

## Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

May 8, 2019



### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

#### Hong Kong Week themed "Connect and Excel" organised by HKETO

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) launched a dedicated website (<https://hkweek2019hketo.ca/>) for the "Hong Kong Week" event themed "Connect and Excel" in June 2019. Click the link below to access to the website:

<https://hkweek2019hketo.ca/>

HKETO will stage and support the following activities to promote Hong Kong's strengths, advantages and potential with emphasis on the core values and attributes of the city under the "Hong Kong Week".

#### 1. Photo exhibitions "Connect and Excel – Past, Present and Future"

HKETO will jointly present with the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto (CCPST) a photo exhibition entitled "Connect & Excel – Past, Present & Future" in different locations in the Greater Toronto Area and Vancouver. The photo exhibition will display photographs to showcase Hong Kong's high degree of connectivity globally and with the Mainland China in terms of infrastructure. It will also focus on the city's people-to-people connectivity. You are invited to connect/re-connect with Hong Kong through this photo exhibition.

The first stop of the photo exhibition will be held at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto (CCC) from June 15 to 20, 2019, and an opening ceremony to kick off the exhibition in the Greater Toronto Area will be held at the CCC on June 18, 2019. The dates and venues of other stops are as follows:

June 18-22 North York Civic Centre in Toronto

June 18-30 Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library of the University of Toronto

June 24-30 Robson Square, University of British Columbia in Vancouver

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

#### 2. Seminar on "Connecting Hong Kong and Canada through Music"

The Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library of the University of Toronto will host a seminar on "Connecting Hong Kong and Canada through Music" on

June 18, with Professor Chan Wing-wah as the keynote speaker. HKETO is a sponsor of the seminar.

Professor Chan is a renowned composer and conductor in Hong Kong and is currently the Music Director of the Hong Kong Oratorio Society. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and went on to finish his Master and Doctor of Music degrees at the University of Toronto on a Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship. He had performed worldwide and written over 200 works including western and Chinese orchestral and chamber works, choral music, hymns and children songs.

### **3. 2019 HKCBA National Conference**

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) will host its 2019 National Conference themed "Think Asia, Think Hong Kong 2.0" in Markham, Ontario on June 21. The Conference will showcase business opportunities in the Greater Bay Area and Belt and Road Initiative and explore strategies Canadian companies can use to conquer trade with Asia through the Hong Kong platform. It is expected to attract 150 to 200 delegates from the business sectors across Canada and Hong Kong.

The Conference is ideal for startups, SMEs and corporations alike interested in expanding to or attracting project funding from Hong Kong, active in Asia seeking to propel growth or seeking that competitive advantage in their international strategy. HKETO is the lead sponsor of the event. Register now.

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

### **4. Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival**

The 31st Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival organised by the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society will be held from June 21 to 23, 2019 at Concord Pacific Place, Creekside Park and the waters of False Creek in Vancouver. 5 500 paddlers in over 200 teams from across Canada and the world will compete in this festival. HKETO is the sponsor of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office International Cup Grand Final, which will see the top Canadian teams face off against top teams from around the world.

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

### **5. "Voices of the World" concert**

The Hong Kong Oratorio Society, led by renowned Hong Kong composer Professor Chan Wing-wah, will stage a concert entitled "Voices of the World" with the Kindred Spirits Orchestra and Vancouver Oratorio Society at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts on June 22. The world premiere of a symphony piece written by Professor Chan specifically for this concert will be presented. You are invited to enjoy this concert connecting audience and seasoned musicians from Hong Kong, Toronto and Vancouver.

Tickets are on sale now and details of the concert can be found at [this link](#).

### **6. Hong Kong-themed musical performances "Try to Remember"**

Sponsored by HKETO, Dramaone Vancouver will stage two performances of the musical entitled "Try to Remember" at the Michael J Fox Theatre in Vancouver on June 30. An artistic talk hosted by Director Peter Poon and the leading actors of the musical production and a VIP reception will be held before the closing performance.

"Try to Remember" is an original play written by renowned Canadian Hong Kong Director Peter Poon about the love stories of three couples from different generations in Hong Kong. The musical will present many songs that were popular in Hong Kong from the 1960s to 1980s, through which the Canadian audience can learn and understand more about the vibrant art and culture scene of Hong Kong in different eras.

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

### **Other Activities**

#### **Table Tennis Tournament by Canada-Hong Kong New Horizon Lions Club**

Canada-Hong Kong New Horizon Lions Club will hold its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Table Tennis Tournament in Toronto on May 18, 19 and June 1. The "Media Cup", sponsored by HKETO, 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.

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### **19th Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth**

HKETO continues to sponsor this year's "Hong Kong Cup – Calligraphy, Painting and Colouring Competitions" organised by the Association of Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth.

