

Sep 22, 2021



### **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)

Under the border control measures of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government introduced on August 9, 2021, overseas places are categorised into high-risk, medium-risk and low-risk groups. Canada is currently in Group B (Medium-risk) group, under which Hong Kong residents and fully vaccinated non-Hong Kong residents are allowed to board flights for Hong Kong.

Travellers from Canada are required to present at boarding (i) a negative result proof of a polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based nucleic acid test for COVID-19 conducted within 72 hours before the scheduled time of departure of the aircraft; (ii) confirmation in English or Chinese of room reservation in a designated quarantine hotel in Hong Kong; and (iii) a vaccination record if applicable. The same requirements apply to travellers who have stayed in Canada during the 14 days before boarding the flight to Hong Kong. Please refer to the webpage <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html#quarantinemeasuresofinbound> for details.

The "COVID-19 Thematic Website" of the HKSAR Government has been added to the official website of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO). You are invited to browse the page by clicking the banner on top of [HKETO website](#) or the 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.

Sep 22, 2021



## **HKETO JOB VACANCY**

### **Administrative Assistant**

Applications are invited for the post of Administrative Assistant in the HKETO. The suitable applicant should be a high school graduate with at least 3 years of experience as an Administrative Assistant; or a post-secondary diploma / degree holder with at least 1 year of administrative experience. The applicant must be fluent in written and spoken English and Chinese (Cantonese), have good interpersonal and communication skills, and possess good general knowledge about Hong Kong and Canada.

The holder of the post will provide administrative support and report to the Deputy Director of HKETO. Main duties include managing appointments and travel plans, providing administrative support such as documents handling and filing, providing administrative and logistical support for events/activities and visits by officials, conducting research on topical issues, creating social media posts, and carrying out other office duties as required.

Applications should be submitted by e-mail, with a cover letter and resume, to [info@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto:info@hketotoronto.gov.hk) **on or before September 26, 2021**.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/employment.html#hketo>

## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

### **Webinar on Canada-Asia Supply Chain and Logistics Trends in the New Normal, Challenges and Opportunities**

The Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (Toronto), HKETO and other organisations will co-organise a webinar on September 29 to discuss ways to mitigate the supply chain risks and tapping business possibilities in the new normal with particular reference to the Canada-Asia traffic flow. Free registration at: <https://toronto.hkcba.com/events/webinar-canada-asia-supply-chain-and-logistics-trends-challenges-and-opportunities-in-the-new-normal>

### **Vancouver International Film Festival 2021**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Vancouver International Film Festival will take place from October 1 to 11 in hybrid mode (virtual and in-person). In partnership with HKETO, the Festival will present two Hong Kong films including *TIME* (殺出個黃昏) and *KEEP ROLLING* (好好拍電影).

Sep 22, 2021



Tickets are on sale now. Please click the following link for details:  
<https://viff.org/Online/default.asp>

## **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

### **Director of HKETO attends the 33rd Toronto International Dragon Boat Race Festival**

The 33rd Toronto International Dragon Boat Race Festival organised by the Toronto Chinese Business Association in collaboration with GWN Dragon Boat was held at Marilyn Bell Park on September 11 and 12. HKETO is a key sponsor of the event.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, was glad to note that dragon boat racing has developed its roots in Canada and grown into a sport that brings people from different countries together. Dragon boat race signifies the strong and close ties between Hong Kong and Canada as this modernized water sport was brought from Hong Kong to Canada three decades ago.

At the Toronto Dragon Boat Race Festival, HKETO has set up a Hong Kong pavilion for visitors to learn more about the history of dragon boating and get some nice souvenirs about Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/director-of-hketo-attends-the-33rd-toronto-international-dragon-boat-race-festival.html>

### **HKETO Director attends Asialicious Carnival 2021**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the launching ceremony of the Asialicious Carnival 2021 organised by the Federation of Asian Canadians Toronto and the City of Toronto on September 11. HKETO is a sponsor of the event held from September 10 to 12.

Speaking at the launching ceremony, Ms Mo was delighted to note that Toronto and Hong Kong share the common feature of having easy access to a mix of culture and authentic food. The three-day weekend Asialicious Carnival showcased diverse Asian culture and heritage through a variety of food including Hong Kong style cuisine as well as activities such as a free movie night, a “Starry Night” variety show followed by fireworks, and multicultural performances.

