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UPCOMING EVENTS

Workshop of “Global Expansion from Canada - Korah’s Success Story in Big Data and AI Solutions”

InvestHK will be hosting a workshop titled “Global Expansion from Canada - Korah’s Success Story in Big Data and AI Solutions” at the Big Data & AI Conference Toronto to be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Oct 19 (Thursday), 11AM. This enlightening fireside chat will showcase how Korah empowers business users with Artificial Intelligence (AI) to accelerate adopting digital strategies. Korah is a leading Canadian expert in end-to-end business process automation for optimizing operational efficiency, productivity, and user experiences (UX). The Expo Pass with access to the whole exhibition floor and workshop sessions on Oct 18-19 is free of charge. You can get your free pass at <https://www.bigdata-toronto.com/en/expo-pass>.

For event details, please visit

<https://www.bigdata-toronto.com/en/programme/647debb33354340646478a2a>

“Making Waves - Navigators of Hong Kong Cinema” in Montreal (Oct 20 to 22)

Making Waves in Montreal will be presenting six movies from Hong Kong to Canada from October 20 to 22 at Cineplex Forum, all of which are Montreal premieres. Individual director, actor and actresses will travel from Hong Kong to Montreal engage in Q&As. The Festival is presented by the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society in collaboration with Asian Pop-Up Cinema in Chicago, and supported by Create Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO).

The movie festival will be kicking off with the screening of Over My Dead Body (死屍死時四十四). Other movies are:

- Lonely 18 (我們的十八歲)
- In Broad Daylight (白日之下)
- Lost Love (流水落花)
- Deliverance (源生罪)
- The Narrow Road (窄路微塵)

Making Waves is a touring film programme showcasing Hong Kong filmmakers whose works transformed film aesthetics and heralded awareness of social issues. For details of Making Waves in Montreal, please visit

<https://www.asianpopupcinema.org/mwm-calendar?view=calendar&month=10-2023>

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HKJU's Mini Sports Day & Dinner 2023

The Hong Kong Joint Universities Alumni Association (HKJU) will host its annual event of “Active Together: Mini Sports Day 2023” at Markham Pan Am Centre on October 21. It will feature table tennis, badminton, volleyball, basketball, mini indoor soccer, and various fun games. The HKETO is a sponsor of the Sports Day and its gala afterwards.

<https://www.alumni.hku.hk/hkuaaont/october-21-2023-hong-kong-joint-universities-alumni-ontario-mini-sports-day-dinner-2023/>

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO joins celebration of Mid-Autumn Festival and 30th anniversary of the Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan Chinese Business Association

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the Moon Festival Celebration on September 29 to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival with the local communities. The event was supported by the HKETO, with the City of Markham and the City of Richmond Hill, to promote Chinese culture.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Ms Mo introduced the “Night Vibes Hong Kong” Campaign which was launched around the Mid-Autumn Festival in Hong Kong, running across National Day, Halloween, Christmas and New Year until early 2024. A wealth of diversified events will be staged covering entertainment, arts, culture, consumption and more to create a dynamic vibe for citizens and tourists to feel the vibrancy and energy of Hong Kong’s nightlife. She encouraged attendees to visit Hong Kong to experience the rich cultural facets of the Asian's world city.

On the other hand, Ms Mo joined the 30th Anniversary Gala of the Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan Chinese Business Association on September 30 to update the local business sector of the latest developments of Hong Kong.

In delivering a speech, Ms Mo said that with the revitalization of economic activities following the pandemic, Hong Kong is once again showcasing its unique advantages as a premier global business and financial hub and has transitioned into a pivotal center for sustainability, innovation, technology and cultural exchanges. She invited participants to grasp the valuable opportunities for business development and investment in Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-joins-mid-autumn-festival-celebration-to-promote-chinese-culture.html>

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HKETO Director joins webinar to promote food tech and ESG in Hong Kong

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the webinar titled “Hong Kong Food Tech x ESG” hosted by the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) (Toronto GTA) with the support of HKETO, Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) Canada and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) on October 4.

