

Feb 23, 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

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, 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 March 4, and will continue to be in force until April 20;
2. 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 23, 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

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, and supported by HKETO.

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

STEM Jobs in Hong Kong virtual recruitment event

The rating of Hong Kong’s I&T ecosystem in the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking climbed up from 11th in 2018 to 5th in 2020, justifying the city’s strengths and achievements in the I&T sector. You are invited to join the upcoming virtual interactive recruitment event on March 3 at 1pm - 2:30pm (EST) to learn more about the SETM job opportunities in Hong Kong, to speak with the Canadian scientists/business leaders operating in Hong Kong and submit your CV direct. The event is co-hosted by HKETO, Invest Hong Kong and Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) (Montreal Section).

Registration is free: <https://montreal.hkcba.com/events/stem-jobs-in-hong-kong>

“Windows of Opportunity” webinar

HKCBA (Calgary Section), HKETO and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council will co-host a webinar “windows of opportunity” to brief participants on the latest opportunities in Asia in the new normal, what the Hong Kong platform has to offer to Canadian companies, and the upcoming sector-specific windows of opportunity for them to leverage. The webinar will be held on March 17 at 12 Noon (EST).

Feb 23, 2022



Registrations are complimentary at <https://bit.ly/031722>

Click the following link for details.

<https://calgary.hkcba.com/events/webinar-adding-value-to-your-asia-business-development-plan-in-the-new-normal>

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO Director promotes cybersecurity and fintech opportunities to Canadian entrepreneurs

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the "Cybersecurity and Fintech - A Symbiotic Success" webinar hosted by HKCBA (Montreal Section) on February 9. This webinar aimed to promote Hong Kong as the desired destination for Canadian entrepreneurs to expand their businesses to the mainland China and Asian markets.

In her welcome remarks, Ms Mo noted Hong Kong is an international financial centre and the city's financial institutions and technology companies have been enjoying great flexibility to develop fintech solutions before the pandemic.

Ms Mo reiterated the business advantages of Hong Kong and highlighted the optimistic prospects for the city as affirmed by China's National 14th Five-Year Plan. She also noted that the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area presents tremendous opportunities for overseas including Canadian companies.

Ms Mo encouraged Canadian entrepreneurs to grasp the abundant opportunities to expand their businesses to Asia through Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-promotes-cybersecurity-and-fintech-opportunities-to-canadian-entrepreneurs.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

Government extends place-specific flight suspension mechanism and implements place-specific flight suspension mechanism

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, announced at a media session on February 22 that the place-specific flight suspension mechanism for nine countries, including Australia, **Canada**, France, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Nepal, will be extended to April 20.

Feb 23, 2022

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/23/P2022022300339.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/22/P2022022200811.htm>

During the suspension period, all passenger flights from these places will be prohibited from landing in Hong Kong. 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/202202/11/P2022021100536.htm>

HKSAR Government leverages support of Central Authorities and assumes main responsibility to curb epidemic

In response to Chinese President Xi Jinping's great concern about the fifth wave of the COVID-19 epidemic in Hong Kong and his sincere care for the people of the city as relayed, the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, on behalf of the HKSAR and all the people of Hong Kong, expressed her heartfelt gratitude. She would continue to lead the HKSAR Government, leveraging the support of the Central Authorities with unwavering determination and uniting all sectors of the community, to make every effort to fight the epidemic as the top priority.

Mrs Lam said that the Central Authorities have all along been providing their strongest support for the HKSAR. The HKSAR Government will, in accordance with the important instruction of President Xi Jinping, assume the main responsibility to stabilise the epidemic situation early as the overriding mission at present, and mobilise all available manpower and resources and adopt all necessary measures to safeguard the lives and health of Hong Kong people and the stability of society.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/16/P2022021600395.htm>

The Chief Executive held an internal high-level meeting on February 13 and appointed the convenors from the HKSAR Government for five task forces. The convenors will coordinate with the representatives of the relevant ministries and commissions of the Central Authorities, as well as the Guangdong Provincial Government, to press ahead with the implementation work to tackle the aggravating situation of the fifth wave of the epidemic in Hong Kong.

Feb 23, 2022

Mrs Lam stressed that assuming the primary responsibility for the fight against the epidemic, the HKSAR Government will spare no effort to implement the strategy of “preventing the importation of cases and the spread of the virus in the community” in pursuit of “dynamic zero infection”; and leverage the Central Authorities’ guidance based on their experience in fighting the epidemic, as well as their manpower and resource support, to further boost Hong Kong’s capability of “early identification, early isolation and early treatment’ of the infected.”

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/14/P2022021400046.htm>

In addition, the Secretary for Food and Health of the HKSAR, Professor Sophia Chan, welcomed the arrival of four epidemiological experts from the Mainland on February 17. The experts will share with relevant officials in Hong Kong their experience in epidemic control and assist Hong Kong in conducting epidemiological investigations more effectively and precisely, and offer guidance.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/17/P2022021700630.htm>

Meanwhile, the Central Government, in response to the request of the HKSAR Government, had commissioned a Mainland construction team to build some 10 000 community isolation and treatment units at Penny’s Bay and Kai Tak within a very short period of time. This significantly enhances the HKSAR’s anti-epidemic capacity.

