

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Kung Fu Fridays: Fatal Fists and Crazy Kicks from the Shaw Brothers

HKETO, in partnership with the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), is proud to present *The Kung Fu Fridays: Fatal Fists and Crazy Kicks from the Shaw Brothers* at the TIFF Bell Lightbox. Ten kung fu classics produced by the Shaw Brothers Studio in Hong Kong in the 70s and 80s will be screened on Fridays until April 12, 2019.

Tickets are on sale now and the full programme of the event can be found at <https://www.tiff.net/calendar.html?series=shaw-brothers&list>

Table Tennis Tournament by Canada-HK New Horizon Lions Club in Toronto

Canada-Hong Kong New Horizon Lions Club will host a press conference on its 10th Annual Charity Table Tennis Tournament on April 17. The HKETO sponsors the "Media Cup" which will be presented to the winning team in the Media category. The deadline for the competition registration is May 12.

For more information, please visit the official website of the organiser: <http://www.newhorizonlions.org/>

HONG KONG NEWS

CE attends China Development Forum 2019 in Beijing

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Mrs Carrie Lam, attended the China Development Forum 2019 organised by the Development Research Centre of the State Council at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on March 25.

In delivering a speech at the session on "The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area: A Rising Star in the Global Economy", Mrs Lam quoted the three "unprecedented circumstances" surrounding the Greater Bay Area development as described by the Vice Premier of the State Council, Mr Han Zheng, in his remarks at the second plenary meeting of the Greater Bay Area Leading Group. She emphasised that Hong Kong will faithfully uphold the principle of "One Country, Two Systems" and leverage on the city's clear and compelling strengths. Citing Hong Kong's strengths in

finance and innovation and technology as examples, Mrs Lam said Hong Kong can play an active role in the Greater Bay Area development.

The Governor of Guangdong Province, Mr Ma Xingrui, and the Chief Executive of the Macao Special Administrative Region, Mr Chui Sai-on, also spoke in the session.

Mrs Lam on March 24 attended the forum's opening ceremony and listened to the keynote speech delivered by Mr Han. She also attended various sessions with different guest speakers and the forum's 20th Anniversary Welcome Banquet. Vice President Wang Qishan attended the dinner to welcome guests from different places.

The China Development Forum has been hosted annually since 2000 with the aim of "Engaging with the World for Common Prosperity". The forum serves as a pivotal platform for dialogues between leaders of the Central Government, the global business community and international organisations as well as academia at home and abroad. The theme of this year's forum is "Greater Opening-up for Win-Win Cooperation" and the event is being held for three consecutive days (from March 23 to 25) in Beijing.

Mrs Lam returned to Hong Kong in the afternoon of March 25.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

SCED leads business delegation to visit Georgia and Hungary

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, Mr Edward Yau, led a delegation comprising more than 30 business people and professionals as well as representatives of start-ups to visit Georgia and Hungary from March 18 to 22 to promote Hong Kong as the prime platform for the Belt and Road Initiative and the city's strengths in professional services and doing business.

On March 18, Mr Yau delivered a keynote speech at the Seminar cum Networking Dinner entitled "Hong Kong IN: Exploring New Business opportunities" jointly organised by the HKSAR Government and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) in Tbilisi, Georgia. Mr Yau emphasised Hong Kong's strengths as a key business matching platform for Georgian enterprises seeking and forging strategic partnerships. He said that given Georgia's prime location at the crossroads of Asia and Europe and Hong Kong's edge on various fronts including in having a deep pool of professional talents, Hong Kong and Georgia enjoy a wealth of opportunities to further strengthen connections and achieve synergy under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Prior to the seminar, Mr Yau met with the Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Mr George Kobulia, to learn about Georgia's latest

government policies and economic development plans as well as the overall investment and business opportunities in the region.

On March 19, Mr Yau met with the Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia, Mrs Maya Tskitishvili, and the Minister of Finance of Georgia, Mr Ivane Machavariani, to understand the latest government policies and infrastructure development plans as well as the overall investment and business opportunities in Georgia.

Mr Yau said the Hong Kong-Georgia Free Trade Agreement (FTA), being the first such agreement signed between Hong Kong and a country in the Caucasus region, not only enhances trade and investment flows between Hong Kong and Georgia, but also paves the way for Hong Kong business and professional services sectors as well as start-ups to tap into the enormous opportunities in the Caucasus region under the Belt and Road Initiative.

On March 21, Mr Yau attended the Chinese New Year Reception hosted by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Berlin and HKTDC in Budapest, Hungary. Speaking at the reception, Mr Yau said that with a global outlook and international connectivity, Hong Kong enterprises and professionals play an indispensable role in making Hong Kong the prime platform for Hungarian enterprises to participate in the Belt and Road Initiative.

Before the reception, Mr Yau met with the Deputy Governor of Magyar Nemzeti Bank, Dr Ferenc Gerhardt; the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, Mr Levente Magyar; and the State Secretary for Financial Affairs of the Ministry of Finance of Hungary, Mr Gabor Gion, to learn about Hungary's monetary and fiscal policy and economic development plans as well as the overall investment and business environment in the region.

On March 22, Mr Yau and the delegation paid a visit to the plant of Johnson Electric Hungary Kft in Budapest to understand the investment and operating conditions of Hong Kong-based companies in Hungary.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

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Hong Kong and Australia sign Free Trade Agreement and Investment Agreement

Hong Kong and Australia signed a FTA and an Investment Agreement, which are comprehensive in scope, covering trade in goods, trade in services, investment, intellectual property, government procurement, competition and other related areas; and are modern and of high standard. The Agreements provide Hong Kong traders and investors with legal certainty and more favourable access to the Australian market, whilst creating more business opportunities and enhancing trade and investment flows between the two places.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, Mr Edward Yau, and the Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Mr Simon Birmingham, signed the Agreements in Sydney, Australia on March 26.

