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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

18th Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto (HKETO) continues to sponsor this year's "Hong Kong Cup -- Calligraphy and Painting Competitions" organised by the Association of Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth.

The competitions are part of the "18th Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth" organised by the Association, with an aim to arouse interest in Hong Kong among school children of different ages. The theme of the calligraphy and painting competitions this year is "One Country, Two Systems". Adjudication of the competitions will be carried out at the office of HKETO on May 5, 2018.

Click here to read the details.

Seminar on "Hong Kong and the Gold Mountain Dream"

The York Centre for Asian Research and the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library are co-presenting the Second Bernard H.K. Luk Memorial Lecture in Hong Kong Studies, titled "Hong Kong and the Gold Mountain Dream" on May 10, 2018. HKETO is a sponsor of the seminar.

Professor Elizabeth Sinn from the University of Hong Kong will be the keynote speaker of this event. Professor Sinn will be speaking on Hong Kong as an "in-between place" during Chinese migration to California for various opportunities in the latter part of the 19th century.

Other speakers of the event include: Chancellor Emerita of the University of Toronto and retired Senator of Canada, Dr. Vivienne Poy; Director of the York Centre for Asian Research, Professor Abidin Kusno; Chief Librarian of the University of Toronto Libraries, Mr. Larry Alford; and Richard Charles Lee Chair in Chinese Canadian Studies of the University of Toronto, Professor Lisa Mar.

Click here to read the details.

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"Hong Kong: Asia's World City" Roving Exhibition

HKETO will stage the "Hong Kong: Asia's World City" Roving Exhibition at various locations in the Greater Toronto Area and the Greater Vancouver Area from May to October 2018. The exhibition will showcase the achievements and little known beauty of Hong Kong in various aspects such as economic development, innovation and technology, transport and infrastructure, and arts and culture, etc. The first stop of the roving exhibition will be held at Markham Civic Centre from May 18 to 24, 2018, and an opening ceremony to kick off the exhibition will be held at the Centre on May 18, 2018. The tentative dates and venues of other stops are as follows:

June 14-19 Vancouver Public Library in Vancouver June 18-24 Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong

Library of the University of Toronto

Mid July Aberdeen Centre in Richmond, B.C. August 20-26 Cadillac Fairview Mall in Toronto

August 27-31 Toronto City Hall

Early October McMaster University in Hamilton

2018 HKCBA National Conference

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) will host its 2018 National Conference in Montreal on May 25, 2018. The Conference will look into the latest economic developments of China and the rest of Asia, showcase the opportunities presented by the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area and the Belt and Road Initiative as well as how Canadian companies can use Hong Kong as the platform to tap into the opportunities in China and the wider Belt and Road region. HKETO is the lead sponsor of the event. Register now. The detailed programme is set out in the link below.

Click here to read the details.

3rd Belt and Road Summit in Hong Kong

HKETO, in partnership with the HKCBA and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), would like to invite Canadian companies to join the 3rd Belt and Road Summit which will be held on June 28, 2018 in Hong Kong.

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The Summit brings together senior government officials, representatives of international institutions, business leaders and industry experts from countries along and beyond the Belt and Road region to exchange views on multilateral co-operation and explore new business opportunities arising from the Belt and Road Initiative. The Summit will enable participants to leverage Hong Kong's unique advantages to seize the enormous business opportunities presented by the Initiative from banking and financial services, logistics and maritime services, professional services, infrastructure development to international trade and manufacturing, etc.

For registration and more details about the Summit, please contact Mr Andrew Yui, Director, Canada, HKTDC, at andrew.yui@hktdc.org (email) or 416-366-3594 (telephone).

HONG KONG NEWS

Internet Economy Summit held in Hong Kong

Themed "New Impetus for the New Economy", the 3rd Internet Economy Summit (IES) took place from April 12 to 13, 2018 in Hong Kong. Industry leaders, experts and entrepreneurs from multinational technology enterprises, leading Internet firms and "unicorn" start-ups shared their insights on the latest trends of the Internet economy and examined with the audience strategies for capturing the enormous opportunities that arise.

The two-day Summit featured four forums, namely the Visionary Forum, Chambers Forum: Business Breakthrough, the Entrepreneurship Forum and the Technovation Forum, with some 50 renowned experts from around the world speaking. Around 2 400 participants had registered to join the Summit.

Speaking at the opening of the Summit, the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Mrs Carrie Lam, highlighted Hong Kong Government's efforts to drive innovation and technology in Hong Kong and attract the best talents from the Mainland and overseas to enrich Hong Kong's ecosystem. In order to attract the world's top scientific research institutions and technology enterprises to Hong Kong, the HKSAR Government have earmarked HK\$10 billion to support the establishment of two research clusters in Hong Kong: one on healthcare technologies and the other on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies.

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Click here to read the details. Click here to read the details. Click here to read the details.

HKSAR Government will phase out local ivory trade and increase penalties on illicit trade in endangered species from May

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department announced that the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 (Amendment Ordinance) will come into effect on May 1, 2018.

The Amendment Ordinance will take forward a three-step plan to enhance regulations on import and re-export of ivory and elephant hunting trophies and to phase out the local ivory trade, and increase the maximum penalties on smuggling and illegal trade in endangered species to a HK\$10 million fine and 10 years' imprisonment to provide stronger deterrent effects.

For more details of the Amendment Ordinance and the control of endangered species, please visit www.cites.hk.

Click here to read the details.

Eligibility criteria for the Caring and Sharing Scheme

The HKSAR Government announced on April 21 that the eligibility criteria for the Caring and Sharing Scheme and a set of Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Scheme have been made available on the website of the Working Family Allowance Office (WFAO) (www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/careandshare/en/index.htm).

The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, announced on March 23, 2018 the Caring and Sharing Scheme of the 2018-19 Budget. A person who meets the relevant eligibility criteria may apply for HK\$4,000 or the balance after deducting the relevant tax concession and/or rates concession. The WFAO is responsible for implementing the Scheme. WFAO expects the Scheme to be open for applications on February 1, 2019 at the earliest, and will announce the application arrangements before end 2018.

For further enquiries, please contact WFAO (email: careandshare@wfsfaa.gov.hk).

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Click here to read the details.

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