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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

Starting September 26, the boarding requirements and quarantine arrangements for inbound persons from overseas places or Taiwan for Hong Kong are as follows:

- A declaration of the negative result of a self-arranged rapid antigen test (RAT) conducted within 24 hours prior to the scheduled time of departure should be made via the online Health & Quarantine Information Declaration of the Department of Health.
- Boarding requirement of having completed vaccination for Hong Kong residents are lifted. Non-Hong Kong residents aged 12 or above will still be required to be fully vaccinated or have obtained a medical exemption certificate before they are allowed to board a flight for Hong Kong.
- "Test-and-go" arrangement is implemented at the Hong Kong International Airport. Inbound persons can take public transport or self-arranged transport to return to their home or their hotel of choice.
- No compulsory quarantine are required. There are three days of medical surveillance during which inbound persons are free to go out but are obliged to comply with Amber Code restrictions under the Vaccine Pass, followed by a four-day self-monitoring period.
- Nucleic acid tests on Day 2, Day 4 and Day 6 are required upon arrival at Hong Kong, supplemented by daily RATs from Day 1 to Day 7.
- For inbound persons who are tested positive by nucleic acid tests or RATs, their Vaccine Pass will be converted to a Red Code. Their isolation arrangements will be aligned with that for local cases.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/24/P2022092400048.htm>

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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/>

1) A “Landscape Journey” Photography Exhibition across Canada

Stunning landscape photographs by Hong Kong young photographer Kelvin Yuen are 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) are displayed. This photo exhibition is jointly presented by HKETO and CCPST.

Dates and venues of the exhibitions are listed below:

October 3 to 23: Complexe Desjardins, Montreal

October 4 to 16: North Hall Gallery (Crybaby Gallery) at Stackt Market, Toronto

October 5 to end of October: Blankstein Gallery at Millennium Library, Winnipeg

2) “Dawn” - A concert celebrating the love for Hong Kong and Canada

The Ontario Cross Cultural Music Society (OCMS) and CanAsia Creative Exchange will co-organise a concert “Dawn” supported by HKETO at the PC Ho Theatre of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto on October 16. The concert will feature the OCMS Choir and the OCMS Symphony Orchestra, as well as Hong Kong singer/songwriter Wendy Zheng and Canadian singer Roger Feng. The theme music “Dawn” depicts a new beginning for Hong Kong after experiencing recent challenges. It

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was composed by the President of OCMS Mr Ken Zheng to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR.

Please click the event poster link for further information:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/rf74luqqn1rxswx/OCMS%20Gala%20Concert%202022%20poster.jpg?dl=0>

In addition, Wendy will also conduct a music seminar in October. Details of the seminar will be announced later.

3) Invest Hong Kong - Investment Promotion Week

Invest Hong Kong will hold the Investment Promotion Week on October 17-21 to promote the investment and business opportunities in Hong Kong. In this week-long hybrid event, government officials and distinguished speakers from various sectors, including financial and professional services, innovation and technology industries, lifestyle and creative industries, startups and businesses in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (the Greater Bay Area), will share their insights and experience. The event is free admission. For program details and registration, please visit the official website at:

<https://www.investhk.gov.hk/en/investment-promotion-week.html>

https://www1.investhk.gov.hk/page/newsletter/InvestHK_Investment_Promotion_Week_2022_en.htm

2022 ACCE West Coast Gala

The Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) will host the 2022 ACCE West Coast Gala on October 5 in Vancouver. The event serves to foster the spirit of entrepreneurship, innovation and corporate citizenship. ACCE has made continual effort to recognise the achievements of outstanding Chinese Canadian entrepreneurs and to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship among the Chinese Canadian community. HKETO is the supporter of the event.

For details and registration, please visit: <https://www.acce.ca/new/2022-acce-west-coast-gala/>

M&A Club Awards Gala Ontario

The M&A Club will host the first M&A Awards event in Ontario on October 18 in Toronto, celebrating both corporate and professionals excellence in financing and M&A in Canada. HKETO and Invest Hong Kong are supporter of the event.

