



16 June 2026

Dear Members,

Last Friday evening, we were delighted to host the Last week, at the invitation of the Australian Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, HE Scott Dewar, AustCham Chair Jason Chang, Vice-Chair Josephine Orgill and I attended the annual Team Australia gathering at the Australian Embassy in Beijing.

The programme brought together Australian Chambers from across Greater China, Australian Consuls-General, State Government representatives, Austrade, Tourism Australia, DFAT Canberra, the National Foundation for Australia-China Relations and Embassy section heads. Discussions were structured around updates on the bilateral relationship, Chamber priorities for the year ahead and identifying practical opportunities for cooperation.

A clear theme from the week was that the Australia–China economic relationship continues to evolve beyond a simple commodity trade model. Increasingly, opportunities are emerging in areas where China's industrial capabilities align with Australia's domestic priorities.

In new energy, capabilities in solar and battery storage are directly relevant to Australia's residential solar uptake and growing demand for grid-scale storage. In construction and infrastructure, advances in prefabrication and green building materials are increasingly relevant to Australia's housing and infrastructure pipeline. Activity is also expanding across advanced manufacturing and electric vehicle supply chains.

For members, this points to growing scope for partnership, investment, and collaboration alongside trade.

Hong Kong's role as a financial and commercial gateway was strongly reinforced. The Hong Kong Exchange ranked first globally for IPO activity in the first quarter, with strong international investor participation. Capital raising activity is increasingly supporting cross-border expansion and regional growth strategies.

For Australian companies, Hong Kong remains a practical and internationally familiar base from which to engage with the Greater Bay Area. Structured market access programmes continue to provide clear pathways for investment and business development. For companies headquartered in Hong Kong, proximity to regional decision-makers and on-the-ground insight remains a clear advantage.

The Greater Bay Area continues to offer scale and integration that is difficult to replicate elsewhere. Australian Chambers across the region are placing increasing emphasis on industry-specific engagement and direct business matching to support members seeking expansion.

Macau is also broadening its economic base beyond tourism, with growth in finance, healthcare and high-end meetings and events. Development on Hengqin Island is creating additional commercial platforms that may be relevant for members in professional services, infrastructure, healthcare, and events sectors.

One practical takeaway from the week was the continued importance of direct engagement. First-hand exposure remains valuable in ensuring strategic decisions reflect current commercial conditions. For Hong Kong-based businesses, being present in the market provides clarity and confidence when evaluating regional opportunities.

For AustCham HK members, the commercial landscape across Greater China is evolving, but opportunities remain significant. Hong Kong continues to play an important role as a financial centre and gateway into the Greater Bay Area. AustCham HK will continue working closely with our counterparts across the region to ensure members remain well-informed and well-positioned.

We look forward to supporting members as this next phase of regional engagement continues to unfold.

Warm regards,
Mary Simpson, AustCham Hong Kong Chief Executive