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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 in different Canadian cities. Details of the 2023 Hong Kong Week can be found on the event’s dedicated webpage at <https://hongkongweek2023.hketo.ca/>. Below is the upcoming event.

#### **Vancouver International Film Festival 2023**

The Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 will run from September 28 to October 8. HKETO will sponsor and co-present the screenings of two Hong Kong films at the festival, namely “In Broad Daylight (白日之下)” directed by Lawrence Kan, and “Winter Chants (冬未來)” directed by Jessey Tsang Tsui-Shan. For details of the festival and the films, please visit: <https://viff.org/festival/films/>.

#### **Hong Kong Food Tech x ESG Webinar**

A webinar titled “Hong Kong Food Tech x ESG”, hosted by the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (Toronto GTA) with the support of HKETO, Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) Canada and Hong Kong Trade Development Council, will be held on October 4 to illustrate how business can grow together while meeting ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) goals. Panelists from the food tech sector will share insights on how their companies have successfully incorporated ESG. For details and registration, please visit <https://www.hkcba.com/events/webinar-hong-kong-food-tech-x-esg>.

## **OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

### **Table Tennis Tournament by Canada-HK Unionville-Doncrest New Horizon Lions Club**

The Canada-HK Unionville-Doncrest New Horizon Lions Club will organize the 2023 New Horizon Championship - 12th Annual Charity Table Tennis Tournament on September 24 with an aim to foster stronger friendship between Hong Kong and Canada. HKETO is pleased to support the “Alumni Cup” of the tournament this year. For details, please visit <http://www.newhorizonlionsclub.org/past-events/>.

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## **Imperial Ball 2023**

The Imperial Ball 2023 hosted by the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto will be held on September 30. Under the theme of “Where East Meets West”, the ball raises funds to provide better services and program for the community and celebrate the legacy of Chinese Canadians in the Greater Toronto Area. HKETO is a supporter of the event. For details, please visit <https://www.cccgt.org>.

## **2023 ACCE West Coast Gala**

The Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) will host the 2023 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 recognize 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, please visit: <https://www.acce.ca/new/2023-acce-west-coast-gala/>.

## **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

### **HKETO Director visits Calgary for business promotion and cultural exchanges**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, visited Calgary from September 7 to 10 to promote Hong Kong's core strengths and new edges for businesses and cultural developments.

At the annual National Conference of the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) on September 8, Ms Mo shared with some 200 guests Hong Kong's resilience in the face of challenging times including the pandemic and economic headwinds elsewhere. She stressed that the enduring principle of “one country, two systems” and the unwavering support from the nation, Hong Kong remains the prime choice for Canadian businesses to tap into the Mainland China, Asian and Indo-pacific markets. She anticipated enhanced cooperation between our two places.

Turning to Hong Kong's cultural faces, Ms Mo visited the Kelvin Yuen Photograph Exhibition held at cSPACE Hallway Galleries on September 9. The exhibition, featuring Hong Kong young award-winning photographer Kelvin Yuen, showcased the beautiful landscapes of Canada and enhanced the cultural exchanges between Canada and Hong Kong. Ms Mo also attended the original Cantonese musical performance of “Button of Love” co-presented by the HKETO and DramaOne Canada. Penned by noted Hong Kong

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Canadian director Peter Poon and brought to life by a remarkable ensemble of performers and crew members with Hong Kong-Canada ties, the musical drama exemplified the strong connection between Hong Kong and Canada.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-visits-calgary-for-business-promotion-and-cultural-exchanges.html>

### **48<sup>th</sup> Toronto International Film Festival**

The 48<sup>th</sup> Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) presented the world premiere of the movie “The Movie Emperor” (紅毯先生), starring Hong Kong superstar Andy Lau. He was honoured with the Festival’s Special Tribute Award at its Gala Presentation on September 15. The Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, congratulated Mr Lau on earning the prestigious award.

Mr Lau also shared his experience and insights in acting and movie making at the “In Conversation with Andy Lau” of TIFF on September 16. HKETO was a sponsor of the events.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hong-kong-artist-andy-lau-won-special-tribute-award-in-toronto-international-film-festival.html>

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Hong Kong continues to rank among top of world's freest economies**

The Economic Freedom of the World 2023 Annual Report (2023 Report) recently published by the Fraser Institute Hong Kong continues to rank among the top, second globally.

Among the five areas of assessment in the 2023 Report, Hong Kong continued to rank top in "Freedom to trade internationally", and third globally in "Regulation". Our scores and rankings in "Size of government" and "Sound money" also improved from those of last year.

A spokesman for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government said that Hong Kong has been striving to enhance market efficiency and support, regulate enterprises in an appropriate manner, thereby leveraging the advantages of the free

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market, and maintaining an efficient, free, open and fair business environment. Hong Kong remains the only place in the world where the global advantage and the China advantage come together in a single economy.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/19/P2023091900717.htm>

### **"Night Vibes Hong Kong" Campaign launched**

The "Night Vibes Hong Kong" Campaign will start from around the Mid-Autumn Festival later this month, running across National Day, Halloween, Christmas and New Year until early 2024. Taking place all over the city, these events cater for people from different age groups and sectors, and provide them with harbourfront leisure, festive and vibrant, art and culture, and diversified leisure experiences in Hong Kong. Citizens and tourists can enjoy various discounts offered by different organisations.

