



## Message from the Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Health)



My warmest welcome to you all to the Health Promotion Symposium 2015.

This Symposium is particularly special as it also marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Health Care and Promotion Fund. The Government is committed to improving the health of the population. Since its establishment in 1995, the Fund has been providing funding opportunities to non-governmental organisations to empower people to adopt healthier lifestyles by enhancing awareness, changing unhealthy behaviours and creating conducive environments that support good health practices.

The projects funded by the Health Care and Promotion Fund cover a wide range of health promotion topics including smoking cessation for the youth and women, empowering of the younger generation to adopt healthy diet and regular physical exercise, collaborative efforts to prevent injuries, increasing public's awareness of mental well-being and reducing stigma against people with and recovering from mental illness, helping people to make informed decisions about alcohol use, and management of hypertension and diabetes at the community level.

The projects were conducted in different settings from homes to schools, workplaces and the community. We are pleased to see the fruition of many projects that have become self-sustainable as well as those with their outcomes successfully adopted by other organisations in similar or other settings. The achievements of these projects are acknowledged widely and successfully promulgated to the wider community through different platforms including our Health Promotion Symposium. I am sure you will enjoy this rewarding Symposium as in the past.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Yuen".

**Mr Richard YUEN Ming-fai, JP**

Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Health)

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

