



**Bio & Policy Statement from
A Nominee for Second Vice President
Board of Governors 2016-2017**



Wyng CHOW
Affiliation: The Standard

Dear fellow FCC colleagues:

Having previously served as a Journalist Governor for four years prior to the past year's sabbatical, I am again offering my energy and enthusiasm to serve club members as a whole in the capacity of Second Vice-President, and seek your support in doing so.

As many of you know, I have been a very active FCC member since joining 10 years ago after relocating from Vancouver, Canada, regularly patronizing the club along with personally hosting various private functions, including a wedding reception, music events and birthday parties, in order to help generate revenue.

During the four years that I served on the Board of Governors (2011-12 to 2014-15), I missed only ONE board meeting, so you can definitely count on my reliability and dedication.

I have been co-convenor of what I consider to be the two most vitally important committees -- Finance and Membership -- so understand the ins and outs of keeping a tight rein on club finances and expenditures, while constantly exploring new revenue streams in order to keep any price increases to absolute minimums in face of inflation and rising costs, to continue giving members top value for their dollars.

When I first co-convened the membership committee in 2012-13, we embarked on a program to make decisions totally open and transparent, and to strive to promote a good mix of Correspondent, Journalist, Associate and other categories of membership. For the past three years on the committee (including the current year), I have consistently pushed for the approval of more Associate applicants on a monthly basis -- as I recognize it's the Associates who are of paramount importance for our financial well-being.

I have also previously served as Club Secretary, co-convened the Publications (now Communications) committee, and sat on the Professional Committee, helping arrange top-tier Club luncheon speakers.

As many of you heard at the recent Town Hall meeting, the FCC unfortunately faces a projected deficit in the upcoming year to the tune of some HK\$5 million, and that measures must be implemented to cover this shortfall -- most likely involving boosting monthly subscription rates along with other increases.

If I am returned to the Board, I would push for looking at other alternatives, such as raising the number of Associate applicants accepted for membership each month, which would both generate revenue as well as shorten the current three-year waiting list. As well, we need to investigate ways of better promoting and utilizing various parts of the club during slow periods. This would include improving the variety and quality of music down at Bert's Bar -- which as a Bert's regular -- I can say have slipped in recent years.

We could also look at sponsoring comedy nights, pool and bridge tournaments, and offering discounts for "early bird" dining. The possibilities are endless!

In summary, I have been a very hands-on FCC Board member and certainly have the experience and dedication to continue serving -- this time the members at large as your Second Vice-President, if I am so elected. Since I can frequently be found on the club premises, I would readily be available to listen to any of your comments, suggestions, concerns or complaints, and to act on them where possible.

Thank you in advance for your vote, and I look forward to seeing you at the greatest press club in the world -- let's keep it that way!!!

BIO: Wyng is a Canadian expatriate whose journalistic career with Vancouver's leading English-language daily newspaper spanned decades of investigative reporting, including covering crime, courts, legal affairs, politics and business news. He currently works as a senior sub-editor at The Standard, where he mentors young journalists when not busy serving as personal editor for the "Mary Ma" column.