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UPCOMING EVENTS

2023 Hong Kong Week themed "Hello Hong Kong"

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto (HKETO) is hosting the 2023 Hong Kong Week themed "Hello Hong Kong" between end July and end September to feature Hong Kong's new strengths, promising economic prospects and fresh cultural vision. Activities of the 2023 Hong Kong Week include art and photo exhibitions, film festival, musical drama performances and a national business conference to be held in different Canadian cities. Please join us at the upcoming events.

1) The "Art at Heart" Chu Tat Shing Art Exhibition in Toronto

The "Art at Heart" Chu Tat Shing Art Exhibition is the debut event of the 2023 Hong Kong Week to showcase the artworks created by Hong Kong illustrious sculptor, Mr. Chu Tat Shing, in Toronto. The exhibition will be opened to the public (free admission) from July 29 to August 8 at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto.

Mr Chu, a highly respected artist has left an indelible imprint on the world of art through his sculptures of iconic figures such as Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Bruce Lee, and many more. The centerpiece of the event will be the life-sized sculpture of Bruce Lee, an emblem of perseverance and discipline. This awe-inspiring piece, tailor-made for this exhibition in Toronto, revisits the dynamic sidekick posture initially created by Mr Chu for the Hong Kong Heritage Museum ten years ago. A selection of some iconic pieces will also be displayed as miniatures, allowing audiences to form a deeper connection with the vibrant culture of Hong Kong.

2) Fantasia International Film Festival 2023

The Fantasia international Film Festival 2023 will run from July 20 to August 9. HKETO will co-present the screenings of six Hong Kong films at the festival, namely:

- White Storm 3: Heaven or Hell 掃畫3: 人在天涯
- Mad Fate 命案
- The Sparring Partner 正義迴廊
- God of Cookery食神
- MY HEART IS THAT ETERNAL ROSE 殺手蝴蝶夢
- A Chinese Ghost Story倩女幽魂

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"White Storm 3: Heaven or Hell", the Canadian premiere, will be screened on the festival's opening night. For details of the festival and the films, please visit: https://fantasiafestival.com/en/

3) Musical performances of "Button of Love" by DramaOne

Musical performances of "Button of Love", relevant talks and photo exhibitions will be staged by DramaOne at City Playhouse Theatre in Toronto on August 12 and cSpace Marda Loop Studio Theatre in Calgary on September 9 to 10 respectively. "Button of Love" is an original play written by the Artistic Director of Dramaone Canada Peter Poon who is also a noted Hong Kong Canadian director.

For details, please visit https://www.dramaone.ca/

4) HKCBA National Conference in Calgary

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) will host a half-day conference, keynote luncheon and cocktail reception in Calgary to present the latest business opportunities in Hong Kong and Asia to Canadian companies on September 8. The event will focus on areas of opportunities such as the environment and energy transition, and Canadian success stories.

For details, please visit https://www.hkcba.com/events/hkcba-annual-national-conference-keynote-luncheon-2

OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Markham Hong Kong Film Festival

The Markham Hong Kong Film Festival organized by the Association of Canada China Business, Culture, Innovation Exchange will be held at Flato Markham Theatre on August 5 and 6. The festival will feature live concert and screening of two Hong Kong films which aims at facilitating cultural and artistic exchanges between Hong Kong and Canada. HKETO is one of the sponsors of the event.

For details, please visit

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=23496264592<u>8699&set=a.110641245027507</u>

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Calgary and Victoria Dragon Boat Festivals

Calgary Dragon Boat Race & Festival and Victoria Dragon Boat Festival will be held at North Glenmore Park of Calgary on August 11 to 13 and at Inner Harbour and Ship's Point of Victoria on August 12 to 13 respectively. Visitors can enjoy dragon boat races, exhibition of Hong Kong's modern dragon boat history, local live music, local food trucks and vendors, and more at the festivals. HKETO is a sponsor of both events. For details, please visit:

https://calgarydragonboatsociety.com/ https://victoriadragonboatfestival.com/festival-info/

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO promotes Hong Kong's I&T start-up opportunities at Collision 2023

The HKETO, Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) and StartmeupHK (SMUHK) promoted Hong Kong as an ideal place in Asia for innovation and technology (I&T) start-ups to grow their business during the technology conference Collision 2023 held in Toronto from June 26 to 29. With the support of the HKETO, Invest HK and SMUHK hosted a Masterclass titled "Fintech, Web3, Virtual Assets (VA) Startup Opportunities in Hong Kong" on June 28 at the event.

