



The long sunny days and soaring temperatures signal the much anticipated arrival of summer. Since the Spring edition of Entrepreneur News, there have been many exciting events at ACCE.

Message from the President



Irwin Li
President

First and foremost, the 21st annual ACCE Awards Gala held on March 25, 2017 at the Toronto Westin Harbour Castle Hotel was an unqualified success. Our signature event attracted over 1,200 guests including prominent political, business and community leaders. I extend heartfelt congratulations to this year's impressive group of awards winners, which were chosen from an abundant pool of extremely high-caliber entrepreneurs from coast to coast. I especially wish to congratulate and acknowledge Mr. Robert Lee for being the recipient of the 2017 ACCE Lifetime Achievement Award. ACCE has subsequently invited Mr. Lee to be an Honourary Chair of the ACCE West Coast Division and I am honored to welcome Mr. Lee coming on board!

On April 27, 2017, we welcomed the newly-minted award winners to a Winner's Club dinner at The School Fine Dining in Markham. They joined past winners from the previous twenty years for an evening of great networking and sharing of insights. I wish to thank BDC for being the title sponsor of the ACCE Awards and for this Winner's Club event.

The 2017 winners were then showcased at the ACCE Business Forum entitled "Learning from the Achievers", which was held on May 13, 2017 at the North York Civic Centre. The winners shared their success stories and helpful tips with over 200 guests in attendance, who all richly benefited from the panel discussion and exhibits.

Continuing with ACCE's successful expansion to the West Coast, the 2017 ACCE West Coast Diversity Business Networking took place on May 25, 2017 at the Pinnacle Hotel Harbourfront in Vancouver, BC. Mr. Robert H. Lee, Mr. Stanley Kwok and Mr. John D'Eathe, three of Vancouver's most prominent Canadian business leaders were invited as our featured speakers to discuss on the topic of "50 Years Review of the Pacific Century Development". I want to acknowledge and thank my fellow co-chair and winner of the 2015 ACCE Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Mr. Toby Chu for his invaluable contributions to this event which had over 150 attendees including representatives from various levels of government.

In addition to the above, we also held a Networking Luncheon at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North in Richmond Hill on June 28, 2017 where experts from event sponsor, Rogers Communications, discussed the topic of "Small Business dose not mean Small Security".

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region we will hold the ACCE Annual Golf Classic – "Hong Kong SAR 20th Anniversary Cup" on July 13, 2017 at the beautiful Angus Glen Golf and Country Club.

Of course, none of these events would be possible without the support of various stakeholders such as our sponsors, members, volunteers, staff, various levels of government, board of directors, advisors, all committee members and the media. I wish to thank everyone for their continuous support.

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on August 24, 2017 at the Golden Palace Banquet Hall in Markham, during which a new ACCE President will be appointed. As such, this will be my last President's Message. I wish to take this opportunity to express my utmost gratitude to everyone who has helped me during my presidency at ACCE, and wish my successor the best of luck. As I will surely continue to support ACCE in other capacities, I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events.

I wish everyone a very safe and enjoyable summer!



▲ Major Sponsors, guests and Irwin Li, president of ACCE (left 9) at the 2017 ACCE Awards Gala.

◀ ACCE President Irwin Li (right) presented an appreciation plaque to Peter Lawler (left), Executive Vice President from BDC (Title sponsor of 2017 ACCE Awards Gala).