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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Hong Kong-Canada Business Association National Conference in Vancouver**

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) will host its annual National Conference on October 25 in Vancouver. Entitled “Canada-Hong Kong: Forging a Bright Shared Future”, the event provides a valuable platform for exploring innovation, partnerships, and new opportunities in Hong Kong and the Asian markets. For details, please visit

<https://vancouver.hkcba.com/events/hkcba-national-conference-4>

### **Making Waves in Montreal 2024 Festival: Navigators of Hong Kong Cinema**

Making Waves in Montreal 2024 Festival, presented by the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society in collaboration with Chicago Asian Pop-Up Cinema, will present another slate of Hong Kong films in Montreal from October 24 to 26, most of them directed by a new generation of talented, committed and award-winning Hong Kong filmmakers. Sponsored by the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government and supported by the HKETO, the film festival will feature six Hong Kong films:

- Rob & Roll (臨時劫案)
- Love Lies (我談的那場戀愛)
- Time Still Turns the Page (年少日記)
- All Shall be Well (從今以後)
- Fly Me to the Moon (但願人長久)
- For Alice (給愛麗絲)

For details, please visit

<https://www.asianpopupcinema.org/mwm24>

### **Cathay Ball 2024**

The Cathay Ball 2024 entitled “Shining 60 Years and Beyond”, hosted by the Mon Sheong Foundation in celebration of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, will be held on November 2. The Mon Sheong Foundation has deep roots connected to Hong Kong. This year, HKETO is proud to be the Photo Booth Sponsor of the Cathay Ball. A backdrop featuring Hong Kong’s iconic Victoria Harbour and its dazzling cityscape will be displayed at the venue, allowing guests to take pictures and experience the energy and vibrancy of the city. For details of the event, please visit <https://cathayball.monsheong.org/>

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### **“The Prop Master’s Dream”’: a fusion Cantonese Opera to perform in Vancouver**

A fusion Cantonese opera, “The Prop Master’s Dream” (道具大師的尋根夢), will be performed at the Vancouver Playhouse on November 2. Presented in both Cantonese and English with subtitles, “The Prop Master’s Dream” tells the life story of Wah-Kwan Gwan (1929-2000), a prop master born to a Chinese father and an Indigenous mother in British Columbia, Canada. This two-hour performance explores Gwan’s journey as he returns to Canada, faces identity challenges, and uncovers the cultural legacy of Vancouver’s Chinese community through opera, Indigenous drumming and modern jazz. HKETO is proud to be the sponsor. For details, please visit

<https://vancouveropera.com/production/the-prop-master-dream-2024>

### **HKCBA business seminar in Montreal**

HKCBA (Montreal Section), collaborated with InvestHK and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), will hold a business seminar titled “Biotech and Life Sciences Business Opportunities in Asia via Hong Kong” in Montreal on November 4, from noon to 2PM. This event focuses on the specific benefits and opportunities in Hong Kong-based funding and partnership for Canadian companies in the Biotech and Life Sciences sectors. The HKTDC will discuss the HKCBA Mission to Asia Summit on Global Health + Hong Kong International Medical and Healthcare Fair 2025.

For event details and registration, please visit <https://montreal.hkcba.com/events/biotech-life-sciences-seminar>

### **HKCBA (Ottawa)’s Global Health & Life Science Innovation Seminar**

HKCBA (Ottawa Section) will organise a seminar entitled "Innovation, Inclusion and Impact on Global Health and Life Science" on November 5 from 5PM to 8PM. The event, leveraging support by HKTDC, HKETO and InvestHK, aims to foster global innovation through robust international partnership especially between Canada and Hong Kong as leaders in global health & life sciences.

For details, please visit: <https://ottawa.hkcba.com/events/hkcba-invest-hk-life-science-healthcare-innovation-seminar-1>

## **HONG KONG NEWS**

### **Hong Kong ranks as the world’s freest economy**

The Fraser Institute published the Economic Freedom of the World 2024 Annual Report (2024 Report) on October 16. Hong Kong ranks as the world’s freest economies among

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165 economies, up by one place from last year. Among the five areas of assessment in the 2024 Report, Hong Kong ranks top in “Freedom to trade internationally” and “Regulation”, and its ranking in “Sound money” rises to third globally.

