

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Director of HKETO attends Today Commercial Daily anniversary dinner gala

Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Ms Emily Mo, attended the dinner gala celebrating the "Going Towards 15th Anniversary" of Today Commercial News in Toronto on November 1.

Speaking at the dinner gala, Ms Mo updated participants on the latest situation in Hong Kong. She remarked that the fundamentals and institutional underpinning the city's economy and society are strong and Hong Kong remained an open and internationally connected cosmopolitan city.

Ms Mo also highlighted the advantages of doing business in Hong Kong. She encouraged Canadian business to make use of Hong Kong as their springboards to tap into the Asian market, while emphasising that Hong Kong will adhere to the "One Country, Two Systems" principle, and stop violence in accordance with the law.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/director-of-hketo-attends-today-commercial-daily-anniversary-dinner-gala.html>

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Reel Asian showcases the best in Hong Kong cinema

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (Reel Asian), in partnership with HKETO, is proud to present a documentary "The Last Stitch" (雙縫) at this year's Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox on November 9. HKETO is one of the sponsors of the Festival.

"The Last Stitch" is about Director Alfred Sung's loving portrayal of his family's intergenerational tailoring business, which takes the audience through the tumult of emigrating from Hong Kong to Toronto. The documentary highlights the everyday details of the family business in tender emotional beats, juxtaposing contemporary scenes of the Sung's life with archival family videos and photos, presenting evolving ideas of home and homeland across three generations.

Director Sung will meet with the audience at the screening followed by a Q&A session. Tickets are on sale now.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.reelasian.com/festival-events/the-last-stitch/>

"HongKonglicious" organised by the Canada Hong Kong Alliance

The Canada Hong Kong Alliance (Toronto) (CHKA) will host the inaugural "2019 HongKonglicious" from November 3 to 21. This three-week event features food delicacies of classic Cantonese dishes, including Hong Kong famous street foods and snacks, to the Canadian public. HKETO is the lead sponsor of this event. A Closing Gala of the event will be held in Mississauga on November 21.

For more details, please visit the official website of CHKA:

http://www.chka-tor.ca/?page_id=2816

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong ranked world's third easiest place to do business

Hong Kong's performance in the ease of doing business further improved this year to rank third globally among 190 economies, moving up one place from last year, according to the World Bank's Doing Business 2020 Report released on October 24.

The Report compares the business environment in various economies across 10 indicators. Hong Kong performs well in a number of indicators, including "dealing with construction permits" (ranked first), "paying taxes" (ranked second), "getting electricity" (ranked third) and "starting a business" (ranked fifth). The World Bank commends Hong Kong for the successful implementation of reform initiatives to improve the ease of doing business.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/24/P2019102400512.htm>

Government severely condemns violent acts

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government severely condemns the attacks and vandalism in various districts over the last two weeks, which seriously undermining social order and jeopardizing people's lives and property.

The Government appeals to people who hold different views to put aside their differences, stay rational and exercise restraint as well as to embrace harmony and respect diversity. They should abide by the law and not to resort to vigilantism.

To safeguard public safety and uphold the rule of law, the Police are required to conduct dispersal operations resolutely, arrest the suspected offenders and strictly enforce the law to restore social order as quickly as possible.

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201911/03/P2019110300864.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201911/02/P2019110200930.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/31/P2019103100989.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/27/P2019102700776.htm>

Interim Injunction Order granted by the High Court to restrain doxxing and harassment against police officers and their families

The Department of Justice represented the Secretary for Justice and the Commissioner of Police to apply to the Court for an ex parte injunction to restrain persons unlawfully and willfully conducting themselves in any of the following acts:-

- (a) using, publishing, communicating or disclosing to any other person the personal data of and concerning any Police Officer(s) and/or their spouses and/or their respective family members (namely parents, children or siblings), including but not limited to their name, job title, residential address, office address, school address, email address, date of birth, telephone number, Hong Kong Identity Card number or identification number of any other official identity documents, Facebook Account ID, Instagram Account ID, car plate number, and any photograph of the Police Officer(s) and/or their spouses and/or their respective family members (namely parents, children or siblings), intended or likely to intimidate, molest, harass, threaten, pester or interfere with any Police Officer(s) and/or their spouses and/or their respective family members (namely parents, children or siblings), without the consent of the Police Officer(s) and/or their family member(s) (as the case may be) concerned;
- (b) intimidating, molesting, harassing, threatening, pestering or interfering with any Police Officer(s) and/or their spouses and/or their respective family members (namely parents, children or siblings);
- (c) assisting, causing, counselling, procuring, instigating, inciting, aiding, abetting or authorizing others to commit any of the aforesaid acts or participate in any of the aforesaid acts.

Since this June, Police Officers' personal information has been unlawfully disclosed and widely published on the Internet. Police Officers who had been "doxxed" were affected by different levels of nuisance and intimidation, causing grievous concern over their personal safety and mental distress.

