

Dec 20, 2023



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **10th Annual Transpacific Entrepreneurial Conference**

Presented jointly by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA), the 10th Transpacific Entrepreneurial Conference to be held on January 23, 2024 will delve into Hong Kong's role as a Super Connector, with the theme of "Building the Next 10". Join the conference to explore innovative ideas, biotech start-ups, and business opportunities, strengthening commercial relationships between Canada, Hong Kong, and other Asian economies. The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) is a supporter of the event. Learn more: <https://www.cancham.org/event/?eid=3241>

### **2024 HKCBA Annual Lunar New Year Galas**

The HKCBA (Toronto Section) will organize the 2024 annual Lunar New Year Gala on February 24. Activities include traditional Chinese games, lion dance, band performance, table draw prizes, silent auction, etc. Grand prize draw is two round trip premium economy tickets between Toronto and Hong Kong donated by Cathay Pacific Airways. The HKETO is a supporter of the event. For details, please visit: <https://toronto.hkcba.com/cpages/home>.

In addition, the HKCBA (Calgary Section) will organize the 2024 annual Lunar New Year Gala on March 1. Participants can enjoy a festive meal and be dazzled by performances, guests speakers and an awards ceremony honouring HKCBA Calgary Scholarship winners. Door prize winner are announced throughout the evening. The HKETO is a major sponsor of the event. For details, please visit: <https://calgary.hkcba.com/events/hkcba-chinese-new-year-gala-2024>.

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Government announces details of new Capital Investment Entrant Scheme**

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government announced on December 19 the details of the new Capital Investment Entrant Scheme (CIES) which will further enrich the talent pool and attract more new capital to Hong Kong. The Government aims to officially launch the new CIES and invite applications in mid-2024.

The Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of the HKSAR Government, Mr Christopher Hui, identified the new CIES as one of the policy measures to promote the growth of family offices, with the aim of attracting asset owners to set up in Hong Kong

Dec 20, 2023



and tap into the diverse investment opportunities in Hong Kong by deploying and managing their wealth.

The new CIES will accept applications from eligible persons aged 18 or above (including foreign nationals, Chinese nationals who have obtained permanent resident status in a foreign country, Macao Special Administrative Region residents and Chinese residents of Taiwan). An applicant must demonstrate that he/she has net assets of not less than HK\$30 million and must make an investment of a minimum of HK\$30 million in the permissible investment assets, including investing a minimum of HK\$27 million in the permissible financial assets and non-residential real estate, and placing HK\$3 million into a new CIES Investment Portfolio.

The Portfolio will be set up and managed by the Hong Kong Investment Corporation Limited to make investments in companies/projects with a Hong Kong nexus, with a view to supporting the development of innovation and technology industries and other strategic industries that are beneficial to the long-term development of Hong Kong's economy.

Successful applicants may bring their dependants to Hong Kong. Permission to stay will normally be granted for not more than two years.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/19/P2023121900385.htm>

### **WTO Members commend Hong Kong, China for its free trade regime**

Members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) commended Hong Kong, China (HKC) for its continued adoption of free and open trade policies and for maintaining strong fiscal and financial fundamentals even amidst the COVID-19 pandemic at the Trade Policy Review meeting successfully concluded in Geneva, Switzerland on December 8.

The Discussant for the Trade Policy Review, Pedro Antonio Bravo Carranza of Peru, remarked that during the period under review, HKC has shown remarkable resilience, maintained strong and steady economic growth, and in a forward-looking and strategic manner, implemented trade policies and measures to promote inclusive, digital and green trade. He noted that HKC has demonstrated strong commitment to a rules-based multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core.

The Chairperson of the WTO Trade Policy Review Body, Ambassador Saqer Abdullah Almoqbel of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in his concluding remarks also noted that during the period under review, HKC had maintained its status as one of the most prominent international trade and financial hubs, and as a market-orientated economy.

Dec 20, 2023



He praised HKC for the detailed and informative updates on HKC's trade and economic policies, including on financial services, intellectual property rights, trade facilitation, small-and-medium enterprises, women participation and green transition.

Mr Almoqbel added that Members' statements during the meeting had shown an appreciation for HKC's continued adoption of a free and open trade policy and commitment to the multilateral trading system including its notification obligations, its constructive participation in WTO committees and WTO reform, and noted HKC's business friendly rankings, predictable tax environment and legal system made HKC an important trade hub.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/10/P2023120900686.htm>

### **InnoHK Summit 2023 a great success**

Organised by the Innovation and Technology Commission and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, InnoHK Summit 2023 was held successfully at Hong Kong Science Park on December 6, attracting over 800 world-class academics, scientists, representatives of renowned institutes and industry leaders from Hong Kong and around the world.

Under the theme of "From Collaborative Research to Real World Impact", the Summit aims to showcase the latest innovation and technology (I&T) developments and breakthroughs of InnoHK, Hong Kong's leading role as a global research collaboration hub, and its strengths in commercialisation and talent development.

