

Feb 9, 2022



### **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, overseas places are categorised into high-risk, medium-risk and low-risk groups. **Canada** is currently specified as Group A (High-risk) group and also on the "[List of Specified Places with Flight Suspension](#)". Travellers who have stayed in Canada during the 14 days before boarding the flight to Hong Kong are not allowed to enter Hong Kong.

In view of the rapidly worsening global epidemic situation due to the Omicron variant, a series of measures have been implemented, including the following:

1. the place-specific flight suspension mechanism for Canada has been extended to February 18;
2. from February 5, the compulsory quarantine period for inbound travellers from overseas places has been adjusted to 14 days in designated quarantine hotels (DQH), to be followed by a seven-day self-monitoring period;
3. shortening the lead time for specimen collection for pre-departure nucleic acid tests for persons boarding for flights to Hong Kong to 48 hours; and
4. requiring persons arriving at Hong Kong to undergo six tests during quarantine at DQH and compulsory testing on the 16th and 19th days.

For details of the above quarantine measures, please read the following press release:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202201/27/P2022012700853.htm>

Please check the latest entry restrictions and quarantine requirements before travelling to Hong Kong:

<https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html#quarantinemeasures2>

Feb 9, 2022



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>

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Brampton Chinese Business Association Chinese New Year online event**

Brampton Chinese Business Association, with the support of the City of Brampton, is organising the Lunar New Year event virtually until February 14 via the City of Brampton’s website and various social media platforms. HKETO is a sponsor of the event. For event details, please click the following link:

<https://www.brampton.ca/EN/Arts-Culture-Tourism/Festivals-and-Events/Pages/Lunar-New-Year.aspx>

### **Cybersecurity and Fintech - A Symbiotic Success webinar**

Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) (Montreal) will organise a webinar entitled “Cybersecurity and Fintech - A Symbiotic Success” on February 9 at 9am (EST). During the pandemic, cybersecurity becomes one of the most important aspects of fintech in the modern world. Hong Kong is a global leader for the establishment of fintech companies while Canada produces an impressive number of cybersecurity, regtech and compliance-related operations. The webinar will explore how these two regions interact with Canadian entrepreneurs choosing Hong Kong as their location of choice for entering into the Asian market. HKETO and Invest Hong Kong are supporters of this webinar.

Registration is free at: <https://montreal.hkcba.com/events/cybersecurity-and-fintech-a-symbiotic-success>

### **SFST to speak at the “Fintech Bridge” virtual event**

Hong Kong is one of Asia's most vibrant, diverse and agile tech hubs with robust infrastructure, access to talent, and renowned international financial centre. Join the inaugural “Fintech Bridge” virtual event on February 24 at 2pm - 4pm (EST) to hear from Mr Christopher Hui, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of the HKSAR, to explore why Hong Kong is an ideal destination to set up and expand your business. The webinar is co-organized by the National Crowdfunding & Fintech Association of Canada and Invest Hong Kong, supported by HKETO.

Feb 9, 2022



Registration is free at: <https://ncfacanada.org/ncfa-investhk-virtual-event-feb-24-fintech-bridge-canada-hong-kong/>

## **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

### **HKETO Director joins Chinese New Year celebration events in Ontario**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended a series of virtual Chinese New Year celebration events organised by various business associations in Ontario, including Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (Greater Toronto Area Section), as well as Toronto, Brampton and Mississauga Chinese Business Associations in the week of January 29.

In delivering speeches on these occasions in pre-recorded videos, Ms Mo shared with participants that this year is an important milestone for Hong Kong, as Year 2022 celebrates the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. The theme of “A New Era – Stability • Prosperity • Opportunity” represents Hong Kong’s achievements over the past 25 years, and underscores the anticipation for and confidence in a brighter future.

Ms Mo stressed that with the staunch support from the Central Government, Hong Kong has successfully implemented “one country, two systems” over the past 25 years while sustaining its role as an international metropolis.

Looking forward, Ms Mo is optimistic about the future of Hong Kong. She invited participants to join the series of celebration events and continue to partner with HKETO in building a more resilient and thriving Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-joins-chinese-new-year-celebration-events-in-ontario.html>

### **HKETO supports the Dragon Ball 2022 carrying a Hong Kong theme**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the online Dragon Ball hosted by Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation on February 5. The event this year carried a special Hong Kong theme to celebrate the Year of the Tiger.