In delivering the welcoming remarks at the Masterclass, the Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, remarked that Hong Kong is well positioned as a leading hub for Web3 in Asia and beyond. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government is committed to the development of Web3, fintech, artificial intelligence and VA. She highlighted that the HKSAR Government issued a policy statement on the development of VA in Hong Kong and will allocate new funding to accelerate the development of the Web3 ecosystem. Hong Kong is also working on the relevant regulatory regime, as well as introducing measures to nurture, retain and attract a wide range of talents to connect innovation and Hong Kong's traditional strengths.

Other speakers at the Masterclass included the Head of SMUHK at InvestHK, Ms Jayne Chan; the Head of InvestHK in Canada, Mr Christopher Chen; Co-Founder and the Executive Chairman of Animoca Brands in Hong Kong, Mr Yat Siu; and Co-founder & CEO of WHub, Ms Karena Belin.

Besides the Masterclass, a booth hosted by the Hong Kong Tourism Board was set up at the conference attracting esteemed entrepreneurs and investors in the I&T sector to get information about leisure travel and business opportunities in Hong Kong.

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On June 29, the HKETO and InvestHK supported the "Collision Closing Party" for Web3 founders and investors. A fireside chat was held to discuss the vibrant Web3 ecosystem in Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-promotes-hong-kongs-i-t-start-up-opportunities-at-collision-2023.html

HKETO Director promotes Hong Kong's business digitization opportunities to Canadian entrepreneurs

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the "Digitize your Business: Grow your Global Presence via Online Marketplace" webinar co-organized by the HKETO, InvestHK, Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), HKCBA (Toronto Section) and the Burnaby Board of Trade on July 6.

At the webinar, participants gained insights into the opportunities of cross-border ecommerce through Hong Kong and explored how Canadian companies can leverage HKTDC's online marketplace to expand their internationals sales.

In her welcome remarks, Ms Mo noted that Hong Kong's unique characteristics and strategic advantages make it an ideal destination for Canadian businesses to thrive in the digital realm. Hong Kong's strategic geographical location also plays a pivotal role in its success as a digital trade hub.

Before closing, Ms Mo refreshed participants that HKTDC has launched its online sourcing platform for over twenty years. With the support from the Canada Digital Adoption Programme, this is the right time for Canadian companies to tap into an international market through Hong Kong's well established online marketplace.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-promotes-hong-kongs-business-digitization-opportunities-to-canadian-entrepreneurs.html

HONG KONG NEWS

20th anniversary of signing of CEPA marks new milestone

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA). To celebrate this important milestone, the HKSAR Government launches a series of celebration activities in the

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second half of this year with a view to looking back jointly with different quarters of the community on the development and achievements of CEPA over the past two decades, and looking forward to more promising opportunities to be brought by CEPA.

As the most liberal free trade agreement of the Mainland China, CEPA fully demonstrates the country's continuous and staunch support for Hong Kong. CEPA has created unprecedented business opportunities for various industries and sectors, and played a significant role in the country's reform and opening up.

On trade in services, the Mainland and Hong Kong have basically achieved liberalisation of trade in services. The Mainland fully or partially opens up 153 service sectors to Hong Kong's service industry. For trade in goods, all Hong Kong products meeting the CEPA rules of origin can enjoy zero-tariff preference upon importation into the Mainland.

CEPA has also reinforced Hong Kong's attractiveness to investors from outside Hong Kong. Many investors have developed business on the Mainland through setting up bases in Hong Kong.

Looking ahead, the HKSAR Government will continue to actively seek to enrich CEPA's content and assist the trade in making good use of its preferential measures, striving to foster prosperous development of the two places.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202306/29/P2023062900436.htm

Digital Apron and Tower Management System at Hong Kong International Airport wins award for technology innovation

The Civil Aviation Department (CAD) of the HKSAR Government and Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) jointly implemented the Digital Apron and Tower Management System (DATMS) at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA). The DATMS won the 2023 Technology Innovation Awards of the Airports Council International (ACI). The award ceremony was held in Barcelona, Spain, on June 27.