A series of events will take place on harbourfront sites, including performances, cultural events, markets and guided tours. The Hong Kong Wine and Dine Festival will make its physical return to the Central Harbourfront Event Space in November, to provide international liquor assortments and delights, as well as emerging wine products to citizens and tourists. There will also be a month-long citywide dining promotion of restaurants and bars.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/14/P2023091400558.htm>

### **Opening of Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch marks new beginning for Hong Kong-Shenzhen I&T co-operation**

The Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch opening ceremony took place on September 7 in Shenzhen. The Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch will encourage the institute and enterprises to start their business in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and establish a presence. The Shenzhen Branch comprises two buildings with a total gross floor area of about 31,000 square metres, providing offices, laboratories, co-working spaces, as well as conference and event facilities.

The Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch will fully capitalise on the opportunity presented by the Central Government's recent announcement of the Development Plan for Shenzhen Park of Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation

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Co-operation Zone, and contribute to the building of an I&T ecosystem with international impact.

The HKSAR Government promulgated the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint at the end of last year to establish a clear development path and formulate systematic strategic planning for Hong Kong's I&T development over the next five to 10 years.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/07/P2023090700276.htm>

### **Eighth Belt and Road Summit opens in celebration of 10th anniversary of Belt and Road Initiative**

The eighth Belt and Road Summit, opened on September 13 as the first fully physical edition after the resumption of normalcy, attracted nearly 6,000 representatives from Belt and Road related countries and regions, including government officials from more than 10 countries and prominent international business leaders, over 100 delegations, as well as over 35 state-owned enterprises from the Mainland, a record high over past editions. Together, the participants reviewed the development of the Belt and Road Initiative (B&RI) since 2013, and looked forward to opportunities in investment, business and trade in the next era.

With the theme "Prospering on a Decade of Collaboration", the Summit this year especially commemorates the 10th anniversary of the B&RI. Through the Summit, the HKSAR Government seeks to highlight Hong Kong's role as the functional platform for the B&RI, and to assist enterprises and professional services in exploring business opportunities, in particular those arising from emerging markets such as the Middle East and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) markets.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/13/P2023091300522.htm>

### **Recruitment for six civil service graduate grades**

The HKSAR Government launched the joint recruitment exercise for appointment as Administrative Officer (AO), Executive Officer II, Assistant Labour Officer II, Assistant Trade Officer II, Management Services Officer II and Transport Officer II in 2023-24 on September 16. The deadline for submitting application is 5pm on October 6 (Hong Kong time).

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The recruitment is open to all permanent residents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) who meet the relevant entry requirements. Students pursuing a bachelor's degree or equivalent and graduating in the year of 2024 or 2025 may also apply.

Details of the joint recruitment exercise including the examination arrangements can be found at the CSB's website at [www.csb.gov.hk](http://www.csb.gov.hk).

For the convenience of those studying or residing outside Hong Kong, the relevant Common Recruitment Examination and Basic Law and National Security Law Test is tentatively scheduled to be held on 2 December in Toronto, Vancouver and six other cities outside Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/14/P2023091400236.htm>

### **Green I&T Day 2023 promotes innovation and technology solutions to achieve carbon neutrality targets**

The Green I&T Day 2023, held on September 14, included various seminars where experts from Hong Kong and the Mainland shared their experience in adopting I&T to reduce carbon emissions, under the themes of "green transformation" and "journey to carbon neutrality". The event also brought together 15 local and Mainland exhibitors to showcase their I&T achievements in energy conservation and new and renewable energy.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/14/P2023091400504.htm>

### **Hong Kong's Gross National Income and external primary income flows for the second quarter of 2023**

Hong Kong's Gross National Income (GNI), which denotes the total income earned by Hong Kong residents from engaging in various economic activities, increased by 4.2% in the second quarter of 2023 over a year earlier to \$786.9 billion at current market prices. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP), estimated at \$707.1 billion at current market prices in the same quarter, recorded a 4.4% increase over a year earlier. The value of GNI was larger than GDP by \$79.8 billion in the second quarter of 2023, which was equivalent to 11.3% of GDP in that quarter, mainly attributable to a net inflow of investment income.

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Hong Kong's total inflow of primary income, which mainly comprises investment income, estimated at \$585.2 billion in the second quarter of 2023 and equivalent to 82.8% of GDP in that quarter, recorded a significant increase of 16.1% over a year earlier. Meanwhile, total primary income outflow, estimated at \$505.4 billion in the second quarter of 2023 and equivalent to 71.5% of GDP in that quarter, also increased significantly by 18.7% over a year earlier.

More detailed statistics are given in the report "Gross National Income and External Primary Income Flows, Second Quarter 2023". Users can browse and download this publication at the website of the C&SD ([www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/EIndexbySubject.html?pcode=B1040005&scode=250](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/EIndexbySubject.html?pcode=B1040005&scode=250)).

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/14/P2023091400334.htm>

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