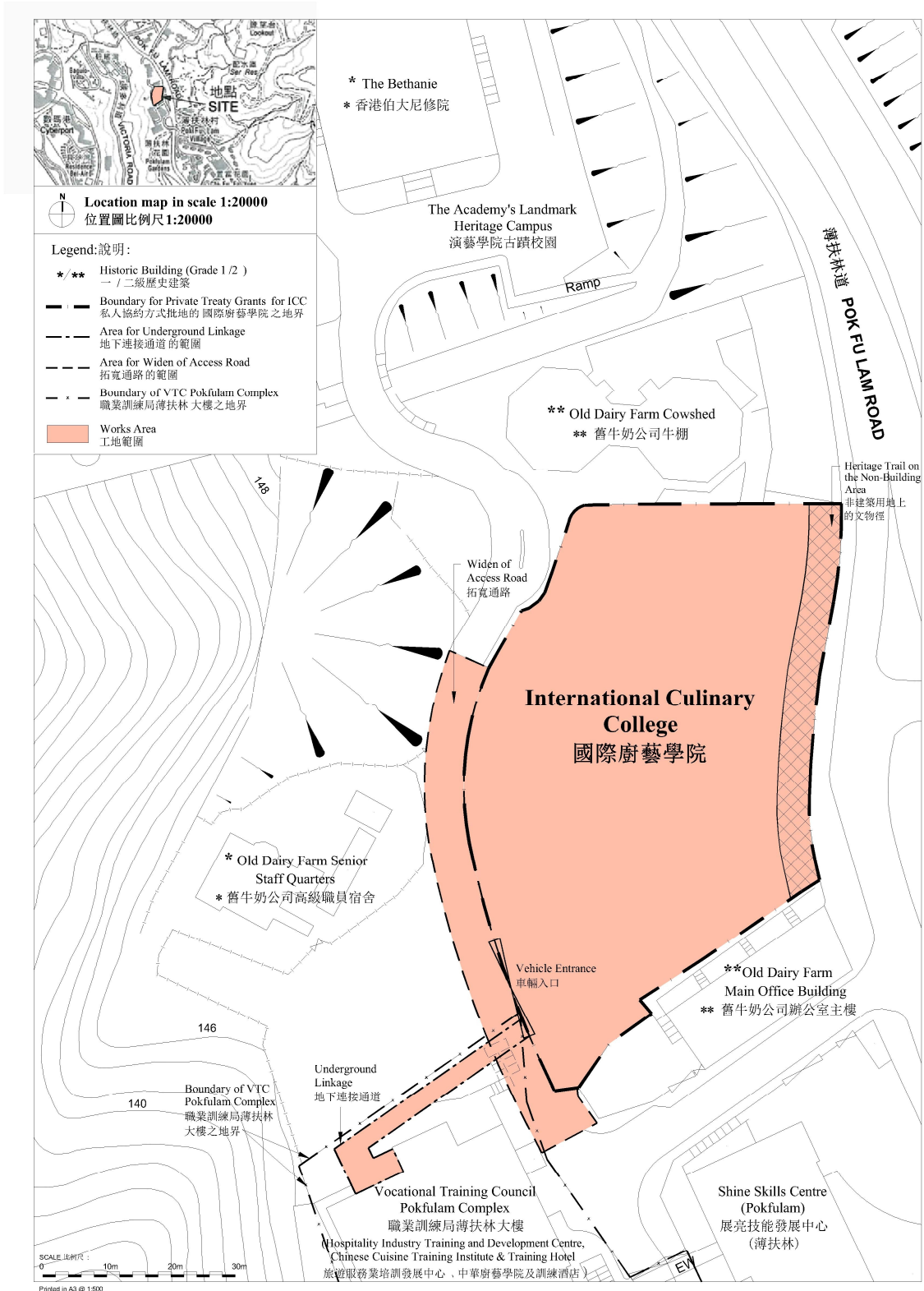
Way Forward

14. Subject to Members' views, we plan to seek the endorsement and funding approval of the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee for the proposed construction of the new ICC campus at Pokfulam in March and May 2013 respectively.

Education Bureau January 2013

² The detailed design of the ICC campus is being finalised. The project estimate may be subject to adjustment.

Site Plan for ICC



Artist Impression of ICC Campus



(View from Pok Fu Lam Road)



(View from VTC Pokfulam Complex – Main Entrance)

Enclosure 3

Cross-sectional Building Plan of ICC

