

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO Director hosts reception for I&T delegates from Hong Kong

Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Ms Emily Mo, hosted a reception for Hong Kong Innovation and Technology (I&T) delegates attending the Collision Conference 2019 in Toronto on May 21.

In delivering the welcoming remarks at the reception, Ms Mo gave an account of the vibrant start-up scene in Hong Kong. The strong growth is driven by a robust network of incubators and accelerators, as well as the unique business advantages offered by Hong Kong which make Hong Kong the most preferred destination for businesses, and the best gateway to opportunities in Mainland China and the rest of Asia.

Besides hosting the reception, Ms Mo took the opportunity to visit the Hong Kong delegation, including 14 start-ups sponsored by InvestHK and Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, at the Collision Conference 2019 held at the Enercare Centre from May 20-23. The Collision Conference is the fastest-growing technology conference in North America gathering many of the world's most disruptive emerging technology companies, start-ups and investors.

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

HKETO promotes Hong Kong as an ideal partner to venture into the Belt and Road region

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the business workshop entitled "Hong Kong - Starting Your Belt and Road Journey" organised by the M&A Club Toronto in Toronto on May 21.

In her presentation, Ms Mo highlighted the enormous business opportunities arising from the Belt and Road Initiative for Canada and said that Hong Kong is an ideal platform for Canadian companies to capture these opportunities. She encouraged participants to partner with Hong Kong to explore the abundant business opportunities brought by the Initiative.

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

HKETO Director attends Asian Heritage Month Concert

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the Asian Heritage Month Concert organised by the Asian Heritage Month-Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) at Innis Town Hall on May 21.

Speaking at the concert, Ms Mo noted the deep historical and cultural linkages between Hong Kong and Canada. She was delighted to see artists and musicians with Hong Kong roots taking part in the Asian Heritage Month celebration concert.

The concert is one of the major celebration events to acknowledge the contributions of the Canadians of Asian origin in Canada.

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

HKETO Director presents "Hong Kong Cup - Calligraphy, Painting and Colouring Competitions" Awards

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the "19th Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth" award presentation ceremony organised by the Association of Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto on May 20.

Speaking at the award presentation ceremony, Ms Mo said that this annual contest is a platform for Canadian students to learn and understand more about Hong Kong. HKETO has been sponsoring the "Hong Kong Cup - Calligraphy, Painting and Colouring Competitions" awards of the Contest for more than a decade and the theme of this year's competition was "Basic Law". This year's competitions received an overwhelming response, attracting about 3 000 entries and adjudication was carried out on May 11.

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

Director of HKETO visits Victoria, Vancouver and Calgary for business promotion

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, visited Victoria, Vancouver and Calgary from May 13 to 15 to promote the unique advantages of doing business in Hong Kong as well as the abundant business opportunities brought by the Belt and Road Initiative.

During the visit, Ms Mo visited the parliament of Victoria to call on British Columbia Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology, Mr Bruce Ralston and Minister of State for Trade of British Columbia, Mr George Chow. She briefed them on the latest developments in Hong Kong and exchanged views with them on Hong Kong-Canada relations. She also attended a lunch meeting with Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia and the community leaders in Victoria. On the same day, Ms Mo had a meeting with the officials of the City of Victoria to explore ways to further enhance the bi-lateral trade relations between Victoria and Hong Kong.

Ms Mo also attended the Public Sector Management Workshop hosted by the Financial Management Institute of Canada in Vancouver and gave a presentation on the Belt and Road Initiative. After the workshop, Ms Mo spoke at a luncheon entitled "Hong Kong - Starting your Belt and Road Journey", hosted by the BC Youth Business Association and BC Women Business Association in Vancouver.

After Vancouver, Ms Mo moved on to Calgary to attend a lunch workshop organised by the M&A Club Calgary. She gave a presentation on the enormous business opportunities arising from the Belt and Road Initiative for Canada.

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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

HKETO launched a dedicated website 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. This seminar will discuss the connections between Canada and Hong Kong's music cultures. Professor Chan Wing-wah is 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.

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

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.

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

ACCE West Coast networking reception in Vancouver

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, will attend the 2019 West Coast Networking Reception organised by the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) in Vancouver on May 23. This year is ACCE's 25th anniversary. Ms Mo will address the event and promote Hong Kong's unparalleled business advantages and as an ideal platform for doing business in Mainland China and the rest of Asia.

HONG KONG NEWS

Agreements between Hong Kong and ASEAN enters into force

A spokesman from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government announced on May 9 and 11, that the commitments made under the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Hong Kong and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) among Hong Kong and five ASEAN member states, namely Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam will enter into force on June 11.

Upon the implementation of the FTA, on trade in goods, Singapore commits to binding all its customs duties at zero, whereas Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam will progressively eliminate and reduce their customs duties on goods originating from Hong Kong. The tariff reduction commitments cover different kinds of Hong Kong commodities, including jewellery, articles of apparel and clothing accessories, watches and clocks and toys.

On trade in services, upon the implementation of the FTA and in respect of Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam, Hong Kong service providers will enjoy better business opportunities and legal certainty in market access for a comprehensive range of services sectors. These include professional services, business services,

telecommunications services, construction and related engineering services, educational services, financial services, tourism and travel related services, transport services and arbitration services.