Speaking at the event in a pre-recorded video, Ms Mo shared with participants that year 2022 marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. She introduced to the participants that HKETO will organize a series of celebration events including the flagship galas, invaluable business and academic seminars, arts and photo exhibitions as well as cultural performances.

Feb 9, 2022



At this year's Dragon Ball, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra presented the "Dragon & Phoenix" as the opening performance, and other highlights included Hong Kong street food cooking demonstration, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra's performance, dance performance in contemporary cheongsams by Hong Kong designers, singing performance by popular Hong Kong singer and much more. Besides, ticket holder was entitled to a Hong Kong goodies gift box, and lucky draw winners were given one of the three sets of Hong Kong special gifts.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-supports-the-dragon-ball-2022-carrying-a-hong-kong-theme.html>

If you missed the livestream of the event, you can access the replay at: [www.yeehongdragonball.org/livestream](http://www.yeehongdragonball.org/livestream). In addition, highlights of the event will be available for viewing on February 10 at 5.30pm (EST)/2.30pm (PST) at OMNI East, OMNI West and OMNI Prairies.

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **CE delivers Lunar New Year message**

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Ms Carrie Lam, delivered the Lunar New Year message on January 31. Following is the translation of the message:

Looking back on the Year of the Ox, we have maintained stability overall as a result of hard work. With the support of the Central Government and the efforts of the whole community, Hong Kong has not only stayed true to its aspirations in the implementation of "One Country, Two Systems" and returned to the right track of "One Country, Two Systems", but has also been fighting the epidemic, boosting the economy and enhancing people's livelihoods. Capitalising on the opportunities presented by the National 14th Five-Year Plan, Hong Kong has been actively integrating into the country's overall development.

Leaping into the Year of the Tiger, Hong Kong is set to usher in a brighter future. The tiger is a symbol of quick response, great bravery and strong vitality. These attributes vividly describe the spirit of Hong Kong people, who always make the best of their opportunities and rise to the challenges that come their way. Such a spirit will not only help us get through the epidemic, but will also take Hong Kong into a new era of prosperity as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland.

I wish all Hong Kong citizens a healthy, harmonious and auspicious Year of the Tiger!

Feb 9, 2022



The message is available on the Chief Executive's website at [www.ceo.gov.hk/lny\\_message22/eng/](http://www.ceo.gov.hk/lny_message22/eng/)

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202201/31/P2022013100281.htm>

### **Government tightens social distancing measures in view of changes in epidemic situation**

The HKSAR Government announced on February 8 the gazettal of legislative amendments under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599), and the tightening of social distancing measures to take effect from February 10 till February 23.

Given the drastic deterioration of the epidemic situation in Hong Kong, the Chief Executive in Council approved four legislative proposals on February 8 with a view to further strengthening epidemic containment measures in light of the currently severe epidemic situation.

The approved proposals involve:

- the amendments to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation to add six more scheduled premises including religious premises, shopping malls, department stores, supermarkets, markets and barber shops or hair salons;
- the amendments to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) to restrict the number of persons allowed per group gathering in a public place from four to two. Provisions prohibiting multi-household gatherings at private premises involving more than two households will also be introduced;
- the enactment of a new Prevention and Control of Disease (Vaccine Pass) Regulation (Cap. 599L) to enable the application of "vaccine pass" in relation to any category of premises; and
- the amendments to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J), which will raise the fixed penalty for non-compliance with compulsory testing notices.

You can click the following link for details of the latest requirements and restrictions: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/09/P2022020900022.htm>

In addition, in view of the serious epidemic situation, in order to curb the spread of COVID-19, safeguard people's health and protect the healthcare system from collapse, the HKSAR Government launched the "StayHomeSafe" Scheme on February 8. The Centre

Feb 9, 2022

for Health Protection of the Department of Health (DH) has started to arrange close contacts and household contacts of close contacts who are deemed appropriate after assessment to undergo home quarantine for 14 days and four days respectively.

Persons undergoing "StayHomeSafe" must stay in their dwelling place and wear an electronic wristband throughout the quarantine period and follow other home quarantine guidelines issued by the DH. The Government has launched a dedicated website for the "StayHomeSafe" Scheme [www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/home-quarantine.html](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/home-quarantine.html) to provide assistance to persons undergoing "StayHomeSafe".