The Court has granted an interim injunction which will remain in force up to and including Friday, 8 November 2019 at 10:30 a.m.

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/25/P2019102500912.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/28/P2019102800864.htm>

Interim Injunction Order granted by the High Court against promotion, encouragement and incitement of the use or threat of violence via internet-based platform or medium

The Secretary for Justice as guardian of the public interest applied to the Court on October 31 for an ex parte injunction to restrain persons from unlawfully and wilfully conducting themselves in any of the following acts :-

- (a) Wilfully disseminating, circulating, publishing or re-publishing on any internet-based platform or medium (including but not limited to LIHKG and Telegram) any material or information that promotes, encourages or incites the use or threat of violence, intended or likely to cause :-
 - (i) bodily injury to any person unlawfully within Hong Kong; or
 - (ii) damage to any property unlawfully within Hong Kong.
- (b) Assisting, causing, counselling, procuring, instigating, inciting, aiding, abetting or authorizing others to commit any of the aforesaid acts or participate in any of the aforesaid acts.

Since this June, there have been numerous instances of violent protests and vandalising acts in many districts of Hong Kong including but not limited to criminal damage to property, assaults of the person, riots and arson. The use of internet-based platform or medium, given its anonymous and instantaneous nature in communication as well as accessibility, have been abused by some to incite protesters to participate in unlawful activities, to promote the use of weapons and to mobilise protesters to damage targeted properties and injure targeted individuals (in particular police officers). Such acts have seriously breached public peace, and posed a grave and genuine danger to the police and members of the public.

The Court has granted an interim injunction which will remain in force up to and including Friday, 15 November 2019 at 10:30 a.m.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201911/01/P2019103100982.htm>

Government strives to enhance effectiveness of funding schemes for enterprises

In response to the views by a business representative on the worsening business environment caused by the recent social unrest in Hong Kong and the difficulties they encountered when making applications for various funding schemes for enterprises at the Joint Business Community Luncheon on October 31, the HKSAR Government is aware of the views of the trade, and is committed to consolidating relevant services proactively and simplifying application procedures to ensure suitable and timely assistance is available to enterprises for coping with the current difficult situation.

The Government has consolidated the services of the existing four centres for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to provide "four-in-one" integrated services starting from October 1, so that SMEs can obtain the necessary information on all funding schemes at any service point. The Government has also set up a one-stop referral system with a view to providing a more tailored service for SMEs.

The Government has also extended its reach to enterprises by arranging visits to more than 30 local trade and industrial associations. The Government will establish a dedicated service team soon to provide support on funding applications.

Furthermore, the Government will continue to enhance various funding schemes by simplifying the application procedures, shortening the processing time and removing barriers.

The significant increase in the number of applications for various funding schemes shows that these schemes can provide effective assistance to enterprises. The Government will continue to monitor the utilisation of the funding schemes and listen to the views of the trade to ensure that the schemes are tailored to their needs.

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/31/P2019103100790.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201910/31/P2019103100820.htm>

DoJ signed two MOUs at 3rd UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Judicial Summit

The Department of Justice (DoJ) signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with Thailand and the United Nations (UN) respectively on November 4 at the 3rd UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Judicial Summit (the Summit).

The signing ceremony was witnessed by more than 150 guests from various international organisations and over 25 jurisdictions from all over the world. The MOUs signified an encouraging step in legal co-operation with international organisations and

foreign jurisdictions. They were the third and the fourth instruments on enhancing exchanges signed by the DoJ this year, following the ones with Japan in January and Korea in September.

Signing of the MOUs will further promote Hong Kong's status as the leading centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201911/04/P2019110400599.htm>

Hong Kong residents born in 1957, 1958 or 1959 should apply for new smart identity cards between November 16, 2019, and February 17, 2020

The Immigration Department (ImmD) announced on November 4 that from November 16, 2019 (Saturday), to February 17, 2020 (Monday), Hong Kong residents born in 1957, 1958 or 1959 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).

Eligible applicants may make appointment bookings via the Internet (www.gov.hk/newicbooking), the ImmD mobile application or the 24-hour telephone booking hotline 2121 1234. The ImmD appeals to applicants to pre-fill the application form when making appointment bookings in order to enjoy faster service. Applicants need to bring along their existing smart identity cards when they proceed to the SIDCCs.

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 the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201911/04/P2019110100701.htm>

International media partnership with the Information Services Department

A series of articles with branded contents about various sectors of Hong Kong were published at different international media platform, under the partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, to promote the unparalleled advantages of Hong Kong. Please click the links of the articles for details.

Bloomberg

["The Legal Services Powerhouse in the Heart of the Orient"](#)

Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

November 6, 2019



Quartz

"From Breweries to Boardrooms, Hong Kong Rolls Out the Welcome Mat for Talent"

New York Times

"A Start-up Strategy: Made in Mainland China, Designed in Hong Kong"

The Economist

"Think biotechnology, think Hong Kong"

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