Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

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Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)
We work across Canada

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cathay Ball 2025

The Cathay Ball 2025 entitled "One Thousand and One Nights", hosted by the Mon Sheong Foundation, will be held on November 1 in Markham. This year, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto (HKETO) is proud to be the Social Photo Sponsor of the Cathay Ball. Guests can enjoy photo-taking with Hong Kong-themed props including the iconic images of Victoria Harbour and Hong Kong street signs at the venue. For details of the event, please visit:
https://cathayball.monsheong.org/

Outstanding Women Award 2025

The Outstanding Women Award 2025, organised by the Markham, Richmond Hill & Vaughan Chinese Business Association (MRVCBA), will be held on November 16. The event aims to recognise Asian women who are making waves in business, innovation and community leadership. HKETO is one of the sponsors of the event. For details, please visit:
https://mrvcba.ca/media/all-events/

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO Acting Director visits Vancouver for business promotion and talent attraction

The Acting Director of the HKETO, Mr Gavin Yeung, visited Vancouver from October 7 to 9 for business promotion and talent attraction.

Speaking at the 2025 Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs West Coast Gala on October 8, Mr Yeung updated more than 300 guests from the business sector that Hong Kong continued to be recognised as the world's top international financial centre. He highlighted that the Economic Freedom of the World 2025 Annual Report published by the Fraser Institute in September again ranked Hong Kong as the world's freest economy.

Upon arrival in Vancouver on October 7, Mr Yeung attended a student information session at the University of British Columbia (UBC) organised by the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (Vancouver Section) in collaboration with the HKETO and Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) Canada. He met with some 100 students from the Sauder School of Business of the UBC and promoted Hong Kong's excellent work environment and job opportunities for overseas university graduates.

During the three-day duty visit, Mr Yeung also had various meetings with local academic and business sectors to update them on the latest developments in Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-acting-director-visits-vancouver-for-business-promotion-and-talent-attraction.html

HONG KONG NEWS

Over 100 new strategic enterprises establish or expand operations in Hong Kong

The Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises (OASES) held a signing ceremony on October 9 to welcome a new batch of strategic enterprises establishing or expanding their operations in Hong Kong. The total number of strategic enterprise partners attracted by OASES has surpassed 100.

These strategic enterprises include three of the world's top 10 pharmaceutical companies, as well as industry leaders in areas such as large language models for AI, autonomous driving technologies, microelectronics, cross-boundary financial services, and globally influential new media platforms.

The new batch of enterprises will not only invest and create employment in Hong Kong but will also set up regional headquarters and launch research and development projects locally, further enhancing Hong Kong's role as an innovation hub. Collectively, these companies are expected to bring approximately HK$60 billion in investment and create about 22 000 job opportunities, injecting strong momentum into the city's economy.

Among them are GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Roche. GSK, a newly onboarded strategic enterprise, aims to leverage the advantage of Hong Kong's position in the Greater Bay Area (GBA) to expand innovative drug registrations, apply big data to support market access and healthcare policy, and deepen collaboration with local research institutions and universities. Roche, another global top 10 pharmaceutical company, remarked that policy measures such as the arrangement for using Hong Kong registered drugs and medical devices in public hospitals within the GBA, offer favourable market access conditions.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/09/P2025100900626.htm

Results of monthly survey on business situation of small and medium-sized enterprises for September 2025

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government released on October 13 the results of the Monthly Survey on Business Situation of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) for September 2025.

The current diffusion index (DI) on business receipts amongst SMEs increased from 42.3 in August 2025 in the contractionary zone to 43.8 in September 2025, whereas the one-month's ahead (i.e. October 2025) outlook DI on business receipts was 47.2. Analysed by sector, the current DIs on business receipts rose in September 2025 as compared with previous month for all surveyed sectors, particularly for the real estate (from 43.9 to 47.1), retail trade (from 41.1 to 42.8) and logistics (from 40.5 to 42.2).

The current DI on new orders for the import and export trades increased from 44.2 in August 2025 to 46.5 in September 2025, whereas the outlook DI on new orders in one month's time (i.e. October 2025) was 47.3.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/13/P2025101300337.htm

Mainland smart electric vehicle brand establishes overseas headquarters in Hong Kong

InvestHK announced on October 16 that Li Auto, a leading smart electric vehicle company from the Chinese Mainland, has set up its overseas headquarters in Hong Kong early this year, leveraging the city as a strategic base to oversee its research and development (R&D), intellectual property management, and international supply chain functions globally and overseas business development.

Founded in 2015, Li Auto is a pioneer in successfully commercialising extended-range electric vehicles in China. As the first among China's new auto-making forces to achieve profitability and surpass RMB100 billion in annual revenue, Li Auto's cumulative vehicle deliveries have exceeded 1.43 million to date.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/16/P2025101600301.htm

Largest-ever Hong Kong FinTech Week x StartmeupHK Festival 2025 to celebrate decade of innovation with world-class line-up

InvestHK on October 17 unveiled details of the 10th anniversaries of Hong Kong FinTech Week x StartmeupHK Festival 2025 (HKFW x SMUF), which will take place from November 3 to 7 under the theme "Curating the New Fintech Era". This strategic alliance marks a decade of innovation while creating an expanded platform dedicated to all facets of technology and business impacts. The joint celebration underscores Hong Kong's commitment to the digital economy, leveraging its position as a leading international financial centre and thriving start-up hub.