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/08/P2022020800726.htm>

### **Government adjusts boarding, quarantine and testing arrangements for inbound travellers and extends arrangement of place-specific flight suspension mechanism**

The HKSAR Government announces on January 27 that from February 5, the compulsory quarantine period for inbound travellers from overseas places will be adjusted to 14 days in designated quarantine hotels (DQHs), to be followed by a seven-day self-monitoring period. Meanwhile, the place-specific flight suspension mechanism for Australia, **Canada**, France, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (Eight Places) will be extended to February 18.

The Government spokesman said that as transmission of the Omicron variant is already very prevalent in overseas places, all overseas places will be specified as Group A specified places. The quarantine arrangements for all Group A specified places will be aligned. Hong Kong residents who have stayed in a Group A specified place in the previous 14 days can only board a flight for Hong Kong if they have been fully vaccinated and hold a recognised vaccination record. They will have to undergo compulsory quarantine in a DQH for 14 days upon returning to Hong Kong, with six tests to be conducted during quarantine, to be followed by self-monitoring for seven days, and compulsory testing on the 16th and 19th days of arrival at Hong Kong, where the test to be taken on the 19th day must be conducted in a community testing centre. Non-Hong Kong residents who have stayed in Group A specified places will not be allowed to enter Hong Kong.

Meanwhile, noting that the local epidemic situation has been severe, and there has all along been many Hong Kong residents returning from the Eight Places, in order to prevent imported cases from posing additional pressure on the medical system at this crucial juncture of curbing the local epidemic situation, the HKSAR Government extended the place-specific flight suspension mechanism for two weeks. From February 5 to February

Feb 9, 2022



18, all passenger flights from the Eight Places will be prohibited from landing in Hong Kong, and at the same time, persons who have stayed in these places for more than two hours within 14 days will be restricted from boarding passenger flights for Hong Kong, so as to stop persons from the relevant places from travelling to Hong Kong via transit.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202201/27/P2022012700853.htm>

In addition, the HKSAR Government announced on January 31 that three hotels including Dorsett Mongkok, Dorsett Tsuen Wan and Grand City Hotel will be added as quarantine hotels for close contacts of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus during the period from February 1 to April 30. With immediate effect, these three hotels temporarily cease operating as DQHs and taking reservations for inbound travellers during the aforementioned period. Persons currently under quarantine at these three hotels will be arranged in phases to transfer to other DQHs to continue their quarantine in accordance with infection control guidelines.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202201/31/P2022013100806.htm>

### **Import of poultry meat and products from areas in Germany, Spain and Canada suspended**

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of the HKSAR Government announced on February 7 that in view of notifications from the World Organisation for Animal Health about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Oberbergischer Kreis District in the State of Nordrhein-Westfalen in Germany, Huelva Province of Andalucía in Spain and Kings County of Nova Scotia Province in Canada, the trade was instructed to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the above-mentioned areas with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 1 020 tonnes of chilled and frozen poultry meat from Canada last year.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/07/P2022020700432.htm>

Feb 9, 2022



## **Online Programmes of the 50th Hong Kong Arts Festival**

The 50th Hong Kong Arts Festival (HKAF) will take place in February and March 2022. This year, the Festival presents a total of nine free and paid productions online, ranging from live-streamed theatrical performances and one-on-one experience to epic operas and ballet extravaganzas. Free programmes are available to watch on-demand upon registration at the HKAF website (<https://go.hkaf.org/online-en>).

Free programmes include:

- Bayerische Staatsoper (Bavarian State Opera) — Korngold's Die tote Stadt (The Dead City) (February 24 to March 3)
- Bayerische Staatsoper (Bavarian State Opera) — Shostakovich's The Nose (March 10 to 17)
- National Theatre Brno — Martinů's The Greek Passion (March 17 to 24)
- Paris Opera Ballet's Giselle and Body and Soul (Body and Soul March 14 to 21, Giselle March 21 to 28) (Hong Kong only)
- Bamberg Symphony Orchestra Family Concert (April 11 to 25)

Paid programmes include:

- Ontroerend Goed's TM (February 26 to March 27)
- Dead Centre's To Be A Machine (March 23 to 26)
- Bristol Old Vic's Wonder Boy (March 26 to April 2) (Hong Kong only)

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)



*Hong Kong e-News Bulletin*

Feb 9, 2022



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  
[hilda\\_chow@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto:hilda_chow@hketotoronto.gov.hk) or 416-924-5544.

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)

You are receiving this e-mail for information only. You may at any time unsubscribe from receiving our communications by contacting us at [info@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto:info@hketotoronto.gov.hk); or, simply click [here](#) to unsubscribe.