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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.

## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

### **2021 Hong Kong Week**

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

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HKETO is hosting the 2021 Hong Kong Week and the programme 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. 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. Webinar with Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development 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 Edward Yau, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, on all the exciting developments in Hong Kong and also the lessons learnt in fighting the epidemic. The Secretary will be joined in conversation with Mr Arthur Chan, National Chair of the HKCBA.

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

### **3. 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.

On the weekend of June 25 (Friday) to June 27 (Sunday), HKETO is happy to provide free admission to the exhibit. To register and reserve your time slot, please visit [bcsportshall.com/tickets](https://bcsportshall.com/tickets) and use code HKETOINVITE in the coupon code section. The code is valid until June 21 (Monday).

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

### **“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)

### **“Opportunities In The ICT Sector In Hong Kong and Asia for Canadian Companies” webinar (June 29)**

Join the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and other experts on June 29 to explore the latest opportunities in the ICT sector in Hong Kong and Asia for Canadian companies.

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This webinar will explore the market overview, latest market trends and development of the ICT Sector in Hong Kong and Asia with a focus on Smart City and IoT applications. Director of HKETO and other speakers will share insights, opportunities, and market entry strategies into Hong Kong, and Asia via Hong Kong for Canadian ICT companies.

For details and registration:

<https://www.hkcba.com/events/webinar-opportunities-in-ict-sector-in-hong-kong-and-asia-for-canadian-companies>

## **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

### **HKETO hosts Hong Kong Week and “Transformative Chic - The Everlasting Cheongsam Exhibition” opening ceremony**

HKETO hosted the virtual opening ceremony of 2021 Hong Kong Week and the “Transformative Chic - The Everlasting Cheongsam Exhibition” on June 2. Delivering a welcome speech at the opening ceremony, the Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, said that HKETO was delighted to present 2021 Hong Kong Week in Canada to showcase Hong Kong’s strengths, advantages and potential with emphasis on the core values and attributes of the city.

Ms Mo remarked that Hong Kong’s economy is gradually getting back on track after more than a year of battling against the epidemic. Also, exciting major developments are also coming along on various fronts for Hong Kong including the city’s unique role in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area as well as the country’s developments as affirmed by the National 14th Five-Year Plan.

Ms Mo also introduced a series of activities to be held during the 2021 Hong Kong Week, including the cheongsam exhibition, the launching event of the Women’s International Network@ HKCBA (Toronto Section) and a dragon boat exhibition in Vancouver. Details of the 2021 Hong Kong Week can be found on the event’s dedicated webpage ([www.hongkongweek.ca/](http://www.hongkongweek.ca/)).

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-hosts-hong-kong-week-and-transformative-chic-the-everlasting-cheongsam-exhibition-opening-ceremony.html>

### **HKETO Director joins webinar on opportunities in Asia’s healthcare sector**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, spoke at the “Opportunities in the Healthcare Sector in Asia in the new normal for Canadian companies” webinar co-hosted by the HKCBA

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(Ottawa Section) and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in Canada on June 3.

In delivering the welcome remarks, Ms Mo said that Hong Kong has become the world's second largest fundraising hub for biotechnology companies. Since mid-2018, 43 pre-revenue biotech companies have listed in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Ms Mo also introduced the "InnoHK Research Clusters" which is the HKSAR Government's flagship project in the development of innovation and technology in healthcare.

Moderated by Board Director of HKCBA (Ottawa Section), Ms Sandra Wu, the webinar was joined by other speakers from University of Waterloo, the Ottawa Hospital and Region Imaging and InvestHK.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-joins-webinar-on-opportunities-in-asias-healthcare-sector.html>

### **HKETO Director congratulates HKCBA on the launch of Women's International Network**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, spoke at the launching ceremony of the Women's International Network (WIN) hosted by the HKCBA (Toronto Section) on June 8. WIN is committed to empowering and encouraging women entrepreneurs in the furtherance of international business and exchanges between Canada and Hong Kong, and via Hong Kong to Asia.

In delivering a greeting message at the launching ceremony, Ms Mo noted that Canadian women entrepreneurs are key to Canada's economic success. She also highlighted that Hong Kong will continue to play its unique role as an international financial, transportation and trading centre, a global offshore RMB business hub and an international asset and risk management centre as affirmed by China's latest National 14th Five-Year Plan.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-congratulates-hkcba-on-the-launch-of-womens-international-network.html>

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## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Government welcomes IMF's assessment commending Hong Kong's sound macroeconomic and prudential policies and resilience and stability of its financial system**

The HKSAR Government welcomes the release of a report on June 9 by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which reaffirms Hong Kong's position as an international financial centre with a resilient financial system, sound macroeconomic and prudential policies, and robust regulatory and supervisory frameworks.

