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UPCOMING EVENTS

Hong Kong-Markham Tech Exchange 2023

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK), the City of Markham and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, will jointly organise the second “Hong Kong-Markham Tech Exchange” on May 10. This hybrid event aims to bring together innovative companies and forward-looking entrepreneurs to share insights on the emerging technological developments in the green battery energy sector and the successful global expansion strategies between Hong Kong and City of Markham. Details of the event are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Time: 8:00 - 11:30 AM (EDT) (in-person) or 8:30-10:15 AM (EDT) (Virtual)

Location: YSpace, Markham ON (in-person)

Admission is free, but RSVP is required. For details, please visit:

<https://hongkongmarkham2023.blogspot.com/>

CGTCBA 25th Annual Gala

The Confederation of Greater Toronto Chinese Business Association (“CGTCBA”) is hosting its Annual Gala with the theme “Our Silver Journey” on May 13. The gala is brought together by its four-member Associations, namely Mississauga Chinese Business Association, Markham, Richmond Hill & Vaughan Chinese Business Association, Scarborough-York Region Chinese Business Association, and Toronto Chinese Business Association. The CGTCBA plays a key role in promoting business and trade among the Chinese and mainstream communities. HKETO is a supporter of the event.

For details, please visit

https://www.mrvcba.ca/index.php?route=common/event&event_id=549

Hong Kong Business Connections Reception 2023

HKETO, the Burnaby Board of Trade, InvestHK and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) will jointly host the Hong Kong Business Connections Reception in Burnaby on Wednesday, May 17 at 3:00 - 5:00 PM (PDT). It is the Burnaby Board of Trade’s Pacific Gateway event series for opportunities to address relevant topics, and facilitate connections amongst the diverse business community.

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For registration, please visit:

<http://burnabyboardoftrade.chambermaster.com/events/details/2023-hong-kong-business-connections-reception-3557>

RECENT ACTIVITY

HKETO Director presents Best Asia Pacific Business Award at 2023 ACCE Awards Gala

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the 2023 Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) Awards Gala on April 15 and presented the Best Asia Pacific Business Award.

Speaking at the opening of the Awards Gala, Ms Mo remarked that under the “one country, two systems”, Hong Kong is the only place in the world where the global advantages from the West and the East come together in a single city. Hong Kong will continue to play its role to facilitate global business collaboration.

Ms Mo also noted that Hong Kong as an international financial centre is enhancing its role as a world-class fund-raising platform. In addition, Hong Kong is Asia’s first in green financing. Canadian companies thriving in this area may look for funding and scale-up opportunities in Hong Kong.

HKETO has been sponsoring the Best Asia Pacific Business Award since its inception. The award recognises those entrepreneurs who have made a business success by using Hong Kong as a platform for their business expansion to the Asia Pacific region. The 2023 ACCE’s Best Asia Pacific Business Award was given to the Founder and Business Development Director of the Hong Kong-based company Fuwa Fuwa Pancakes, Mr Benson Lau.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-presents-best-asia-pacific-business-award-at-2023-acce-awards-gala.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

Government announces proposals on improving governance at district level

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) announced the proposals on improving governance at the district level (the proposals) on May 2.

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Aside from reforming District Councils (DCs), there is also a need to strengthen the district governance structure so as to enhance the efficacy of district governance.

The proposals are guided by three principles:

- (1) national security must be put as the topmost priority and the “one country, two systems” principle must be fully and faithfully implemented;
- (2) the principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong” must be fully implemented; and
- (3) executive-led governance must be manifested.

A Government spokesman said the reformed DCs will play the role of complementing the Government, so that the Government can plan and implement district services more effectively. The proposals will also strengthen the district governance structure, facilitating the co-ordination and collaboration of district work for implementing corresponding measures promptly.

In order to allow the seventh-term DCs to take office on January 1, 2024, the HKSAR Government is preparing the District Councils (Amendment) Bill 2023 and will submit it to the Legislative Council for scrutiny as soon as possible.

Please refer to www.had.gov.hk/en/public_services/district_administration/dar2023.htm for more information related to the proposals.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202305/02/P2023050200414.htm>

“Happy Hong Kong” Campaign launched

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, officiated at the “Happy Hong Kong” Campaign Launch Ceremony to unveil a series of exciting activities on April 28.

