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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 currently hosting the 2023 Hong Kong Week themed “Hello Hong Kong” until the end of 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 festivals, musical drama performances and a national business conference to be held in different Canadian cities. Details of the 2023 Hong Kong Week can be found on the event’s dedicated webpage at hongkongweek2023.hketo.ca. Please join us at the upcoming events.

1) Kelvin Yuen Photo Exhibition

The HKETO co-presents the online photo exhibition with Hong Kong young award-winning photographer Kelvin Yuen to showcase the beautiful landscapes of Canada and enhance the cultural exchanges between Canada and Hong Kong. To take a glimpse of this exhibition about the Winter of Canada and the Landscape of Canada through Kelvin’s lens, please visit <https://hongkongweek2023.hketo.ca/highlighted-event/photo-exhibition>.

Some photos featured online will be exhibited in Calgary as follows:

Date: September 9 to 10, 2023 (Saturday to Sunday)
Venue: cSPACE Hallway Galleries

2) Musical performances of “Button of Love” by DramaOne

Musical performances of “Button of Love” will be staged by DramaOne Canada at cSpace Marda Loop Studio Theatre in Calgary on September 9 and 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/%E5%8D%A1%E5%8A%A0%E9%87%8C>.

3) HKCBA National Conference in Calgary

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) will host its annual national conference, including a keynote luncheon and cocktail reception, in Calgary to present the latest business opportunities in Hong Kong and Asia to Canadian companies on

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September 8. Entitled “Hello Hong Kong: Your Gateway to Business in Asia”, 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

Webinar of “Greentech Opportunities in Hong Kong for Canadian Companies”

The HKETO, HKCBA, Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) will jointly organize the “Greentech Opportunities in Hong Kong for Canadian Companies” webinar on August 24, 9:30AM (EDT) via Zoom platform. This virtual event, supported by the Government of Canada, will provide valuable insights into the Hong Kong greentech market and funding opportunities available in the city, as well as the windows of opportunity to leverage prominent environment protection events like Eco Expo Asia and International Greentech Week.

Registration is free, but reservations are required at <https://bit.ly/0824greentechwebinar>.

Uptown Asian Festival 2023

The Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan Chinese Business Association, Canadian Asian Heritage Association and the Cross-Cultural Community Services Association jointly organize the Uptown Asian Festival 2023 entitled “Mid-Autumn Marvels: A Cultural Extravaganza Celebrating Asian Heritage” to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival in Richmond Hill on September 1 to 3. This vibrant festival brings together diverse traditions and acts as a catalyst for cross-cultural understanding. As part of the commemoration of Richmond Hill’s 150th anniversary, this event is designed to promote community engagement and celebrate the richness of Asian cultures. The HKETO is one of the sponsors of this community event.

For details, please visit <https://www.uptownasianfestival.ca/>.

Asialicious Carnival 2022

The three-day weekend Asialicious Carnival will be held at Woodside Square in Scarborough from September 15 to 17. It is an annual event to celebrate multiculturalism and showcase diverse Asian culture and heritage through a variety of food including Hong

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Kong style cuisine as well as activities such as a “Starry Night” variety show followed by fireworks, and multicultural performances. HKETO is a sponsor of the event.

For details of the event, please visit: <https://asialiciouscarnival.com/>.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Cantonese musical and Hong Kong film productions featured at 2023 Hong Kong Week

The original Cantonese musical performances of “Button of Love”, co-presented by HKETO and DramaOne Canada as one of the highlights of the 2023 Hong Kong Week programme, had its maiden stage in Toronto on August 12, to be followed by its next stops at Calgary in September and Vancouver in November.

Another signature event of the 2023 Hong Kong Week, is the screening of Hong Kong productions at film festivals, including award-winning Hong Kong movie “The Sunny Side of the Street”, which had its premiere in Toronto on August 11 at the opening night of the 4th Mulan International Film Festival. The movie, directed by Hong Kong Director Lau Kok-rui, earned wide recognition from international film festivals for its leading actor, new performer and original screenplay, etc.

Hong Kong is determined to be an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange. The selection of cultural programmes of the 2023 Hong Kong Week showcases Hong Kong’s special privileges as an international hub for cultural and creative industries with enormous opportunities.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/cantonese-musical-and-hong-kong-film-productions-featured-at-2023-hong-kong-week.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong population projections for 2022-2046 released

The Hong Kong Resident Population will reach 8.19 million in mid-2046 under the baseline population projections, and it will reach 8.96 million and 7.76 million under the high and low population projections respectively, according to the latest set of population projections covering the period from 2022 to 2046 released by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) on August 15, using the mid-2021 population as the base.

