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SPECIAL NOTICE

In response to the local government's appeal for concerted efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) is closed temporarily. You may reach us via the following channels:

Toronto

Phone: (416) 924-5544 or

Email: info@hketotoronto.gov.hk

Vancouver

Phone: (604) 331-1300 or

Email: info_vancouver@hketotoronto.gov.hk

Currently, except for Hong Kong residents, all travellers arriving Hong Kong by flights from overseas countries/territories will be denied entry. The same restriction also applies to non-Hong Kong residents travelling to Hong Kong from the Mainland of China, Macao and Taiwan who have been to any overseas countries/territories in the past 14 days. These temporary restrictions will remain in force until further notice. Please refer to the webpage <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html> for details.

In addition, travellers from Canada are required to present test report, in English or Chinese, showing a negative COVID-19 nucleic acid test administered within 72 hours of the scheduled time of departure, before boarding the flight. They are required to present documentary proof in English to show that the laboratory or healthcare institution is recognized/ approved/ ISO15189 accredited. The same requirements apply to a Hong Kong resident who has stayed in Canada during the 21 days before boarding the flight to Hong Kong. Please refer to the webpage <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/high-risk-places.html> for details.

The "COVID-19 Thematic Website" of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government has been added to the official website of HKETO. You are invited to browse the page by clicking the banner on top of [HKETO website](#) or the following link: <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk>

For the latest entry restrictions and quarantine requirements in Hong Kong, please refer to the webpage <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html> for details.

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

“In Loving Memory of Leslie Cheung Online Concert 2021”

Supported by the Hong Kong Tourism Board, “In Loving Memory of Leslie Cheung Online Concert 2021”, a free online concert, will premiere on April 1 from 7:30 am to 8:30 am (EDT) on HiEggo’s YouTube channel, Facebook page, along with a number of mainstream media platforms. A series of Leslie Cheung’s classic songs will be performed by Samuel Hui Koon-kit, Karen Joy Morrie, Hacken Lee Hak-kan, Julian Cheung Chi-lam, Metro Vocal Group and HKBU Symphony Orchestra.

HiEggo’s YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC97oYK3XMf9RLtkc0IO8C-Q>

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/HiEggoHiEggo/>

ACCE Awards Gala 2021

The Association of Canadian Chinese Entrepreneurs (ACCE) will host on April 24 at 6:45 pm (EDT) the Chinese Canadian Entrepreneur Virtual Awards Gala. HKETO will present the Best Asia Pacific Business Award at the gala. This award recognises entrepreneurs who successfully used Hong Kong as the platform to expand its business to the Asia Pacific region. HKETO has been sponsoring this award since its inception in 2010. For more details of the gala, please visit: <https://www.acce.ca/new/2020-21-acce-awards-0424-en/>

Scarborough Health Network Foundation Radiothon

In collaboration with Sing Tao A1 Chinese Radio, the Scarborough Health Network (SHN) Foundation Radiothon will be aired live at AM 1540 on April 22 from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. The event aims to raise funds to support the purchase of medical equipment for its hospital facilities and introduce SHN’s services in the Chinese community. Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, will attend a feature interview to show support and talk about the efforts made by the HKSAR government in fighting the pandemic in Hong Kong. For details, please visit:

<https://shnfoundation.akaraisin.com/ui/ChineseRadiothon2021/home>

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HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong rises one place in Global Financial Centres Index

Hong Kong was ranked fourth in the Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI) 29 Report published on March 17 by the Z/Yen from the United Kingdom and the China Development Institute from Shenzhen.

A spokesman from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government said that Hong Kong is one of the top four leading financial centres in the world, rising by one place from the September issue of the index last year. Among the five areas of competitiveness, including Business Environment, Human Capital, Infrastructure, Financial Sector Development, and Reputational and General which were formulated based on data, Hong Kong was ranked top five in all these areas.

Hong Kong's financial system has been operating smoothly despite the evolving situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with other uncertainties in the global environment. Hong Kong's markets are highly open and internationalised, with robust infrastructure support, internationally aligned regulatory regimes, rule of law, a large pool of financial talents and a full range of financial products as well as free flow of information and capital. These competitive edges will continue to consolidate Hong Kong's status as a leading international financial centre.

The GFCI Report is released in March and September every year since 2007. In GFCI 29, 114 financial centres were assessed. Hong Kong came fourth with an overall rating of 741.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202103/17/P2021031700706.htm>

Government extends social distancing measures under Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance

The HKSAR Government gazetted the directions and specifications under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Wearing of Mask) Regulation (Cap. 599I) to maintain the social distancing measures already in place, and strengthen infection control measures in catering business premises. The directions and specifications will take effect till March 31, 2021.

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A spokesman for the Food and Health Bureau said that taking into account the latest public health risk assessment, there is still no room for further relaxation of measures at this stage. The Government will continue to maintain most of the existing requirements and restrictions applicable to catering business premises and scheduled premises, as well as the requirements for group gatherings and mask wearing until March 31.

