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UPCOMING EVENTS

HKCBA Seminar on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) (Canada), the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) (Toronto Section) and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in Canada (HKTDC) in partnership with MNP LLP will jointly organise a seminar titled “Get to Know More About Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Issues” on May 2 (Thursday), 3pm to 5pm at the newest MNP office in downtown Toronto. Join us for an in-person event where experts will be sharing and discussing many relevant ESG topics, including:

- Bill S-211 relating to forced labour in Canadian supply chains
- Standards developed by the CSSB/ISSB, and the implications on reporting in Canada
- Financed emissions, and how ESG is being embedded into bank commitments to net zero and what that means to those seeking loans
- Navigating various aspects of ESG in Hong Kong, such as reporting obligations and trends

To register, please email to derek@hkcbacba.com.

RECENT ACTIVITY

HKETO Director presents Best Asia Pacific Business Award at 2024 ACCE Awards Gala

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, graced the 2024 Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) Awards Gala on April 20, where she presented the Best Asia Pacific Business Award (the Award).

In her address at the gala, Ms. Mo underscored Hong Kong’s enduring status as an optimal place for Canadian enterprises seeking to expand their operations into the Asian and mainland Chinese markets. She highlighted the city’s unique edges under the “one country, two systems”, and its advantageous position being part of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA).

Ms Mo also elaborated on Hong Kong’s proactive initiatives in fostering innovation and development across various sectors such as innovative technology, green finance, arts and culture, and more.

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Ms Mo shared that Hong Kong, as Asia's Events Capital, will host nearly 150 events this year, spanning international financial summits, world-class art exhibitions, and mega sports events, to attract global audiences.

The Award sponsored by HKETO is to recognise entrepreneurs who have made successful business expansion to the Asia Pacific region using Hong Kong as a platform. The 2024 Award was bestowed upon Ms Jess Mok, Founder and Director of Decomomo. Originated from Hong Kong, Ms Mok founded the household storage product company in Canada in 2016 and is exploring opportunities to enhance its international presence in markets including the United States, Europe and Asia.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-presents-best-asia-pacific-business-award-at-2024-acce-awards-gala.html>

HKETO Director promotes Hong Kong's strengths in medical and healthcare development

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, briefed Canadian medical industry professionals on Hong Kong's strengths in healthcare infrastructure at a virtual meeting co-organised by the HKTDC and the HKCBA (Ottawa Section) on April 18.

In her opening remarks, Ms Mo introduced Hong Kong's efforts to transform the city into a hub of health and medical innovation, in which some Canadian research institutes and companies have already engaged in collaborative endeavors in research and development (R&D) in Hong Kong.

On a local front, Ms Mo noted that the Hospital Authority (HA) of Hong Kong has implemented a unified clinical management computer system, which helped facilitate clinical trial networks and big data research. The HA's plan to open the Cluster Clinical Research Support Office also underscored the city's dedication to streamlining and enhancing the clinical trial process.

Also speaking at the briefing was Dr Gladys Kwan, HA's Chief Manager of the Medical Grade. She introduced the HA's efforts in recruiting talents worldwide to join the medical work in Hong Kong.

At the meeting, the host also announced that a Canadian delegation with health professionals will visit Hong Kong and join the Asia Summit on Global Health and the Hong Kong International Medical and Healthcare Fair in May.

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Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-promotes-hong-kongs-strengths-in-medical-and-healthcare-development.html>

HKETO promotes business and professional opportunities arising from Hong Kong's infrastructure development to Canada

The HKETO and the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) co-organised joint student seminars in Toronto and Vancouver on April 8 and 10 respectively to promote the tremendous career prospects for engineers in Hong Kong.

Titled “Engineering Prospects and Opportunities in Hong Kong”, the seminars aimed to provide information and insights to engineering students and recent graduates of the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia on the promising future for the engineering profession in Hong Kong and the GBA.

