



There are three particular areas of programmes and activities that come to mind and which encapsulate the past year: social media, social innovation and social service.

**Social Media:** We are all familiar with the interconnectedness between young people and their technological devices. It has become their default method of communication and interactive engagement on all manner of issues, news, information, leisure, work and even relationships.

As a result we have adapted our own way of work to make full use of this new media, including for counselling and support services, volunteering and membership drives, educational and interest programmes, as well as exchanges and networking, competitions and creative activities.

M21, our multimedia hub, both on-and off-line, has been central to these endeavours and it has been a pleasure to see how its popularity has grown and how involved young people are in the process of production, as well as consumption. Through M21 and its different channels, we are connected to young people in schools and in the community, but far more importantly, young people are connected to us. Social media is here to stay and I know that we have a strong foundation on which to build as new developments occur in this ever changing field.

**Social Innovation:** Young people have always wanted to make a difference in the world, while also helping themselves. Today we see this especially when youth make the transition from school to the work place, seeking jobs that offer both security on the one hand and satisfaction on the other.

Because of this, we have been working towards setting up new initiatives that focus on social innovation, which can be easily defined as the creation and development of work and jobs that address social needs. For all of us in Hong Kong, social innovation presents a real alternative possibility of public engagement through entrepreneurship to meet many of our present challenges.

Currently we are building on our experience in incubating youth start-up businesses by looking to set up *The HKFYG Social Innovation Centre*, which will provide start-up services for social innovators to turn their ideas into socially beneficial businesses. We have also signed an agreement with the Authority of Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone, in partnership with Shenzhen Youth Federation, to set up the *Qianhai Youth Innovation and Entrepreneur Hub*. Both these initiatives take the Federation into new areas of service, but more importantly, take us where young people want to go.

**Social Services:** At the heart of our work is our commitment and dedication to serving the youth of Hong Kong. Our services are all social, in that they are in relation to young people, their concerns, their challenges and their hopes and dreams. This is what inspires us everyday.

Through our 12 Core Services we have – and will continue – to nurture, enable and encourage young people to maximise their potential so that they may look forward in hope and expectation of being the best they can be. Our members are able to connect to the Federation in areas of their own interest and concern, while our volunteers extend their strengths and gifts to others.

None of what we do is possible without the utter dedication of the staff. They keep the heart of the Federation beating in the provision of services. I am so proud of all that they do and I do not have the words to adequately thank them for all their hard work.

We have also been supported by our wonderful Officers, Council Members, partners and the community. You trust us with your children and young people, and we honour that trust by trying to be responsive, pro-active and innovative in our services.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, *The purpose of life is ... to be useful, to be honourable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference ...* This is what we have tried to do in the last year and what we will continue to strive for in the years ahead.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rosanna Wong Yick-ming'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Rosanna Wong Yick-ming