



## New year, new faces

It's time for another change of guard at the Hong Kong Institute of CPAs, with Paul M.P. Chan taking over as president and some new members elected and appointed to the Council. Chan spoke to *A Plus* immediately after his election victory, and shared his views on the profession and the challenges facing the Institute. The interview appears on page 16.

The Year of the Dog promises much for Hong Kong's accountants. Analysts maintain an upbeat economic outlook despite rising interest rates, and the profession is continuing to expand into China. At the same time, big firms have shown they are not afraid to walk away from an uncooperative client. Without changes to liability legislation, this pattern is sure to be repeated.

Even in a time of economic growth, financial disagreements between shareholders, investors and trading partners are inevitable. The growing number of mergers and acquisitions involving Chinese companies has highlighted the importance of having adequate dispute resolution clauses before entering into an agreement. In this issue we look at the role accountants can play in keeping these conflicts out of the courts and finding solutions through arbitration and mediation.

Finally, a special thank you to Tim Lui, a past president of the Institute, who is retiring from the chair of the Editorial Board for *A Plus*. The editorial board continues to play a vital role in guiding the direction of the magazine and ensuring we cover the issues that matter most to you in the coming year.



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