At the seminar at the University of Toronto, the Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, shared the latest developments of Hong Kong, particularly on the various infrastructure and capital projects, such as the Northern Metropolis Development, the Three-Runway System and various projects under the “Airport City” vision.

Ms Mo also briefed the attendees on the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government's efforts to create a vibrant ecosystem for the industry, academia and the research sector with excellent software and hardware support, to develop Hong Kong as an international innovation and technology centre. These include the supporting measures for nurturing and attraction of innovation and technology talents.

HKIE's Immediate Past President, Ir Aaron Bok, presented the current and planned development projects, engineering career opportunities in Hong Kong as well as HKIE's support for members.

HKETO also supported other events by the HKIE delegation during its visit to Canada between April 7 and April 13, including receptions for practicing Professional Engineers in Canada and a meeting with the Professional Engineering Ontario.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-promotes-business-and-professional-opportunities-arising-from-hong-kongs-infrastructure-development-to-canada.html>

HKETO Director joins Hong Kong-Mississauga Innovation Exchange Event to promote business opportunities in Hong Kong

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Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, joined the inaugural “Hong Kong-Mississauga Innovation Exchange” event co-organised by the HKETO, InvestHK (Canada) and IDEA Mississauga in partnership with the HKTDC on April 11 to promote business opportunities in Hong Kong.

The event, drawing nearly 100 participants, aimed to facilitate innovative idea exchanges, foster business partnerships, and cultivate meaningful connections between the City of Mississauga and Hong Kong.

In delivering opening remarks, Ms Mo outlined some of Hong Kong’s unparalleled advantages under the “one country, two systems”, including simple tax system and low tax rate, the city’s role as a premier fundraising platform, huge support from the Canadian community in Hong Kong, and its strategic location.

Following Ms Mo’s remarks was a panel discussion by industry experts from McMillan, MNP and Roynat Capital Scotiabank on practical business resources for small-and-media-size enterprises and start-ups.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-director-joins-hong-kong-mississauga-innovation-exchange-event-to-promote-business-opportunities-in-hong-kong.html>

HONG KONG NEWS

HKIA Crowned World’s Busiest Cargo Airport

Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) has been named once again the world’s busiest cargo airport for 2023 in terms of total volume, according to the latest data released by Airports Council International on April 15. The airport handled 4.3 million tonnes of cargo during the year. It is the 13th time since 2010 that HKIA is named the busiest cargo airport in the world.

Airport Authority Hong Kong said that this accomplishment demonstrates HKIA’s resilience, unparalleled efficiency and world-class cargo services. Air cargo is a key driver of the growth of Hong Kong’s logistics industry and overall economic development.

In addition, to enhance connectivity with the GBA, HKIA has launched a novel cargo sea-air transshipment operation which enables security screening, palletisation, cargo acceptance and other services to be completed upstream at the HKIA Dongguan

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Logistics Park before the cargo is shipped to HKIA by sea for air transshipment to worldwide destinations. Conversely, a similar process is in place for international imports to the Mainland.

Click the following link for details:

https://www.hongkongairport.com/en/media-centre/press-release/2024/pr_1710

Hong Kong delegation shines at 49th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva

The 49th International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva was held from April 17 to 21 in Geneva, Switzerland. Hong Kong delegation was the largest ever, comprising close to 700 representatives from 40 organisations including universities, research and development centres, research laboratories, technology companies, government departments, and primary and secondary schools. The delegation has won a record high number of over 350 prizes, including six Special Awards, 28 Gold Medals with Congratulations of Jury and 114 Gold Medals.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/21/P2024042100593.htm>

Among the prizes, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department of the HKSAR Government won seven gold medals, 10 silver medals and four bronze medals. In addition, the Information Systems Wing of the Hong Kong Police Force also garnered five Gold Medals and one Silver Medal in total with a theme of Reinventing of Public Safety, including a prestigious Gold Medal with the Congratulations of Jury.