In delivering opening remarks at the webinar, Ms Mo noted that Hong Kong and Canada share the same commitment to environmental sustainability, adding that Hong Kong is steadfast in its aspiration to become a premier hub for green technology and green finance. Hong Kong is also a prominent player in the global green finance ecosystem.

Head of Business and Talent Attraction of InvestHK Canada, Mr Christopher Chen, also shared insights on Hong Kong as an ESG hub for Canadian companies to leverage.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-joins-webinar-to-promote-food-tech-and-esg-in-hong-kong.html>

HKETO Director visits Vancouver for business promotion and talent attraction

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, visited Vancouver from October 4 to 7 for business promotion and talent attraction.

Speaking at the 2023 West Coast Gala of the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs on October 5, Ms Mo updated guests from the business sector that Hong Kong under the “one country, two systems” framework continued to be recognized as the world’s top international financial centre, wealth-management centre and the largest offshore Renminbi hub. She stressed that there is a strong and fast-growing green technology ecosystem in Hong Kong and other cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Ms Mo also remarked on the launch of the “Hello Hong Kong” and “Hong Kong Night Vibes” campaigns. She invited the gala guests to visit Hong Kong and experience all the new developments and opportunities in this Asia’s world city.

During the 4-day duty visit, Ms Mo attended two talent attraction sessions hosted by the HKCBA (Vancouver Section) in collaboration with the HKETO and InvestHK (Canada) on October 4. She met with some 100 students from the University of British Columbia and the Simon Fraser University and promoted on the excellent work environment, job

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opportunities and various facilitation measures in Hong Kong for overseas university graduates. In particular, she mentioned the Hong Kong-Canada Talent Metaverse (www.kumospace.com/hktalentmetaverse) which allowed young talents to connect with potential Hong Kong employers directly on the platform.

On October 6, Ms Mo met with a Hong Kong student delegation from the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals in Hong Kong. She noted the close ties between Hong Kong and Canada, and introduced to the visiting students the role and important work of HKETO across Canada for business and cultural promotion as well as student exchanges.

In addition, Ms Mo had various meetings with the senior management of some community and cultural organisations in Vancouver to update them on the latest developments in Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-visits-vancouver-for-business-promotion-and-talent-attraction.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong maintains fourth place in Global Financial Centres Index

Hong Kong maintained the fourth place globally in the Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI) 34 Report published on September 28 by the Z/Yen from the United Kingdom and the China Development Institute from Shenzhen.

A spokesman from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government said that Hong Kong's overall rating increased notably, with the global rankings in the four areas of business environment, human capital, financial sector development, and reputational and general having risen to fourth, reflecting recognition of Hong Kong's sustained strength and robustness as an international financial centre in the post-COVID era.

The GFCI Report is released in March and September every year since 2007. In GFCI 34, 121 financial centres were assessed and Hong Kong ranked fourth globally with an overall rating of 741.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/28/P2023092800657.htm>

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In addition, the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2023 published by the World Intellectual Property Organization ranked the Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou science and technology cluster second globally for four consecutive years. Hong Kong's ranking remains fifth in Asia, and is 17th globally among 132 economies.

As regards the two sub-indices under the GI, Hong Kong continued to perform well in the “Innovation Input” sub-index, at eighth globally. Its ranking in the “Innovation Output” sub-index improved to 24th.

A spokesman for HKSAR Government said on September 27 that the National 14th Five-Year Plan indicates clear support for Hong Kong’s development into an international innovation and technology (I&T) centre. To chart Hong Kong in moving towards that vision, the HKSAR Government promulgated the Hong Kong I&T Development Blueprint 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/202309/27/P2023092700640.htm>

Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises holds Launching Ceremony of OASES Partnership

The Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises (OASES) held the Launching Ceremony of OASES Partnership on October 4. At a ceremony witnessed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, and the Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, Mr Paul Chan, OASES signed an agreement with the first batch of strategic enterprises setting up or expanding their businesses in Hong Kong. They will jointly promote the development of the I&T ecosystem of Hong Kong.

Twenty enterprises from the Mainland and overseas became the first batch of strategic enterprise partners. They come from the strategic industries including life and health technology, artificial intelligence and data science, financial technology, and advanced manufacturing and new-energy technology.

