



## **Shareholder Activism Case Studies from Europe and America Inspired Over 230 Audiences in HKIRA Conference**

*The Conference focused on overseas case studies on active investors' behaviors and dialogues on the developing trend of shareholder engagement in Hong Kong through 13 sessions with 28 foreign and local speakers.*

**Hong Kong (13 November, 2017) – Hong Kong Investor Relations Association (HKIRA)**, has successfully concluded its “**Dynamics of Shareholder Engagement and Shareholder Activism in Hong Kong**” conference co-organised with ONC Lawyers. This year's event was a substantial achievement with a record number of more than 230 attendees benefiting from learning experiences at the various focus groups and panel discussions focused on important issues.

**Dr. Eva Chan, Founding Chairman of HKIRA**, said, “Both we and our co-organising partner ONC Lawyers are highly gratified with the enthusiastic response to the Conference. It has proven to be a worthwhile effort by facilitating in-depth discussion of the development of shareholder engagement and activism during the past year in Hong Kong. Minority shareholders in Hong Kong have become more active in voicing their opinions to senior management of listed companies, and when they want to reach a listed company, Investor Relations Officers are often the first persons they contact. We see shareholder engagement and activism as a highly specialised and important topic to our members and IR professionals. I believe the senior management and shareholders of a company share the same objective, which is to maximize the value of the company. That is why continuous communication between a listed company and investors is essential to avoid misunderstanding and the two sides must join force so as to achieve their common goal.

The full day conference has brought together Hong Kong-based and international experts to share their insights and discuss shareholder engagement and activism, exchange views and share experiences from the perspectives of the different stakeholders and parties concerned. It had received widespread support from the investment and legal community. This conference has aimed to foster understanding and inspire as well as also encourage participants to engage in productive conversations conducive to advancing shareholder well-being.

**Mr. Sherman Yan, Managing Partner of ONC Lawyers**, said, “We are honoured to have co-organised this important event with HKIRA. Most Hong Kong-listed companies are incorporated in Hong Kong, but registered outside the city, typically in the Cayman Islands and British Virgin Islands (BVI). This conference has performed a useful service through exploring ways to bridge that gap in the protection of minority shareholder rights between different jurisdictions and to resolve any differences in opinion which could lead to disputes. We believe that participants also appreciated the insights included in reports on local market developments and in key strategies from both the investor and corporate perspectives which were pertinent to the trend towards increasing shareholder engagement and activism.”

**Strategic Public Relations Group** is proud to be the Official Public Relations Partner and Sponsor of the conference.

**Photo:**



*Conference co-organizers **Dr. Eva Chan, Chairman of HKIRA** (fifth from right) joint **Mr. Sherman Yan, Managing Partner of ONC Lawyers** (fourth from right) and **Mr. Dominic Wai, Partner of ONC Lawyers** (second from right) to take photo with speakers on stage*

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## **About HKIRA**

Hong Kong Investor Relations Association (HKIRA) is a professional association comprising investor relations (IR) practitioners and corporate officers responsible for communication between corporate management and the investment community. HKIRA advocates the setting of international standards in IR education, advances the best IR practices and meets the professional development needs of those interested in pursuing the investor relations profession.

HKIRA is dedicated to advancing the practice of IR as well as the professional competency and status of its members. To date, HKIRA has over 650 members most of whom are working for companies primarily listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong. HKIRA's members are from a wide spectrum of professions including IR, finance, accounting, company secretarial to corporate investment and hold positions at different corporate levels, including top executives responsible for IR and management of listed companies.

For more information about HKIRA, please visit [www.hkira.com](http://www.hkira.com).

## **About ONC Lawyers**

ONC Lawyers is a professional and dynamic legal practice based in Hong Kong. ONC Lawyers has been growing continuously since our establishment in 1992, and has now become one of the largest local law firms with more than 100 members of legally-qualified and supporting staff. The major areas of practice include banking & finance, capital market, construction & arbitration, corporate & commercial, criminal litigation, employment, family & matrimonial, immigration, insolvency & restructuring, insurance & personal injury, intellectual property & technology, litigation & dispute resolution, notary public services, real estate, securities, futures & funds, shipping & logistics and wills & probate. Please visit [www.onc.hk](http://www.onc.hk) for more information.

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