

May 4, 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

With effect from May 1, all travelers including Hong Kong residents and non-Hong Kong residents who are fully vaccinated can board a flight for Hong Kong. They must hold a negative result of a polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based nucleic acid test taken within 48 hours before boarding as well as a confirmation of a room reservation at a designated quarantine hotel for at least seven nights.

For details of the above policy and measures, please read the following press release: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/22/P2022042200621.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>

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

HKSAR 25th Anniversary Celebration Activities

2022 marks an important milestone for Hong Kong as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). The celebration theme "A New Era – Stability · Prosperity · Opportunity" represents Hong Kong's great strides over the past quarter century, and our confidence in a bright future.

May 4, 2022



HKETO is hosting a series of celebration events across Canada including the flagship galas, business and academic seminars, arts and photo exhibitions as well as cultural performances starting from May. HKETO invite the partnership from all sectors in the communities in building a more resilient and thriving Hong Kong.

1) Hong Kong Arts Exhibitions in Toronto and Vancouver

The Hong Kong Arts Exhibitions aim to showcase how Hong Kong artists adopt traditional craft to create culturally-rich contemporary artworks including bamboo steamer tower, mini cheongsam dummies, lion head crafts, galvanized iron coffee sets and letter boxes for home deco or use in daily life, as well as cheongsams and flower buttons. The making of these artworks are considered an intangible part of Hong Kong's cultural heritage and craftsmanship.

a) “Beyond Borders: Reshape the Hong Kong Ordinary” (超越界限：重塑香港日常) Exhibition in Toronto

Date: June 1 to 28, 2022

Venue: The Oval & Upper Oval, Yorkville Village (55 Avenue Road, Suite 2250, Toronto)

b) “Beyond Boundaries: Traces of Hong Kong stories” (超越界限：尋找香港故事) Exhibition in Vancouver

Date: June 13 to July 3

Venue: CF Richmond Centre (6551 No. 3 Rd, Richmond, BC)

The arts exhibitions are jointly organised by HKETO and the Hong Kong Arts Centre, and presented by CanAsia Creative Exchange in Toronto and DramaOne in Vancouver respectively.

2) Hong Kong Cantonese Opera Costume Exhibition cum Performance Programme (香港粵劇服飾藏品展演計劃)

Cantonese opera is one of the intangible heritage cultures of Hong Kong. Starting from the Asia Heritage Month in May, there will be programmes showcasing the beauty of this art:

- a) A seminar on Cantonese Opera's costume design in Hong Kong at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library on May 19 with virtual participation of Hong Kong Stage Costume Designer Mandy Tam & a live QA session;

May 4, 2022



Click the following link for details.

<https://hongkong.library.utoronto.ca/event/cantonese-operas-costume-design-hong-kong-xianggangyuejuxifushejiqiantan>

- b) Cantonese Opera's Costume Exhibition at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library from May 20 to 31; and
- c) Canada-Hong Kong Young Cantonese Opera Cultural Exchange performance in July (details to be announced)

The Hong Kong Cantonese Opera Costume Exhibition cum Performance Programme is organized by Starlight Chinese Opera and supported by HKETO.

3) A “Landscape Journey” Photography Exhibition across Canada

Stunning landscape photographs by Hong Kong young photographer Kelvin Yuen will be featured at a touring photo exhibition across Canada from September to October. Kelvin's award-winning photos, together with selective landscape photos around the world from the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto (CCPST) will be displayed. This photo exhibition is jointly presented by HKETO and CCPST.

HKCBA Calgary events

Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) (Calgary Section) will host a Hong Kong Movie Night on May 5 and a Spring Festival Gala on May 6. HKETO is a supporter of both events. The movie "Anita" featuring late Hong Kong popular singer and actor Anita Mui will be screened at the Globe Theatre in Calgary, while the Spring Festival Gala will gather government officials, business and community leaders and the community to celebrate the Spring Festival.

For details, please click the official link of HKCBA Calgary below:

<https://calgary.hkcba.com/cpages/home>

Workshop on careers in Asia

The Department of Asian Studies of the University of British Columbia will host the "Careers and Engagement in Asia" workshop series. At the workshop to be held at 2pm (PDT) / 5pm (EDT), HKETO and Invest Hong Kong will introduce the great variety of career and further study opportunities in Hong Kong, as well as to share with participants the experience of working in Hong Kong.

May 4, 2022



Details of the workshop could be found by clicking the following link:

<https://asia.ubc.ca/events/event/virtual-asian-studies-workshop-series-careers-and-engagement-in-asia/>

Hong Kong: the IP Commercialization Platform webinar

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (Toronto Section), Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Invest Hong Kong and HKETO will join hands to organise a webinar on "Hong Kong: the IP and Commercialization Platform in Asia for Canadian Companies and Start-Ups" on May 18. The webinar will provide updates to Canadian companies and start-ups on Hong Kong as the ideal IP hub in Asia and the IP commercialization opportunities available in the city. Registration is free.

