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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](mailto:info@hketotoronto.gov.hk)

#### Vancouver

Phone: (604) 331-1300 or

Email: [info\\_vancouver@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto: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

### 2021 Hong Kong Week

<https://www.hongkongweek.ca/>

HKETO launches the 2021 Hong Kong Week on June 2 and the program will run till July 1. This event aims to promote Hong Kong's strengths, advantages and potential with emphasis on the core values and attributes of the city. A series of activities will be held and supported by the HKETO with details as follows. Most of the programme will be held virtually for participation by everyone across Canada.

#### **1. 2021 Hong Kong Week cum Transformative Chic - Everlasting Cheongsam Exhibition (混搭之時尚 – 當代長衫展覽)**

Jointly presented by HKETO, the Hong Kong Arts Centre and the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto, The Transformative Chic – The Everlasting Cheongsam Exhibition is a major event of the 2021 Hong Kong Week. Through this exhibition of the works of nine premier Hong Kong designers, we hope to give audience a glance of the unique charm and transformative nature of cheongsam – an Intangible Cultural Heritage entity of UNESCO and a powerful cultural icon of Hong Kong.

The dates and venues of the exhibition are as follows:

**Toronto** - June 2 to July 1 (virtual on the 2021 Hong Kong Week website below)

**Vancouver** - June 2 to June 18 at the Pendulum Gallery of HSBC Building at 885 West Georgia Street.

Click here to read the details:

<https://www.hongkongweek.ca/cheongsam-exhibitions>

#### **2. Transformative Chic - Everlasting Cheongsam Exhibition - Online Talks and Workshops**

Thanks to the support from friends of HKETO, two workshops have already been filled up. Do grasp this last chance to register for the online talks to explore the history and evolution of cheongsam. Spots are available on a first-come-first-serve basis and are limited in number.

- (a) "Sow the seed of Cheongsam to maternity and children fashion"  
Speaker: Grace Choi, Cheongsam Designer  
Date and time: Saturday June 5, 7-8am (PDT)/10-11am (EDT)

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For registration, please visit: <https://forms.gle/rxD4drhrjyN6Hdf67>

- (b) “Transformative Vision of Cheongsam: Sustainability x Arts”  
Speaker: Raneek Kok, Cheongsam Designer, and Diana Ibarra, Educator  
Date and time: Sunday June 6, 6-7pm (PDT)/9-10pm (EDT)  
For registration, please visit: <https://forms.gle/hxFHxYL7iM7dE33NA>
- (c) “Story of Cheongsam: the Past, Present and Future”  
Speaker: Professor Lau Chi Pang and Connie Lam, Executive Director of Hong Kong Arts Centre  
Date and time: Friday June 11, 6-7pm (PDT)/9-10pm (EDT)  
For registration, please visit: <https://forms.gle/nAkVQ3T3dKgL0tdVA>
- (d) “Little Plum Blossom Flower Button Making Demonstration Workshop” **(FULL)**  
Tutor: Madam Po Ming Wah  
Date and time: Saturday June 12, 6-7pm (PDT)/9-10pm (EDT)
- (e) “Mini Cheongsam Making Demonstration and Cheongsam Bookmark Making Workshop” **(FULL)**  
Tutor: Janko Lam, Cheongsam Designer  
Date and time: Sunday June 13, 6-8pm (PDT)/9-11pm (EDT)

### **3. Globe and Mail Supplement**

The Globe and Mail published on June 2 a supplement entitled “Hong Kong’s iconic cheongsam is more than just a dress”. You can read the supplement through this link: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/adv/article-hong-kongs-iconic-cheongsam-is-more-than-just-a-dress/>

### **4. Business Webinar with Chief Secretary for Administration of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government (June 23)**

After a year of battle against the global pandemic, the economy and society of Hong Kong are gradually getting back on track. Not only are the international events returning to Hong Kong with special health measures in place, exciting major developments are also coming along on various fronts for Hong Kong.

Join the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) on June 23 for a discussion with Mr Matthew Cheung, Chief Secretary for Administration of the HKSAR Government, on all the exciting developments in Hong Kong and also the lessons learnt

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in fighting the epidemic. The Chief Secretary will be joined in conversation with Mr Arthur Chan, National Chair of the HKCBA.

