



## **Towngas supports catering industry in bid to aid economic recovery**

(5 May 2020) In response to the Hong Kong Government's announcement to ease COVID-19 related social-distancing restrictions commencing 8 May, The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) has swiftly announced a new round of relief support measures. Entitled **“Supporting F&B and the Economy”**, the campaign includes an online shopping loyalty programme as well as food and beverage (F&B) coupons to encourage the public to dine out, along with a kitchen equipment rental and purchase scheme for qualifying small and medium eateries.

Towngas' **“Supporting F&B and the Economy”** campaign aims to bring about all-round positive impact on the public, the catering industry, society and the revival of the economy. The one-stop shopping and dining offers serve to bring convenience and positivity to the public, while the F&B coupons aim to spur spending to support the catering industry, which has suffered severely as a result of the pandemic. At the same time, the kitchen equipment rental and purchase scheme makes it easier for those who are interested in starting a catering business to join the industry, thereby helping it prosper.

Towngas first launched various measures over six months ago to support the ailing catering industry, including the three-month-long Credit Period Extension Scheme launched in October 2019 offering a two-month deferral on gas bill payment due dates for merchants, as well as the application and distribution of a nano photocatalytic long-acting disinfectant spray to Hong Kong eateries, which began in March. To date, over 10,000 eateries have benefited.

With the recent lull in the number of novel coronavirus cases, Towngas is swiftly introducing the second phase of its catering industry revival support campaign, offering aid on three fronts.

First of all, Towngas is launching a new loyalty programme and online shopping platform in mid-May, entitled Towngas Fun. Upon registration, Towngas customers will instantly receive a coupon valued at HK\$50 to be used at over 1,000 participating eateries. Through such means to stimulate dine-out spending, Towngas hopes to help kick-start the recovery of the economy. The **“Supporting**

**F&B and the Economy**” campaign has enjoyed the support of numerous organisations and corporations, including ZA Bank, Hung Fook Tong Group Holdings Limited, New China Laundry, Noritz Hong Kong Company Limited, On Kee Dry Seafood Co. Ltd, Saint Honore Cake Shop Ltd., Pro-Fit Industrial Co. Ltd, Chung Tin Kitchen Wares Co Ltd, Kai Bo Group, Lee’s Richland (HK) Engineering Company Limited, Ling Lee International Ltd., Jackson (HK) Engineering Company Limited Champion Group International Limited, Pacific Foodservice Equipment Co. Ltd, and more. The list of supporting organisations will continue to be updated along with various offers, including six additional F&B coupons for members who become new customers of ZA Bank’s.

In addition, in response to the recent significant impact of the pandemic on the catering industry, Towngas has launched a kitchen equipment rental and purchase scheme for small and medium eateries to facilitate those who are looking to start their own F&B business, with details to be available in mid-May.

The third item on the agenda of the second-phase measures provides a safety net for participating eateries: Eatery owners who open an account at ZA Bank will be covered by the ZA F&B Relief Fund, and may enjoy protection up to HK\$50,000 in the unfortunate event that the eatery is subject to temporary closure as a result of the novel coronavirus<sup>1</sup>.

Mr Alfred Chan Wing-kin, Towngas Managing Director, remarked, “The novel coronavirus has dramatically impacted a vast range of industries in Hong Kong. Many eateries are facing difficulties with cash flow, with some even having to close down. As part of its continued support to the public and its industry partners, Towngas has deferred gas bill payment deadlines and distributed disinfectant to help people overcome the recent challenges. With the current lull in the number of novel coronavirus cases, Towngas has reacted immediately with the swift launch of the **‘Supporting F&B and the Economy’** campaign to speedily instil enthusiasm and momentum in the public, the industry and the economy, with the aim of supporting the revival of the Hong Kong economy and helping it regain its vigour. Supporting the industry in overcoming the present hurdles is the focal point of our current campaign.”

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<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the terms and conditions released by ZA F&B Relief Fund for details.

The Towngas Fun membership programme and online shopping platform is now available in the form of a mobile app on Google Play and App Store for download. Please refer to the relevant details on [www.towngasfun.com](http://www.towngasfun.com).

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## Press Photos

Photo 1:



Towngas is launching its brand-new membership programme and online loyalty platform, Towngas Fun. Towngas customers will instantly receive an F&B coupon valued at HK\$50 upon registration.

Photo 2



Mr Alfred Chan Wing-kin, Towngas Managing Director, applying nano photocatalytic long-acting disinfectant spray at an eatery earlier.

Photo 3



Mr Alfred Chan Wing-kin (back row, 4<sup>th</sup> from left), Towngas Managing Director, joins the team of corporate and customer volunteers to apply nano photocatalytic long-acting disinfectant spray at eateries.

Photo 4



Since March 2020, Towngas staff and volunteers have helped apply nano photocatalytic long-acting disinfectant spray at numerous eateries.