In addition, the spokesman said on May 16 that those parts relating to Hong Kong and five Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states, namely Laos, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, under the Investment Agreement (IA) between Hong Kong and ASEAN, will enter into force on June 17.

Upon the entry into force of the IA, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam will provide Hong Kong enterprises investing in their areas with fair and equitable treatment of their investments, physical protection and security of their investments, and the assurance on the free transfer of their investments and returns. In case of expropriation or investment loss owing to war, armed conflict or similar events, the above-mentioned five ASEAN member states will also provide compensation to Hong Kong enterprises investing in their areas according to the agreed standard as specified under the IA.

ASEAN comprises 10 member states, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Hong Kong and ASEAN signed the FTA and an IA at the end of 2017.

The dates of entry into force for the remaining five ASEAN member states (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines) will be announced as soon as they are confirmed.

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

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

SCED attends APEC and OECD meetings

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, Mr Edward Yau, attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) Meeting held in Chile, and will join the Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) Informal Ministerial Gathering in France from May 22 to 23.

Mr Yau first attended the APEC MRT Meeting in Vina del Mar, Chile on May 17. APEC 2019 is themed "Connecting People, Building the Future". Mr Yau joined discussion

sessions with ministers of other member economies on topics including APEC and the WTO, advancing APEC's regional economic integration agenda, and strengthening inclusive and sustainable growth in the digital era. On the sidelines of the MRT Meeting, he signed an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement between Hong Kong and Mexico, and met with other participating ministers for exchanges on bilateral trade and economic relations as well as issues of mutual concern.

On the margins of the APEC MRT, Mr Yau took the opportunity to hold bilateral meetings with the Federal Minister of International Trade Diversification of Canada, Mr James Carr; the Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, Mr Timur Igorevich Maximov; and the Assistant Minister of Commerce, Mr Li Chenggang. They had useful exchanges on bilateral trade and economic relations and issues of mutual concern.

After attending the APEC meetings, Mr Yau visited London, the UK from May 20 to 21. He met with senior government officials and parliamentarians to explore further co-operation on bilateral trade and creative industries development. He delivered a keynote speech at a seminar on Hong Kong creative industries and design, and spoke on Hong Kong's latest economic and trade situation as well as its role in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the Belt and Road Initiative at a roundtable discussion at Asia House. He encouraged British enterprises to leverage on Hong Kong's unique advantages to tap into the opportunities brought by the Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area) development.

Mr Yau will then attend the MCM of the OECD in Paris, France from May 22 to 23. He will attend a ministerial dinner hosted by the Slovak Republic, the Chair of the 2019 MCM, and join a session on digital trade where participating ministers will discuss the impact of digitalisation on trade. On the margins of the MCM, Mr Yau will attend the WTO Informal Ministerial Gathering to discuss issues relating to WTO reform and achievable outcomes for the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference next year.

Mr Yau will return to Hong Kong on May 24.

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

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

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Granting of virtual banking licences

Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

May 23, 2019



The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced on May 9 that the Monetary Authority has granted banking licences under the Banking Ordinance to Ant SME Services (Hong Kong) Limited, Infinium Limited, Insight Fintech HK Limited and Ping An OneConnect Company Limited for them to operate in the form of a virtual bank. The granting of these banking licences takes effect the same day. According to their business plans, these four newly licenced virtual banks intend to launch their services in around six to nine months.

HKMA said the launch of virtual banks in Hong Kong, which is a key component of the Smart Banking Initiatives, will certainly facilitate financial innovation, enhanced customer experience and financial inclusion.

After the granting of the above banking licences, the number of licensed banks in Hong Kong increases to 160.

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

Application for Next Generation HKSAR e-Passport and e-Doc/I start from May 14

The Immigration Department (ImmD) of the HKSAR Government announced on May 9 that it will start to accept applications for the Next Generation HKSAR Electronic Passport (e-Passport) and Electronic Document of Identity for Visa Purposes (e-Doc/I) from May 14 onwards. The time required for processing such applications will be shortened from 10 to five working days.

The new e-Passport and e-Doc/I will continue to be produced in compliance with the standard of the International Civil Aviation Organization, with the holder's personal data and facial image stored in digital form in the contactless chip embedded in the back cover of the documents. Meanwhile, the security features of the new documents will be further enhanced.

To further enhance the service standards, the ImmD has provided additional means for submitting e-Passport applications. Apart from the existing application means, eligible applicants can also submit applications through the ImmD Mobile App.

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

Recruitment of qualified doctors outside Hong Kong

Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

May 23, 2019



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)).

[Click here to read the details of Contract Doctor \(without full registration\)](#)
[Click here to read the details of Contract Doctor \(without full registration\) \(Child Assessment\)\)](#)

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This message was sent from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto, 174 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5R 2M7.

For enquiries, please contact:
Miss Hilda Chow, Public Relations Officer, at
hilda_chow@hketotoronto.gov.hk or 416-924-5544.

For help setting up your business in Hong Kong, please contact:
Ms. Shirley Wong, Head of Investment Promotion at
shirley_wong@hketotoronto.gov.hk or visit www.InvestHK.gov.hk

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