



Aggregate professionals from diverse fields Harness the benefits of mediation

## **About HKMC**

Hong Kong Mediation Centre ("HKMC") was established in 1999. HKMC is the first non-profit mediation organization with charitable status in Hong Kong with about 1000 members from different professional fields. Over the past decade, HKMC has been working continuously on advocating mediation. HKMC dedicates efforts to developing diversified mediation services and popularizing mediation in the community via education and various promotions. In addition, HKMC actively co-operates with local and oversea mediation / arbitration organizations, and jointly founded a number of renowned mediation organizations, including Joint Mediation Helpline Office, Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited, Mainland - Hong Kong Joint Mediation Center, Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Mediation Alliance and Asian Mediation Association etc., in order to promote Hong Kong's mediation approach to the world and to enhance the reputation and status of Hong Kong's mediation services on the international stage.

## **Missions**

Our mission is to promote, develop and institutionalize mediation as a way of life. Through our work, we aim to help build up harmonious families, neighbourhood, workplace, business communities, human relationships and community in Hong Kong.

To achieve our missions, our objectives are:

- to encourage the general public to use mediation as a means to resolve disputes;
- to educate the general public to adopt mediation as a basic skill and way of life and enhance public awareness and understanding in mediation as an alternative means to resolve disputes;
- to research in and develop mediation as a subject for academic and practical research studies;
- to train mediators and ensure their qualities through continuing professional development; and
- to foster greater links with the mediation and dispute resolution organizations in Hong Kong, Mainland, Asia and other countries.



# **Scope of Services**

#### **Professional Mediation Service**

HKMC provides mediator referral service for those who need to use mediation service to resolve commercial or individual disputes, such as contractual, construction and medical disputes etc. The administrative fee of the service is HK\$2,000, while the mediator fee varies from one to several thousand Hong Kong dollars per hour, depending on the mediator's experience and complexity of the case.

## **Free Community Mediation Service**

HKMC is committed to serve the community and we provide Free Community Mediation Service to assist parties in need to resolve disputes. As long as both parties agree to mediate and the amount in dispute is less than the designated upper limit, individuals are welcome to apply for the service. HKMC will offer 4-hour free community mediation service to the suitable cases. The scope of service generally includes neighborhood disputes, school disputes, property disputes, leasing disputes, family disputes and building management disputes. Moreover, HKMC has been offering free mediation service to various governmental departments, community organizations, district councils and political parties.

#### **Mediation Training Courses**

To popularize mediation and nurture more professional mediators and thus enabling more people to apply mediation skills in daily life and works, HKMC has organized / co-organized General Mediator Training Courses with a number of academic institutions, professional bodies and social welfare organizations. These institutions and organizations include The Chinese University of Hong Kong School of Continuing and Professional Studies, Lingnan Institute of Further Education and St. James' Settlement etc. Over the last decade, HKMC has trained more than 10,000 mediators and our courses are highly reputable. Besides, in order to improve workplace efficiency, HKMC provides customized corporate trainings for various organizations as well as institutions.

#### **Continuing Professional Development**

In order to assist accredited mediators of HKMC to systematically maintain and enrich mediation knowledge and skills, HKMC regularly organizes mediation-related training, talks, seminars and conferences, thereby sharpening their professional competence.

#### **Mediation Promotion**

HKMC strives to promote mediation and as such help parties in need. Apart from organizing mediation talks for the general public, HKMC also engages in different types of community activities, aiming to promote the wider use of mediation. Furthermore, HKMC occasionally organizes mediation exhibitions and provides free mediation consultation to spur the development of mediation in local community.

#### **Rental of Conference Room**

Conference rooms are available for booking by members and the public for holding mediation meetings and seminars.



# Milestones of HKMC

## March 2001

HKMC signed a Cooperation Agreement with China Council for the Promotion of International Trade which agreed through collaborations, to facilitate the use of mediation as a means to resolve commercial disputes.

## August 2007

HKMC, Indonesian Mediation Center, Malaysian Mediation Centre, Philippine Mediation Center and Singapore Mediation Centre jointly set up the Asian Mediation Association (AMA) upon the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding. AMA pushed forward the collaboration regarding mediation in the Asian region. All members share the common aim of promoting and facilitating the use of mediation to resolve disputes, opening a new chapter for mediation development in Asia.