For details and registration, please visit <https://www.hongkongweek.ca/business-webinar>

### **5. WIN@HKCBA Launch (June 8)**

WIN@HKCBA will be launched on June 8 at noon. The Women's International Network, WIN, is a new and important element of the HKCBA (Toronto Section). WIN@HKCBA commits to empowering and encouraging women entrepreneurs in the furtherance of international business between Canada and Hong Kong and, via Hong Kong, into Asia through collective, creative and enabling programs.

For details and registration, please visit <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMoceytqzquEtGF0P2Er3AyK3oPDj3EBVIM>

### **6. Paddles Up! The Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Exhibit**

Thanks to the original gift of six teak dragon boats by Hong Kong to Vancouver for Expo 86, dragon boat has spread across Canada from Vancouver into a popular celebration of culture and sport. "Paddles Up! The Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Exhibit" in Vancouver explores the dragon boat festival's history in Canada. Unique artifacts, including two full-sized dragon boats, are being exhibited at BC Sports Hall of Fame until October 2, 2021. The exhibition was produced in partnership between the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society and the BC Sports Hall of Fame. HKETO is a sponsor of the exhibition.

Please refer to the following website for details and ticket reservation: <https://bcsportshall.com/exhibit/dragon-boat/>

### **Webinar on Opportunities in the Healthcare Sector in Asia in the new normal for Canadian Companies (June 3)**

The Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), HKETO and other organisations will co-organise a webinar on June 3 at 10am (EDT)/7am (PDT) to look at the future of the healthcare sector from business and innovation perspectives, including the rising healthcare market in Asia, the healthcare investment landscape in Hong Kong and its strategic role in the region.

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Speakers include Canada Research Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Medical Imaging of University of Waterloo Dr Alexander Wong, Associate Scientist of the Ottawa Hospital and Region Imaging Associates Dr Andre Carrington and Head of Innovation and Technology of InvestHK Mr Andy Wong, etc.

For details and registration: <http://bit.ly/june3healthcarewebinar>

**“TransPacific Research & Development: International support, collaboration and business opportunities” webinar (June 16)**

For organizations applying new innovations, learning how to access the R&D ecosystem of another region can be a challenge, much less understanding the benefits of doing so. HKCBA (Montreal Section), with the support of InvestHK, will host on June 16 at 9am (EDT) the “TransPacific Research & Development: International support, collaboration and business opportunities” webinar. The webinar will clarify for companies the process of going abroad with research and the opportunities that may bring.

For details and registration:

<https://montreal.hkcba.com/events/transpacific-research-development-international-support-collaboration-and-business-opportunities>

**“Business and Investment Opportunities in Asia for Canadian Companies” webinar (June 29)**

The M&A Club will host a webinar on June 29 to discuss the potential for Canadian entrepreneurs and professionals to expand their business in Asia, potential for Asia-based entrepreneurs to invest or expand into Canada and North America, and how the Asian marketplace views the Canadian investment landscape. Director of the HKETO as well as experts in Asia and Canada who are familiar with business opportunities in Asia will have a panel discussion at the webinar.

For details and registration:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_bQGvW6BAT9e0ylsfJKrt5A?mc\\_cid=729316e043&mc\\_eid=UNIQID](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bQGvW6BAT9e0ylsfJKrt5A?mc_cid=729316e043&mc_eid=UNIQID)

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## **RECENT ACTIVITY**

### **HKETO Director joins webinar to explore opportunities in the infrastructure and PPP sectors**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, spoke at the “Opportunities in Infrastructure and Public Private Partnerships (PPP) Sector in Asia for Canadian Companies” webinar hosted by the HKTDC in Canada and other organisations on May 27.

At the webinar, Ms Mo noted that the “Five Connectivities” under the Belt and Road Initiative, namely policy, infrastructure, trade, finance and people, offered mutual beneficial interaction for Canadian companies in the infrastructure and PPP sectors.

Ms Mo highlighted Hong Kong’s active participation in the Belt and Road Initiative and the enormous business opportunities brought about by the Initiative. The various favourable trading conditions offered under the free trade agreements signed between Hong Kong and the Mainland of China and between Hong Kong and ASEAN make the city well-positioned to partner with Canadian companies to venture into Asia.

Canadian businesses are encouraged to make use of the Hong Kong platform to seize opportunities in the infrastructure and PPP sectors in Asia and beyond.