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The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has launched a number of talent attraction and labour importation schemes in recent years, which will provide an important impetus to facilitate population growth in the next two decades or so.

Relevant publications are available for downloading at the C&SD website:

<https://www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/scode190.html#section4>.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202308/15/P2023081500308.htm>

Approval for first round of applications under Labour Importation Scheme for Transport Sector - Aviation Industry completed

The approval process for the first round of applications under the Labour Importation Scheme for the Transport Sector - Aviation Industry has been completed. A total of 29 eligible companies submitted applications in July, involving 2 889 labour importation quotas covering all 10 job types under the Scheme. After assessment by the inter-departmental liaison group comprising representatives from the Transport and Logistics Bureau, the Labour Department and the Airport Authority Hong Kong, the applications from 28 companies with a total of 2 841 quotas have been approved.

The imported labour, upon receiving training, is expected to relieve the acute manpower shortage in the aviation industry and supporting the continual recovery of the industry.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202308/14/P2023081400316.htm>

The Department of Health and Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation signed Memorandum of Understanding to drive digital transformation in public health

The Department of Health (DH) and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) on August 18 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which aims at leveraging the latest innovation and technology (I&T) to expedite digitalisation for public health functions while fostering an innovation-driven culture in the healthcare sector.

Under the MOU, the DH and the HKSTP will, over the next three years, jointly explore innovative solutions across four key areas of the DH's public health functions, namely (i)

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health regulatory affairs; (ii) health protection and health promotion; (iii) health administration; and (iv) dental and clinical services.

This landmark collaboration marks a significant milestone in the journey toward digital transformation in public health and also supports the smart government strategy. The DH and the HKSTP are poised to drive innovation and contribute to building a healthy Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202308/18/P2023081800315.htm>

Introduction of block trading under mutual access programme

The China Securities Regulatory Commission and the Securities and Futures Commission on August 11 issued a joint announcement on the consensus to introduce block trading (manual trades) under the mutual market access programme.

The measure will further facilitate the mutual access and concerted development of the two capital markets, strengthening Hong Kong's position and function as an international financial centre and global offshore Renminbi business hub. It also helps meet the increasing demand of cross-border block trading from investors, and is conducive to further enhancing cross-border liquidity.

Offshore investors will be able to conduct block trades on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange through the Northbound trading of Stock Connect, while Mainland investors will be able to conduct manual trades on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited through the Southbound trading of Stock Connect under the initiative. The stock exchanges of the two places will study the relevant business, technical and regulatory arrangements and consult the market to develop an implementation proposal. A separate announcement will be made on the implementation details and the launch date.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202308/11/P2023081100378.htm>

Hong Kong, China formally accepts WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies

Hong Kong, China (HKC) deposited on August 21 with the World Trade Organization (WTO) its Instrument of Acceptance for the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (the Agreement), which is the WTO's second multilateral trade agreement concluded since its establishment, and its first one with environmental sustainability as the core objective.

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The Agreement establishes binding and multilateral rules to prohibit certain subsidies with the most harmful effects on the sustainability of fisheries, namely, those contributing to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; those for fishing regarding overfished stocks; and those for fishing on the unregulated high seas. It would thereby enhance members' fisheries management by, among others, incorporating sustainability assessments in the disciplines, creating robust transparency obligations and requiring co-operation among agencies.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202308/21/P2023082100612.htm>

Media partnership to promote Hong Kong's advantages

In partnership with the Information Services Department, The Economist has created a video to showcase Hong Kong's vibrant ecosystem which enables entrepreneurs from around the world to make connections, receive support and unlock opportunities throughout the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Video: Hong Kong: An ecosystem for innovators

Interviewees:

Tony Verb, Co-Founder & Director, GreaterBayX / Executive Director, Carbonless Asia
Gene Soo, Co-Founder, StartupsGBA

Video Links:

<https://impact.economist.com/projects/hk-a-premier-hub/video/hong-kong-an-ecosystem-for-innovators/>

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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 or

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

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

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This message was sent from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto, 174 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5R 2M7.

For enquiries, please contact:

info@hketotoronto.gov.hk or 416-924-5544.

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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