The competitions are part of the "19th 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, painting and colouring competitions this year is "Basic Law". Adjudication of the competitions will be carried out at the office of HKETO on May 11, 2019, and the award presentation ceremony will be held on May 20, 2019 at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto.

For details, please visit the official [website](#).

### **HONG KONG NEWS**

#### **Hong Kong participates actively in second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing**

Led by the Chief Executive of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Mrs Carrie Lam, a high-level delegation comprising senior government officials and members of various sectors of Hong Kong participated actively in the thematic forums of the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing on April 25.

Mrs Lam delivered keynote speeches at the opening sessions of the thematic forums on sub-national co-operation and financial connectivity. Addressing the international audience at the thematic forum on sub-national co-operation, she highlighted Hong Kong's unique advantages which position Hong Kong well to play a pivotal role in enhancing international and regional co-operation in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative.

At the thematic forum on financial connectivity, Mrs Lam pointed out that the single most relevant advantage of Hong Kong that could best meet the country's needs is its financial services given its status as a global financial centre. She said that with its deep capital market, as one of the largest bond markets in the region and as the biggest offshore Renminbi centre in the world, Hong Kong is a one-stop destination of choice to serve as a premier financial and risk management centre for the Belt and Road's big-ticket projects.

In addition to attending the thematic forums on financial connectivity and sub-national co-operation, the Hong Kong delegation attended 10 other thematic forums on policy, infrastructure, trade and people-to-people connectivity, think-tank exchanges, clean silk road, digital silk road, green silk road, silk road of innovation, and economic and trade co-operation zone promotion. They also participated in the CEO Conference.

On April 26, Mrs Lam, together with the Hong Kong delegates, attended the opening ceremony and the high-level meetings of the Forum. She also attended the welcome dinner and cultural performance in the evening.

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

### **IFFO and Sinasure sign MoU on infrastructure financing facilitation**

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), Mr Norman Chan, and the Chairman of China Export & Credit Insurance Corporation (Sinasure), Mr Song Shuguang, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on April 24 with respect to establishing a strategic framework of co-operation to facilitate the financing and investments of infrastructure projects via the Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office (IFFO) platform.

As the official Export Credit Agency of the Chinese Government, Sinasure has been an active player in the Hong Kong infrastructure financing market. With closer collaborations between Sinasure and IFFO under the MoU framework, Sinasure will continue to develop its full range of product offerings, including project financing insurance, overseas investment insurance, guarantee, and credit rating, with a view to facilitating infrastructure financing activities by Hong Kong-based financial institutions. Sinasure and IFFO will also work closely together in reaching out to more Mainland Chinese corporates and encourage them to make greater use of Hong Kong's platform for their investments in overseas infrastructure projects.

On the other hand, the Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation Limited (HKMC) and Sinasure signed another MoU on the same day in Beijing on co-operation in infrastructure financing. Both parties will strengthen co-operation in multiple areas including collaborating on infrastructure project financing, and exchanging experience and best practices in infrastructure financing transactions, with the common goal of consolidating Hong Kong's position as an infrastructure financing hub and facilitating infrastructure investment and financing flows.

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

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### **Bank and restaurants use Hong Kong to venture new markets**

A Mainland investment bank, North Beta Capital, officially opened its North Beta International Securities Limited in Hong Kong on May 6, tapping the city's international status to assist new economy companies from the Mainland to scale globally.

North Beta International Securities Limited is a financial services company that provides securities underwriting, initial public offering subscription, securities trading, settlement, stock custodian, agency services, advice on securities and more in capital markets.

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

On the other hand, Kyoto Ichinoden announced on May 1 that it has opened its first overseas restaurant in Hong Kong, celebrating the brand's 100th anniversary while also tapping into the city's unique role in the region and its close ties with the Mainland market for future expansion.

Kyoto Ichinoden's debut local restaurant is located in a major shopping mall in the heart of Tsim Sha Tsui, offering traditional Japanese cuisine including Kyoto kaiseki (multi-course dinner) and saikyozuke (seasonal meat or fish fillet pickled in Saikyo miso).

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

### **Hong Kong residents born in 1968 or 1969 should apply for new smart identity cards on or before June 1**

The Immigration Department (ImmD) on May 3 reminded Hong Kong residents born in 1968 or 1969 to apply for a new smart identity card in person at a Smart Identity Card Replacement Centre (SIDCC) on or before June 1. The SIDCCs will be open from Mondays to Saturdays, from 8am to 10pm (except public holidays).

To avoid a last-minute rush, eligible applicants may make an appointment booking via the Internet ([www.gov.hk/newicbooking](http://www.gov.hk/newicbooking)), the ImmD mobile application or the 24-hour telephone booking hotline (852) 2121 1234. Eligible applicants may also bring along up to two family members or friends aged 65 or above to replace their smart identity cards together during the same visit to an SIDCC.

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If eligible applicants 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](http://www.smartid.gov.hk) or call the enquiry hotline (852) 2824 6111.

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

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