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## **SPECIAL NOTICE**

The pre-departure testing requirement for inbound persons (aged three or above on the date of arrival at Hong Kong) from overseas places or Taiwan is in effect. They are required to conduct a rapid antigen test (RAT) within 24 hours, or undergo a nucleic acid test within 48 hours, prior to the scheduled time of flight departure, and obtain a negative result for entering Hong Kong. Upon receiving the test results, relevant persons should keep the photos showing the test results or the test report for 90 days for presentation for checking on request by Government personnel. They may also voluntarily declare the test result via the [Department of Health's electronic health declaration form](#).

Inbound persons are advised to conduct daily RAT until Day 5 after their arrival at Hong Kong.

Please check the latest requirements by clicking the following link:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/03/P2023020300618.htm>

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>

## **HKETO JOB VACANCY**

### **Administrative Assistant (Public Relations)**

Applications are invited for the post of Administrative Assistant (Public Relations) at the HKETO. The suitable applicant should be a high school graduate with at least 3 years of experience relevant to the post; or a post-secondary diploma / degree holder with at least 1 year of similar experience. The applicant must be fluent in written and spoken English and Chinese (Cantonese), have good interpersonal and communication skills, and possess good general knowledge about Hong Kong and Canada. A pleasant telephone manner and proficiency in MS Office and image editing applications are essential. Knowledge of other languages (e.g. Putonghua) would be an advantage. The applicant must be eligible to take up employment in Canada without arrangement of work visa by HKETO.

The successful applicant will be appointed on a one-year contract initially. Contract gratuity will be granted upon satisfactory completion of the contract. Applications should be submitted by e-mail, with a cover letter and resume, to [info@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto:info@hketotoronto.gov.hk) on or before February 24, 2023.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **HKCBA Lunar New Year Celebration Events**

The Calgary and Vancouver Sections of HKCBA will host the Lunar New Year Celebration Events respectively on February 10 and 16. Participants can enjoy a night of entertainment and traditional Chinese food at the events. Other activities include lucky draw, lion dance, live performances and silent auction, etc. For details and ticket purchase, please visit:

<https://www.hkcba.com/events?date=2023-02-01&view=month>

## **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

### **HKETO Director attends Lunar New Year Celebration Gala Dinners**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the Lunar New Year Gala Dinner organized by the HKCBA (Toronto Section) on January 28. Ms Mo is the honorary chair of the event. Around 400 guests including three levels of the Canadian governments attended the dinner.

In her opening remarks, Ms Mo updated participants that Hong Kong is on the path of orderly and progressive reopening. Hong Kong's vibrancy is fully back.

Ms Mo stressed that with the support of the Mainland, Hong Kong is boosting its niche as a global offshore Renminbi hub, an international asset management centre and risk management centre. She also noted that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government has launched new institutional setups and initiatives to attract enterprises, investment and talents to enhance the city's competitiveness. HKETO's newly established Dedicated Team for Attracting Business and talents will launch the promotion in Canada in 2023.

On January 26, Ms Mo also attended the Lunar New Year Gala Dinner held by the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs. She shared with the guests on how Hong Kong could be the ideal platform for Canadian companies to expand their businesses and seek new opportunities in Mainland China and the rest of Asia.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-attends-lunar-new-year-celebration-gala-dinners.html>

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## **HKETO Director joins webinar to promote ICT opportunities in Hong Kong**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the “Window of Opportunity in the ICT Sector in Hong Kong for Canadian Companies” webinar co-hosted by the HKETO, Hong Kong Trade Development Council (Toronto), Invest Hong Kong (Canada) and Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (Toronto Section) on February 7.

This webinar aimed to update Canadian companies on the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector in Hong Kong, and to provide an opportunity for them to explore partnership opportunities in Asia through Hong Kong.

In delivering opening remarks at the webinar, Ms Mo noted that Hong Kong is back in the business of creating business opportunity for companies and talents from around the world. She highlighted that venture capital investment in Hong Kong surged from US\$ 150 million in 2014 to US\$ 5.3 billion in 2021. The city is also the world’s leading fundraising hub for biotechnology companies.

In addition, Hong Kong has recently set up the Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises and the Hong Kong Talent Engage website aiming to attract top-notch innovation and technology talents to bring with them their businesses or research and development outcomes to Hong Kong.

Noting Hong Kong works with the mainland of China and global partners to harness the power of innovation and technology, Ms Mo invited Canadian companies to tap on the abundant opportunities in the East.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-joins-webinar-to-promote-ict-opportunities-in-hong-kong.html>

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **“Hello Hong Kong” Campaign launched to promote Hong Kong around the world**

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, officiated at the “Hello Hong Kong” Campaign Launch Ceremony on February 2, to unveil a series of promotional activities and highlight the many new attractions, developments and opportunities for visitors coming to Hong Kong.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Lee said that Hong Kong is now in a new phase of advancing from stability to prosperity and is seamlessly connected to the Mainland and

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the rest of the world. It is the perfect time for tourists, investors, entrepreneurs and innovators to come and experience the vibrancy of the city and seize opportunities to flourish.