Free registration at: <https://bit.ly/May18IPwebinar>

RECENT ACTIVITY

HKETO Director presents Best Asia Pacific Business Award at 2022 ACCE Awards Gala

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the 2022 Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) Awards Gala on April 23 and presented the Best Asia Pacific Business Award.

Speaking at the Awards Gala, Ms Mo noted that year 2022 celebrates the 25th anniversary of the award, and this year also marks an important milestone for Hong Kong as the city is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. She stressed that with the staunch support from the Central Government, Hong Kong has successfully implemented “one country, two systems” while sustaining its role as an international metropolis.

Noting global economic growth is being driven by the Eastern part of the world, Hong Kong plays an increasingly significant role as a platform for doing business in Asia and Indo-Pacific, including the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Ms Mo encouraged Canadian entrepreneurs to make use of the Hong Kong platform to expand and grow in Asia.

HKETO has been sponsoring the Best Asia Pacific Business Award since its inception in 2010. The 2022 ACCE's Best Asia Pacific Business Award was presented to Aaron

May 4, 2022



Chin, CEO of Organika Health Products. The company has its products carried in 5 000 outlets in 26 countries and places including Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-presents-best-asia-pacific-business-award-at-2022-acce-awards-gala.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

Landing prohibition of passenger flights from Vancouver operated by Cathay Pacific from May 1 to 7 due to passengers tested positive upon arrival

The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health (DH) of the HKSAR Government on April 30 announced that a passenger flight (CX865) operated by Cathay Pacific from Vancouver, Canada, arriving in Hong Kong on April 30 had three passengers tested positive upon arrival. The DH thus invoked the Prevention and Control of Disease (Regulation of Cross-boundary Conveyances and Travellers) Regulation (Cap. 599H) to prohibit the landing of passenger flights in Hong Kong from Vancouver operated by Cathay Pacific from May 1 to 7.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/30/P2022043000519.htm>

Government lifts Outbound Travel Alert issued due to COVID-19 on overseas countries/territories

The HKSAR Government announced on April 29 that the Outbound Travel Alert (OTA) issued for COVID-19 on overseas countries/territories would be lifted on May 1. It noted that the epidemic situations in overseas countries/territories with frequent traffic with Hong Kong have generally been on a downward trend, and that Hong Kong residents who needed to return to Hong Kong must be fully vaccinated. The risk of travelling overseas has lowered relatively.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/29/P2022042900346.htm>

In addition, considering the recent volume of inbound passenger flow and the corresponding number of imported cases, the capacity in tackling the local epidemic, as well as overall socio-economic needs, the HKSAR Government announced on April 22 that non-Hong Kong residents will be allowed to enter Hong Kong from overseas places

May 4, 2022

and the route-specific flight suspension mechanism will be suitably adjusted with effect on May 1, and rapid antigen tests (RATs) will be added to the "test-and-hold" arrangement at the airport.

Other boarding, quarantine and testing arrangements applicable to overseas inbound passengers remain unchanged. Details can be found at the Government's COVID-19 thematic website (www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html).

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/22/P2022042200621.htm>

Besides, the Government announced on April 29 that it will suitably adjust the supply of designated quarantine hotels so as to meet the demand from inbound travellers while guarding against the importation of COVID-19 cases at the same time. It is expected that around 4,000 additional rooms will be provided.

The Government will update the list of DQHs and their booking status on the thematic website www.designatedhotel.gov.hk regularly for the public's reference.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/29/P2022042900526.htm>

Announcement of first batch of recognised medical qualifications under Medical Registration Ordinance

The Registrar of Medical Practitioners of the HKSAR Government announced on April 27 the first batch of medical qualifications recognised by the Special Registration Committee.

According to the Medical Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2021, non-locally trained doctors who possess recognised medical qualifications, subject to their fulfilment of certain criteria, may apply for special registration to practise in the public healthcare institutions in Hong Kong. After serving for a certain period, obtaining recognised specialist qualifications and passing the assessment, they will be granted full registration to practise in Hong Kong.

The list of the first batch of recognised medical qualifications includes three programmes offered by the Canadian universities namely McGill University, University of British Columbia and University of Toronto. The list was gazetted on April 29 and took effect on the same day.

May 4, 2022



Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/27/P2022042700314.htm?fontSize=1>

Import of poultry meat and products from areas in Canada suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of the HKSAR Government announced on April 27 and 28 respectively that in view of notifications from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Canada, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the relevant areas with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

The relevant areas in Canada included the Rural Municipality of Whitemouth of Province of Manitoba, and Albert County, New Brunswick Province.

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/202204/27/P2022042700515.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/28/P2022042800462.htm>

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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/

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Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

May 4, 2022



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