

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Toronto ETO hosts Hong Kong Week opening ceremony cum "Connect & Excel - Past, Present & Future" photo exhibition

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) hosted the opening ceremony of Hong Kong Week cum the "Connect & Excel - Past, Present & Future" photo exhibition at the Dr Hin-Shiu Hung Art Gallery of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto on June 18.

In delivering a welcome speech at the opening ceremony, the Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, said the Hong Kong Week event under the theme "Connect and Excel" aims to promote Hong Kong's strengths, advantages and potential with an emphasis on the core values and attributes of Hong Kong, Asia's world city.

The series of activities to be held in Toronto and Vancouver in the inaugural Hong Kong Week event include the "Think Asia, Think Hong Kong 2.0" business conference which will discuss how Hong Kong connects businesses between Canada and Asia; an academic seminar and a concert on how music connects Hong Kong and Canada; a Hong Kong-themed drama, dragon boat festival activities and photo exhibitions.

Entitled "Connect & Excel - Past, Present & Future", the photo exhibitions are jointly presented by HKETO and the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto. More than 80 photos are displayed to showcase Hong Kong's high degree of connectivity from different perspectives, and the many types of transport and world-class infrastructure in Hong Kong.

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

HKETO Director attends the Toronto International Dragon Boat Race Festival

The 31st Toronto International Dragon Boat Race Festival, organised by the Toronto Chinese Business Association in collaboration with GWN Dragon Boat, was held on the Centre Island in Toronto on June 15 and 16. HKETO is a key sponsor of the festival.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the Festival, Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo said she is glad to see that dragon boat racing, which was originated from Hong Kong, has

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developed roots across Canada. This wonderful event shows the strong and close ties between Hong Kong and Canada.

Ms Mo noted that HKETO has been sponsoring dragon boat racing in different cities across Canada. She encouraged visitors to visit the Hong Kong pavilion where they can learn more about the history of dragon boating and also take pictures in front of images that showcase Hong Kong's connectivity to the world.

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

HKETO promotes Hong Kong as an ideal partner to venture into the Greater Bay Area

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the Business Explore and Investment Summit 2019 organised by the Canadian Municipal Business Gateway in Markham on June 7.

In her presentation at the Summit, Ms Mo introduced the enormous business opportunities arising from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development. The Greater Bay Area development is a national strategy to further deepen cooperation amongst Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, and could fully leverage the composite advantages of the three places. Ms Mo encouraged attending guests to partner with Hong Kong to grasp the business opportunities arising from the development.

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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

<https://hkweek2019hketo.ca/>

This month, HKETO is staging and supporting the following activities under the "Hong Kong Week" to promote Hong Kong's strengths, advantages and potential with emphasis on the core values and attributes of the city. An opening ceremony to kick off the Hong Kong Week and a photo exhibition were held at the Chinese Cultural Centre of

Greater Toronto on June 18. Please visit the Hong Kong Week website (<https://hkweek2019hketo.ca/>) for details.

1. Photo exhibition "Connect and Excel - Past, Present and Future" (mid to end-June)

HKETO jointly presents 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 displays photographs to showcase Hong Kong's high degree of connectivity globally and with the Mainland China in terms of infrastructure. It also focuses on the city's people-to-people connectivity. You are invited to connect/re-connect with Hong Kong through this photo exhibition.

The dates and venues of the exhibition are as follows:

June 18-20	Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto
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. 2019 HKCBA National Conference (June 21)

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.](#)

3. Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival (June 21 to 23)

The 31st Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival organised by the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society will be held from June 21 to 23 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.](#)

4. "Voices of the World" concert (June 22)

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.

5. Hong Kong-themed musical performances "Try to Remember" (June 30)

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.](#)

HKSAR Government's response to public processions against legislative proposal

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government responded to the public processions against the proposed legislative amendments to extradition laws held in Hong Kong on June 9 and 16.

Over the past two Sundays, a large number of people have expressed their views during public processions. The Government understands that these views have been made out of love and care for Hong Kong.

The Chief Executive clearly heard the views expressed in a peaceful and rational manner. She acknowledged that this embodied the spirit of Hong Kong as a civilised, free, open and pluralistic society that values mutual respect, harmony and diversity. The Government also respects and treasures these core values of Hong Kong.

Having regard to the strong and different views in society, the Government has suspended the legislative amendment exercise at the full Legislative Council with a view to restoring calmness in society as soon as possible and avoiding any injuries to any persons. The Government reiterated that there is no timetable for restarting the process.