The IMF's affirmation is carried in the Financial System Stability Assessment (FSSA) Report, published following a comprehensive assessment conducted by the IMF on Hong Kong's financial system under its Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP).

The IMF commends in the FSSA Report that Hong Kong's macroeconomic and prudential policies have provided it with important buffers to cope with the current economic slowdown and future shocks. Underpinned by large foreign exchange reserves, Hong Kong's Linked Exchange Rate System has continued to support financial stability. Robust regulatory and supervisory policy frameworks are in place to support the development of the financial sector, and the institutional framework for systemic risk monitoring and oversight is well established. Rigorous stress tests performed by the IMF confirm that Hong Kong's financial system remains resilient in extreme stress scenarios.

The FSSA Report also considers that Hong Kong is well positioned to develop financial technology, leveraging its traditional strengths in financial services. It acknowledges the rapid development of the fintech industry, noting that the authorities play an active role in promoting Hong Kong as a fintech hub in Asia and adopt a proactive approach to promote financial innovation and inclusion. It also notes Hong Kong's solid regime to fight money laundering and terrorist financing.

The FSAP is a comprehensive and in-depth assessment conducted by the IMF. Hong Kong is one of 47 jurisdictions with systemically important financial sectors that have been identified for mandatory review under the FSAP.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/09/P2021060900260.htm>

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## **Government tightens boarding requirements for persons arriving from certain overseas places**

In view of the persistent unstable epidemic situation in various overseas places, the HKSAR Government announced on June 11 that it will specify Colombia and Korea from Group C specified places to Group B specified places with effect from June 18.

Persons arriving at Hong Kong who have stayed in any Group B specified place(s), including Canada, per the day of boarding for Hong Kong or during the 14 days before that day 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. Persons arriving at Hong Kong who have stayed in Group B specified place(s) but are yet to be fully vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccines will be subject to a 21-day compulsory quarantine at designated quarantine hotels, with four tests to be conducted during the period. Those who have been fully vaccinated will be subject to a 14-day compulsory quarantine at designated quarantine hotels, with three tests to be conducted during the period, followed by a seven-day self-monitoring period as well as compulsory testing on the 16th and 19th day of arrival at 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/202106/11/P2021061100745.htm>

Meanwhile, the HKSAR Government announced on June 3 two additional designated quarantine hotels for the fourth cycle of the Designated Quarantine Hotel Scheme. Along with the 31 hotels announced on May 20, there will be a total of 33 hotels in the fourth cycle, providing about 9 000 rooms, with the contract period running from June 20 to August 31.

The updated list of designated hotels in the fourth cycle and related details, including room rates, can be found at [www.designatedhotel.gov.hk](http://www.designatedhotel.gov.hk).

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/03/P2021060300659.htm>

In addition, the HKSAR Government gazetted directions and specifications under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and



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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 currently in place. The above directions and specifications took effect till June 23.

A spokesman for the Food and Health Bureau of the HKSAR Government said that a number of local cases with the N501Y mutant strain have been recorded in Hong Kong recently. To guard against a rebound of the epidemic situation, it is not appropriate to relax social distancing measures at the moment.

For details of the latest requirements and restrictions, please visit the link below:  
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/09/P2021060800887.htm>

### **HKSARG strongly refutes the remarks contained in latest UK Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong and opposes EU's interference in HK's electoral matters**

The HKSAR Government objects to the inaccurate remarks on Hong Kong in the United Kingdom Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong (the Report) released on June 10.

The government spokesman said that the comments in the Report smearing the Law of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on Safeguarding National Security in the HKSAR (Hong Kong National Security Law) could not be further from the truth, and are clearly adopting double standards.

He stressed that the HKSAR is an inalienable part of the PRC, is a local administrative region that enjoys a high degree of autonomy under "one country, two systems" and comes directly under the Central People's Government (CPG). To uphold and implement the principle of "one country, two systems" meets the interests of the Hong Kong people, responds to the needs of maintaining Hong Kong's prosperity and stability and serves the fundamental interests of the nation. The CPG repeatedly urged foreign parties to stop intervening in Hong Kong affairs. Foreign governments should not attempt to interfere in the HKSAR's affairs under international laws and basic principles of non-intervention.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/11/P2021061100013.htm>

In addition, the HKSAR Government on June 10 firmly opposes the unfounded accusations made by the European Union (EU) to the Decision on Improving the Electoral System of the HKSAR (the Decision) passed by the National People's Congress (NPC) on March 11.



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The spokesman for the HKSAR Government said that the Decision is entirely constitutional, legal, reasonable and rational. The Central Authorities take the initiative from the national level to improve the electoral system of the HKSAR, aiming to plug the loopholes in and eliminate the deficiencies of the existing electoral system. Through constructing a democratic system that is consistent with the actual situation of Hong Kong, it fully conforms to the constitutional order under the “one country, two systems” principle and manifests Hong Kong characteristics that can thereby put Hong Kong back on track and make rectification.

