

# 議會將重新思考未來路向

## TIC to rethink its future paths

**在**三月二十六日舉行的特別會員大會上，有五百五十一家會員出席，特別決議案有贊成票四百九十四張，反對票四百五十八張，未能通過(關於這次大會的背景，見「主題故事」)。特別決議案的贊成票雖然沒有百分之七十五，但也超過百分之五十，這表示支持的會員仍佔多數。不管怎樣，議會已清楚聽到會員的意見；至於議會日後的方向是甚麼，相信要多點時間再作考慮。在這段期間，議會辦事處的員工會繼續緊守崗位，不負各方厚望。

二月六日上午，一批參加郵輪旅行團的旅客，因為越南下龍灣的行程被取消而拒絕離船。議會主席和我得知事件後，連忙趕到現場調停。最終所有團員都於當天深夜下船，翌日團員與旅行社的代表並在議會達成和解方案。在整件事情中，議會自始至終都只是協助旅客與旅行社自行解決紛爭而已。議會感謝旅行社使事情得以解決，而旅行社也感謝議會協助。

今年頭兩個月的外遊印花費比去年同期稍為減少，原因可能是泰國曼谷的紅色及黑色外遊警示令香港的旅行團卻步之故。幸好曼谷的外遊警示現已降為黃色，這表示香港人熱愛的這個外遊地點，很快又會碰面盡是香港人了。因此，估計外遊印花費應該會逐漸上升。

至於內地入境團方面，今年一、二月錄得的團數比去年同期稍為增加，這顯示內地《旅遊法》帶來的不明朗狀況已經消失，內地和香港的旅行社已放心繼續經營來港旅行團了。我在這裡提醒會員，購物及住宿安排是團隊行程的兩大要素，希望會員收到投訴後要盡快處理。✎

董耀中

**T**he special resolution was not adopted at the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held on 26 March and attended by 551 members, with 494 votes in favour and 458 votes against (see "Cover Story" for the background of the EGM). **Although the special resolution was not supported by 75% of the votes cast, the votes in support of it still exceeded 50%, which indicated that a majority of the members supported it. Anyway, the TIC has clearly heard the views of members, and will need some more time to reconsider its future direction. During this period, staff at the Executive Office will diligently discharge their duties as usual in order not to let all stakeholders down.**

On the morning of 6 February, a group of cruise package tour members refused to leave the cruise ship because their planned visit to Ha Long Bay, Vietnam had been cancelled. On learning the incident, the Chairman and I went to the scene in a hurry to conciliate them. All of them finally disembarked from the ship late at night, and their representatives reached a settlement with the travel agent at the TIC on the following day. What the TIC had done during the incident was to help the tour members and their travel agent to find a solution on their own. The TIC would like to thank the travel agent for resolving the dispute, and the travel agent also thanked the TIC for its help.

The outbound levy for the first two months of this year was slightly down over the same period of last year, which may be due to the red and black outbound travel alerts for Bangkok, Thailand having deterred package tours from Hong Kong. Fortunately, the travel alert has now lowered to amber, which means this popular destination for Hongkongers will soon be thronged with familiar faces from Hong Kong again. It is expected the levy should begin to rise gradually.

**As for inbound tours from the mainland, their numbers in January and February this year were up a little bit year on year. This was an indication that the uncertainties brought about by mainland China's Tourism Law have dissipated, and travel agents in mainland China and Hong Kong are no longer worried about continuing to operate Hong Kong-bound package tours. I wish to remind members that shopping visits and accommodation are the two biggest elements in tour arrangements, and that they should handle complaints promptly after receiving them.** ✎

Joseph Tung