

Mediation Week 2018 to start tomorrow

Mediation Week 2018, organised by the Department of Justice (DoJ), will run from tomorrow (May 11) with a series of initiatives throughout the week to highlight the benefits of the use of mediation to resolve disputes in various sectors.

"The theme this time is 'Mediate First – Exploring New Horizons'. It seeks to look ahead at future developments including online dispute resolution and the use of mediation in resolving international commercial disputes," a spokesman for the DoJ said.

"There will be a series of activities including a Mediation Conference, seminars and a carnival so as to provide the opportunity for more to understand the benefits of the use of mediation across various sectors. It will also include the 4th Shanghai-Hong Kong Commercial Mediation Forum co-organised by the DoJ," the spokesman added.

The seminars will cover the use of mediation in various sectors such as medical and health, the entertainment industry, education, the workplace and cross-border commercial disputes. It will also explore the use and development of evaluation in mediation.

"The seminar on Mediation and the Entertainment Industry on May 15 is yet another initiative in introducing mediation to the entertainment and arts sectors. This seminar will feature a mock mediation of disputes arising from film scriptwriting and an experience sharing session with an experienced mediator and stakeholders of the entertainment industry," the spokesman said.

The Mediation Carnival on May 13 will be held at the recently completed West Kowloon Mediation Centre, adjacent to the West Kowloon Law Courts Building in Ying Wah Street West, Sham Shui Po. Members of the public are most welcome to participate.

"The highlight of Mediation Week is the Mediation Conference 2018 to be held on May 18. Over 20 leading international and local experts and practitioners will gather and share their views and experiences on the latest global developments of mediation. The Conference will explore the recent developments of mediation in Hong Kong and overseas, how mediation may contribute to resolving disputes arising from the Belt and Road and Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area development initiatives, online dispute resolution, and the use of mediation in resolving international commercial disputes," the spokesman noted.

The co-organisers of Mediation Week 2018 are the Labour Department, the Insurance Authority, the Employees' Compensation Insurance Residual Scheme Bureau, Rotary District 3450, the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society, the Hong Kong Society for Healthcare Mediation, the Hospital Authority, Hong Kong Patients' Voices, the Hong Kong Mediation Council, the Hong Kong Mediation Centre, the Society for Community Organization, the Hong Kong Institute of

Arbitrators, the Mainland-Hong Kong Joint Mediation Center, the Hong Kong Institute of Mediation and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

For more details of the activities of Mediation Week 2018, please visit www.doj.gov.hk/mediatefirst/eng/programme2018.html. Except for the Mediation Carnival, pre-registration is required for all other events on a first-come, first-served basis.