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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

All travelers 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. Pre-departure PCR-based nucleic acid tests are not required for travellers transferring or transiting in Hong Kong or inbound children aged below three.

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 in Canada

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), HKETO has been hosting a series of celebration events across Canada. Please join us at the upcoming events.

For details of the events, please visit: <https://25a.hketo.ca/>

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1) 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. Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre will organise a Cantonese Opera performance entitled “Canada-Hong Kong Young Cantonese Opera Cultural Exchange” (加港戲曲耀梨園) as part of its Hong Kong Cantonese Opera Costume Exhibition cum Performance Programme to showcase the beauty of this art. The performance and the programme are supported by HKETO. Details of the performance is as follows:

Date: July 24 (Sunday)
Time: 1:30 PM
Venue: Flato Markham Theatre (171 Town Centre Blvd. Markham)

2) 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.

Dates and venues in the West Coast are listed below:

September 1 to 9: cSPACE King Edward, Calgary
September 6 to 18: UBC Robson Square, Vancouver
September 27 to end of October: Blankstein Gallery at Millennium Library, Winnipeg
October 2 to 16: Complexe Desjardins, Montreal
October 3 to 17: Crybaby Gallery at Stackt Market, Toronto

3) HKCBA Annual National Conference & Keynote Luncheon

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) and HKETO will co-host a half-day business conference with a keynote luncheon on September 23. The event will present the latest business opportunities in Asia, share the latest insights from senior business leaders and officials, and suggest strategic and effective ways for Canadian companies to leverage and ultimately to succeed in diversifying their business footprints to Asia via Hong Kong.

For details of the event, please visit:

<https://www.hkcba.com/events/hkcba-annual-national-conference-keynote-luncheon>

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4) FANTASIA International Film Festival 2022

The Fantasia International Film Festival 2022 will take place from July 14 to August 3. In partnership with HKETO, the Festival will present seven Hong Kong films including:

- i) Detective Vs. Sleuths 神探大戰 (North American premiere)
- ii) Legendary in Action! 大俠Action ! (Canada premiere)
- iii) Chilli Laugh Story 闖家辣 (Canada premiere)
- iv) Heroic Trio 東方三俠 (New 4k restoration from negative) (1993 classic)
- v) Kid with the Golden Arm 金臂童 (World premiere of new scan from negative) (1979 classic)
- vi) Mercenaries from HK 獵魔者 (World premiere of new scan from original negative) (1982 classic)
- vii) Hard Boiled 辣手神探 (directed by John Woo)

In addition, the festival will honour internationally renowned Hong Kong film director John Woo with a Career Achievement Award. Mr Woo is known for his highly chaotic action sequences, stylized imagery, Mexican standoffs, frequent use of slow motion and allusions to wuxia and Western cinema. He is also a pioneer of heroic bloodshed films and the “gun fu” genre in Hong Kong action cinema.

Tickets are on sale now. Please visit: <https://fantasiafestival.com/en/tickets-and-venues>

For information about the seven Hong Kong films, please visit the following link and click “Hong Kong”:

<https://fantasiafestival.com/en/festival-2022/program/movies?countryId=581708>

RECENT ACTIVITY

HKETO promotes startup opportunities in Hong Kong

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the “StartmeupHK Canada Salon” event on July 7 to showcase the opportunities that Hong Kong presents to startups, while promoting Hong Kong is an ideal platform for Canadian companies to tap into the vast opportunities in the Mainland China and Asia.

Ms Mo spoke at the event organised by the Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK), TechTO and OneEleven, and supported by the HKETO. She updated participants on the latest startup scene in Hong Kong and talked about the strengths of the city as an ideal platform for Canadian companies to access the Mainland China and Asian markets.

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At the panel discussion following the remarks, Head of Investment Promotion of HKETO Mr Christopher Chen introduced to the audience the startup ecosystem in Hong Kong and the services provided by StartmeupHK to facilitate Canadian companies interested to set foot in the city.

StartmeupHK is an initiative by InvestHK aimed at helping founders of innovative and scalable startups from overseas to set up or expand in Hong Kong. This year, StartmeupHK will be hosting Salon events across a number of cities around the world.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-promotes-startup-opportunities-in-hong-kong.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

Government extends existing social distancing measures

The HKSAR Government announced on July 12 the gazettal of the extension of existing social distancing measures in accordance with the public health emergency regulations under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance, which will be effective from July 14 to 27.

In view of the latest epidemic development and to balance the need for social and economic activities, the Government decided to extend the existing social distancing measures for the next 14-day cycle without any relaxation at this juncture. This includes allowing all catering premises and scheduled premises to continue to operate subject to strict compliance with the requirements including use of the Vaccine Pass and “LeaveHomeSafe”. Other requirements, such as mask-wearing for citizens in transport carriers and specified public places, as well as prohibition of group gatherings in public places, also remain in force.