Sep 22, 2021



Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-attends-asialicious-carnival-2021.html>

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Hong Kong once again ranked as the world's freest economy**

The HKSAR Government on September 14 welcomed that the Fraser Institute once again ranked Hong Kong as the world's freest economy in the Economic Freedom of the World 2021 Annual Report. Hong Kong has gained the top rank since the inception of the report. Among the five areas of assessment, Hong Kong continued to rank top in "Freedom to Trade Internationally" and "Regulation".

The spokesperson of the HKSAR Government said that this is an unequivocal affirmation of Hong Kong's long-standing and steadfast commitment to building a free economy with a level playing field. Under "One Country, Two Systems", HKSAR's trusted legal system remains as robust as ever. The rule of law is a fundamental core value of Hong Kong and much cherished by the community. Hong Kong has been fully committed to upholding Hong Kong's fine tradition of the rule of law and judicial independence.

The spokesperson added that the HKSAR Government would continue to uphold Hong Kong's institutional strengths, a free trade and investment regime, a simple and low tax system, a favourable business environment and an efficient and clean government, etc. As in the past, these strengths will continue to provide a conducive environment for businesses to thrive and to strengthen their competitiveness, thereby enabling the city's economy to prosper.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/14/P2021091400837.htm>

### **HKSAR Government welcomes launch of Southbound Trading under Bond Connect**

The People's Bank of China and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority issued a joint announcement on September 15 that Southbound Trading under Bond Connect will be launched on September 24. The HKSAR Government welcomes this initiative which further expands mutual access between the two capital markets, and expresses deep gratitude to the Central Government for its support.

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, said that the National 14th Five-Year

Sep 22, 2021



Plan expresses staunch support for Hong Kong to strengthen its functions as a global offshore Renminbi business hub, an international asset management centre and a risk management centre. Launching Southbound Trading under Bond Connect to complete the two-way connection of the bond markets will promote further mutual access between the two financial markets, set a new milestone for meeting the objectives laid down in the 14th Five-Year Plan, and reinforce Hong Kong's status as an international financial centre.

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR Government, Mr Paul Chan, noted that the launch of Southbound Trading under Bond Connect provides an effective channel for qualified onshore investors to make diversified asset allocation, and at the same time presents enormous opportunities for Hong Kong's financial industry. It will further underline the unique function of Hong Kong in connecting Mainland capital and the wide range of products in the international market.

Northbound Trading under Bond Connect was launched in July 2017. Southbound Trading will allow Mainland investors to invest in Hong Kong's bond market through connection between the financial infrastructure services institutions of the two places.

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/15/P2021091500539.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/15/P2021091500739.htm>

### **Government maintains most social distancing measures under Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance**

The HKSAR Government gazetted the extension of the effective date of most existing social distancing measures till September 29. The Government will also introduce a new arrangement for fitness centres under "vaccine bubble" to relax the distance restriction among participants of training groups or classes of more than four persons.

Please click the following link for details about the requirements and restrictions under the latest directions:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/14/P2021091400605.htm>

In addition, the Government announced on September 20 that it had concluded discussions with the Government of Iran to accept vaccination records issued by Iran as recognised vaccination records for Hong Kong residents who have stayed in Group A specified places under the mechanism. The Government will also accept the vaccination records issued by non-Group A specified places including Chile and New Zealand for boarding flights for Hong Kong by Hong Kong residents who have stayed in Group A specified places. The relevant arrangements will take effect on September 22.

Sep 22, 2021



Meanwhile, the Government announced earlier that it accepts vaccination records recognised under the EU Digital COVID Certificate mechanism as recognised vaccination records required for the purpose of boarding flights for Hong Kong from high-risk Group A specified places. As the EU has recently announced the recognition of the vaccination records issued by Albania, Andorra, Faroe Islands, Israel, Monaco, Morocco and Panama as being equivalent to vaccination records issued by EU member states under the mechanism, the HKSAR Government will therefore also accept the vaccination records issued by the aforementioned places as recognised vaccination records from September 22.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/20/P2021092000764.htm>

Besides, the HKSAR Government on September 14 announced the implementation details of the Come2hk Scheme. Starting from September 15, non-Hong Kong residents coming from Guangdong Province and Macao, upon fulfillment of all the specified conditions under the Come2hk Scheme, can be exempted from compulsory quarantine upon entry into Hong Kong.