The Chief Executive admitted that the deficiencies in the Government's work had led to substantial controversies and disputes in society, causing disappointment and grief among the people. The Chief Executive apologised to the people of Hong Kong for this and pledged to adopt a most sincere and humble attitude to accept criticisms and make improvements in serving the public.

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

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SCED visits United States

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, Mr Edward Yau, visited New York and Washington, DC, in the United States (US) between June 10 and 12 to consolidate and strengthen economic ties between Hong Kong and the US.

On June 10, Mr Yau met key people in the financial, business, legal and academic sectors in New York at a roundtable breakfast meeting. He updated participants on the latest economic development of Hong Kong and had useful exchanges with them on Hong Kong-US bilateral relations and the current state of international trade. He stressed that the unique strengths of Hong Kong are guaranteed under the Basic Law and that Hong Kong will endeavour to safeguard core values which are key to Hong Kong's continued success, including the rule of law and open and free markets.

Mr Yau then proceeded to Washington, DC and attended a reception in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. At the reception, Mr Yau said Hong Kong has long been a preferred platform for American companies seeking to establish or expand their business in the Mainland of China or throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Over the past 50 years bilateral relationship between Hong Kong and the US has gone from strength to strength, noting that during this period trade between the two economies has mushroomed, growing from roughly US\$8 billion to US\$70 billion.

On the next day, Mr Yau had a breakfast meeting with the former US Secretary of Commerce, Mr Carlos Gutierrez, before meeting with some US congressional members. Mr Yau also had a lunch meeting with senior members of the Heritage Foundation, including its founder, Dr Edwin Feulner. He welcomed the Foundation's high regard for Hong Kong as the world's freest economy for 25 consecutive years, which he said reaffirmed the Government's steadfast commitment in upholding free market principles over the years.

At a reception hosted by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Washington, DC (Washington ETO) for US government officials, think tank members, academics, and leaders of chambers of commerce and business organisations, Mr Yau said that the trade and economic relationship between Hong Kong and the US is mutually beneficial and expanding. He said Hong Kong will continue to explore ways to deepen and broaden its links with the US in areas such as collaborations in innovation and technology and educational, scientific and medical exchanges.

On June 12, Mr Yau attended the luncheon co-organised by Washington ETO and the Brookings Institution. Mr Yau shared his insights on the state of free trade from Hong Kong's perspective with about 60 US business and academic leaders. He said that Hong Kong vigorously pursues a free trade policy and firmly believes in multilateral trading system. Hong Kong and like-minded economies are pressing ahead to forge alliances through the signing of free trade agreements (FTAs). In this regard, the latest addition to Hong Kong's FTA portfolio is a high quality and comprehensive in scope FTA, and an investment agreement with Australia signed in March.

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

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Hong Kong and United Arab Emirates sign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement

Hong Kong and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA) on June 16 to strengthen mutual investment protection. The Agreement seeks to enhance the confidence of investors, expand investment flows and further strengthen the economic and trade ties between the two places.

Under the Agreement, the two governments undertake to provide investors of the other side with fair, equitable and non-discriminatory treatment of their investments; compensation in the event of expropriation of investments; and the right to free transfers abroad of investments and returns. The Agreement also provides for settlement of investment disputes under internationally accepted rules. The Agreement will enter into force after the fulfillment of relevant internal requirements by both sides.

The IPPA with the UAE is the third similar agreement that this term of the HKSAR Government has signed since taking office in July 2017; the other two are the investment agreements with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Australia respectively. Hong Kong has signed investment agreements with 21 foreign economies including Canada.

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

Global companies tap Hong Kong's regional hub advantage

Corporate video production specialist, 90 Seconds, announced on June 10 that it has opened its new office in Hong Kong to meet growing demand from local companies and to tap into the city's strategic location to expand its coverage in North Asia, especially the Mainland and Taiwan markets.

90 Seconds is a simple-to-use video creation platform that connects brands with video creators worldwide through a streamlined workflow. After the client has input essential information such as budget, project due date and briefs about its creative vision, 90

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Seconds will match the project with experienced creators that can best deliver the videos. Content plans can be revised via the platform before and after purchase.

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

In addition, Tableau, a visual analytics software company from the US, opened an office in Hong Kong on June 13 to meet the growing analytics needs of local businesses and help them tap opportunities arising from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. The Hong Kong office will serve Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macao.

The company's end-to-end analytics platform is widely used around the world by corporates and government organisations to provide flexibility and choice in adapting to businesses' environments. The platform uses visuals and natural language so people of different skill levels are empowered to use analytics.

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

Recruitment of qualified doctors outside Hong Kong

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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