



Press Release

19 April 2009

## **Record 1,400 Compete in MTR HONG KONG Race Walking 2009 Stepping Up Support for Better Health**

Ten top race walkers from across the Asia-Pacific, around 40 Hong Kong community leaders, over 40 Corporate Teams, more than a thousand walkers from all walks of life, and hundreds of cheering fans took part in MTR HONG KONG Race Walking 2009 today (19 April 2009) to promote healthy living.

The event was organised by the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association in conjunction with the MTR Corporation for the fifth consecutive year, and raised more than HK\$1 million for the Hospital Authority Health InfoWorld to promote good health.

Ms Eva Cheng, Secretary for Transport and Housing, was the Guest of Honour at the event. "Combining sports, health, fun and charity, this highly enjoyable sporting event brings great health benefits to every walker," said Ms Cheng. "The competition is made more meaningful as it raises money for a good cause, while providing opportunity to promote friendship and team spirit."

"With the economy a concern for many people in Hong Kong, we should not forget to maintain good work-life balance and a healthy lifestyle," said Mrs Rita Lau, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, who sounded the starting horn for the MTR Chairman's Invitational race. "Race Walking is a simple and convenient exercise, the perfect choice for those with little time to spare."

Led by Dr Raymond K F Ch'ien, Chairman of the MTR Corporation, around 40 business and community leaders participated in the friendly MTR Chairman's Invitational race. Renowned artistes and athletes Ms Olivia Cheng and Mr Alex Fong once again served as MTR HONG KONG Race Walking Ambassadors. Both joined the MTR Chairman in the Invitational race.

A record-high of over 1,400 race walkers participated in 15 race categories. "It is so encouraging to see more and more people each year coming out to MTR HONG KONG Race Walking, reflecting the growing consciousness among Hong Kong people to the importance of staying fit to maintain healthy bodies and minds," said Dr Ch'ien. "We are pleased that the MTR Corporation is able to do its part in promoting healthier lifestyles both through this event and in raising funds for health education."

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Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association





Among the athletes participating this year were top-calibre race walkers from Australia, China, Japan, Malaysia and Singapore who vied for the Men's and Women's Elite Champion trophies.

"The internationalisation of MTR HONG KONG Race Walking 2009 provides an excellent backdrop for the East Asian Games scheduled to open in Hong Kong in December. These will be the first and largest multi-national, multi-sport games to be held in Hong Kong's history, putting our city on the map in international sporting competition," said Mr Alex Moh, President of the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association.

Citizen Watches (HK) Limited, Bonaqua and BonActive, Marathon Sports, FedEx Express, Pomelo Leaf Body Wash, RTHK Radio 2, and the Hong Kong Medical Association provided generous resources and support to make MTR HONG KONG Race Walking 2009 a success.

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Photo captions:

1. A ribbon-cutting ceremony officially kicks off MTR HONG KONG Race Walking 2009: (from left) Mr Tai Keen-man, Assistant Director of Broadcasting (Radio); Ms Olivia Cheng, MTR HONG KONG Race Walking Ambassador; Dr Leong Che-hung, Member of the Executive Council; Mr C K Chow, Chief Executive Officer of the MTR Corporation; Ms Eva Cheng, Secretary for Transport and Housing; Dr Raymond K F Ch'ien, Chairman of the MTR Corporation; Mr Alex Moh Ho-chap, President of the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association; The Hon Tsang Yok-sing, Jasper, GBS, JP, President of the Legislative Council; Mr Kwan Kee, Chairman of the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association; and Mr Alex Fong, MTR HONG KONG Race Walking Ambassador.



2. Mrs Rita Lau, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (centre), Mr C K Chow, Chief Executive Officer of the MTR Corporation (left) and Mr Alex Moh Ho-chap, President of the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association sound the starter's horn for the 1-kilometre MTR Chairman's Invitational competition.



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3. Around 40 business and community leaders join Dr Raymond K F Ch'ien, Chairman of the MTR Corporation, to participate in the friendly 1-kilometre MTR Chairman's Invitational race to promote healthy living. Dr Chow Pak-chin, Vice President of The Hong Kong Medical Association won the race in 5 minutes and 52 seconds. He was followed by Mr Daryl Ng, Executive Director of Sino Land Company Limited, Mr Jeff Walker, Chief Executive Officer of The Prudential Assurance Company Limited, Mr Bernard Chan, President of the Asia Financial Group, and Ir Morris Cheung, Managing Director of Ngong Ping 360 Limited.



4. Over HK\$1 million was raised this year for the Hospital Authority Health InfoWorld to support a new initiative called the "Ideal BMI" Disease Prevention Project. Dr Raymond K F Ch'ien, Chairman of the MTR Corporation, (right) presents the cheque to Mr Anthony Wu, Chairman of the Hospital Authority.







5. With a donation of HK\$120,000, Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited won the Highest Fundraising Corporate Team Award for the third time. Mr Dennis Chan, Project Manager of Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited (left) receives the trophy from Ms Eva Cheng, Secretary for Transport and Housing. Sino Group was second followed by Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited for the Highest Fundraising Corporate Teams.





## 6. MTR HONG KONG Race Walking 2009 Highlights

### Men's and Women's Elite Competition



### Corporate Team Challenge



### Cheering Teams



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