

Speech: Opening address

Event: Certificate Presentation Ceremony 2005

Presenter: The Honourable Ms Mandy Tam Heung Man, Legislative Councillor  
(Accountancy) and member of Wong Tai Sun District Council

Date: 20 June 2005

Time: 6:45 to 6:50

Length: 5 minutes

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Good evening Mr Derek Lai, CPAs, FCPAs, ladies and gentleman.

I must complement and congratulate each of you on your achievements as FCPAs and CPAs in 2005. You now join over 105,000 members of CPA Australia worldwide on an exciting journey as a member of the accounting profession. I hope CPA Australia serves you with both ethical and professional guidance.

Whilst your professional qualification may now be completed, do not assume that the learning process ends here. Business demands are constantly changing so by adapting the mindset of “Life Long Learning” you are able to keep up with the rapidly changing business environment. View your professional accounting body as your partner who will help guide you through your career. You have made the right decision to become a professional accountant and to be a part of the mission to promote leadership in providing financial and accounting advice.

I am sure our certificate recipients here tonight are aware that your chosen career in accounting and finance will ultimately present you with more career options than any other course of study is able to provide. In fact, many accountants today no longer work in traditional accounting roles but rather work across a full spectrum of management roles

includes CEOs, CFOs, general managers, management consultants and successful business leaders. They work in fields as diverse as information technology, human resources management, financial planning and taxation.

I would like you to feel confident that your time spent studying for your degree and the professional accounting qualifications were more than worthwhile. The technical knowledge and expertise that you now possess is held in the highest regard by the community, including leaders from a broad range of industries. Professional accountants are respected for their skills and qualifications; for their commitment to ethics; and for their efforts to raise the profile of our profession and promote the development of accounting standards. You will find over the course of your career that many doors will now be open to you.

To sum up, qualified accountants should seize every opportunity to enhance the competitiveness through continuous learning to prepare pave the way to becoming successful accountants. The future of accounting profession and the future of our society are somehow in the hands of all of you here. Be hardworking and I am sure all of you will flourish in the accounting professions. Thank You

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### Summary points of Ms Mandy Tam' s opening address

1. Welcome and congratulations to all certificate recipients
2. Importance of “Life Long Learning” to keep up with rapidly changing business demands.
3. Evolving and diverse roles of today' s accountants
4. Society' s view on the accounting profession
5. Summary and closing