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More information is at <https://www.maclub.ca/ma-awards-gala-ontario-2022/>

MRVCBA Outstanding Women Award

Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan Chinese Business Association will host the 2022 Outstanding Women Awards Gala on October 22. Through six awards in different categories, the organizer will honour and celebrate the year's most successful Asian women entrepreneurs and community leaders, whose ambitions have transcended all challenges to achieve boundless business prosperity, social advancements, and worldly transformations. HKETO is the supporter of its Outstanding Greater Bay Area Communion Award.

For details, please visit:

https://www.mrvcba.ca/index.php?route=common/event&event_id=543

Cathay Ball 2022

The Cathay Ball 2022 themed “Honour Yesterday. Nurture Tomorrow” hosted by the Mon Sheong Foundation will be held on November 5. HKETO will support the event again as the Social Photo Sponsor this year. Guests are welcome to visit HKETO’s photo booth and take beautiful pictures at the event. For details, please visit <https://cathayball.monsheong.org/>

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO co-hosts HKCBA National Conference in celebration of 25th anniversary of establishment of HKSAR

HKETO, together with the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA), co-hosted the HKCBA National Conference and Keynote Luncheon entitled “A New Era: Succeeding in Asia and Beyond through Hong Kong” in Toronto, on September 23 to promote Hong Kong’s unique role as the gateway to Asia and beyond.

The business conference was HKETO’s major business event in Canada to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. Over 200 people joined the hybrid conference, in which business elites, industry leaders and government representatives from across Canada and from Hong Kong shared their insights and experience on how Hong Kong can help Canadian companies to explore the vast Asian market.

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Addressing the conference, the Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, said that Hong Kong is poised to enter a new era of opportunities. Hong Kong has continued to grow and evolve in the past 25 years under “one country, two systems”, a very resilient and hard-working population and talents, and full support from the Central Government. Looking forward, Hong Kong is ready to partner with Canadian entrepreneurs to capture opportunities in Hong Kong and elsewhere in Asia.

The conference comprised two panel discussions. The first panel discussed Hong Kong’s road to sustainability and the implications for Canadian companies. The second panel looked into the innovation and digital transformation in Asia and how Canadian companies can use the Hong Kong platform to grasp the business opportunities in Asia and beyond.

The Director-General of Investment Promotion of Invest Hong Kong of the HKSAR Government, Mr Stephen Phillips, gave a keynote speech via hologram technology at the opening of the conference to provide insights on Hong Kong’s advantages and interact with participants for a question-and-answer session.

The business conference was followed by a networking luncheon. The Chief Financial Officer of Manulife Canada, Mr Philip Witherington, gave a keynote luncheon speech. The whole event was supported by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Hong Kong Tourism Board and Invest Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-co-hosts-hkcba-national-conference-in-celebration-of-25th-anniversary-of-establishment-of-hksar.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong ranked fourth in Global Financial Centres Index

Hong Kong ranked fourth globally in the Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI) 32 Report published on September 22 by the Z/Yen from the United Kingdom and the China Development Institute from Shenzhen.

A HKSAR Government spokesman said that Hong Kong, as a leading global financial centre, saw an increase in the overall rating, and the ranking in the area of financial sector development leapt by four places as compared with the previous issue.

The report also pointed out that as compared to the assessment by financial industry practitioners from other major financial centres on the prospects of the cities in which

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they were based, practitioners based in Hong Kong were the most confident about the future competitiveness of Hong Kong as an international financial centre.

The GFCI Report is released in March and September every year since 2007. In GFCI 32, 119 financial centres were assessed and Hong Kong came fourth globally with an overall rating of 725.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/22/P2022092200660.htm>

Government announces lifting of compulsory quarantine requirement on arrival at Hong Kong

The HKSAR Government announced the lifting of the compulsory quarantine requirement for inbound persons from overseas places or Taiwan starting from September 26 after analysing scientific data and striking a balance among factors such as transmission risks.