With over 240 camera sensors and 120 working positions for phase one and two implementations, the DATMS is one of the world's largest and most complex Digital Tower and Digital Apron implementations. By collaborating to leverage on a common software platform, technical infrastructure and video imaging system, synergies were created that resulted in safety and efficiency gains for air traffic control and airport operation.

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The ACI was established in 1991 to provide support for the worlds' airports to promote excellence in the aviation industry. At present, the ACI has about 712 members in 71 countries from 1 925 airports.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202306/29/P2023062900365.htm

Companies from Japan and the Mainland expand businesses to Hong Kong

Japanese restaurant group Zensho Holdings Co Ltd opened its first HAMA-SUSHI conveyor belt restaurant in Hong Kong on June 29, offering a wide range of sushi and side dishes at affordable prices.

The restaurant group opened its first Japanese beef rice shop, SUKIYA, in Hong Kong in 2019, and has expanded to eight outlets. Riding on this success, the restaurant group followed up with a second brand, HAMA-SUSHI, and opened its first store in Jordan of Kowloon Peninsula.

Zensho Holdings Co Ltd is one of the top Japanese restaurant groups in Japan engaging in the management of food service chain restaurants. As of March 2023, the company had 4 524 shops in Japan and 5 759 shops overseas.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202306/29/P2023062800325.htm

In addition, Mainland wealth management company Homaer International officially unveiled its new multi-family office on June 29, adding to the city's drive to become the region's most sought-after family office hub.

The company provides global asset allocation solutions to high net-worth clients, including asset management, investment consultation, financial advice, wealth management and other services, offering ample economic benefits in terms of jobs, capital investment and the philanthropy sector.

Established in 2014, Homaer Financial is headquartered in Hangzhou, China with branch offices in Hong Kong, New York, Cayman Islands, etc. The core team of Homaer is sophisticated in the field of investment.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202306/29/P2023062900255.htm

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Special arrangement for applications for extension of stay due to pandemic to be discontinued on January 1, 2024

The Immigration Department (ImmD) of the HKSAR Government on June 29 announced that the special arrangement under the pandemic for Hong Kong non-permanent residents outside Hong Kong to apply for an extension of stay will be discontinued on January 1, 2024. The applicants are required to be physically present in Hong Kong, both at the time of application and at the time of collection of the "e-Visa" for the extension of stay.

For enquiries, please call the ImmD enquiry hotline 2824 6111, or send enquiries to the ImmD by email at enquiry@immd.gov.hk.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202306/29/P2023062900637.htm

Announcement of fourth batch of recognised medical qualifications under Medical **Registration Ordinance**

In accordance with the Medical Registration Ordinance, the Registrar of Medical Practitioners announced on June 28 the fourth batch of 25 medical qualifications recognised by the Special Registration Committee (SRC).

Together with the first three batches of medical qualifications recognised as announced last year, the SRC has so far recommended a total of 100 medical qualifications for recognition including five Canadian universities.

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.

For non-locally trained medical graduates who possess recognised medical qualifications but have yet to undergo internship outside Hong Kong, subject to their fulfilment of the relevant criteria, they may take the Licensing Examination of the Medical Council of Hong Kong in order to apply for special registration to practise in the public healthcare institutions in Hong Kong. They may also obtain full registration after meeting the requirements applicable all special registration doctors. to

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Click the following link for details:

https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202306/28/P2023062700503.htm

Media partnership to promote Hong Kong's strengths and advantages

In partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, the Economist has created a video to showcase Hong Kong's strengths and advantages as a global financial centre, and how Hong Kong links with Mainland China and the rest of the world with its financial services institutions, banks, regulators and prominent pool of talent. The city is also a pioneer in the green finance market.

Video: Hong Kong: A global connector of finance

Interviewees:

Anthony Sar, CEO & Co-Founder, Finoverse

Tracy Wong Harris, Managing Director, Head of Sustainable Finance Asia, Standard Chartered Bank / VP and Deputy Secretary General, Hong Kong Green Finance Association

Video Links:

https://impact.economist.com/projects/hk-a-premier-hub/video/hong-kong-a-global-connector-of-finance/

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

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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For help setting up your business in Hong Kong, please contact: Mr. Christopher Chen, Head of Business and Talent Attraction / Investment Promotion at christopher chen@hketotoronto.gov.hk or visit www.InvestHK.gov.hk

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