The International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva is one of the most significant global annual events on inventions. More than 1 000 inventions from nearly 40 countries and regions were evaluated by the international jury of specialists this year.

Click the following links for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/21/P2024042000236.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/22/P2024042200453.htm>

Digital Economy Summit to forge sustainable future

The Digital Economy Summit (DES) 2024 was kicked off on April 12 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre with the theme “Smarter Technovation for All: Forging a Sustainable Future”.

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The two-day Summit attracted over 4 000 attendees from close to 40 countries/regions to listen to insights from over 100 renowned technology visionaries, industry pioneers and business leaders from home and abroad on how cutting-edge technologies and innovative applications are reshaping the urban landscape and modern digital economy from the perspectives of sustainability, connectivity, and resilience.

This year's DES features an action-packed programme with eight thematic forums, examining a wide array of trending innovation and technology (I&T) topics and future developments in new quality productive forces, artificial intelligence (AI), business innovation, smart industrialisation and supply chain, smart mobility, new energy, smart finance, Web3.0, as well as smart living and inclusion.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/12/P2024041200321.htm>

Global Talent Summit - Hong Kong to be held in May

Hong Kong Talent Engage (HKTE) on April 11 announced that the Global Talent Summit - Hong Kong will be held on May 7 and 8 in Hong Kong. The Summit will bring together international and Mainland leaders from political, academic, business and other sectors to exchange trends and experiences in talent development, with a view to promoting Hong Kong's dual role and advantages as an international talent hub and our country's gateway for talent.

The Summit will comprise three parts, namely the International Talent Forum on May 7, the GBA High-quality Talent Development Conference on May 8 and the CareerConnect Expo to be held on both days concurrently. The Summit will showcase Hong Kong's distinctive advantages of enjoying the strong support of the motherland and being closely connected to the world under the "one country, two systems" principle, as well as the charm of an international talent hub to the world.

The Summit will also promote talent exchanges and co-operation in the international arena and the GBA to forge ahead with the high-quality development of Hong Kong and the GBA, and build a superb talent hub in the region together.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/11/P2024041100269.htm>

In addition, HKTE hosted two junior Cantonese classes on April 10 and April 12 for talents who have just arrived in Hong Kong to assist them to integrate into the community. Oral

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communication training was provided for the new arrivals to master the daily application and basic skills.

HKTE is committed to providing comprehensive one-stop support services to incoming talent and works with designated partners to hold diversified online and physical activities in various areas of living as well as information across sectors or skill sets, thereby helping them adapt quickly and integrate into the local living.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/12/P2024041200278.htm>

Leading Mainland travel mobile apps developer sets up regional headquarters in Hong Kong

InvestHK announced on April 12 that Mainland travel mobile apps developer Huoli Tian Hui Technology Co Ltd (Huoli) opened its regional headquarters in Hong Kong to tap into the huge international market.

Established in 2005 in Shenzhen, Huoli is a national high-tech enterprise that has launched its travel mobile apps and big data solutions across flight, railway and shuttle services. They plan to use Hong Kong as the regional base to smoothen overseas procurement processes, diversify overseas transaction and channels, as well as enhance procurement bargaining power.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/12/P2024041100396.htm>

Media partnership with Xinhua News Agency

Xinhua News Agency, in partnership with the Information Services Department (ISD) of the HKSAR Government, has produced an advertorial (Chinese edition) on Art@Harbour 2024, a large-scale outdoor art project on both sides of Victoria Harbour.

Link: <http://mrdx.cn/content/20240419/Page04DK.htm>

In addition, ISD has commissioned the same agency to launch and keep updating an online content hub to highlight Hong Kong's strengths, potentials and opportunities, and promote the city's image as a safe, vibrant and pluralistic society.

Link: <http://www.news.cn/gangao/zt/xsgjcw/index.html>

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Brand Hong Kong Facebook page www.facebook.com/brandhk.isd or

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

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