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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **2024 Outstanding Women Awards Gala hosted by MRVCBA**

The Markham, Richmond Hill & Vaughan Chinese Business Association (MRHVCBA) will host the 2024 Outstanding Women Awards Gala on Saturday, June 15 to recognize the dedications and accomplishments of the successful Asian Canadian business women to the growth of the business community. For inquiries and ticketing, please contact [owa@mrvcba.ca](mailto:owa@mrvcba.ca).

### **Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival**

The Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival returns with free concerts to take place at the Mooney's Bay Park from June 21 to 23. On site activities include boat racing, free concerts, family fun, fantastic food, a wide variety of exhibitors including an exhibition about Hong Kong dragon boat history, and so much more. Check out the detailed festival schedule at <https://dragonboat.net/>.

## **RECENT ACTIVITY**

### **HKETO organised networking luncheon on business opportunities in Hong Kong for startup founders**

Director of the HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, promoted Hong Kong's economic strengths and opportunities for Canadian startup founders at a networking luncheon on May 24.

At the meeting, Ms Mo highlighted Hong Kong's dynamic business environment and proactive approach to innovation and technology (I&T) and introduced the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)'s various initiatives to facilitate and support Canadian business to set up and expand into Hong Kong.

The networking event, co-organised by HKETO, Invest Hong Kong in Canada and Canadian non-profit group the Aceocial, also served as a valuable opportunity for forging connections among I&T startups, entrepreneurs and venture capital firms in Toronto. It was a side event of the Toronto Tech Fest held from May 21 to 24, as well as a prelude to Hong Kong's presence in the annual mega technology conference Collision 2024.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-organised-networking-luncheon-on-business-opportunities-in-hong-kong-for-startup-founders.html>

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## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Launch of Hospitality Campaign**

The Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism of the HKSAR Government, Mr Kevin Yeung attended the launch of the Hospitality Campaign on June 3 with representatives from the Hong Kong Tourism Board, the tourism and related sectors to jointly promote hospitality and reinforce Hong Kong's brand as the best tourism destination.

Mr Yeung said that with the Government's series of hospitality promotions, he hoped that all sectors in the community can work together to display the spirit of hospitality and warmly receive visitors to Hong Kong with a view to strengthening Hong Kong's position as the best tourist destination.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202406/03/P2024060300679.htm>

### **Regularisation and expansion of Pilot Scheme on Immigration Facilitation for Visitors Participating in Short-term Activities in Designated Sectors**

With effect from June 1, the HKSAR Government will regularise the Pilot Scheme on Immigration Facilitation for Visitors Participating in Short-term Activities in Designated Sectors and expand the scope of the scheme to cover more authorised host organisations and an additional designated activity.

The pilot scheme has been welcomed by the industry since its launch in June 2022. As of the end of March this year, the pilot scheme benefited over 16 600 non-local talents from nearly 120 countries/regions, and facilitated their coming to Hong Kong to participate in various short-term events and activities.

To respond more fully to the needs of various sectors, the Government decided to regularise the pilot scheme and expand five of the original sectors, including adding 18 new authorised organisations and expanding a designated short-term activity.

Under the scheme, organisations authorised by relevant government bureaux or departments can issue invitation letters to relevant non-local talents in their sectors. Invited persons may come to Hong Kong and participate in designated short-term activities as visitors without the need to apply for employment visas or entry permits from the Immigration Department. At present, the scheme covers 12 sectors with a total of some 400 authorised organisations.

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Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202405/30/P2024053000172.htm>

## **Hong Kong Talent Engage themed seminar supports I&T talent to settle in Hong Kong**

Hong Kong Talent Engage (HKTE) hosted a themed seminar on I&T on May 23 to delve into development opportunities for I&T talent in Hong Kong and support them to settle in the city.

At the seminar, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation outlined the career opportunities of starting a business or joining I&T enterprises in Hong Kong. Two I&T talents also shared the talent demand of the Hong Kong Quantum AI Lab and relevant projects, as well as the experience of settling in an overseas technology firm within the Hong Kong Science Park.

The HKSAR Government conducted follow-up surveys in November 2023 with persons who had arrived in Hong Kong for more than six months with Top Talent Pass Scheme visas. The survey results showed that 54 per cent of the talent had been in employment and, among them, 18 per cent took up jobs in I&T/information and communication technology services.

The HKSAR Government will continue to attract tech talent, at home and abroad, through the Technology Talent Admission Scheme and the Talent List.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202405/23/P2024052300496.htm>

## **ICAC chief announces Hong Kong Declaration for greater international co-operation**

The 8th Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) Symposium co-hosted by the ICAC and the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA) concluded on May 24.

In the closing ceremony, the ICAC Commissioner of Hong Kong and the President of the IAACA, Mr Woo Ying-ming, announced the adoption of the “Hong Kong Declaration on Strengthening International Cooperation in Preventing and Fighting Corruption” (Hong Kong Declaration), calling on international counterparts to stand united in the mission to eradicate corruption and uphold the principles set out in the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

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The three-day symposium entitled “Charting a New Path to Combat Corruption” also served as the 11th Annual Conference of the IAACA. Mr Woo noted that the Hong Kong Declaration showcased the collective commitment of the members to combat corruption. He also emphasised the importance of adopting digital and financial forensics to tackle the increasing complexity of corruption crimes.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202405/24/P2024052400622.htm>

Earlier at the opening ceremony, Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, witnessed the ICAC signing MoUs with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and anti-corruption authorities of four countries, namely Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Saudi Arabia and South Africa, to enhance international anti-graft co-operation. Mr Lee said the presence of the UNODC, as guardian of the UNCAC, and the national anti-corruption authorities of various countries in Hong Kong to finalise bilateral agreements with the ICAC exemplified the international co-operation and exchange that could make a difference, regionally and globally.

The Symposium has attracted over 500 representatives of about 180 anti-corruption and law enforcement agencies from nearly 60 jurisdictions. About one-third of the participating organisations are members of the IAACA.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202405/22/P2024052200605.htm>

### **Congratulations extended to Chiu Hin-chun on winning gold**

The Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism of the HKSAR Government, Mr Kevin Yeung, on May 25 extended his congratulations to Hong Kong rowing athlete Chiu Hin-chun on winning a gold medal at Lightweight Men’s Single Sculls in the 2024 World Rowing Cup II Lucerne, Switzerland.

Mr Yeung proudly said that Chiu Hin-chun reaped a gold medal with his outstanding performance in the competition and wrote a new page in Hong Kong’s rowing history for being the first Hong Kong rowing athlete to gain a gold medal at an international competition.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202405/25/P2024052500757.htm>

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