You can click the following link for details of the measures:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/12/P2022071200565.htm>

The Government also announced on July 12 the addition of two more hotels under the eighth cycle of the Designated Quarantine Hotel (DQH) Scheme. Coupled with these two hotels, there will be altogether 67 DQHs providing around 25 500 rooms.

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

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Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/12/P2022071200690.htm>

In addition, the HKSAR Government announced on July 7 to suspend the route-specific flight suspension mechanism until further notice in the light of the overall principle of adopting precise anti-epidemic measures in a socially cost-effective manner.

A Government spokesman said that the relevant measures can help reduce the impact on inbound persons, and will particularly enable young people staying in overseas places to return to Hong Kong smoothly to reunite with their families during the summer holiday.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/07/P2022070700528.htm>

Warm welcome for President Xi's arrival to inspect Hong Kong

Chinese President Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan arrived in Hong Kong by train on June 30 to inspect the city and attend a meeting celebrating the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland and the inaugural ceremony of the sixth-term government of the HKSAR on July 1.

On June 30, President Xi visited the Hong Kong Science and Technology Park and inspected a research laboratory under the InnoHK research clusters. He encouraged the Hong Kong scientific researchers and I&T entrepreneurs present to strive for excellence.

President Xi also met with some 160 people from various sectors of Hong Kong and representatives of the disciplined services on the same day.

On July 1, President Xi swore in the Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, and Principal Officials, and delivered an address afterwards.

Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202206/30/P2022063000647.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202206/30/P2022063000728.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/01/P2022070100457.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202206/30/P2022063000874.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202206/30/P2022063000789.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202206/30/P2022063000910.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202206/30/P2022063000735.htm>

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<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/01/P2022070100442.htm>

Inaugural Ceremony of Sixth-term HKSAR Government held

The Inaugural Ceremony of the Sixth-term Government of the HKSAR was held on July 1 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. About 1,300 guests joined the ceremony.

At the ceremony, President Xi Jinping swore in the Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, and Principal Officials, and delivered an address. The Chief Executive then swore in members of the Executive Council.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/01/P2022070100390.htm>

HKSAR Government welcomes establishment of Swap Connect

The People's Bank of China, the Securities and Futures Commission and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority issued a joint announcement on July 4 on their approval for the specified Mainland and Hong Kong financial institutions to collaborate in establishing mutual access arrangements between the interest rate swap markets of the two places (Swap Connect). The HKSAR Government welcomes the decision.

The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, said that Swap Connect marks another milestone in the integration of the Mainland and Hong Kong financial markets. It will, for the first time, introduce mutual access in the realm of financial derivatives products, enhancing the comprehensiveness of the product suit trading under the mutual market access schemes.

The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, said that Swap Connect will help drive forward the development of derivatives markets in the Mainland and Hong Kong, offering more diverse risk management tool options to investors and enhancing the ecosystem for derivatives products of the two places. It will also be conducive to the development of Hong Kong's offshore RMB market, thereby further consolidating Hong Kong's status as an international financial centre and a global offshore RMB business hub.

Northbound trading will be launched first in the initial phase of Swap Connect, allowing Hong Kong and other overseas investors to participate in the Mainland's interbank derivatives market through arrangements in trading, clearing, settlement, etc. between the specified institutions in Hong Kong and the Mainland. Swap Connect will be formally launched after the completion of the necessary preparatory work.

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Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/04/P2022070300806.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/04/P2022070400165.htm>

HKSAR Government committed to protecting human rights

The HKSAR Government emphasised its full commitment to the protection of human rights to the United Nations Human Rights Committee (the Committee) at the meeting of HKSAR's fourth report in the light of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) on July 12.

The delegation led by the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai, attended the meetings of the Committee by videoconferencing on July 7, 8 and 12 and introduced the implementation of the ICCPR in the HKSAR.

Mr Tsang stated that human rights are guaranteed constitutionally by both the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and the Basic Law of the HKSAR, and are underpinned by the rule of law and an independent judiciary. The provisions of the ICCPR as applied to the HKSAR have already been incorporated into local law by the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance. Both the Central People's Government and the HKSAR Government are determined to make "one country, two systems" a continued success.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/12/P2022071200739.htm>

APEC holds Workshop on Promoting Energy Efficient, Resilient and Green Data Centres in Hong Kong via video conferencing

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Workshop on Promoting Energy Efficient, Resilient and Green Data Centres was held in Hong Kong via video conferencing on June 28 and 29.

