Oct 20, 2021



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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

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 <a href="https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html#quarantinemeasuresofinbound">https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html#quarantinemeasuresofinbound</a> 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 <a href="https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk">HKETO website</a> or the link: <a href="https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk">https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk</a>

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

Oct 20, 2021



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Team HKCBA Virtual Delegation to Hong Kong Forum 2021**

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) (Toronto Section) will host the "Think Asia, think Hong Kong: Team HKCBA Virtual Delegation to Hong Kong Forum 2021" webinar on October 21. This webinar aims to share with participants on how members of the Team HKCBA Delegation have benefited from the past events, to explore opportunities in Asia and most importantly, how they can take advantage of the Forum to be held virtually from November 30 to December 1 this year.

Registrations are complimentary but reservations are required. Registration link: <a href="https://bit.ly/HKCBAdelegationHKForum">https://bit.ly/HKCBAdelegationHKForum</a>

#### Canadian Virtual Mission to Asia Summit on Global Health

The "Canadian Virtual Mission to Asia Summit on Global Health" (ASGH) pre-mission networking meeting organised jointly by Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), HKETO, Invest Hong Kong (Canada) and the HKCBA (Toronto Section) will be held on October 27.

This pre-mission networking meeting is designed to provide Canadian delegates with an overview of the programme and the online platform, and most importantly, how they can take advantage of this trade mission to diversify their businesses to Asia through the Hong Kong platform. Two business leaders will share their insights on tapping into the healthcare technology and investment opportunities in Asia via Hong Kong at the event. The ASGH is scheduled for November 24, 2021 Hong Kong time.

Please contact HKTDC at adrienne.ly.ho@hktdc.org for details.

### Hong Kong - Markham: Al & HardTech Exchange

Al and Hardtech are hot topics that many entrepreneurs are fascinated by and are interested to learn from industry leaders. A virtual event will be held on November 2 at 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. (EDT) to showcase that both Hong Kong and Markham are excellent and vibrant hubs for nurturing innovation and technology businesses/start-ups with global perspectives.

This online event will facilitate an opportunity for event partners, guest speakers, and participants to meet face-to-face, exchange ideas, and learn from each other on current and future developments in AI and Hardware Tech in Hong Kong and Markham.

## Oct 20, 2021



Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toront We work across Canada

The webinar is co-organized by the City of Markham, HKETO, Hong Kong Trade Development Council and Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK), supported by Hong Kong Science and Technology Park, ventureLAB, YSpace, Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs, Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, HKCBA, Markham Board of Trade, and TechConnex.

Please click the link below for details: https://hongkongmarkham.blogspot.com/

### **HKETO sponsors Cathay Ball organised by Mon Sheong Foundation**

The Cathay Ball 2021 themed "Caring beyond Boundaries" hosted by the Mon Sheong Foundation will be held virtually on November 6. HKETO is proud to sponsor the Cathay Ball again this year and highlight Hong Kong as the Asia's Cultural Metropolis at the event.

Please click the link below for details: https://cathayball.monsheong.org/

### 25<sup>th</sup> Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival

The 25<sup>th</sup> Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is taking place from November 10 to 19 in hybrid mode. In partnership with HKETO, the festival will present online the Hong Kong film DRIFTING (濁水漂流) directed by a young Hong Kong moviemaker Jun Li Chun-sek. The film will be available to the public for streaming for the entire festival period.

Tickets are on sale now. Please click the following link for details: https://www.reelasian.com/film-index/

### **Chinese Restaurant Awards Presentation Ceremony 2021**

To support and unite the Chinese restaurants together in the Greater Vancouver Area to brace through the adversity, the 13th Chinese Restaurant Awards Presentation Ceremony will be held at the Vancouver Club on November 16. There will be a tasting reception and awards presentation at the event. Hong Kong style pastry from an award winner will also be featured at the reception. HKETO is a sponsor of the event.

