

**Mr Nelson Yip Siu-hong, MH**  
**Honorary Fellow**

**Citation**

Mr Nelson Yip Siu-hong's story is about perseverance, resilience and not about disability.

Diagnosed with cerebral palsy in infancy, Mr Yip spent much of his childhood in the hospital, not the playground. While other children of his age played with toys, he had to get around on crutches. But he did not let his disability get into his way of achieving his dreams and aspirations.

Having personally experienced disability and gone through rehabilitation, **Disability** and **Diversity** are his passions. He devotes much of his energy to improving the lives of people in his shoes. Noteworthily, he was one of the founders of the NGO Hong Kong Rehabilitation Power in 1995, and subsequently founded the Unleash Foundation in 2012, among many other contributions.

When it was first founded, Hong Kong Rehabilitation Power (HKRP) focused primarily on the physically disabled community. Under the astute leadership and direction of Mr Yip and his fellow co-founders, it now has grown to serve a wider spectrum of disability including the hearing impaired and people with mental ailments. HKRP is a firm advocate in transforming Hong Kong into a barrier-free international city. To empower beneficiaries to lead an independent life, it provides employment opportunities. To date, 70% of HKRP's staff are people with disabilities.

Unleash Foundation, on the other hand, focuses on unleashing the hidden potential of ethnic minorities. Over the last decade, it has successfully developed an extensive network, bridging the public-private divide to promote the humanistic spirit of the human race.

On the entrepreneurial front, Mr Yip is a serial entrepreneur. Founding CEO and Director of EP Venture Company Limited and Appetizup Company Limited, he is a business strategy consultant to start-ups, public organisations and firms transitioning to efficient and sustainable business models. He believes that effective uses of technology, e-commerce and green energy make for a bright business future.

On the academic front, he holds a BSc in Statistics and Computer Science from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, an MA in Quantitative Analysis in Business from City University of Hong Kong and an MBA from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has also been conferred an Honorary Fellow by City University of Hong Kong for his accomplishments and contributions to Hong Kong society.

To Mr Yip, culture is the way we think, act and interact. He believes Hong Kong is an international city and a cultural bridge between China and the world. He founded the China Hong Kong Culture Exchange Association, facilitating hundreds of cultural ambassadors to embrace diversity. The Association is also instrumental in discovering and nurturing talents for collaboration in the Greater Bay Area, promoting shared values across cultures.

He is also active in serving as a consultant in a variety of government and non-government bodies to raise Hong Kong's competitiveness and professional standards. He currently serves on the Trade and Industry Advisory Board; at the Dashun Policy Research Centre and in Lung Cheung Government Secondary School.

Horse-riding is another passion. Through sheer determination and perseverance, he became the first qualified representative of Hong Kong, China in the Paralympic Equestrian Event at the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008. A proud athlete, he was a torchbearer. He has been awarded the Medal of Honour by the HKSAR Government for his contribution to sport for disabled athletes.

Apart from his academic and athletic endeavours, he is also a certified PADI Open Water Scuba Diver, a saxophonist, a Chinese opera singer, and is a frequent contributor to newspapers and magazines. Well-trained in sports psychology and a certified NLP Practitioner, Meta-NLP Practitioner and Meta Coaching on Neuro-Semantics accredited by the International Society of Neuro-Semantics, he was honoured with the Lion Rock Entrepreneur Award in The Spirit of Hong Kong Awards organised by the South China Morning Post in 2014.

Mr Chairman, in recognition of his devotion to disability inclusion, his entrepreneurial wisdom in driving sustainable business solutions, and his extraordinary perseverance in the face of physical impairment as an outstanding Paralympic athlete, I am honoured to present Mr Nelson Yip Siu-hong for the conferment of an honorary fellowship.

*Citation written and delivered by Professor Albert Ko Wing-yin*