The HKSAR Government announced that it would collaborate with various participating organisations over the next 10 months to hold a series of gourmet marketplaces and carnivals, providing the public with diverse, fun and interesting activities to bring joy to the community while also stimulating local consumption and the economy.

The inaugural event of the “Happy Hong Kong” Campaign was the first Gourmet Marketplace organised at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on April 29 and 30. With the support of the Hong Kong Theatres Association, the Cinema Day was also held.

During the summer holidays in July and August, the Hong Kong Tourism Board will host a large-scale sea-land carnival, with Victoria Harbour as the grand stage for music

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concerts and other new elements, providing audience with a unique and exciting experience.

For the latest updates of the events under the “Happy Hong Kong” Campaign, please visit the thematic website, www.happyhk.gov.hk, and the dedicated event pages on Facebook and Instagram.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202304/28/P2023042800466.htm>

CE led HKSAR Government and LegCo delegation to conduct four-day GBA visit

The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, led a delegation of the HKSAR Government and the Legislative Council to conduct a four-day visit to four cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA), namely Shenzhen, Dongguan, Foshan and Guangzhou from April 21 to 24.

During the visit, leaders of Guangdong Province and relevant cities met with the delegation. The itinerary of the delegation included visiting various facilities, enterprises and projects in areas including innovation and technology, environmental protection, youth development, arts and culture, and sports, for the participants to learn more about the latest developments and opportunities in Mainland cities of the GBA.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202304/20/P2023042000603.htm>

For details of the delegation’s itinerary, please visit the links below:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202304/21/P2023042100664.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202304/22/P2023042200364.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202304/23/P2023042300548.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202304/24/P2023042400664.htm>

EMSD wins 23 awards at International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) of the HKSAR Government achieved outstanding and encouraging results at the 48th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva, winning one special award, three gold medals, seven silver medals and 12 bronze medals.

EMSD’s winning special award and gold medals projects are:

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Special Award

- Tramway Derailment and Collision Prevention System

Gold medals

- Smart Antifouling Seawater Screen
- Integrated Self-sustained renewable-Energy Explorer
- Tramway Derailment and Collision Prevention System

In addition, Officers of the Information System Wing of the Hong Kong Police Force also won three top accolades “Gold Medals with Congratulations of Jury” in the “Security, Search & Alarm” category, showcasing its achievements in digital policing. In view of the frequent hiking accidents in recent years and the upward trend in search and rescue operations, the Force has developed a series of innovative smart search and rescue solutions to improve operational efficiency and public safety.

The International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva is one of the most significant global annual events on inventions. About 1 000 inventions from 40 countries and regions were evaluated by the international jury of specialists this year. For details about the event, please visit inventions-geneva.ch/en/home.

Click the following links for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202304/29/P2023042900411.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202305/01/P2023050100685.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 May 2 that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health about outbreaks of the highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Les Maskoutains Regional County Municipality and La Vallée-du-Richelieu 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 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, no poultry meat or eggs were imported into Hong Kong from Canada in the first three months of this year.

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Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202305/02/P2023050200581.htm>

Media partnership to showcase the latest developments and opportunities in Hong Kong

China Daily, in partnership with the Information Services Department (ISD) of the HKSAR Government, produced a content hub to showcase the latest developments and opportunities in Hong Kong. Two articles were published to look into Hong Kong's position as the largest offshore renminbi business hub and a cultural hub connecting the country with the world.

Content hub:

<http://regional.chinadaily.com.cn/en/hongkongspecial.html>

Article: Amp up Hong Kong's finance in tandem with mainland

Link: http://regional.chinadaily.com.cn/en/2023-04/21/c_869083.htm

Article: Hong Kong well-poised to forge dialogue on Chinese culture between global civilizations

Link: http://regional.chinadaily.com.cn/en/2023-04/28/c_869094.htm

In addition, Gulf News, a leading English newspaper in the Middle East, in partnership with the ISD, has created a piece of branded content on how Hong Kong is ramping up to be a global fintech capital with its robust regulatory regime, sophisticated infrastructure and a rich talent pool.

Article: Hong Kong: A Formidable Hub for Fintech

Link: <https://gulfnews.com/gn-focus/hong-kong-a-formidable-hub-for-fintech-1.1681376077414>

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HKETO Toronto LinkedIn Page <https://www.linkedin.com/company/hketotoronto>

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

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

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

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