Some of these enterprises will settle in Hong Kong shortly, while some have settled and are ready to expand their businesses in Hong Kong. Most of them will set up research and development centres or regional business headquarters in Hong Kong. OASES will provide one-stop services to these enterprises and follow up on their development situation in Hong Kong and their specific needs.

In the coming few years, the strategic enterprises attracted will invest a total of more than

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HK\$30 billion in Hong Kong, and create about 10 000 jobs, the majority of which are scientific research and management positions.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202310/04/P2023100400660.htm>

HKIMR joins the ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network as a founding member

The Hong Kong Institute for Monetary and Financial Research, the research arm of the Hong Kong Academy of Finance, signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on September 29 to join the ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network (AFTN) as a founding member institution.

The AFTN brings together 21 think tanks and research institutions, spanning Mainland China, HKSAR, Southeast Asia, Japan and South Korea to strengthen co-operation and collaboration among economic and financial think tanks across the ASEAN+3 region. The mission of AFTN is to enhance regional economic and financial resilience and stability through conducting joint research, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/29/P2023092900354.htm>

Asian companies open flagship store and office in Hong Kong

Japanese furniture and home-furnishing retail company Nitori Holdings Co Ltd held an opening ceremony for its first Nitori flagship store in Hong Kong on September 21 as part of its ongoing expansion plan to enhance its presence in the Asian region.

The flagship store is located in a large shopping mall in Kowloon Bay and occupies about 20 000 square feet. It showcases more than 5 500 items of furniture and daily necessity products, ranging from sofas and dining tables and chairs to wardrobes, beddings, cutlery and more. The company also operates an online store to offer additional convenience to its customers in Hong Kong.

Nitori has around 1 000 stores globally. It targets to open 20 stores in Hong Kong by 2032.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/21/P2023091900366.htm>

In addition, Singapore-based Eber Limited opened its Hong Kong office on September 28, providing customised loyalty marketing solutions to companies in Hong Kong and

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across the region.

Eber offers a full range of loyalty and customer engagement solutions for clients in diverse sectors including retail, hospitality, e-commerce, beauty, fitness and wellness, food and beverage, among others. It also has plans to expand its Hong Kong team across various functions including account management, customer and technical support.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202309/28/P2023092700446.htm>

CE congratulates Hong Kong athletes for achievements in Asian Games Hangzhou

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, on October 8 extended his congratulations to Hong Kong athletes on their outstanding achievements in the 19th Asian Games held in Hangzhou, commending their perseverance and distinguished performance.

Mr Lee remarked that this was the largest Hong Kong delegation ever to participate in the Asian Games. The athletes lived up to expectations and won a total of 53 medals, comprising eight gold medals, 16 silver medals and 29 bronze medals. The results were very encouraging, with the total number of medals and sports events surpassed any previous Asian Games.

Mr Lee stressed that in addition to the policy objectives of supporting elite sports, maintaining Hong Kong as a centre for major international sports events and promoting sports in the community, Hong Kong will continue to explore ways to further promote sports development in Hong Kong through enhanced professionalism in the sports sector and development of sports as an industry.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202310/08/P2023100800475.htm>

CSB's General Grades Office Recruitment Centre officially open

The Recruitment Centre, General Grades Office of the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) of the HKSAR Government, officially commenced operation on October 6 to conduct year-round recruitment for the posts of Assistant Clerical Officer, Clerical Assistant and Personal Secretary II.

Apart from obtaining recruitment information, job seekers may submit applications on the spot. Eligible applicants, regardless of whether their applications are submitted online or

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at the Recruitment Centre, will later be invited for skill tests, the Basic Law and National Security Law Test, and selection interviews to be held at the Recruitment Centre.

The consolidation of the recruitment process of the Clerical and Secretarial Grades and the establishment of the Recruitment Centre to conduct year-round recruitment is a new attempt to speed up the recruitment process.

Details of the entry requirements for the posts have been uploaded to the CSB website (www.csb.gov.hk/english/recruit/7.html). Depending on operation needs and the number of suitable candidates, the CSB plans to recruit about 2 000 new appointees to join the C&S Grades in the coming year.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202310/06/P2023100600184.htm>

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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:

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