Delivering the opening remarks, the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, noted that the HKSAR Government published last year Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050, which mapped out Hong Kong's decarbonisation strategies and targets, as well as the climate adaptation and resilience measures.

More than 100 delegates and experts from six APEC member economies attended the workshop to exchange views on the best practices, challenges and the application of innovative technology in data centres.

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Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202206/29/P2022062900449.htm>

HKSAR Government condemns European Parliament resolution

The HKSAR Government on July 8 condemned the European Parliament resolution of July 7 for making malicious allegations and defaming the rule of law in Hong Kong and the Hong Kong National Security Law, which transformed Hong Kong from chaos to order.

A spokesman for the Government said that the National Security Law has stopped chaos and restored order in Hong Kong, ensuring the smooth and continuous implementation of the “one country, two systems” principle and the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong.

The spokesman also stressed that the European Parliament’s remarks on the Chief Executive Election held after the HKSAR’s electoral system had been improved were made arbitrarily, oblivious of the fact that democracy has taken a quantum leap forward in the HKSAR since its return to the motherland in July 1997. Moreover, the improved electoral system has also boosted the representativeness of the Legislative Council by optimising the composition of its members.

The spokesman added that the development of democracy in the HKSAR must be consistent with its constitutional order under the Constitution and the Basic Law and the “one country, two systems” principle, as well as with the political, economic, social, cultural and historical circumstances of the HKSAR. Improving the electoral system, ensuring “patriots administering Hong Kong” and safeguarding the overall interests of society are conducive to the stable development of Hong Kong's democracy.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/08/P2022070800612.htm>

In addition, in response to media enquiries about the farewell statement by the US Consul General to Hong Kong, Mr Hanscom Smith, a Government spokesman said on July 12 that comments regarding the National Security Law covered in the speech concerned are unfair criticisms no further from the truth.

The spokesman pointed out that Hong Kong is an international city having close contact and communication with other countries, regions and relevant international organisations. What the Hong Kong National Security Law seeks to prevent, suppress

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and punish are distinctly different from normal interactions. Law-abiding people will not unwittingly violate the law.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/12/P2022071200025.htm>

Right Time Asset Management expands with family office operation in Hong Kong to tap GBA opportunities

Right Time Asset Management Company Limited officially unveiled its new family office in Hong Kong on July 8, leveraging the city's status as an international financial centre to expand its family office business in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and helping ultra-high-net-worth individuals (UHNWIs) in the region to invest in Hong Kong's capital market.

The number of UHNWIs in Asia and their net assets have continued to increase in recent years. There are approximately 80 000 ultra-high-net-worth families in Greater China, of which more than 20 per cent live in the GBA. Right Time Asset Management Company Limited is licensed for Type 4 (Advising on Securities) and Type 9 (Asset Management) from the Securities and Futures Commission.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/08/P2022070800533.htm>

Hong Kong residents born in 1992, 1993, 1994 or 1995 should apply for new smart identity cards from July 25 to October 6

The Immigration Department (ImmD) of the HKSAR Government announced on July 8 that Hong Kong residents born in 1992, 1993, 1994 or 1995 and holding the old form of smart identity card should bring along their identity cards and apply for new smart identity cards in person at a Smart Identity Card Replacement Centre (SIDCC) from July 25 to October 6.

The Territory-wide Identity Card Replacement Exercise covers all Hong Kong residents, who should apply for new smart identity cards in person at the SIDCCs during specified periods, whether they are permanent residents or non-permanent residents who are permitted to take up employment, make investment, reside or study in Hong Kong.

To avoid the gathering of crowds, the ImmD appeals to applicants to make appointments via the ImmD mobile application, the Internet (www.gov.hk/newicbooking), or the 24-hour telephone booking hotline 2121 1234.

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Eligible Hong Kong residents who cannot have their identity cards replaced during the specified call-up periods due to their absence from Hong Kong can apply within 30 days upon their return to Hong Kong. For details of the Replacement Exercise, please visit the website www.smartid.gov.hk.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/08/P2022070800348.htm>

Import of poultry meat and products from La Jacques-Cartier Regional County Municipality of Quebec Province in Canada suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of the HKSAR Government announced on July 11 that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in La Jacques-Cartier Regional County Municipality of Quebec Province in Canada, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the area 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 4 tonnes of frozen poultry meat from Canada in the first three months of this year.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202207/11/P2022071100515.htm>

Article of “Greater Bay, Greater Reach”

The Financial Times, in partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, has created a piece of branded content to showcase how Hong Kong leverages its unique “one country, two systems” advantages to play an outsized role in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development.

Title: Greater Bay, Greater Reach

Link: <https://www.ft.com/partnercontent/brandhongkong/greater-bay-greater-reach.html>

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

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