A spokesman for the HKSAR Government noted that Hong Kong for long has fully leveraged the advantages of a free market, and maintained a free, open, effective and fair business environment. The ranking fully reflects the international recognition of these advantages. Over 9 000 overseas and Mainland companies have chosen Hong Kong as their base to fully leverage Hong Kong’s roles and functions as a “super connector” and a “super value-adder”. The current-term HKSAR Government has been proactively attracting enterprises to settle in Hong Kong and talent to come to Hong Kong for development, and the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

In terms of attracting talent, from the end of 2022 to September this year, over 380 000 applications were received under various talent schemes, of which nearly 240 000 were approved, and around 160 000 people have arrived in Hong Kong. These figures underscore Hong Kong’s strong appeal to both overseas and Mainland enterprises and talent.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/16/P2024101600606.htm>

### **Policy Address: Reform for Enhancing Development and Building Our Future Together**

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, on October 16 announced his third Policy Address entitled “Reform for Enhancing Development and Building Our Future Together”, setting out a range of initiatives to create new impetus for economic development, improve people’s livelihood and enhance their quality of life.

The key initiatives of the Policy Address are summarized in six sections, including:

- 1) Consolidate and enhance Hong Kong’s status as an international financial, shipping and trade centre
- 2) Develop new quality productive forces tailored to local conditions
- 3) Build Hong Kong into an international hub for high-calibre talents
- 4) Promote integrated development of culture, sports and tourism and foster economic diversification
- 5) Take forward the Northern Metropolis as growth engine and deepen GBA collaboration
- 6) Improve people's livelihood in pursuit of happiness

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One of the highlights is a notable announcement regarding the New Capital Investment Entrant Scheme (New CIES). Effective from October 16, 2024, applicants under the New CIES are allowed to invest in residential properties, provided that the transaction price of a single property must be HK\$50 million or above. The total investment amount in real estate (the aggregate of all residential and non-residential properties) is subject to an aggregate cap of HK\$10 million.

In addition, the HKSAR Government will reduce the duty on liquor with an alcoholic strength of more than 30 per cent (liquor) by introducing a two-tier system with different duty rates for each tier. Effective from October 16, the duty for liquor with import price over HK\$200 will decrease from 100 per cent to 10 per cent for the portion above HK\$200. The existing duty rate will remain for the portion of HK\$200 and below, applicable to liquor of up to one litre.

Mr Lee remarked that this Policy Address presents enhanced measures to boost the economy and improve people's livelihood. It also seeks to address the prevailing needs of the Hong Kong people, while mapping Hong Kong's vision and long-term goals for building a brighter future for Hong Kong.

For the full version of the Policy Address, please visit [www.policyaddress.gov.hk](http://www.policyaddress.gov.hk).

Click the following links for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/16/P2024101600472.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/16/P2024101600293.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/16/P2024101600585.htm>

### **Strategic collaboration established to enhance Hong Kong's family office ecosystem**

The Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB) of the HKSAR Government announced on October 9 the establishment of Hong Kong Family Office Nexus, a strategic collaboration between the FSTB and Bloomberg L.P. (Bloomberg) with the goal of attracting family offices from around the world to establish or expand their presence in Hong Kong, and reinforcing the city's status as a leading global asset and wealth management hub.

The partnership with Bloomberg and Bloomberg Philanthropies, Mr Michael Bloomberg, will focus on four key pillars, namely community building, knowledge sharing, technology support and philanthropic collaboration. The FSTB, together with InvestHK and the Hong Kong Academy for Wealth Legacy, will collaborate with Bloomberg on various initiatives to bolster Hong Kong's family office ecosystem.

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In addition, Bloomberg will introduce a new summit in Hong Kong focused on wealth management in March 2025. This event will complement and amplify the impact of the FSTB's annual flagship event, the Wealth for Good in Hong Kong Summit (WGHK). The dual summits will offer an unparalleled platform for family office principals and professionals to exchange insights, explore opportunities, and shape the future of wealth management in the region.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/09/P2024100900231.htm>

### **FS attends APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting in Peru**

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, Mr Paul Chan, attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Finance Ministers' Meeting (FMM) and related activities in Lima, Peru, from October 20 to 21.