Co-chaired by Gowling WLG Partner Mr Thomas Timmins and the Canadian Council for PPP President and CEO Mr Mark Romoff, the webinar was joined by other speakers from Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (Investment), Institution of PPP Hong Kong, Intelligent Transportation Systems Society of Canada, HKTDC and C4P Inc.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-joins-webinar-to-explore-opportunities-in-the-infrastructure-and-ppp-sectors.html>

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Government adjusts boarding and quarantine requirements for persons arriving from certain places**

The HKSAR Government announced on May 31 that the boarding and quarantine requirements for persons arriving from certain places will be adjusted from June 4.

In view of the persistent unstable epidemic situation in the region, as well as the prevalent transmission of cases involving the more transmissible and potentially more

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serious mutant virus strains, the HKSAR Government will specify Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam as Group B specified places with effect from June 4.

On the other hand, the Government has specified the United Kingdom as a very high-risk Group A2 specified place since May 7. Having considered the United Kingdom's continued rising vaccination rate and that there has been no imported cases since the resumption of passenger flights to Hong Kong, the HKSAR Government will specify the United Kingdom as a Group B specified place from June 4 onwards.

All persons who have stayed in Group B specified places, including Canada, on the day of boarding or during the 14 days before that day (relevant period) will have to present at boarding a negative result proof of a nucleic acid test for COVID-19 conducted within 72 hours before the scheduled time of departure of the aircraft, as well as the confirmation of a room reservation in a designated quarantine hotel in Hong Kong.

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](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/high-risk-places.html).

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/31/P2021053101004.htm>

In addition, a spokesman said on May 24 that the HKSAR Government has maintained close communication and liaison with the Mainland authorities on epidemic prevention and control measures of both places. The Government has adopted the list of risk level of places in the Mainland published by the National Health Commission, and uploaded the list of medium or high risk areas in the Mainland to the thematic website of the Return2hk Scheme ([return2hk.gov.hk](http://return2hk.gov.hk)). Hong Kong residents who have visited any area in the Mainland being classified as a medium or high risk area, in the past 14 days prior to and upon the day of arrival in Hong Kong, will not be exempted from compulsory quarantine under the Scheme upon their entry into Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/24/P2021052400890.htm>

The HKSAR Government also announced on May 20 the list of designated quarantine hotels for the fourth cycle. A total of 31 hotels will provide about 8 500 rooms in the new cycle, with the contract period running from June 20 to August 31. The number of hotels offering room rates at HK\$500 or below will increase from 13 to 17.

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The list of designated hotels in the fourth cycle and related details could be found at the thematic webpage [www.designatedhotel.gov.hk](http://www.designatedhotel.gov.hk).

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/20/P2021052000800.htm>

On the other hand, the HKSAR Government gazetted directions and specifications to maintain the social distancing measures currently in place. The directions and specifications take effect till June 9.

A spokesman for the Food and Health Bureau of the HKSAR Government said that while the recent number of confirmed cases had been maintained at a low level, past experiences told that any relaxation of social distancing measures may lead to a rebound in the epidemic situation. Therefore the Government will continue to maintain the social distancing measures currently in place. The Government is considering the next phase of the gradual return to normality under the new direction in fighting the epidemic, taking into account the need for further incentives to encourage vaccination.

Details of the requirements and restrictions can be found at

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/26/P2021052600690.htm>

### **“Cruise-to-nowhere” itineraries can resume under set of health control protocols from end-July**

The HKSAR Government announced on May 26 that cruise lines are expected to resume, for Hong Kong residents, “cruise-to-nowhere” (CTN) itineraries, which do not involve ports outside Hong Kong, at end-July 2021 the earliest on the condition that they strictly comply with a set of health precautionary measures specifically designed for cruise travel.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, said that with the stabilising COVID-19 epidemic situation in Hong Kong, the resumption of CTN itineraries under prudent health precautionary measures can strike a proper balance between public health protection on the one hand, and the public aspirations for some form of leisure travel on the other.

There will be a robust contingency management mechanism catering for fluctuations of the local epidemic situation.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/26/P2021052600285.htm>



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## **Improving Electoral System (Consolidated Amendments) Ordinance 2021 comes into effect**

The Improving Electoral System (Consolidated Amendments) Ordinance 2021 (the Ordinance) has been published in the Gazette and comes into effect on May 31.