As Hong Kong's premier innovation-focused event, HKFW x SMUF is organised by the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and InvestHK, in collaboration with the HKMA, the Securities and Futures Commission, and the Insurance Authority, and the appointed event organiser, Finoverse.

The event is expected to attract over 37 000 attendees, more than 800 leading speakers and over 700 exhibitors from more than 100 economies.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/17/P2025101600281.htm

HKMA announces second cohort of GenA.I. Sandbox to advance responsible AI innovation

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), in collaboration with the Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (Cyberport), announced on October 15 the second cohort of the Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenA.I.) Sandbox. Building on the foundation of the first cohort, this coming cohort demonstrates a significant industry shift from experimenting with AI's capability to enabling its secure and reliable implementation.

From over 60 proposals, a total of 27 use cases from 20 banks and 14 technology partners have been selected. All submissions were prioritised based on innovation, technical complexity and potential value to the industry.

A defining theme of this cohort is the proactive approach to AI governance, with use cases pioneering "AI vs AI" strategies, such as leveraging AI to conduct automated quality checks on AI-generated outputs, improving accuracy and consistency at a scalable level.

Participants will gradually onboard to the designated platform by Cyberport's Artificial Intelligence Supercomputing Centre later this year, with trials commencing in early 2026.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/15/P2025101500258.htm

FS attends IMF and World Bank Group Annual Meetings in United States

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR Government, Mr Paul Chan, attended Annual Meetings of IMF and World Bank Group in Washington, DC as a member of the Chinese delegate on October 16 and 17.

The Annual Meetings brought together officials and representatives from around the world in the fields of finance, monetary policy and economics, central bank delegates, business and non-governmental organisation leaders as well as academics, to deliberate on a broad range of globally significant issues. Topics discussed at the Annual Meetings included the current state and outlook of the global economy, finance, international trade, global supply chains, climate change and digital transformation.

Mr Chan attended the plenary session of the Annual Meetings of IMF and WBG. He also joined an in-conversation session organised by the Institute of International Finance, where he shared insights on the current state of Hong Kong's economy, its strategy of development as a financial centre, opportunities in innovation and technology—particularly artificial intelligence—the development of digital assets, and the building of a patient capital ecosystem.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/18/P2025101800188.htm

FS attends APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting in Incheon, Korea

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR Government, Mr Paul Chan, attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Finance Ministers' Meeting in Incheon, Korea, on October 21. This year's meeting focused on key issues including global and regional economic situations and outlooks, digital finance, and fiscal policies of member economies.

Mr Chan spoke at various sessions of the meeting. He remarked that global growth momentum has weakened amid rising challenges from unilateralism and tariffs. Against this backdrop, Hong Kong, China remains firmly committed to upholding a free and open trade and investment environment, providing global enterprises and investors with a stable, consistent and predictable business environment. He called on all member economies to safeguard a rules-based multilateral trading system and to work together in promoting sustainable regional economic growth.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/21/P2025102100723.htm

The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong to commence services in phases

The Health Bureau of the HKSAR Government and the Operator of The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong (CMHHK) announced on October 15 that CMHHK will commence services in phases starting from December 11.

In the first year after the service commencement, CMHHK will provide outpatient and day-patient services and fully launch six specialised Chinese medicine (CM) services, namely Internal Medicine in CM, External Medicine in CM, Gynaecology in CM, Paediatrics in CM, Orthopaedics and Traumatology in CM, and Acupuncture and Moxibustion in CM. It will also provide 12 special disease programmes including those for elderly degenerative diseases and stroke rehabilitation.

CMHHK is the first CM service-predominant hospital in Hong Kong. As a highly anticipated CM flagship project, the hospital will help further promote the high-quality and high-standard development of CM in Hong Kong on all fronts.

Located in Tseung Kwan O, CMHHK adopts a public-private partnership model with its construction fully funded by the Government. Hong Kong Baptist University was selected as the Contractor through tendering procedures in 2021. It is expected that by the end of 2030, CMHHK will provide full inpatient services with 400 patient beds, as well as outpatient services of 400 000 annual attendance.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/15/P2025101500325.htm

CE officiates at flag presentation ceremony of HKSAR Delegation to 15th National Games of People's Republic of China

The flag presentation ceremony of the HKSAR Delegation to the 15th National Games of the People's Republic of China (NG) was held at the Kowloon Park Sports Centre on October 15.

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, officiated at the ceremony and presented the HKSAR regional flag to the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism and the Head of the HKSAR Delegation, Miss Rosanna Law. The supporting organisations were also presented with certificates of appreciation during the ceremony.

Organised by the General Administration of Sport of China once every four years, the NG is the country's highest-level and largest national multi-sport event. The 15th NG, featuring 34 competition events and 23 mass participation events, with the latter covering 19 sports for competition and four sports for demonstration, will be held in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao from November 9 to 21 this year.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202510/15/P2025101500195.htm

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For enquiries, please contact:
info@hketotoronto.gov.hk or 416-924-5544.

For help setting up your business in Hong Kong, please contact:
Mr. Christopher Chen, Head of Business and Talent Attraction / Investment Promotion at *christopher_chen@hketotoronto.gov.hk* or visit *www.InvestHK.gov.hk*