Details of the Come2hk Scheme are available at the “COVID-19 Thematic Website” [come2hk.gov.hk](https://come2hk.gov.hk).

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/14/P2021091400592.htm>

### **First elections held successfully after improving electoral system**

The 2021 Election Committee (EC) Subsector Ordinary Elections were concluded on September 19. In the elections, about 4 380 voters casted their votes and elected 364 EC members. The turnout was overwhelming with a rate of nearly 90 per cent. This was also the first elections held after improving Hong Kong’s electoral system and full implementation of the principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong”.

A Government spokesman said that the new EC consists of a number of subsectors and is broadly representative. It plays an important role in the political system. Apart from nominating and electing the Chief Executive, it will also nominate the candidates for the Legislative Council (LegCo) election and elect 40 LegCo members. This new constitutional function will facilitate rational interaction between the executive authorities and the legislature, and effectively enhance governance efficiency.

Sep 22, 2021



Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/20/P2021092000953.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/20/P2021092000239.htm>

### **ASEAN economic ministers welcome Hong Kong to seek accession to RCEP**

Economic ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states on September 14 welcomed Hong Kong's interest in seeking accession to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in a joint media statement after the Fifth ASEAN Economic Ministers. They considered that Hong Kong is well placed to add value to this free trade agreement and noted that Hong Kong has already established free trade agreements with 13 of the 15 RCEP participating economies.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, Mr Edward Yau, and the representative of Brunei co-chaired the meeting. Mr Yau reiterated that Hong Kong's accession to RCEP would provide an additional platform for promoting trade and investment between ASEAN and Hong Kong. It would also help further consolidate the regional supply chain through the provision of more access and choices of high-quality services to enterprises in the region, enabling businesses to reap the full benefits of regional economic integration.

Mr Yau also exchanged views with the economic ministers on possible areas for co-operation and collaboration to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting also took stock of the key areas of co-operation between Hong Kong and ASEAN since the meeting last year and noted the good progress made on various fronts, including the full entry into force of the Free Trade Agreement and Investment Agreement between Hong Kong and ASEAN this February.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202109/14/P2021091400247.htm>

### **A glimpse of the new infrastructure in Hong Kong**

The Airport Authority Hong Kong announced the completion of works on the Third Runway which is set to go into use in 2022. The Third Runway is just one aspect of the massive Airport City Development involving multiple elements - commercial, retail, logistics, air cargo, land-sea transport - that will catapult the Hong Kong international Airport into the ranks of one of the most modern and integrated transport and aviation hubs in the world.

Sep 22, 2021



Please click the videos below for details:

Airport City Development video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4q2MnhdFtE>

3rd Runway completion

[https://www.hongkongairport.com/en/media-centre/press-release/2021/pr\\_1560](https://www.hongkongairport.com/en/media-centre/press-release/2021/pr_1560)

In addition, the M+, Asia's first global museum of contemporary visual culture in the West Kowloon Cultural District of Hong Kong, will open to the public on November 12. Please visit the links below for details:

M+ opening

<https://www.westkowloon.hk/en/press-release/m-asia-first-global-museum-contemporary-visual-culture-open-november-hong-kong>

M+ video (with a sneak peak!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=riDTUGYI8No>

### **A new look of Brand Hong Kong website**

The Brand Hong Kong website ([www.brandhk.gov.hk](http://www.brandhk.gov.hk)) has been revamped to give a more convenient navigation via profile selection on home page. The site provides information, news and multi-media content under the themes of Only in Hong Kong, Live and Work, Doing Business, and Media Centre.

The website also highlights Brand Hong Kong campaigns that promote the advantages of Asia's world city. Readers can find a live feed of the social media channels and latest updates from Hong Kong including featured news, press releases and clarifications.

### **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



Sep 22, 2021



<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 \(Child Assessment\)\)](#)

To stay tuned to updates on HKETO and Hong Kong, please follow us at

HKETO Toronto Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/TorontoHKETO](http://www.facebook.com/TorontoHKETO)

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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