This year's APEC FMM takes the theme of "Sustainable + Digital + Resilient = APEC". During various discussion sessions, Mr Chan spoke on topics including global and regional economic and financial outlooks, sustainable finance, sustainable infrastructure, digital finance, and enhancing resilience against climate change.

Mr Chan specifically shared Hong Kong's experience in issuing retail bonds to support infrastructure projects that benefit the economy and people's lives. He also shared Hong Kong's progress in promoting the digitalisation of financial services, as well as Hong Kong's firm support for rules-based free trade and multilateralism.

Click the following links for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/21/P2024102100147.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/22/P2024102200132.htm>

### **Hong Kong's first Chinese medicine hospital officially named "The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong"**

The HKSAR Government announced on October 9 the official naming of Hong Kong's first Chinese medicine hospital as "The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong" (CMHHK) and launched the hospital's logo at the same time. The Secretary for Health of the HKSAR Government, Professor Lo Chung-mau, said that the establishment of the CMHHK marks a milestone in the city's commitment to driving Chinese medicine (CM) development. The Government is actively progressing with various preparations for the commissioning of the CMHHK, aiming to commence services in phases starting from the end of next year.

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The CMHHK will focus on providing pure CM, CM-predominant and integrated Chinese-Western medicine clinical services, covering government-subsidised inpatient and outpatient services. The hospital will also undertake key missions in training and education, research, collaboration and creating health values, including offering clinical internships to students of the three local universities with Schools of Chinese Medicine and serving as a clinical training platform for CM practitioners.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202410/09/P2024100900234.htm>

### **15th National Games will be held in Hong Kong**

The National Games Coordination Office (Hong Kong) under the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau of the HKSAR Government promoted that the 15th National Games will be held in Hong Kong from November 9 to 21, 2025.

The National Games next year will be the first time for the Games to be co-hosted by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, and that is of great significance. The HKSAR Government is committed to adhering to the principle of “simple, safe and wonderful” in organising the Games, making full use of existing venues and the soon-to-be-completed Kai Tak Sports Park. The Triathlon event will take place at the landmark Victoria Harbour and Central Harbourfront, showcasing Hong Kong’s picturesque landscape and unique characteristics.

For details of the games, please visit <https://www.cstb.gov.hk/en/national-games/index.html>

### **HKETO JOB VACANCY**

#### **Administrative Assistant (Vancouver Liaison Office)**

Applications are invited for the post of Administrative Assistant to serve in the Vancouver Liaison Office of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO). The suitable applicant should be a high school graduate with at least 3 years of experience relevant to the post; or a post-secondary diploma or degree holder with at least 1 year of administrative experience. The applicant must be fluent in written and spoken English and Chinese (Cantonese), good with figures and possess good knowledge about Hong Kong and Canada. A pleasant telephone manner and general office experience are essential.

The successful applicant will be appointed on contract terms with start date tentatively set for January 2025. Contract gratuity may be granted upon satisfactory completion of



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contract. Applications should be submitted by e-mail, with a cover letter and resume, to [info@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto:info@hketotoronto.gov.hk) on or before **November 6, 2024**.

### **Radio Television Hong Kong recruitment**

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) has started recruiting summer interns for 2025. The internship is about two months from June to July 2025. For details of the job posting, please visit [http://app3.rthk.hk/recruit/index\\_e.php](http://app3.rthk.hk/recruit/index_e.php)

### **Media partnership showcasing how Hong Kong is supporting professional athletes**

In partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, South China Morning Post has created an article following three Hong Kong Olympians to show how Hong Kong is investing in and supporting professional athletes to make their mark.

Title: “Paris Olympics success shows Hong Kong builds bright future for city’s new sporting talent”

Interviewees:

- Wong Chun-ting, Table tennis player, member of Hong Kong, China Delegation to the 2024 Paris Olympic Games
- Yeung Nga-ting, badminton player, member of Hong Kong, China Delegation to the 2024 Paris Olympic Games
- Yeung Pui-lam, badminton player, member of Hong Kong, China Delegation to the 2024 Paris Olympic Games

Link: <https://www.scmp.com/native/sport/topics/hong-kong-city-strengths/article/3281813/paris-olympics-success-shows-hong-kong-builds-bright-future-citys-new-sporting-talent>

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