



**Bio & Policy Statement from
A Nominee for Associate Member Governor
Board of Governors 2017-2018**



Elaine PICKERING

**Elaine Pickering
Secretariat Services Ltd**

It has been a privilege to serve on the Board these past eighteen months; to serve on various committees and to help drive a new charity initiative. Thank you to those who put their confidence in me to do this and to those who supported this aim. The recent charity fundraising event was a success the Club can be proud of.

Commitment

If elected I commit to continue to support the new Charity Committee as it develops from its fledgling stages, as well as to be involved in the Club's overall community outreach endeavors. One of my priorities will be to help design and execute a mechanism by which members can choose the next charity we support. I also hope to encourage more participation in the efforts that build our credentials as a local institution that is responsibly engaged, particularly one that is highly invested in its journalism remit. This includes building relationships between institutions and various stakeholders in the community. As you know, this takes consistent effort, which I pledge.

I said last year that I consider the FCC to be one of the most distinguished and important clubs in Hong Kong. I continue to be a strong advocate that we remain, above all, a meeting place for those who care about thoughtful analysis of local and global issues. I will therefore continue to support many of the Club's speaker, discussion, conference and award programmes.

Throughout the past year I have continued to serve on the Finance Committee where we work diligently to ensure the Club remains financially viable into the future. This will remain of key importance to me. I have supported the House Committee with some of the work involved in the renovations. For my efforts I have earned the nickname 'Pantone Pickering', which should not surprise anyone who knows the attention I pay to detail, particularly when creating ambience and making practical decisions. As the only female member of House Committee I hope to continue to add a dimension that would perhaps otherwise be unrepresented.

Recent Board Achievements

I have long been an advocate for the broadening of our socially responsible efforts and last year promised that if elected I would help create a new charity initiative after the Charity Ball Committee concluded its efforts at the Club following a fourteen year successful run.

Along with my co-convenor, we established the promised committee and, thanks to the commitment of those involved, were able to hold our first fund raising event of the year in March, which garnered support for China Coast Community (CCC).

I say support, because although we have currently raised enough money to buy much needed purpose designed beds for the home, we also, through the enterprising initiative of one of our committee members, are currently brokering a relationship between CCC and a leading university so that a programme of internships can be established to provide on-going occupational therapy services for residents.

It is not a small matter to start a new committee, define it's purpose and parameters, rally support and actually achieve something significant in the first four months of inception. We operated with extremely limited resources and under various constraints and yet managed to launch the FCC's charity year with a spectacular event that many said was the best they have been to in a long time. The occasion was overflowing with FCC spirit; tons of fun, warmth and a huge amount of generosity towards a good cause. It has provided a significant springboard from which we, as a Club, can move forward.

Background

I have been an active member of FCC for 16 years and have served on the Board for 18 months. Professionally, I organise forums that focus on international, regional and local affairs. I have been a resident of Hong Kong for 29 years, during which time I have started and operated several businesses and have worked with numerous business and global affairs-focused not-for-profit organisations. I bring that critical blend of experience to my service on FCC Board and hope you will consider voting for me so that I can continue to do so.