

## S for S officiates at opening ceremony of "Through Thick and Thin: 150 Years of the Hong Kong Fire Services" exhibition (with photos)

The Secretary for Security, Mr John Lee, officiated at the opening ceremony of the exhibition "Through Thick and Thin: 150 Years of the Hong Kong Fire Services" today (September 18).

The Hong Kong Fire Brigade was formally established in 1868. To mark the 150th anniversary of the Hong Kong Fire Services this year, the exhibition displays historical artefacts including a wooden fire truck, badges and valuable photos dating back to late 19th century. Through video and interactive games, members of the public can review the history and development of fire and ambulance services in Hong Kong.

Addressing the ceremony, Mr Lee said the Fire Services Department (FSD) has gradually grown from a fire brigade formed by volunteers in the early years into a 10 000-strong professional team today. Throughout the years, the department has been going through ups and downs with Hong Kong people, safeguarding the city with the mission of "Serving with courage, passion and commitment".

"The FSD stays united and firm in serving the people of Hong Kong, displaying exemplary bravery and determination even in circumstances of extreme danger. The distinguished professionalism of the fire and ambulance crews and their commitment to providing high quality and highly efficient emergency services are deeply appreciated," he said.

Other officiating guests at the ceremony included the Director of Fire Services, Mr Li Kin-yat, and the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, Ms Michelle Li.

The exhibition "Through Thick and Thin: 150 Years of the Hong Kong Fire Services" is jointly presented by the FSD and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. It will run from tomorrow (September 19) until October 22 at the lobby, 1/F, Hong Kong Museum of History. Admission is free.