Immediately upon the entry into force of the FTA, Hong Kong-originating goods can enter Australia totally tariff-free and via simplified procedures. Other benefits of the FTA include facilitative arrangements for business travel as well as provisions to facilitate access to each other's government procurement markets, effective protection of intellectual property rights and promotion of competition.

The FTA and the Investment Agreement negotiations between Hong Kong and Australia commenced in May 2017 and were concluded within just 18 months in November 2018. They will take effect after Hong Kong and Australia have completed their respective internal procedures.

For key benefits of the Agreements to Hong Kong, please refer to the Annex. Full text of the Agreements will be uploaded to the Trade and Industry Department's website (www.tid.gov.hk).

[Click here to read the details.](#)

Government welcomes EU's removal of Hong Kong from watchlist on tax co-operation

The HKSAR Government on March 13 welcomed the decision of the European Union (EU) to remove Hong Kong from its watchlist on tax co-operation in recognition of the efforts made by Hong Kong on the international tax co-operation front.

The Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of the HKSAR Government, Mr James Lau, said that as an international financial centre, Hong Kong has all along proactively supported and facilitated the efforts of the international community in enhancing tax transparency and combating cross-border tax evasion. Since 2018, Hong Kong has implemented various initiatives relating to international tax co-operation and fulfilled the commitments made to the EU. The latest decision of the EU shows that

Hong Kong's compliance with the standards of international tax co-operation is recognised by the international community.

In 2017 and 2018, the EU had put 68 tax jurisdictions including Hong Kong on the watchlist, and monitored the progress of the relevant jurisdictions in implementing the requirements of international tax co-operation.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

CAD temporarily prohibits operation of Boeing B737 MAX aircraft into, out of and over Hong Kong

The Civil Aviation Department (CAD) of HKSAR Government announced that operation of all Boeing B737 MAX aircraft into, out of and over Hong Kong will be temporarily prohibited from 6pm on March 13 until further notice.

The CAD has been closely monitoring the developments, the investigation progress and the information from relevant aviation authorities. Having regard to the latest situation, the CAD has decided to temporarily prohibit operation of Boeing B737 MAX aircraft into, out of and over Hong Kong. It emphasised that the temporary prohibition is solely a precautionary measure to ensure aviation safety and protect the public.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

Hong Kong residents born in 1968 or 1969 should apply for new smart identity cards between April 1 and June 1

The Immigration Department (ImmD) of HKSAR Government announced on March 21 that from April 1 to June 1, 2019, Hong Kong residents born in 1968 or 1969 should apply for a new smart identity card in person at a Smart Identity Card Replacement Centre (SIDCC). The SIDCCs will be open from Mondays to Saturdays, from 8am to 10pm (except public holidays).

The Territory-wide Identity Card Replacement Exercise covers all Hong Kong residents, who should apply for new smart identity cards in person at SIDCCs during their specified periods, whether they are permanent residents or non-permanent residents taking up employment, investment, residence or study in Hong Kong.

For this replacement exercise, the ImmD is implementing a new caring arrangement under which eligible applicants may bring along up to two family members or friends aged 65 or above to replace their smart identity cards together during the same visit.

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If eligible Hong Kong residents are absent from Hong Kong during their call-up period, they can apply within 30 days of their return to Hong Kong.

For details of the Territory-wide Identity Card Replacement Exercise, please visit the website www.smartid.gov.hk or call the enquiry hotline 2824 6111.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

ICAC updates international communities on anti-corruption efforts

The latest issue of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)'s electronic newsletter, ICAC Post, has been uploaded on the ICAC corporate website. Highlights of this issue include:

- 45 Years Of Anti-Corruption Work: Winning The Battles And The War
- Together For A Cleaner Future
- Stating My Case -- Reflections Of 35 Years Of Anti-Graft Service
- Hong Kong -- One Of The World's Cleanest Places

Click here to read the details:

<https://www.icac.org.hk/icac/post/issue35/en/index.html>

Recruitment of qualified doctors outside Hong Kong

The Hospital Authority (HA) continues to recruit non-locally trained doctors for the positions of:

a. Service Resident

https://erecruit.ha.org.hk/career/Default.asp?PID=3&AC=HKHA&EC=HA_Adm&GC=HA_ADM&JobID=30669&LID=1&WD5B84991091489792; and

b. Associate Consultant under various specialties

https://erecruit.ha.org.hk/career/Default.asp?PID=3&AC=HKHA&EC=HA_Adm&GC=HA_ADM&JobID=31448&LID=1&WD5A94968813657761

Interested candidates are welcome to visit HA's website

http://www.ha.org.hk/visitor/ha_visitor_index.asp?Content_ID=2010&Lang=ENG&Dimension=100 for online application.

A promotional brochure is also enclosed for reference.

[\[Attachment HA 1\]](#)

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The application period for the posts will close on 31 March 2019 (Hong Kong time).

In addition, the Department of Health in Hong Kong is recruiting qualified doctors outside Hong Kong for the positions of Non-civil Service Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) and Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) (Child Assessment).

Applications for the above two posts are accepted all year round. Eligibility requirements are set out in the attached recruitment notices of the Department of Health. Enquiries can be made to the Department of Health at appts_registry1@dh.gov.hk and online application can be made through the Civil Service Bureau's website at <http://www.csb.gov.hk>. Job numbers are 40221 (Contract Doctor (without Full Registration)) and 40248 (Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) (Child Assessment)).

[\[DH1\]](#)

[\[DH2\]](#)

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