

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# "Construction Industry Caring Campaign - Fight against Novel Coronavirus" Concerted Effort to Overcome Hard Times with Construction Workers

**Hong Kong • 17 February 2020** – The Construction Industry Council (CIC) today announced that the CIC joins hands with the industry to launch the "Construction Industry Caring Campaign - Fight against Novel Coronavirus" (Campaign) to support construction workers inflicted by the epidemic of novel coronavirus.

Mr. CHAN Ka-kui, Chairman of the CIC said, "The novel coronavirus epidemic in the Mainland and Hong Kong is affecting the construction industry. Developers, government's works departments, construction companies, subcontractors, material suppliers and frontline workers are at difficult times, but still workers suffer the most as they are usually employed on daily wage basis, and now they are facing underemployment. The 'Construction Industry Caring Campaign - Fight against Novel Coronavirus' will provide monetary assistance and caring support to the registered workers who are infected with novel coronavirus or quarantined due to the disease. I hope to gather real estate developers, construction companies, subcontractors, material suppliers and workers who are relatively better-off to help raise funds and participate in caring services, assist the affected workers and their immediate families, and instill a positive spirit in the community."

With a view to supporting workers affected by the epidemic, the CIC and the industry have set up "Construction Industry Caring Campaign - Fight against Novel Coronavirus" Management Committee (Management Committee) which is responsible for fund-raising and fund management. The preliminary fund-raising target is HK\$20 million. The target beneficiary of the Campaign is mainly the registered construction workers in Hong Kong.

There are three types of monetary assistance:

- 1. If a registered worker is put under mandatory home quarantine or arranged to stay at a quarantine centre, the Campaign will provide a daily living allowance of HK\$300 (a maximum of HK\$4,200 per person).
- 2. If a registered worker gets infected with novel coronavirus, the Campaign will provide a daily living allowance of HK\$500 during the hospitalisation and sick leave period (up

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to a maximum of HK\$100,000 per person).

3. If a registered worker is deceased due to novel coronavirus infection, a pension of HK\$100,000 will be provided to his/her immediate family.

In addition, the Campaign will set up a Construction Industry Caring Team to provide caring support to applicants and their immediate families, including (a) to make caring calls; (b) to purchase and deliver basic necessities; (c) to coordinate industry care resources; (d) to send "Caring Pack"; and (e) referral to social groups and professional services. The Management Committee will make good use of the fund raised to purchase protective materials and basic necessities, and distribute them to affected registered workers and their families. Applications could be submitted to 9764 1945 through WhatsApp and WeChat. For more details, please visit CIC website: www.cic.hk

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#### **About the Construction Industry Council**

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.