He emphasised that the HKSAR Government firmly opposes the misleading claims by the EU concerning the improvement to the electoral system as well as their ulterior motives. The improvement to the electoral system of the HKSAR is both timely and necessary. The HKSAR Government is committed to ensuring elections being conducted in a fair, just and open manner.

Since the implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law, stability has been restored to society and national security has been safeguarded in the HKSAR. The protection of human rights and freedom are all enshrined in the Basic Law.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/10/P2021061000734.htm>

### **Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement between Hong Kong and Mexico to enter into force**

The Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA) between Hong Kong and Mexico will enter into force on June 16. The IPPA with Mexico will enhance the confidence of investors, expand investment flows between Hong Kong and Mexico, and further strengthen bilateral economic and trade ties.

Under the IPPA with Mexico, the two sides undertake to provide investors of the other side with fair, equitable and non-discriminatory treatment of investments; compensation in the event of expropriation of investments; and the right to free transfers abroad of investments and returns. The IPPA also provides for settlement of investment disputes under internationally accepted rules, including arbitration.

The IPPA with Mexico is the fourth such agreement that the HKSAR Government has signed this term. The other three were signed respectively with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), all of which have entered into force. Taking into account the IPPA with Mexico, the total number of IPPAs in force between Hong Kong and foreign economies, including Canada, will

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increase to 22, covering 31 foreign economies.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/06/P2021060400606.htm>

### **CE promotes Hong Kong as arts and cultural hub**

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam on June 7 met with representatives of Mainland and overseas art galleries via a webinar. She briefed them on Hong Kong's growing competitive edge as an international arts and cultural hub, and that it is the best time for them to expand their presence in the city.

The webinar was organised by Art Basel. Apart from senior executives of Art Basel, the webinar was attended by a dozen of directors and founders of art galleries in major cities around the world, including New York, London, Paris, Rome, Milan, Athens, Tokyo, Seoul, Singapore, Jakarta and Mainland cities.

Mrs Lam said that Hong Kong has all along been an East-meets-West hub for international arts and cultural exchanges. To promote cultural co-operation, Hong Kong has signed memoranda of understanding on cultural co-operation with 20 countries.

Mrs Lam noted that Hong Kong has been investing heavily in upgrading existing cultural hardware and building new facilities. The M+ Museum and the Hong Kong Palace Museum in the West Kowloon Cultural District are expected to be commissioned at the end of this year and in the middle of next year, respectively. The renovated and expanded Hong Kong Museum of Art will be another cultural landmark in the city.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/07/P2021060700822.htm>

### **SCED attends APEC virtual Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting**

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, Mr Edward Yau, attended the virtual Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) Meeting of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2021 on June 5.

Speaking at the session on responding to the COVID-19 crisis, Mr Yau said that Hong Kong fully supports APEC's timely statements on COVID-19 Vaccine Supply Chains and Services to Support the Movement of Essential Goods.

He also stressed the importance of restoring cross-border travel as a crucial way to

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support economic recovery and revitalise hard-hit sectors like the travel industries. On free and open trade, Mr Yau called on member economies to support the rules-based multilateral trading system and deepen regional economic integration towards the eventual realisation of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific.

Mr Yau added that Hong Kong is grateful for the positive response of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership participating economies towards Hong Kong's proposed accession, and looks forward to commencing formal dialogues on its early accession.

Mr Yau also spoke at another session on how APEC can build momentum towards achieving concrete results at the upcoming 12th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization.

Chaired by the Minister for Trade and Export Growth of New Zealand, Mr Damien O'Connor, the virtual MRT meeting was the first ministerial-level meeting of APEC this year. Participating ministers exchanged views on economic and trade policies to facilitate recovery from COVID-19 and reaffirmed their commitment to the MTS.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/05/P2021060400581.htm>

### **Article to promote Hong Kong as an exciting place to visit and live**

Business Insider, in partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, has created a piece of branded content "Into the New - New Experiences" to explore the diverse attractions that make Hong Kong an exciting place to visit and live.

Please click the following links for details of the article:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/sc/hong-kong-premier-lifestyle-destination-2021-6>

### **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). 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](mailto:appts_registry1@dh.gov.hk) and online application can be made through the Civil Service Bureau's website at

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<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](http://www.facebook.com/brandhk.isd) or

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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For help setting up your business in Hong Kong, please contact:

Mr. Christopher Chen, Head of Investment Promotion at [christopher\\_chen@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto:christopher_chen@hketotoronto.gov.hk) or visit [www.InvestHK.gov.hk](http://www.InvestHK.gov.hk)

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