

Dear Members and Friends,

I hope this message finds you energized and ready to embrace the opportunities of a new week! As we continue to build momentum at AustCham, I want to take a moment to reflect on the exciting journey we've embarked on together. Our recent events have been nothing short of inspiring, particularly the successful **Mix at Six** hosted by Ashurst. It was a fantastic opportunity for networking and collaboration, showcasing the vibrant spirit of our community.

I'm thrilled to share that many of you have expressed an interest in exploring our committees. Did you know we have **nine dynamic committees** at AustCham, each eager for fresh perspectives and new voices? Here's a quick look at what we offer:

- AustCham People Forum
- AustCham Young Professionals
- Construction, Property & Infrastructure
- Finance, Legal & Tax
- Food, Beverage & Hospitality
- Greater Bay Area
- Innovation and Technology
- Sustainability
- Women in Business Network

These committees are not just platforms; they are avenues for you to contribute your ideas, share your expertise, and connect with like-minded professionals. If you're interested in joining one of these committees, simply head over to your **My Glue** and select the committee that resonates with you.

Your involvement can make a significant difference, not only for your professional growth but also for the broader AustCham community. Together, we can drive innovation, foster collaboration, and create impactful change.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events and to welcoming new members to our committees!

Kind regards,

Patricia Slawinska  
Chief Executive  
AustCham Hong Kong

## CURRENT AFFAIRS & TRADE INSIGHTS

- Last week's Chief Executive's Policy Address saw headline announcements on loosening of mortgage rules and cuts on liquor tax as well as investment into the tech sector and a push to establish Hong Kong as a hub for mega sports events. You can read our top level summary [here](#) and the full document can be found [here](#).
- AustCham Chair Josephine Orgill was quoted in Saturday's South China Morning Post highlighting the Chamber's suggestion that the new multi entry Mainland permit cards for non-Chinese permanent residents be extended to all non-Chinese Hong Kong residents, this would allow anyone based in Hong Kong to use e-gates and would be a significant advantage. You can read the story [here](#)
- Hong Kong has topped the [Fraser Institute's 'Economic Freedom of the World'](#) report ranking it as the freest economy among 165 jurisdictions, this follows Hong Kong regaining its place as no 3 in the [Global Financial Centres Index](#) and number 1 in Asia
- Lots of exciting events coming up including [HK Wine & Dine Festival](#) held Wednesday to Sunday. And the Hong Kong Tennis Open starting on Saturday. Looking ahead book your tickets now for Tai Kwun's [Prison Yard Festival](#) in December featuring the Sydney-based Australian Chamber Orchestra.

## QUICK EVENT OVERVIEW

### AUSTCHAM EVENTS

- TUE 5 NOV | IN-PERSON | [ANZ Melbourne Cup Lunch](#)
- THU 7 NOV | IN-PERSON | [Policy Address Briefing with Ricky Lau, Permanent Secretary for Development](#)

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS: ([Members Only](#))

- WED 23 OCT | HYBRID | [AustCham People Forum Committee](#) - Meeting on Generative AI in the workplace
- THU 31 OCT | IN-PERSON | [Innovation & Technology Committee](#) - casual networking lunch
- FRI 8 NOV | HYBRID | [Executive Briefing: Greening Data Centres](#) - presented by the Sustainability committee, a panel discussion on Data Centres & their key to unlocking a sustainable future
- TUE 12 NOV | HYBRID | [Finance, Legal & Tax Committee](#) - HKEX on IPOs and Peter Hutchins of property advisory firm Charter Keck Cramer
- TUE 12 NOV | IN-PERSON | [APF Committee Meeting - November Social Drinks](#) - a networking drinks meet-up at Orchard

## SIGNATURE EVENT - DON'T MISS OUT!



# 2024 ANZ MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH

TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2024  
10AM - 3PM  
THE MILLIONS, HAPPY VALLEY RACECOURSE

LIVE BETTING AVAILABLE!



The ANZ Melbourne Cup Lunch brings the excitement of Australia's iconic race to Hong Kong in a spectacular fashion. A unique blend of Australian tradition and Hong Kong flair, this event provides an exceptional opportunity for client hospitality and high-quality business networking.

**Sponsorship opportunities including Premium Tables, Networking and Fashions on the Field are available [here](#).**

**Secure your table now at this once a year event! For all enquires, contact [bookings@austcham.com.hk](mailto:bookings@austcham.com.hk)**

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This event is brought to you by AustCham in partnership with The Australian Association of Hong Kong (OZHK) in celebration of their 70-year Anniversary.

[Register Here](#)

COMING UP NEXT MONTH



## EXCLUSIVE BRIEFING

# MR IR RICKY CHUN-KIT LAU JP

Permanent Secretary for  
Development (Works)

Venue Partner



AustCham Hong Kong invites you to join us for an exclusive briefing with Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) of Hong Kong, Ricky Lau, on **Thursday, 7 November, 2024 from 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM** at the offices of KPMG, 8/F, Prince's Building, 10 Chater Rd.

Following the Chief Executive's 2024 Policy Address we will be hearing first hand the details on the Government's key priorities for development and capital projects in Hong Kong.

Light refreshments will be served. This event is hosted by the AustCham Construction, Property and Infrastructure Committee.

[Register Here](#)

### MEMBER NEWS



#### MR. MARK HOLMES APPOINTED GENERAL MANAGER OF GRAND HYATT HONG KONG

**HONG KONG, 26 September, 2024** – We are thrilled to announce the appointment of Mr. Mark Holmes as the new General Manager of Grand Hyatt Hong Kong, effective 16 September 2024, as he returns to the Hyatt family.

Mr. Holmes began his journey in the hospitality industry with Grand Hyatt New York as a corporate trainee in 1990 after graduating with a Hotel and Tourism Management diploma from County College of Morris in New Jersey and a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management from New York University. Over the next 20 years, he excelled in various roles including catering, banquet sales, and Food & Beverage management, gaining extensive experience at over 15 Hyatt hotels worldwide across Australia, Oman, Taipei, Hong Kong, Tokyo, and China. In 2010, Mr. Holmes advanced to his inaugural General Manager role at Park Hyatt Sanya Sunny Bay Resort before joining Crown Melbourne as Executive General Manager of Food & Beverage in 2013. Since 2020, he has been the Executive General Manager of Hospitality at Crown Towers Sydney.

“Returning to Hong Kong is a dream come true,” said Mr. Holmes. “I look forward to reigniting relationships with both colleagues and guests, and at the same time, creating new ones. In the realm of hospitality, people are at the core of everything we do. I am excited to inspire our team to embrace their passions and excel at Grand Hyatt Hong Kong, creating exceptional moments for our guests’ accommodation, dining, spa, and event experiences.”

At the same time, Grand Hyatt Hong Kong would like to congratulate **Mr. Richard Greaves**, General Manager of the hotel and Area Vice President, on his transition to a new role at the Hyatt Asia-Pacific Regional Office in Hong Kong.



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