A Government spokesman said that the epidemic situation in Hong Kong has peaked and is showing signs of subsiding. In response to the latest data and development trends of the epidemic, the HKSAR Government considered that Hong Kong is equipped with the conditions to relax inbound control measures and to resume the international connection on the premise of striking a balance among risks and economic impetus.

You can click the following link for details of the latest inbound control measures:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/24/P2022092400048.htm>

In addition, in view of the latest epidemic development and the need to contain relevant risks, the HKSAR Government announced on September 30 the relaxation of certain social distancing measures with effect from October 6 to enable more social and economic activities, with a view to striking a balance between transmission risk and economic vitality.

Relevant measures concern catering premises and scheduled premises. They include increasing the maximum number of persons per table for catering premises from 8 to 12; relaxing the restriction on all activities in scheduled premises with a limit on the number of persons per group from 8 to 12; relaxing the maximum number of persons per table for bars/pubs and clubs/nightclubs from 4 to 6; increasing the maximum number of persons for banquets in catering premises from 120 to 240; and lifting the suspension mechanism for cruise-to-nowhere itineraries.

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Other social distancing measures will remain unchanged, including the requirement for participants in banquets as well as patrons of bars/pubs and clubs/nightclubs to undergo RAT; requirements related to the use of “LeaveHomeSafe” and the Vaccine Pass, and restrictions for holders of Red Code/Amber Code in entering premises; mask-wearing for citizens on transport carriers and in specified public places; as well as prohibition of group gatherings in public places etc.

You can click the following link for details of the latest requirements and restrictions:
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/30/P2022093000818.htm>

In view of the latest developments of the epidemic situation, the HKSAR Government also adjusted the quarantine arrangements for air crew with effect from October 4.

Under the adjusted quarantine arrangements, locally based air crew performing flight duties to/from overseas places or Taiwan are subject to stringent layover conditions. Specifically, they must avoid mask-off activities save for eating or drinking and refrain from mass gathering and going to crowded places (such as bars, etc). Upon arrival at Hong Kong International Airport, they are required to undergo a “test and hold” arrangement and can only leave the airport after obtaining a negative result of the nucleic acid test. In addition, air crew are subject to daily nucleic acid tests until the fourth day following their arrival, so as to keep their health conditions under continued monitoring.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202210/04/P2022100400532.htm>

HKSAR Government expresses gratitude to the country’s recruitment of payload specialists in Hong Kong

The country announced on October 2 the official launch of the recruitment of the fourth batch of astronauts and the recruitment of payload specialists in HKSAR for the first time, giving Hong Kong citizens the opportunity to participate in the National Manned Space Programme. The HKSAR Government is immensely honoured for the arrangement and expresses sincere gratitude to the country. The HKSAR Government has also officially commenced the preliminary screening, and the recruitment period will be from October 6, 2022 to October 27, 2022.

Payload specialists are professional scientific researchers who are mainly responsible for conducting aerospace experiments or researches, operating space laboratory equipment, and managing daily operations of space stations with other astronauts. Preliminary screening of the payload specialists recruitment will be arranged by the

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HKSAR Government, whereas further screening will be conducted by relevant authorities in the Mainland.

For details of the preliminary screening, please refer to the thematic website of the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau (www.itib.gov.hk/en/psrecruitment).

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202210/02/P2022100200571.htm>

Singapore's mega indoor theme park operator Kiztopia opens first overseas outlet in Hong Kong

Singapore's mega indoor theme park operator Kiztopia officially opened its first overseas outlet in Hong Kong on September 30, leveraging the city's strategic location and its strong intellectual property (IP) protection regime to expand in the region.

The new theme park is located at the largest shopping complex in Sha Tin and occupies 12,000 square feet. It features 15 play experience areas, including two-storey-high slides, huge ball pits, creative role play rooms, multiple challenging obstacle courses, trampolines and more, to provide a fun and wholesome family bonding experience to families and kids.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/30/P2022092900325.htm>

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 September 28 that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Starland County and Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26 of Alberta Province, City of Chilliwack in the Province of British Columbia and Rural Municipality of Cut Knife No. 439 of Saskatchewan 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 60 tonnes of frozen poultry meat from Canada in the first six months of this year.

