

(Press Release – 30 November 2022)

CASS Annual General Meeting 2022

The Chinese Australian Services Society Ltd, known commonly in the community as “CASS”, held its 41st AGM on 27 November 2022 at its Activity Hall in Campsie. With concerns over the new COVID-19 wave in NSW, members attending the AGM at the hall were required to sanitise their hands and wear masks. Social distancing was also practised during the meeting.

The Chairperson, Dr Bo Zhou, chaired the AGM. The Deputy Chairperson/Secretary, Mr Anthony Pang, reported on the work of CASS for the past year. CASS has made many achievements, including but not limited to:

1. Organised a number of activities to celebrate CASS 40th anniversary, including CASS first Inaugural Multicultural Volunteers’ Thanksgiving Luncheon 2021 with over 120 volunteers being invited to participate.
2. At the Luncheon, distributed the CASS 40th Anniversary Souvenir Book. Written in English, Chinese and Korean, the book recorded all the milestones, major events and challenges that CASS has been through over the past 10 years.
3. The Korean ‘At Home on New Land’ and Chinese Kending Book 2021 were distributed at the Luncheon. The two books contain a number of touching stories of Korean and Chinese new migrants, sharing their real experiences of starting a new life in Australia.
4. Our Foundation Chairperson/Honorary Executive Director, Mr Henry Pan OAM, was inducted into the Zest Awards ‘Hall of Fame’, in recognition of his outstanding and selfless contributions to the community in Western Sydney.

With regard to the lawsuit about a former staff of RACF defaming CASS, Dr Bo Zhou and Mr Henry Pan in 2018, the Court of Appeal made a ruling in February 2022 and upheld the original judgment, including a compensation of AUD\$ 200,000 to CASS.

Mr Pang highlighted other CASS achievements in relation to our services, including:

1. CASS Settlement Services continued to receive federal funding to provide services for Chinese New migrants in Sydney.
2. Actively explored CASS services, included expanding CASS Home Ageing Services to Korean, Indonesian and Vietnamese communities and established new Senior Activity Groups at new locations.
3. Continued to promote CASS services and provided the latest community news via different social media platforms, such as website, Facebook, WeChat, LinkedIn, Xiaohongshu, YouTube, Naver Café, Viber, and more.
4. Successfully held various information sessions, workshops and exhibitions for the community, with topics including health, child education, legal and welfare information. Also provided free training to the public on how to use online software

to enable them to participate in online activities and reduce their sense of isolation and anxiety brought by the pandemic.

The Treasurer, Mr Sean Zhang, reported on the financial performance and operation of CASS. The total turnover for the year was about \$41 million, with all service units showing good financial performance and increase in revenue. He thanked and acknowledged the hard work of the Honorary Executive Director, volunteers and staff members for contributing to the continual success of the organisation. The Report of the Board of Directors, and the Financial Reports of CASS for the year 2021/2022 were unanimously passed by the members present at the meeting.

The election of members to the CASS Board of Directors was subsequently carried out. A motion was also passed to thank the retiring Elder, Mr George Poon, for his contributions.

The AGM was successfully concluded with members congratulating the new Board of Directors and newly appointed elders, wishing them every success in the coming year and hoping that more people in the community will benefit from the services provided by CASS.

The Board of Directors of CASS for 2022/23 consists of the following:

Chairperson: Dr Bo Zhou (Overall Coordination & Community Relations)

Foundation Chairperson/Honorary Executive Director: Mr Henry Pan OAM (Daily Operations, Strategic Planning & Development, Risk Management)

Emeritus Chairperson: Dr Leng Tan (Residential Aged Care Services and Disability Services)

Deputy Chairperson/Secretary: Mr Anthony Pang (Corporate Compliance & Child Care Services)

Vice Chairperson/Treasurer: Mr Sean Zhang (Finance, Audit & Cultural Affairs)

Vice Chairperson: Prof Stephen Li (Home Ageing and Clinical Care Management)

Directors:

Ms Tica Lee (Work Health & Safety and Promotions)

Dr Bei Lu (New Projects Development and assisting in Aged Care Services)

Mr Shun Cheng (Settlement Services)

Alternate Directors:

Mrs Teresa Chu (Volunteers Coordination)

Mrs Winnie Fung (Activity Groups' Affairs)

Ms Esther Dong (Assisting in Legal matters)

Mr Evan Huang (Assisting in Projects Development)

Mr Dong Li (Assisting in Financial matters)

Mr Stephen Yang (Assisting in IT matters and Settlement Services)

Council of Elders:

Mr Francis Lee OAM; Ms Louise Wu; Mr Percy To and Mr Hartono Arifin.