In addition, the relevant departments have been actively discussing with the industry to encourage fitness centres to enhance infection control measures on a voluntary basis. Such measures include limiting the number of customers in the premises and exploring more frequent tests of staff.

You can click the following link for details of the latest requirements and restrictions:
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202103/17/P2021031700012.htm>

Besides, the HKSAR Government announced on March 15 that in view of the continued severe global epidemic situation of COVID-19, it will maintain the measure under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Regulation of Cross-boundary Conveyances and Travellers) Regulation (Cap. 599H) to restrict persons who have stayed in the extremely high-risk Group A specified places (i.e. Brazil, Ireland, South Africa and the United Kingdom) for more than two hours on the day of boarding or during the 21 days before that day from boarding flights for Hong Kong.

For the very high-risk Group B specified places (including Canada) and the medium to high-risk Group C specified places, as required under the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C) and the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), all persons arriving at Hong Kong (either via the airport or land boundary control points) who have stayed in places outside China on the day of arrival in Hong Kong or during the 21 days before that day have to undergo compulsory quarantine for 21 days in designated quarantine hotels. For persons arriving at Hong Kong who have stayed in Group B specified places, they also have to present prior to boarding proof of a negative result of a nucleic acid test for COVID-19 conducted within 72 hours before the scheduled time of departure of the aircraft.

Details on the grouping of specified places and their respective boarding and compulsory quarantine requirements can be found at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/high-risk-places.html.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202103/15/P2021031500735.htm>

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Meanwhile, the HKSAR Government announced on March 19 the list of designated quarantine hotels for the third cycle under the Designated Quarantine Hotel Scheme. A total of 30 hotels will provide about 8 300 rooms in the new cycle, with the contract period running from April 21 to June 19.

The HKSAR Government will continue to provide more hotels offering lower room rates in this new cycle. The number of hotels offering room rates at HK\$500 or below will increase from 11 to 13 to provide more than 2 800 rooms. This represents 34 per cent of the total number of rooms in the third cycle.

The list of designated hotels in the third cycle and related details including room rates have been uploaded to the thematic webpage www.designatedhotel.gov.hk.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202103/19/P2021031900536.htm>

HKSAR Government welcomes National 14th Five-Year Plan and will proactively integrate Hong Kong into national development

The fourth session of the 13th National People’s Congress (NPC) approved the “Outline of the 14th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development of the People’s Republic of China and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035” (the 14th Five-Year Plan) on March 11. The HKSAR Government greatly welcomed the contents relating to Hong Kong in the 14th Five-Year Plan and expressed gratitude for the Central Government’s support for the future development of Hong Kong in various key areas.

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, said that the 14th Five-Year Plan is the blueprint and action agenda for the social and economic development of the country in the next five years. She is delighted that contents relating to Hong Kong can be found in its chapter 61 on maintaining the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong and Macao, and chapter 31 on proactively and progressively taking forward the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

The Government spokesman said that Hong Kong enjoys a high degree of autonomy in handling external affairs under “One Country, Two Systems”, and that the HKSAR Government welcomes the support from the 14th Five-Year Plan for Hong Kong to foster co-operation and exchanges with countries and regions around the world and will make the best use of its overseas and Mainland Economic and Trade Offices to explore more opportunities for developing bilateral and multilateral co-operation.

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Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202103/11/P2021031100464.htm>

In addition, Mrs Lam issued a statement on March 11 saying that she together with the governing team of the HKSAR Government pledged their staunch support for and sincere gratitude to the passage of the Decision on improving the electoral system of the HKSAR at the fourth session of the 13th National People's Congress.

For full text of the statement, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202103/11/P2021031100448.htm>

French heritage perfumery Henry Jacques offers bespoke olfactory experience in Hong Kong

French haute parfumerie Henry Jacques announced on March 12 the opening of its first boutique in Hong Kong, as part of its ongoing expansion plan to extend the company's legacy in Asia, following openings in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.

The about 460-square-foot new stand-alone boutique is located at a large shopping mall in West Kowloon, which is well connected to major transportation hubs in Hong Kong. The newly opened boutique provides bespoke perfume consultation services, including the brand's eponymous signature fragrance collection, as well as a range of carefully curated artisanal perfumes specifically put together for its Asian clientele.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202103/12/P2021031100235.htm>

Article of "The last of Hong Kong's original wooden junk boats is still afloat"

CNN, in partnership with the Information Services Department, created a piece of editorial content "The last of Hong Kong's original wooden junk boats is still afloat" to shed light on Hong Kong's maritime heritage and boat culture.

Please click the following link for details of the article:

<https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/dukling-hong-kong-junk-boat/index.html>

Recruitment of qualified doctors outside Hong Kong

Department of Health of the HKSAR Government 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).

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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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HKETO Toronto Twitter Page <https://twitter.com/TorontoHKETO>

Brand Hong Kong Facebook page www.facebook.com/brandhk.isd or

Brand Hong Kong Instagram page www.instagram.com/brandhongkong/

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