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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)

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.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Cathay Ball 2021**

The Cathay Ball 2021 themed “Caring beyond Boundaries” hosted by the Mon Sheong Foundation will be held in hybrid mode 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.

Participants of the event can enjoy a short video, entitled "Hong Kong – Asia's Cultural Metropolis", to have a glimpse of the flourishing arts and culture scene in Hong Kong. Besides, a drone video showing an exclusive view of the M+ museum, the first global museum of contemporary visual culture in Asia, will be screened at the HKETO sponsored virtual booth.

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 will take 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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/>

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## **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:  
<https://mcba-canada.com/event/mcba-30th-anniversary-gala/>

## **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

### **Canadian companies are encouraged to join the virtual Hong Kong Forum 2021**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the “Think Asia, think Hong Kong: Team HKCBA Virtual Delegation to Hong Kong Forum 2021” webinar hosted by the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) on October 21. This webinar aims to share with participants on how participants have benefited from the past Hong Kong Forum, to explore opportunities in Asia and most importantly, and how they can take advantage of the virtual Forum to be held from November 30 to December 1 this year.

In delivering a speech entitled “Hong Kong in the New Normal”, Ms Mo shared with participants on the latest global economic development noting that China and Hong Kong had recorded positive GDP growth when the world was hit by COVID-19 last year.

Ms Mo highlighted that the HKSAR Government had published a “Report on Hong Kong’s Business Environment” which reviews and sets out Hong Kong’s current business environment and advantages and describes the development opportunities available to Hong Kong. She encouraged Canadian companies to seize the business opportunities and consider Hong Kong as a business destination or platform.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/canadian-companies-are-encouraged-to-join-the-virtual-hong-kong-forum-2021.html>

### **Canada companies are welcome to join the first ASGH**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the “Canadian Virtual Mission to Asia Summit on Global Health (ASGH)” pre-mission networking meeting jointly organised by

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HKETO, HKTDC, Invest Hong Kong (Canada) and the HKCBA on October 27. The first ASGH will be held in Hong Kong on November 24.

In delivering the welcome remarks, Ms Mo shared with participants that Hong Kong has the highest life expectancy in the world, and according to the Economist's research, the city ranked number 1 in returning to life normalcy during the global pandemic in the past summer.

Ms Mo also noted that the HKSAR Government has set up two "InnoHK research clusters" at the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks. The clusters have focused on the major areas of healthcare technologies, artificial intelligence and robotics technologies. This project has since attracted many top-notch universities, research institutions and partners including the University of Waterloo.

Ms Mo also introduced to the Canadian health sector that a new policy has been launched to cope with the health manpower shortage in Hong Kong. The HKSAR Government has created a new pathway to allow non-locally trained doctors to apply for full registration in Hong Kong after fulfilling a set of criteria.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/canada-companies-are-welcome-to-join-the-first-asgh.html>

### **HKETO Director joins webinar to promote I&T opportunities in Hong Kong**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the "Hong Kong-Markham AI and Hardware Tech Exchange" webinar hosted by the HKETO, City of Markham, HKTDC and InvestHK on November 2.

Addressing at the webinar, Ms Mo noted Markham and Hong Kong share a lot of commonalities, that both cities are tech-ready and home to many technology leaders and businesses. "Earlier this year, Markham is named as the Smart21 City, whereas Hong Kong was ranked by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) as the second most digitally competitive place in the world," Ms Mo said.

Ms Mo introduced to participants the flagship project "InnoHK research clusters" at the Hong Kong Science and Technology Park which has attracted many top-notch universities, research institutions including those from Canada.

She also highlighted the numerous opportunities presented by the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development, the National 14th Five-Year Plan as well

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as the Free Trade Agreement between Hong Kong and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Before closing, Ms Mo invited Canadian companies to tap on the tremendous opportunities offered by Hong Kong to fuel business expansion to the Mainland China, Asia and beyond.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-joins-webinar-to-promote-i-t-opportunities-in-hong-kong.html>

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Government adjusts COVID-19 vaccination requirements for inbound travellers**

The HKSAR Government announced on October 26 to adjust two COVID-19 vaccination requirements for inbound travellers starting from October 29. The two sets of requirements cover inbound travellers aged 12 to 17 who have received one dose of Comirnaty vaccine, and Hong Kong residents who have received one dose of recognised COVID-19 vaccine but are deemed unfit to receive the second dose because of health reasons.

For details on the boarding, quarantine and testing requirements for relevant specified places, please refer to [www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html).

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/26/P2021102600817.htm>

In addition, the HKSAR Government announced on October 25 and November 1 respectively that it has concluded discussions with the relevant Governments to accept vaccination records issued by Cambodia, Argentina and Armenia as recognised vaccination records for Hong Kong residents who have stayed in Group A specified places for boarding flights for Hong Kong. The vaccines administered for the relevant travellers have to be vaccines listed on the Government's List of COVID-19 Vaccines Recognised for Specified Purposes.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/25/P2021102500507.htm>

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

The HKSAR Government gazetted the extension of existing social distancing measures till November 10. The government spokesman noted that under the proactive “zero case” prevention and control strategy, the HKSAR Government has been implementing extremely stringent border control measures which enabled the city’s daily activities and socio-economic activities to largely resume with relatively relaxed social distancing measures, while maintaining a stable epidemic situation for a long period of time.

You can click the following link for details of the latest requirements and restrictions:  
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/27/P2021102700793.htm>

In addition, the Government also announced on October 26 that the criteria for releasing confirmed COVID-19 patients from isolation would be updated, and the discharge criteria for confirmed patients would be tightened. The relevant arrangements came into effect from October 27.

