









#### Dear TWF friends



## Reschedule: International Women's Day Lunch 2020

In light of the outbreak of the novel coronavirus and after careful consideration, we have decided to reschedule our annual International Women's Day Lunch on 2 March 2020.

The health and safety of our guests remains our first priority. Our team is making every effort to find a suitable alternative date for the Lunch, tentatively set for May.

We are committed to working together to create a gender equal Hong Kong. We look forward to reaffirming this commitment and celebrating the achievements of women with all of you at a later date. We will share more details soon.

In the meanwhile, if there are any queries about next steps, please reach out to us – Virginia.li@twfhk.org or call 2581 1153.

Thank you for your support and we appreciate your understanding.

P.S. We hope everyone is taking care and prioritising their physical and mental wellbeing at this time. Try and take advantage of this extra time to engage in activities and hobbies that help you relax and stay happy and active, whether this be meditation, painting, reading, journaling, online courses, family activities, or exercise. Or catch up on gender issues through our What We're Reading list below.

# CALL FOR GOVT EXTENSION OF FAMILY FRIENDLY WORK ARRANGEMENTS



In light of the recent health situation, the Government has taken precautionary measures that include the closure of schools until March 2 (subject to further assessment), and the closure of all aided child care centres, elder care centres, integrated vocational rehabilitation services centres, among others until further notice. While these measures help minimise health risks, they also present an additional set of challenges for working parents, guardians and caregivers. TWF strongly urges the Government to grant an extension of work-from-home arrangements for all Government employees through to March 2, and to highly encourage the private sector (including SMEs) to follow suit, with a long term view of the Government regulating the private sector's application of family friendly policies under extreme conditions. It's also a good opportunity for employers to consider strengthening their overall flexible working arrangements and for the Government to urge companies to adopt more comprehensive family friendly policies as general practice. The adoption

of flexible working arrangements and family friendly policies will enable these individuals to provide sufficient care to their families, and to contribute towards a healthier working environment and economy in the long term.

To this point, TWF endorsed The Hong Kong Association of Business and Professional Women's letter calling for these extended measures.

The full letter can be read here

## **TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES**

## STEM Education and e-Learning Lesson Plan Award Scheme

TWF has received positive feedback from

teachers for the Award Scheme. We are now asking everyone to vote for the "Award for Lesson Plan with the Most Facebook Likes" (with the most likes on the GGT TWF Facebook album) and "Award for the Most Popular Lesson Plan" (with the highest number of downloads on the Girls Go Tech platform)! Visit our Girl Go Tech Facebook album "STEM Education and e-Learning Lesson Plan Award Scheme" and Girls Go Tech online platform "Teacher Corner" to cast

Deadline: 11:59pm, February 23, 2020

vour vote now!

A huge thanks to all the supporting partners and teachers for sharing their teaching experience and resources!





## Mentoring Programme Alumni Reunion

To celebrate the 11th year of the TWF Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders, we hosted the first event of our Alumni Reunion Series this year on 21 January.

Advancing and supporting women is at the core of everything we do and this event focused on the importance of sponsorship, both being a sponsor and sponsee. Thank you very much to Baker McKenzie for hosting and to all our alumni for your continuing support!

# **OPENINGS AT TWF**

# **Communications & Programme Officer Opening**

TWF is seeking a full-time Communications and Programme Officer to join its dynamic team. This is an exciting opportunity to help amplify TWF's voice in the community and contribute to a range of programmes making an impact in the lives of men and women across Hong Kong. Applications should be received by February 7, 2020.

Apply Now!

## **Development Team Volunteers Wanted!**

TWF is seeking volunteers to assist on development projects. Please email Marielle Sas at marielle.sas@twfhk.org to apply.

# WHAT WE'RE READING

## **Gender Equality**

- Greek Lawmakers Elect Country's First Female Head of State (Bloomberg)
- Women's Gains in the Work Force Conceal a Problem (NYT)
- Former TalkTalk manager brings gender discrimination case (FT)
- <u>All it takes for a woman to be reduced to an object is to wear too much eyeliner</u> (Guardian)
- <u>Listen to Sonita Alleyne, Master of Jesus College, Cambridge</u> (Desert Island Discs Podcast, BBC)
- "It just doesn't happen by itself": Sanna Marin calls for gender equality laws (WEF)

## **Sexual Violence & Harassment**

- Why Do Men's Legacies Matter More Than Women's Safety? (GEN)
- <u>Climate breakdown 'is increasing violence against women'</u> (Guardian)
- The Shocking Data Behind Sexual Assault and Harassment in the Workplace (Marker)
- $\underline{\text{The movement tackling sexual harassment at Kenya's universities}} \text{ (Al Jazeera)}$
- <u>Media silence as gang rape survivor from northern Iraq wins Nobel Peace Prize</u> (World
- <u>'It's not harassment if they are good looking': Ecuador's president scrambles to</u> apologise for comments (SCMP)

## Masculinity

- How Gen Z could spell the end of toxic masculinity in the workplace (Fast Company) **Board Diversity**
- Goldman Sachs' new rule: At least 1 woman on the board or you can't go public (CNN)
- Research from AltFi shows just 20 per cent of directors across eight leading companies are female, while nine per cent are from a BAME background (AltFi)

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