“Hello Hong Kong” is a large-scale global promotional campaign focusing on four major areas. They include:

- (i) “Hello Hong Kong” as the over-arching theme to attract visitors to the city;
- (ii) Sponsored visits for prominent guests;
- (iii) Going out to tell good Hong Kong stories; and
- (iv) Launching more MICE and mega events

Speaking at a press conference immediately after the Launch Ceremony, the Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, said the “Hello Hong Kong” campaign would tell people around the world that Hong Kong is “back”. The newly-established Task Force on Promoting and Branding Hong Kong will seize the timely opportunity to devise narratives to proactively demonstrate Hong Kong’s new strengths.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/02/P2023020200675.htm>

### **Government lifts vaccination requirement for non-Hong Kong residents arriving from overseas places**

The HKSAR Government announced on February 3 that the requirement for non-Hong Kong residents to be fully vaccinated for coming to Hong Kong from overseas places would be lifted starting February 6. The pre-departure testing requirement for inbound persons from overseas places or Taiwan will be maintained for the time being.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/03/P2023020300618.htm>

In addition, the compulsory isolation arrangement for infected persons has been cancelled. All persons tested positive are advised to take the advice on various health measures for preventing respiratory diseases, and are not required to report and provide personal particulars online.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202301/27/P2023012700497.htm>

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## **Full resumption of normal travel between Hong Kong and Mainland**

The HKSAR Government on February 3 announced that normal travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland would fully resume starting February 6. The arrangements concerned include opening up all boundary control points without imposing any prescribed daily numbers of people thereon; cancelling the pre-departure nucleic acid test requirement; and enabling cross-boundary students to resume face-to-face classes in an orderly manner.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/03/P2023020300649.htm>

All pre-departure testing requirements for travelling between the two places have been lifted. However, for persons travelling from Hong Kong to the Mainland (except those aged 3 and below), if they have stayed in overseas places or Taiwan on the day of departing Hong Kong for the Mainland or during the seven days before that day, they are still required to conduct a nucleic acid test within 48 hours prior to departure and obtain a negative result as per the Mainland's requirements.

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/03/P2023020300627.htm>

## **Hong Kong Customs takes strict enforcement action to control cannabidiol (CBD)**

The new legislative control of cannabidiol (CBD) has come into effect on February 1. CBD will be under the same strict control as other dangerous drugs under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (DDO) from that day. With the commencement of the new regulation, Hong Kong Customs will take vigorous enforcement action to fiercely combat the related drug trafficking activities.

Under the DDO, trafficking (including importing and exporting) and illicit manufacturing of CBD is liable to a maximum penalty of a fine of HK\$5 million and life imprisonment. Possession and consumption of CBD in contravention of the DDO will be subject to a maximum penalty of a fine of HK\$1 million and imprisonment of seven years.

Hong Kong Customs reminds members of the public not to bring any cannabis products or products containing CBD into Hong Kong. To avoid breaching the law inadvertently, they should also refrain from buying any CBD products, and pay attention to whether the products' packaging and labels contain wordings of CBD or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) when making any purchase.

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Click the following links for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202301/27/P2023012700369.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202301/31/P2023013100299.htm>

### **Application date for identity card replacement at Smart Identity Card Replacement Centres extends to March 3**

Given that a number of members of the public have returned to Hong Kong for identity card replacement recently, the Immigration Department (ImmD) of the HKSAR Government announced on January 26 that the last application date for replacement of new smart identity cards at the Smart Identity Card Replacement Centres (SIDCCs) would be extended to March 3, 2023.

Hong Kong residents who are unable to have their identity cards replaced on or before March 3, 2023, due to absence from Hong Kong can apply at a Registration of Persons Office within 30 days upon their future return to Hong Kong and need not rush back to Hong Kong for identity card replacement. If they return to Hong Kong and stay in Hong Kong for less than 30 days, they would not violate the relevant law for not having their identity cards replaced during that time.

For smoother identity card replacement service, applicants can make appointments via the ImmD Mobile Application, the Internet ([www.gov.hk/newicbooking](http://www.gov.hk/newicbooking)), or the 24-hour telephone booking hotline 2121 1234. For details, please visit the website [www.smartid.gov.hk](http://www.smartid.gov.hk)

Click the following link for details.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202301/26/P2023012600518.htm>

### **The Administrative Service Summer Internship Programme 2023**

The Administrative Service Summer Internship Programme 2023 was launched on January 10, 2023. The primary objective of the Programme is to give Hong Kong students who wish to pursue a career in the Administrative Service an early opportunity to gain hands-on experience of working with serving Administrative Officers (AOs), so as to enrich their understanding of the roles and missions of an AO and facilitate their future career planning.

Applicants have to be undergoing full-time undergraduate or postgraduate studies at a local, mainland or overseas tertiary institution in the 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic years. Applications have to be submitted by postal mail or email by February 28, 2023 (Hong Kong Time). The application form and information about the programme such as

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the selection criteria, are available at <http://www.csb.gov.hk/english/grade/ao/279.html> and the AO Recruitment website (<http://www.ao-recruitment.gov.hk/english/eindex.html>).

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visit [www.InvestHK.gov.hk](http://www.InvestHK.gov.hk)

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