## **July 2010**

HKMC jointly founded Joint Mediation Helpline Office with 7 other organizations, aspiring to promote mediation as a means of dispute resolution in Hong Kong.

## August 2012

HKMC set up Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited, which set standards for mediation courses and accredited mediators, together with The Hong Kong Bar Association, The Law Society of Hong Kong and Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre. It significantly enhances professionalism and legitimacy of mediators in Hong Kong.

#### May 2013

With the support from the Department of Justice, HKMC held the first Community Mediation Forum in Hong Kong and as such offered an effective sharing platform that encouraged resolving disputes by mediation in the community and a greater understanding of the needs of general public.

#### January 2014

HKMC took over as the Secretariat of AMA.

## December 2014

HKMC introduced the innovative "Cross-border Mediation Mechanism" to resolve cross-border disputes and established the first Hong Kong-China Mediation Expert Panel in Hong Kong, marking a significant milestone in local mediation field.

#### December 2015

Mainland – Hong Kong Joint Mediation Center was co-founded by CCPIT/CCOIC Mediation Center and HKMC with the vigorous support from the Department of Justice.

#### November 2016

HKMC is the only recognized mediation organization of Hong Kong to be invited to participate in United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Group.

#### 1999

Hong Kong Mediation Centre (HKMC) was established.

## January 2007

Working Group on Mediation is founded by Secretary for Justice of Hong Kong with the participation of HKMC. HKMC contributed professional advice to the Working Group.

## January 2010

With the implementation of Civil Justice Reform, the Practice Direction on Mediation came into effect ("Practice Direction 31"). HKMC contributes its view in the drafting process.

## 2012

The Government set up Steering Committee on Mediation and HKMC's Council Members participated as its members to offer opinions and thus grasp the latest developments of local mediation.

## January 2013

Mediation Ordinance, which provides a regulatory framework for mediation service, officially became effective.

#### December 2013

Together with 11 major commercial mediation organizations in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau, HKMC founded the Guangdong, Hong Kong & Macau Mediation Alliance (GHMMA) which devotes to strengthen cooperation and exchange between the three places and promotes the Hong Kong's mediation approach to Mainland China.

## **April 2014**

HKMC organized the first large-scale international mediation conference in Hong Kong, the 3rd AMA Conference, and achieved remarkable success. It consolidated Hong Kong's leading reputation and status in international mediation, positively enhancing Hong Kong's status as the centre for dispute resolution services in Asia-Pacific region.

## **March 2015**

HKMC nominated China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT)/China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC) Mediation Center to join AMA as an Ordinary Member.

## May 2016

HKMC co-organized the first large-scale Mediation Carnival with the Department of Justice, which was one of the notable events of the Mediation Week 2016.

## **Looking Forward**

Four main directions for the forthcoming development of HKMC are to promote mediation towards professionalism, specialization, integration and internationalization. HKMC

- Will continue to professionalize mediation, in a way not only to provide high-quality professional skills, but also to assist in training up mediators with integrity and concern public interests.
- Will be committed to the specialization of mediators. With members coming from all walks of life and different professional industries, HKMC is delighted to help members to take specialization in specific mediation services so as to provide more suitable mediation services for those seeking mediation as a means of dispute resolution.
- Will make endeavors to integrate mediation with other means of dispute resolution. Apart from collaborating with our current partners, HKMC is eager to seek co-operating opportunities with more dispute resolution institutions in Hong Kong, Mainland and worldwide.

◆ Will spare no efforts in the internationalization of mediation. Being the only recognized mediation organization of Hong Kong to participate in United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Group, HKMC strives to facilitate and monitor the development of international dispute resolution by mediation.

# How to become an Accredited Mediator?

Participants who have completed the 40-hour General Mediator Training Course organized / co-organized by HKMC, are qualified to apply for the accreditation assessment held by Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited. Those who successfully pass the assessment may apply to be Panel Member of HKMC, and to be listed in Panel of Mediators of HKMC.

HKMC provides members with a series of continuing professional development opportunities to accumulate experience, such as mediation case referrals, advanced training courses, practice opportunities and mediation service schemes held by various departments and organizations. In addition, HKMC offers a promising mediator development path to its members.



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Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