Mrs Lam stressed that the HKSAR Government would also spare no efforts in increasing community isolation and treatment facilities by all means, including the requisition of newly completed public housing estates, rental of commercial hotels and conversion of indoor sport centres. Some 20 000 extra units were estimated to be made available for people who tested positive for COVID-19 but had no or mild symptoms for isolation.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/19/P2022021900721.htm>

In addition, the HKSAR Government announced on February 21 the detailed implementation arrangements for Vaccine Pass in all catering business and scheduled premises.

From February 24 onwards, the Vaccine Pass will be applicable to (1) all catering business premises; and (2) scheduled premises specified in the Direction under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and

Feb 23, 2022



Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F). The Direction sets out the requirements of Vaccine Pass on the persons-in-charge and staff of the premises and visitors. For details about the Vaccine Pass arrangement, please visit www.vaccinepass.gov.hk.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/21/P2022022100781.htm>

Statement by LegCo President on postponement of Chief Executive Election

On the decision of the Chief Executive in Council relating to the postponement of the Chief Executive Election, the President of the Legislative Council (LegCo), Mr Andrew Leung, issued the following statement on February 18 through the LegCo Secretariat:

The Chief Executive in Council decided in accordance with the Emergency Regulations Ordinance to postpone the Chief Executive Election. This is a thoughtful decision with precedent and legal basis.

The COVID-19 epidemic situation in Hong Kong has deteriorated rapidly. In comparing to the situation in July 2020 when the decision of postponing the LegCo General Election was made and the highest daily confirmed cases stood at 149, the situation now is far more severe. In view of persistently high number of confirmed cases and the increasing risk of infection in community, stabilizing the epidemic situation is the overriding mission at present for the HKSAR Government, LegCo and all Hong Kong people.

Under the current severe epidemic situation, the casting of vote by and canvassing of nomination from Election Committee (EC) members, as well as the electioneering activities for the support of EC members and the general public will be seriously affected. The social interactions during the election activities will also increase the risk of the spread of disease. The postponement of the CE Election can safeguard the fair, just, open and safe conduct of the election. It also meets the public expectations of focusing on combatting virus for safeguarding the life and safety of the public.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/18/P2022021800781.htm>

HKSAR Government strongly objects to unfounded remarks by European Parliament

A government spokesperson said on February 18 that the HKSAR Government strongly objects to the unfounded remarks about Hong Kong in the report on the implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy for 2021 adopted by the European Parliament.

Feb 23, 2022



He said that the repeated attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of the country and to misrepresent the principle of “One Country, Two Systems” and its implementation in the HKSAR are futile and disgusting.

The spokesman stressed that HKSAR is an inalienable part of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) and a local administrative region which enjoys a high degree of autonomy and comes directly under the Central People’s Government. As the highest organ of state power in the PRC, the National People’s Congress has the constitutional power and duty to enact the Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (NSL), a piece of national legislation applied to the HKSAR as provided for in the Basic Law.

Since the implementation of the NSL, stability has been restored in Hong Kong society. People’s lives and property are protected and they can once again enjoy their legitimate rights and freedoms. The HKSAR Government will continue to firmly oppose and guard against foreign forces interfering in the internal affairs of Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202202/18/P2022021800431.htm>

Import of poultry meat and products from areas in Spain and Canada suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced on February 16 that in view of notifications from the World Organisation for Animal Health about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Sevilla Province of Andalucía and Valladolid Province of Castilla y Leon in Spain, and Hants County of Nova Scotia Province in Canada, the CFS has instructed the trade 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 CFS 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/202202/16/P2022021600554.htm>

Hong Kong is paving a visionary way forward to being a global art city

The Economist, in partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, created a paid post “Hong Kong: The art metropolis of Asia”, and an

Feb 23, 2022



infographic “Hong Kong: Where art thrives” to showcase how Hong Kong, with a strategic confluence of public sector initiatives, global trends and a diverse arts ecosystem, is paving a visionary way forward to being a global art city.

Article:

<https://impact.economist.com/projects/hong-kong-looking-ahead/hong-kong-the-art-metropolis-of-asia-article/>

Infographic:

<https://impact.economist.com/projects/hong-kong-looking-ahead/hong-kong-where-art-thrives-infographic/>

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 series of 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) (Feb 24 to Mar 3)
- Bayerische Staatsoper (Bavarian State Opera) - Shostakovich's The Nose (Mar 10 to 17) (Not available in Russia)
- National Theatre Brno - Martinů's The Greek Passion (Mar 17 to 24) (Not available in Europe, the United States and Korea)
- Bamberg Symphony Orchestra (Live-streamed performances)
Smetana's Má Vlast (Mar 4)
Bruckner's Symphony No 9 (Mar 9)
Mahler's Symphony No 9 (Mar 12)
- Bamberg Symphony Orchestra Family Concert (Apr 11 to 25)

Paid programmes:

- Ontroerend Goed's TM (Feb 26 to Mar 27)
- Dead Centre's To Be A Machine (Mar 23 to 26)

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)

Feb 23, 2022



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) (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

HKETO Toronto Twitter Page <https://twitter.com/TorontoHKETO>

Brand Hong Kong Facebook page www.facebook.com/brandhk.isd or

Brand Hong Kong Instagram page www.instagram.com/brandhongkong/

Brand Hong Kong Twitter page https://twitter.com/Brand_HK

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 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 or visit 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; or, simply click [here](#) to unsubscribe.