A Government spokesman said that as patients who have recovered from infection recently may still carry the virus, the latest arrangement would further reduce the risk of such patients bringing the virus into the community to a minimum.

For details of the revised discharge criteria for confirmed patients, please click the link below:  
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/26/P2021102600806.htm>

## **Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Dubai commences operation**

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Dubai (Dubai ETO) commenced operation on October 28. It is the HKSAR Government’s first ETO in the Middle East region and its opening will strengthen Hong Kong’s economic and trade relations with trading partners in the region, in particular the six member states of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC).

The occasion was marked by an opening ceremony held at the Dubai ETO. Addressing the opening ceremony of the Dubai ETO by way of a video message, the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, said the establishment of the Dubai ETO underscored the importance Hong Kong attaches to the partnership with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the five other member states of the GCC.

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Ms Lam noted that the new office would assist businesses and investors throughout the region to take advantage of Hong Kong's singular opportunities, including those brought about by the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the National 14th Five-Year Plan, which back Hong Kong's rise as a global innovation and technology hub and support the enhancing of the city's long-standing strengths in financial services, trade and transport, together with its international development in such areas as culture, legal and dispute-resolution services and intellectual property trading.

The geographical coverage of the Dubai ETO includes the six member states of the GCC, namely Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/28/P2021102800583.htm>

For the full text of the speech by CE at the opening ceremony, please click below:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/28/P2021102800537.htm>

### **FS attends APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting 2021**

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, Mr Paul Chan, on October 22 attended the virtual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Finance Ministers' Meeting (FMM) 2021.

Mr Chan addressed the meeting on the HKSAR government's fiscal strategies for addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, and the opportunities and challenges presented by the pandemic for the global economy. Sharing the experience of Hong Kong with meeting participants, Mr Chan underlined the importance of timely expansionary fiscal policy, coupled with effective anti-epidemic measures.

Mr Chan also remarked that Hong Kong strived to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 through increasing investment in green projects. The city will issue green bonds totalling around US\$23 billion to support the implementation of green projects in the coming five years.

The FMM 2021 was hosted by New Zealand and chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of New Zealand, Mr Grant Robertson. Participating ministers exchanged views on the use of fiscal policy and budget management to address ongoing challenges arising from the pandemic for a sustainable and inclusive recovery.

The meeting also concluded with the issuance of an FMM Statement, in which finance ministers reaffirmed their commitment to adopt fiscal and budget policy to tackle long-standing challenges, encourage digital transformation, and continue co-ordinated

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multilateral co-operation in supporting strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive recovery.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/22/P2021102200597.htm>

### **Hong Kong FinTech Week 2021 to lead scaling up for fintech future**

Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) is organising the Hong Kong FinTech Week 2021, themed “Scaling FinTech Future Together”, in hybrid form from November 1 to 5.

Organised by the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau and InvestHK, and co-organised by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, the Securities and Futures Commission and the Insurance Authority, the sixth edition of FinTech Week will provide a platform for information technology companies, fintech firms, and financial institutions in banking, insurance and asset management sectors, as well as investors, regulators and more, from all over the world to explore how emerging technologies and innovative advances can power the future of financial services to maximise benefits for consumers, business and society at large.

This year’s Hong Kong FinTech Week is expected to attract over 250 speakers, along with over 400 exhibitors and more than 30 delegations. For further information, please visit [www.fintechweek.hk](http://www.fintechweek.hk)

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/20/P2021101900516.htm>

### **Hong Kong Maritime Week 2021 unveiled**

The opening ceremony of Hong Kong Maritime Week 2021 (HKMW 2021), a major annual event of the maritime and port industries in Hong Kong, was held on November 1.

The event was co-organised by the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, the Hong Kong Shipowners Association and the Hong Kong Maritime Museum, with the HKTDC and InvestHK as partners from October 31 to November 6.

HKMW 2021 offers 38 activities organised by 43 local and international maritime bodies and covering nine topical themes, namely maritime education and career, green shipping and decarbonisation, marine insurance, maritime law and arbitration, maritime technology and digitalisation, port and logistics, ship finance, ship management, and shipping and maritime.



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Through a series of physical, online and hybrid activities, HKMW 2021 enables the international and local industries to gather together to promote Hong Kong as the preferred base for operating maritime business, enhance the awareness of general public towards maritime and port industries, and encourage and attract young people to join the industries.

For more details of HKMW 2021, please visit [www.hkmw.hk](http://www.hkmw.hk).

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202111/01/P2021110100536.htm>

### **German-based ice-cream manufacturer sets up regional headquarters in Hong Kong**

German-based ice-cream manufacturer Martosca announced on October 27 that it has opened its regional headquarters in Hong Kong, leveraging the city's strategic location to bring its organic premium ice-cream and fruit sorbet brands to the region.

Martosca produces organic ice-cream, in dairy as well as fruit sorbets in vegan, that are certified as Demeter, which is one of the strictest standards for organic agriculture worldwide. Martosca enjoys a good market share in Germany and other European markets.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202110/27/P2021102700318.htm>

### **“Hong Kong’s start-up ecosystem goes sky-high” video**

Euronews, a European, multilingual news TV channel, in partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, has produced a five-minute TV segment titled “Hong Kong’s start-up ecosystem goes sky-high”. The episode is aired in 12 languages. Please click the link below for the video in English and French:

English: <https://www.euronews.com/2021/11/01/hong-kong-s-start-up-ecosystem-goes-sky-high>

French: <https://fr.euronews.com/2021/11/01/comment-hong-kong-fait-pousser-les-start-up-europeennes>

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