Please click the link for details: https://chineserestaurantawards.com/

Oct 20, 2021



### Mississauga Chinese Business Association 30th Anniversary Gala

To commemorate the 30 years of contribution to the success and growth of the business community in Mississauga, the Mississauga Chinese Business Association will host the "Up & Away Gala" on November 27 to support the exciting business recovery, welcome the new Board of Directors and celebrate the holiday season. HKETO is a supporter of the event.

For more information about the event, please visit MCBA's official webpage: <a href="https://mcba-canada.com/event/mcba-30th-anniversary-gala/">https://mcba-canada.com/event/mcba-30th-anniversary-gala/</a>

#### HONG KONG NEWS

# Passenger flights from Vancouver of Air Canada prohibited for landing in Hong Kong

As a passenger flight operated by Air Canada arriving from Vancouver, Canada, to Hong Kong on October 13 had one passenger confirmed to have COVID-19 by arrival testing, and one passenger failed to comply with the requirements specified under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Regulation of Cross-boundary Conveyances and Travellers) Regulation (Cap. 599H), the Department of Health of the HKSAR Government invoked Cap. 599H to prohibit the landing of passenger flights from Vancouver operated by Air Canada in Hong Kong from October 16 to 29.

Click the following link for details.

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/15/P2021101500529.htm

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

The HKSAR Government gazetted the extension of most existing social distancing measures till October 27 with two new "vaccine bubble" arrangements for fitness centres introduced. Under the condition that the fitness centres have complied with the requirements such as ventilation standards, the maximum number of participants in each sub-group of training groups or classes will be relaxed provided that all staff members have completed a vaccination course and all participants are wearing masks, and customers will be allowed to exercise without wearing a mask if all staff members and users have completed a vaccination course.

Oct 20, 2021



ong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)
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Please click the following link for details about the requirements and restrictions under the latest directions:

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/12/P2021101200683.htm

The HKSAR Government also announced on October 11 that it has concluded discussions with the Government of Sri Lanka to accept vaccination records issued by the country as recognised vaccination records for Hong Kong residents who have stayed in Group A specified places under the mechanism. The Government also accepts the vaccination records issued by non-Group A specified places including Guernsey, Jersey and some British Overseas Territories for boarding flights for Hong Kong by Hong Kong residents who have stayed in Group A specified places. The relevant arrangements took effect on October 13.

Click the following link for details.

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/11/P2021101100644.htm

Besides, a spokesman for the Food and Health Bureau of the HKSAR Government announced on October 8 that following the liaison with the relevant authorities of the United Kingdom (UK) on COVID-19 vaccination records, the HKSAR Government was notified by the UK authorities that Hong Kong's updated vaccination records meet the relevant local requirements, and that the UK Government would recognise Hong Kong's updated vaccination records with effect from October 11 for travel to England.

Click the following link for details.

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/08/P2021100800647.htm

# Numbers of overseas and Mainland companies and start-ups in Hong Kong reach record high

According to the latest results of annual surveys, the number of business operations in Hong Kong with parent companies overseas or in the Mainland has increased by 10 per cent to 9 049 from 2017 to 2021, reaching record high. These companies comprised 1 457 operating as regional headquarters, 2 483 as regional offices and 5 109 as local offices.

In terms of source country/territory, the Mainland ranked first with 2 080 companies, followed by Japan (1 388), the United States (1 267), the UK (667) and Singapore (449).

In addition, results of the 2021 Annual Startup Survey conducted by InvestHK showed that Hong Kong's start-up scene remained vibrant, with the number of start-ups increasing by 68.5 per cent from the 2017 figure to 3 755, also reaching record high. These start-

Oct 20, 2021



Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)

We work across Canada

ups spanned different business sectors, such as financial technology, e-commerce, supply chain management and logistics technology, as well as professional or consultancy services.

The record high figures demonstrate fully that Hong Kong's business environment remains favourable, which makes Hong Kong an ideal place for companies to set up or expand their businesses.

Click the following link for details.

