

Press release (For immediate distribution)

## Hong Kong Red Cross “Jockey Club Infection Control Training and Support Project for High-risk Sectors”

### To Raise Public Awareness on Infection Control Six New Characters Have Been Created by ETV’s “King of Germs”

(Hong Kong, 8 August 2023) The three-year COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of infection control, but related training and support services among all sectors of society are still in their infancy. Mindful of this, the Hong Kong Red Cross (HKRC) is launching a five-year “Jockey Club Infection Control Training and Support Project for High-risk Sectors” (the “Project”) with support from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, to reinforce infection control awareness for five high-risk industries, namely social welfare, education, hotel management, property management and catering. It is also intended to equip the public with prevention skills learned through the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic that emerged in 2019. The HKRC invited Mr Wong Yuk-shing, animator of ETV’s renowned “King of Germs”, to create six new characters named after major infectious diseases in Hong Kong history, to inform the public in a fun and engaging way. **The Project will start with a two-day infection control exhibition on August 19 and 20 at MOSTown, Ma On Shan.**

#### **Renowned ETV animation returns with six new characters**

“King of Germs”, a stop-motion animation featuring clay figurines, was created by Mr Wong Yuk-shing, a former TV producer at RTHK. For the broadcaster’s ETV, he vividly brought to life nearly 50 germ characters, which became Hong Kong TV classics. The HKRC invited Mr Wong to design six new infectious diseases characters for the Project, namely Melioidosis, Cholera, Tuberculosis, Avian Flu, SARS and COVID-19. Visitors to the exhibition will meet these new characters and learn more about infectious diseases and control.

#### **Interactive and creative learning experience in four exhibition zones**

The two-day exhibition features an immersive VR experience zone for visitors to practice epidemic prevention in a simulated home environment where they identify potential bacterial hazards and learn infection prevention tips. In another zone, exhibition panels will outline the various infectious disease outbreaks Hong Kong has endured over the past century, from Cholera and SARS to the recent COVID-19 pandemic. The exhibition will also display the “ultimate defence” - N95 masks - with demonstrations of its ability to prevent infections.

In addition, there will be a “Battle Against Infectious Diseases” game to test visitors’ knowledge on infection control. Those who successfully eliminate viruses can win limited-edition towel sets featuring Mr Wong’s illustrations. They can also take part in a DIY workshop to unleash their creativity and design their own beautiful pouches to take home.

#### **The HKRC urges continued vigilance**

The five-year “Jockey Club Infection Control Training and Support Project for High-risk Sectors” aims to consolidate the lessons learned from the COVID-19 epidemic and to enhance infection control capabilities of front-line staff and management in high-risk industries, thereby reducing the risk of infection. The Project will provide training in five high-risk industries, including social service, education, hotel management, property management and catering. In addition to the exhibition, the HKRC will also provide a range of infection control consultation and support services, including an infection control consultation hotline, on-site monitoring visits, ventilation auditing and reporting, and N95 respirator fit testing to assist all sectors of society in responding to the risk of infection.

#### **Kick-off Ceremony cum Exhibition of “Jockey Club Infection Control Training and Support**

**Project for High-risk Sectors”**

**Kick-off Ceremony**

**Date: 19 August 2023 (Saturday)**

**Time: 1pm – 2pm**

**Venue: Atrium, Level 2, MOSTown Phase 4, Ma On Shan**

**Exhibition**

**Date: 19 Aug 2023 (Sat) | 20 Aug 2023 (Sun)**

**Time: 2pm – 8pm | 11am – 8pm**

**Venue: Atrium, Level 2, MOSTown Phase 4, Ma On Shan**

**Free admission to the exhibition and all activities**

The exhibition features four zones:

- VR experience zone to practice epidemic prevention in a simulated home environment to identify potential bacteria hazards and learn infection prevention tips.
- The “Battle Against Infectious Diseases” game. Visitors who successfully eliminate viruses can win limited-edition towel sets (while stocks last).
- Free DIY workshop to design beautiful pouches (while stocks last).
- Exhibition panels to highlight the various infectious disease outbreaks we have collectively faced over the past century in Hong Kong.

Website: [https://www.redcross.org.hk/en/ht/community\\_training/icts\\_opening.html](https://www.redcross.org.hk/en/ht/community_training/icts_opening.html)

**About the Hong Kong Red Cross**

Established in 1950, the Hong Kong Red Cross is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the world’s humanitarian network serving over 190 countries. We dedicate ourselves to motivating people from all walks of life to put humanitarian spirit into action. With services in four main areas, namely, “Emergency Relief and Disaster Preparedness”, “Community Health Service and Education”, “Humanitarian Engagement and Education”, and “Special Education and Rehabilitation”, we provide a diversified humanitarian platform for Hong Kong citizens. For details, please visit <https://www.redcross.org.hk/en/>

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