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Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/28/P2022092800499.htm>

In addition, Hongkong Post announced on September 29 that, as advised by the postal administration of Canada, due to a hurricane, mail delivery services to Canada for some areas are subject to delay. Please visit the link below for the list of postcodes:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/29/P2022092900545.htm>

Hong Kong residents born in 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999 or 2000 should apply for new smart identity cards from October 7 to December 10

The Immigration Department (ImmD) of the HKSAR Government announced on September 22 that Hong Kong residents born in 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999 or 2000 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 from October 7 to December 10.

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.

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 or call the ImmD's enquiry hotline at 2824 6111.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/22/P2022092200434.htm>

Videos to promote the Greater Bay Area

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau of the HKSAR Government produced two promotion videos on the development of the Greater Bay Area. The videos feature some elites in different fields highlighting Hong Kong's role in the Greater Bay Area Development and how Hong Kong's unique advantages are helping enterprises and talents leverage the development opportunities of the area.

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Click the following link for details.

<https://youtu.be/JMQnYPeP1JY>

<https://youtu.be/rqnX6aCdd-M>

Video to showcase the advantages of CEPA and the business opportunities

To showcase the advantages of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) and the business opportunities brought by the Amendment Agreement to local and external investors, the Trade and Industry Department of the HKSAR Government has uploaded a new CEPA promotional video on its website. The Mainland China and Hong Kong signed the Agreement Concerning Amendment to the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Services (the Amendment Agreement) on November 21, 2019. The Amendment Agreement has been implemented from June 1, 2020. It introduces new liberalisation measures in a number of important service sectors. Please click the link below to watch the video:

https://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/webcast/cepa_202209.html

Media partnership to highlight Hong Kong's strengths

In partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, the Economist has created two videos and an infographic to showcase Hong Kong's strengths and advantages as a leading seat for arbitration, and how different sectors in Hong Kong are looking ahead to a bright new era, with opportunities brought by its integration into the national development.

1) Video: Hong Kong Looking Ahead – Legal and Arbitration

Links: <https://impact.economist.com/projects/hong-kong-looking-ahead/arbitration-video/>

2) Video: Hong Kong Looking Ahead - Explore the advances in key sectors

Links: <https://impact.economist.com/projects/hong-kong-looking-ahead/>

3) Infographic: Fuelling Growth by Integrating into National Development

Link: <https://impact.economist.com/projects/hong-kong-looking-ahead/hong-kong-fuelling-growth-by-integrating-into-national-development-infographic/>

In addition, Euronews, in partnership with ISD, has produced a 5-minute TV segment on Hong Kong's start-up ecosystem supported by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, saying that the city's start-up scene is combining innovation and entrepreneurial spirit with universities and laboratories, coupled with the industrial might of the Greater Bay Area.

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Title: “Fighting Alzheimer’s disease: Hong Kong’s Science and Technology Parks”

English: <https://www.euronews.com/2022/09/19/fighting-alzheimers-disease-hong-kongs-science-and-technology-parks>

French: <https://fr.euronews.com/2022/09/19/innovation-et-mutualisation-maitres-mots-des-start-up-a-hong-kong>

ICAC updates international communities on anti-corruption efforts

The latest issue of the ICAC’s electronic newsletter, ICAC Post #47, has been uploaded on the ICAC corporate website.

Highlights of this issue are:

- New ICAC chief aims to take the Commission to new heights
- From Hong Kong to Vienna – a reflection by ICAC Senior Investigator Wilson LAI, participant of United Nations Junior Professional Officer Programme
- A journey through Hong Kong’s anti-graft history
- Telling the world the good stories of Hong Kong

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.icac.org.hk/icac/post/issue47/en/index.html>

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

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

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

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