A Government spokesman said that improving the electoral system can put in place institutional safeguards to ensure a full application of “patriots administering Hong Kong”, thereby getting Hong Kong back on the right track, ensuring the steadfast and successful implementation of “one country, two systems” as well as the long-term prosperity and stability of the city.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/31/P2021053100350.htm>

## **HKSAR Government files first written submission to WTO panel in respect of US’ requirement on origin marking**

The HKSAR Government on May 28 filed its first written submission to the panel established under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) to consider the dispute raised by Hong Kong with respect to the violation of WTO rules by the requirement of the United States (US) on origin marking for Hong Kong products.

The submission explains in detail Hong Kong’s position that the US’ requirement, amongst others, unlawfully discriminates against goods of Hong Kong origin, and is inconsistent with multiple WTO covered agreements, including the Agreement on Rules of Origin, the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994.

The Director-General of the WTO appointed a three-member panel to examine the dispute on April 29. The panel is proceeding to consider written submissions by the “Hong Kong, China” and the US as well as 13 other WTO members who have reserved their rights to join as third parties to the dispute.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/28/P2021052800513.htm>

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## **Hong Kong team achieves excellent results at Asian Physics Olympiad**

A team of eight students representing Hong Kong achieved excellent results in the 21st Asian Physics Olympiad (APhO 2021), winning two gold medals, two silver medals, two bronze medals and two honourable mentions, which is the best result in recent years.

The APhO aims to promote physics education as well as nurture and inspire students who are highly talented in physics. Around 181 contestants from 22 countries or cities participated in the competition.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202105/24/P2021052400711.htm>

## **Media partnership of the Information Services Department to promote Hong Kong's strength**

- 1) The Financial Times has created two pieces of branded content under the theme “Hong Kong: Resilience During the Pandemic” to show how the pandemic has accelerated innovation in Hong Kong’s IPO market and how financial technology could help deliver practical solutions for the “new normal” economy.

Please click the following links for details of the articles:

Fintech Powers the New Normal Economy

<https://www.ft.com/partnercontent/brandhongkong/fintech-powers-the-new-normal-economy.html>

Hong Kong’s IPO Market: Resilience and Innovation

<https://www.ft.com/partnercontent/brandhongkong/hong-kong-ipo-market-resilience-and-innovation.html>

- 2) Harvard Business Review has produced a survey report to examine best practices for building resilience in the face of global disruption and how organisations could address some of the challenges by leveraging the business resources available in the places where they chose to operate, such as Hong Kong. Beyond the scientific data, the results presented in the report include insights from stakeholders in the fintech ecosystem both in Hong Kong and overseas about the practical application of new technologies and the possibilities for further advancement of fintech.

Please click the following link for details of the article:

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Leveraging Location amid Global Disruption - How Hong Kong Offers Organisations A Resilient Solution

<https://hbr.org/sponsored/2021/05/leveraging-location-amid-global-disruption-how-hong-kong-offers-organizations-a-resilient-solution>

- 3) The [Hong Kong BrandVoice](#) content hub on Forbes.com has been updated with a new batch of articles. Topics include Family Offices, LawTech, Green Finance and Financial Stability.

Please click the following link to connect to the content hub and individual stories:

Hong Kong BrandVoice content hub

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/hongkong/?sh=5ad28d615498>

- 4) Bloomberg has created a piece of branded content to explain why many overseas talents view Hong Kong as their long-term home. While M+, the Hong Kong Palace Museum, the East Kowloon Cultural Centre, the Kai Tak Sports Park and the Airport City will add to Hong Kong's attraction as Asia's world city, the expansion of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and AsiaWorld-Expo will reinforce its global appeal as an attractive convention and exhibition hub.

Please click the following link for details of the article:

Cultural Evolution: Reinforcing Hong Kong's status as Asia's world city

<https://sponsored.bloomberg.com/immersive/introducing-the-new-dawn/cultural-evolution?sref=Y1KsITPb>

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

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Brand Hong Kong Instagram page [www.instagram.com/brandhongkong/](http://www.instagram.com/brandhongkong/)

Brand Hong Kong Twitter page [https://twitter.com/Brand\\_HK](https://twitter.com/Brand_HK)

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