The Summit invited representatives from 28 research laboratories of two InnoHK clusters to present their latest breakthroughs resulting from their collaborative research on healthcare technologies, artificial intelligence and robotics technologies.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/06/P2023120600451.htm>

### **Hong Kong's strategic location and dynamic scene attracts foreign and Mainland companies to expand businesses in the city**

InvestHK announced on December 8 that UK-based content production network Casual has expanded in Asia by setting up its first Asian office in Hong Kong, leveraging the city's strategic location to tap into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Asian market.

Dec 20, 2023



Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/08/P2023120700223.htm>

In addition, InvestHK announced on December 11 that Mainland restaurant brand Tai Er is opening four suancai fish shops in a single investment showing ample confidence in Hong Kong's food and beverage industry.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/11/P2023121100535.htm>

On December 12, InvestHK announced that it has helped French semiconductor company Prophesee set up a regional headquarters in the city to push its neuromorphic artificial intelligence (AI) technology across Asia.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/12/P2023121100374.htm>

InvestHK has supported a Japanese company, TAITO Corporation, which has over 40 years of experience in running amusement facilities, to open its first franchised outlet, TAITO STATION, in Hong Kong, according to its announcement on December 14.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/14/P2023121300500.htm>

### **Hong Kong welcomes home-grown aircraft C919 and ARJ21**

Domestic aircraft C919 and ARJ21 were first received by a ceremonial water salute upon their arrival in Hong Kong on December 12 and a welcoming ceremony was organised on the next day. A series of visiting activities then followed, including a static display at Hong Kong International Airport; a flight demonstration by the C919 aircraft over Victoria Harbour; and a sharing session between representatives of the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China, Ltd and more than 300 young people.

Click the following links for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/12/P2023121100681.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/17/P2023121600808.htm>

### **CE congratulates elected members of seventh District Council Election**

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, on December 11 extended his congratulations to the 264 elected members of the seventh District Council (DC) Election.

Dec 20, 2023



The seventh-term DCs will be composed of the elected DC members from this election, as well as appointed members and ex-officio members.

For the full text of CE's speech, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/11/P2023121100365.htm>

### **Hong Kong teams win 20 awards at APICTA Awards 2023**

The Awards Presentation Ceremony of the Asia Pacific Information and Communications Technology Alliance (APICTA) Awards 2023 hosted by Hong Kong was successfully concluded on December 8. Hong Kong teams achieved remarkable results again, bagging a record-breaking total of seven Winner and 13 Merit Awards among over 250 entries, ranking first among the 16 participating economies.

This year's APICTA Awards brought together over 600 leaders and elites of the information and communications technology (ICT) industry from across the Asia Pacific region. Through four days of award judging and networking activities, the event promoted collaboration in the region's ICT sector and provided opportunities for participants to experience the leading advantages of Hong Kong's I&T development.

The APICTA Awards is an acclaimed international awards programme with the support of 16 member economies in the Asia Pacific region. Brunei Darussalam has been chosen as the host of the 23rd APICTA Awards next year.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/08/P2023120800525.htm>

### **Hong Kong team achieved outstanding results at International Junior Science Olympiad**

A team of six students representing Hong Kong achieved outstanding results in the 20th International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO 2023), making the best results since 2018 by winning a total of three gold, two silver and one bronze medals.

The IJSO is a science competition for secondary students aged 15 or below. The competition, covering physics, chemistry and biology up to the senior secondary level, comprises written assessments and science experiments on unfamiliar problems that require analytical and problem-solving skills. The IJSO 2023 was held in Thailand from December 1 to 10 with the participation of 304 contestants from 54 countries or regions.

Dec 20, 2023



Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/14/P2023121400194.htm>

### **Stay away from drugs when celebrating festive season locally or outside Hong Kong**

The Narcotics Division (ND) of the Security Bureau of the HKSAR Government reminds the public to stay away from drugs at all times when travelling outside Hong Kong or participating in activities and gatherings locally as the festive season is approaching. In addition, members of the public should pay attention to product labels when shopping online or in-store, and should not buy products that may contain drugs.

Products that are marked with the words "CBD", "THC", "cannabis", "cannabinoids", "ganja", "hemp extracts" or "marijuana", or with a picture of a cannabis leaf, may contain substances that are illegal in Hong Kong or prohibited for transit at the airport. If in doubt, travellers should not risk consumption of these products or bring them back to Hong Kong, so as not to breach the law inadvertently.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202312/15/P2023121500586.htm>

### **Recruitment of qualified doctors outside Hong Kong**

The Department of Health of the HKSAR Government is recruiting qualified doctors outside Hong Kong for the positions of Non-civil Service Contract Doctor (without Full Registration), Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) (Families Clinic) and Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) (Antimicrobial Resistance). Applications for the above three posts are accepted all year round. Eligibility requirements are set out in the attached recruitment notices of the Department of Health.

Enquiries can be made to the Department of Health at [appts\\_registry1@dh.gov.hk](mailto:appts_registry1@dh.gov.hk) and online application can be made through the Civil Service Bureau's website at <http://www.csb.gov.hk>.

[Click here to read the details of Contract Doctor \(without full registration\)](#)

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Dec 20, 2023



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