

For Immediate Release
April 28, 2017

With photos



Manulife renews sponsorship of Manulife Centre for Children with Specific Learning Disabilities at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

This marks Manulife's 18th year of longstanding support to children with specific learning disabilities

Hong Kong — Manulife has renewed its sponsorship for the Manulife Centre for Children with Specific Learning Disabilities (MCCSLD) at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), pledging a further HK\$2.65 million to continue the Company's 18-year-long commitment to helping children with specific learning disabilities (SLD).

SLD affects about 12.6% of children aged between six and 10 years in Hong Kongⁱ. Children with SLD generally have weaker cognitive abilities in relation to reading and writingⁱⁱ. Through the Manulife Charitable Foundation, Manulife has sponsored the MCCSLD since 1999 in support of its mandate to undertake research for the identification of SLD children in need of special assistance and to provide professional services that help them develop their full potential through various activities.

“Our future generations are our greatest asset, and we care deeply about their development and well-being,” said Guy Mills, Chief Executive Officer, Manulife Hong Kong. “Many children with SLD do have great potential for excellence. All they need is some guidance and extra attention to stimulate their best efforts. We hope that through supporting the great work of MCCSLD, a leading institution in this field, we can help these children realize their full potential.”

Activities organized by the MCCSLD focus on dynamic interaction with SLD children to fulfill their multifaceted potential. The donations from Manulife to support the MCCSLD total more than HK\$15 million, allowing it to conduct more than 400 seminars, workshops and training programmes for some 10,000 children with various educational special needs and about 6,000 parents of SLD children.

Dr. Alice Lai, Director of the MCCSLD, thanked Manulife for its ongoing support: “I am very delighted to celebrate another milestone in our partnership and friendship with Manulife. Over the past 18 years, our Centre has witnessed a tremendous growth in the services we are able to provide, and there is also a noticeable increase in both the public and the authorities' awareness about the difficulties faced by children with learning disorder. Few of these advances would have been possible without the continued support of the Manulife Charitable Foundation.

“The renewed donation can help the Centre to carry on our mission of taking a leading role in the holistic development of children with SLD in Hong Kong, through providing academic and professional services such as preliminary learning-capability assessment, training and counselling.”

For further information on the Centre, please visit this [website](#). More details about Manulife's community giving in Hong Kong can be found [here](#).

Photo:



Manulife renews its sponsorship for the Manulife Centre for Children with Specific Learning Disabilities (MCCSLD) at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), continuing its longstanding commitment to helping children with SLD.

Present at the ceremony to celebrate the long-term partnership are: Mr. Guy Mills, Chief Executive Officer, Manulife Hong Kong (third from left); Dr. Alice Lai, Director of MCCSLD (first from left); Ms. Helena Lee, Head of Brand and Corporate Communications, Manulife Hong Kong (second from left); Prof. Siu Lau Ho, Associate Vice President, Academic Secretary and Chair Professor of Electricity Utilization, PolyU (third from right); Prof. Yuk Chung Chan, Associate Dean of Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, PolyU (second from right); and Prof. Daniel Lai, Head of Applied Social Sciences, PolyU (first from right).

Manulife (International) Limited
Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability
22/F., Tower A, Manulife Financial Centre, 223 – 231 Wai Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2510 5600

manulife.com.hk





Manulife volunteers participated in a workshop to help facilitate a fun learning activity for kids aged 6 to 14 to enhance their social and language skills.

About Manulife Charitable Foundation

The Manulife Charitable Foundation is a non-profit organisation set up by Manulife (International) Limited in 1998 to support and promote charitable activities for the betterment of public welfare in Hong Kong. Its core interests are in children, the elderly and health-related charitable programmes and community services. It has sponsored the Manulife Centre for Children with Specific Learning Disabilities since 1999, when the Centre was established at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University with a mandate to assist children with specific learning disabilities, and their parents and teachers, by studying how to identify children in need of assistance and help them develop to their full potential. The Foundation has also supported a number of other local charitable organisations, such as the Heep Hong Society, Helping Hand and the Hong Kong Cancer Fund, to implement extensive programmes to help the less fortunate members of our society.

About Manulife Hong Kong

Manulife Hong Kong offers a diverse range of protection and wealth products and services to individual and corporate customers via Manulife (International) Limited, Manulife Asset Management (Hong Kong) Limited and Manulife Provident Funds Trust Company Limited, which are members of the Manulife group of companies.

Manulife (International) Limited
Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability
22/F., Tower A, Manulife Financial Centre, 223 – 231 Wai Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2510 5600

manulife.com.hk



About Manulife

Manulife Financial Corporation is a leading international financial services group that helps people achieve their dreams and aspirations by putting customers' needs first and providing the right advice and solutions. We operate as John Hancock in the United States and Manulife elsewhere. We provide financial advice, insurance, as well as wealth and asset management solutions for individuals, groups and institutions. At the end of 2016, we had approximately 35,000 employees, 70,000 agents, and thousands of distribution partners, serving more than 22 million customers. At the end of 2016, we had \$977 billion (HK\$5,646 billion) in assets under management and administration, and in the previous 12 months we made almost \$26 billion in payments to our customers. Our principal operations are in Asia, Canada and the United States where we have served customers for more than 100 years. With our global headquarters in Toronto, Canada, we trade as 'MFC' on the Toronto, New York, and the Philippine stock exchanges and under '945' in Hong Kong.

Media Contact:

Jacqueline Kam / Crystal Tse
Manulife (International) Limited
Tel: (852) 2202 1284 / 2510 3130
Jacqueline_tm_kam@manulife.com/
Crystal_ym_tse@manulife.com

Reference:

-
- ⁱ Source: David W Chan , Connie Suk-han Ho , Suk-man Tsang , Suk-han Lee & Kevin K. H. Chung (2007) Prevalence, gender ratio and gender differences in reading-related cognitive abilities among Chinese children with dyslexia in Hong Kong, Educational Studies, 33:2, 249-265, DOI: 10.1080/03055690601068535
- ⁱⁱ Source: Education Bureau website: http://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/en/edu-system/special/resources/serc/download/spld_e_t.pdf

Manulife (International) Limited
Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability
22/F., Tower A, Manulife Financial Centre, 223 – 231 Wai Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2510 5600

manulife.com.hk