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/07/P2021100600504.htm

# Joint report by InvestHK and PwC finds Hong Kong's ever-growing digital ecosystem impacts every aspect of life

InvestHK on October 18 released a joint report with PricewaterhouseCoopers that details Hong Kong's digital evolution in eCommerce, food services and creative industries. The report highlights how Hong Kong facilitates business between the world and Asia Pacific, as well as the agility that Hong Kong's digital ecosystem has developed following the disruptions brought about by COVID-19.

The report, entitled "Explore Opportunities in Hong Kong's Digital Ecosystem", analyses the business environment of the sectors of consumer products, food services and creative industries that contribute to the city's status as an international business and technology hub, accelerated by the mature digital ecosystem of Hong Kong. The report also defines the current sector drivers, reviews latest consumer trends and predicts the future opportunities for investment that help eCommerce, creative industries and food businesses scale their growth.

The report can be downloaded from the InvestHK website at <a href="https://www.investhk.gov.hk/en/why-hong-kong/whats-happening-hong-kong/explore-opportunities-hong-kong-s-digital-ecosystem.html">https://www.investhk.gov.hk/en/why-hong-kong/whats-happening-hong-kong/explore-opportunities-hong-kong-s-digital-ecosystem.html</a>

Click the following link for details.

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/18/P2021101800297.htm

### Government announces Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050

The HKSAR Government on October 8 announced Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050, setting out the vision of "Zero-carbon Emissions · Liveable City · Sustainable Development", and outlining the strategies and targets for combating climate change and achieving carbon neutrality.

## Oct 20, 2021



Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)
We work across Canada

In response to the Paris Agreement, the HKSAR Government announced Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2030+ in 2017, setting out the decarbonisation target of reducing Hong Kong's carbon intensity by 65 per cent to 70 per cent by 2030 using 2005 as the base, which is equivalent to a reduction in the total carbon emissions by 26 per cent to 36 per cent.

The four major decarbonisation strategies in Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050 include:

- Net-zero electricity generation
- Energy saving and green buildings
- Green transport
- Waste reduction

In the next 15 to 20 years, the Government will devote about HK\$240 billion to take forward various measures on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Click the following link for details.

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/08/P2021100800588.htm

### **Global Financial Centres Index survey**

The Financial Services Development Council of the HKSAR Government encourages the members of the public from different countries, especially those who know Hong Kong's conditions well, to participate in the Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI) survey conducted by the Z/Yen from the UK and the China Development Institute from Shenzhen on a regular basis.

Please click the link below to take part in the exercise: <a href="https://globalfinancialcentres.net/survey/">https://globalfinancialcentres.net/survey/</a>

The GFCI ranking are released in March and September every year, and the deadline for survey input for such releases are on 31 December and 30 June, respectively. The GFCI serves as a valuable reference for policy and investment decision-makers.

Hong Kong ranked third globally in the GFCI 30 Report published on September 24, rising by one place from the March issue of the index this year. GFCI 30 provides evaluations of future competitiveness and rankings for 116 financial centres around the world.

Please click the link below for the GFCI 30 Report:

https://www.zyen.com/publications/public-reports/global-financial-centres-index-30/

Oct 20, 2021



### 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.

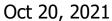
Enquiries can be made to the Department of Health at appts\_registry1@dh.gov.hk and online application can be made through the Civil Service Bureau's website at http://www.csb.gov.hk. Job numbers are 40221 (Contract Doctor (without Full Registration)) and 40248 (Contract Doctor (without Full Registration)).

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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This message was sent from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto, 174 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5R 2M7.

For enquiries, please contact:
Miss Hilda Chow, Public Relations Officer, at
<a href="mailto:hilda.chow@hketotoronto.gov.hk">hilda chow@hketotoronto.gov.hk</a> or 416-924-5544.

For help setting up your business in Hong Kong, please contact: Mr. Christopher Chen, Head of Investment Promotion at <a href="mailto:christopher\_chen@hketotoronto.gov.hk">christopher\_chen@hketotoronto.gov.hk</a> or visit <a href="mailto:www.InvestHK.gov.hk">www.InvestHK.gov.hk</a>

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