Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

November 19, 2025

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

12th TransPacific Entrepreneurial Conference

The 12th TransPacific Entrepreneurial Conference, themed "TransPacific Economic Diversification: New Investment Opportunities", will be held in a hybrid in-person and virtual format in Hong Kong, across Asia and Canada on January 28, 2026 (Hong Kong time) to promote trade and investment between Asia and Canada. Hosted by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and jointly presented with the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA), the Conference can demonstrate how Hong Kong could serve as the best platform for growth-seeking Canadian companies, entrepreneurs, start-ups and industries of different types and sizes wishing to develop the Asian market. For details, please visit:
https://canchamhk.glueup.com/event/12th-transpacific-entrepreneurial-conference-147762/

M+'s exhibition on Chinese architecture at Canadian Centre for Architecture

The exhibition "How Modern: Biographies of Architecture in China 1949–1979", organised by the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) in Montreal in collaboration with M+ Museum in Hong Kong, re-examines the innovation and diversity of socialist-era Chinese architecture. Opening on November 20, 2025, the show runs in the CCA's Main Galleries until April 5, 2026. For details, please visit:
https://www.cca.qc.ca/en/events/96996/how-modern

RECENT ACTIVITIES

New Director of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto assumes office

Mr Bill Wong assumes the post of the Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO) in Toronto with effect from November 17.

Mr Wong joined the Government's Trade Officer Grade in 1992, before joining the Administrative Service in 2015. He has served in various bureaux and departments, including HKETOs in Tokyo, Geneva and Washington D.C., and the former Food and Health Bureau. Before taking up the post of the Director of HKETO in Toronto, he was the Principal Assistant Secretary for the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau.

Mr Wong looks forward to working with different sectors to strengthen the ties between Hong Kong and Canada and promote the unique opportunities that Hong Kong offers.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/new-director-of-hong-kong-economic-and-trade-office-in-toronto-assumes-office.html

HKETO welcomes delegation from the Law Society of Hong Kong

HKETO hosted a networking event on November 4 to welcome a delegation from the Law Society of Hong Kong, led by its Vice-President, Mr Christopher Yu, during the delegation's visit to Toronto to attend the International Bar Association (IBA) Annual Conference 2025.

The event, bringing together legal professionals, business leaders and government representatives from Hong Kong, Canada and other jurisdictions, provided an opportunity for professional exchange and collaboration among the legal communities.

Delivering an opening remark at the event, the Deputy Director of HKETO in Toronto, Mr Gavin Yeung, noted that Hong Kong's robust legal framework continues to be well recognised in the world. He also emphasised Hong Kong's role as the only common law jurisdiction in China, uniquely positioned to bridge the Chinese Mainland and the rest of the world.

Meanwhile, Mr Yu shared with attendees the latest legal developments in Hong Kong and presented a comprehensive account of Hong Kong's legal landscape.

The IBA Annual Conference is one of the most prominent events on the global legal calendar, attracting legal organisations, practitioners and scholars from around the world.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-welcomes-delegation-from-the-law-society-of-hong-kong.html

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong rose to rank fourth globally in digital competitiveness

In the latest World Digital Competitiveness Ranking (WDCR) 2025 published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), Hong Kong ranked fourth globally, up further by three places after rising by three places last year.

Among the three factors in WDCR 2025, Hong Kong continued to perform well and remained third and fifth globally in "Technology" and "Knowledge" respectively, while the ranking in "Future readiness" improved notably by five places to tenth. At the sub-factor level, “Technological framework” and “Adaptive attitudes” ranked first globally. “Talent” and “Training and education” ranked among the top five globally.

A Government spokesman noted on November 4 that the IMD’s WDCR 2025 continued to recognise Hong Kong as one of the most digitally competitive economies in the world. With the staunch support from the country and Hong Kong’s international prospects, coupled with a thriving start-up ecosystem, a free, open and fair business environment, a simple low tax system and strong policy support, Hong Kong is well positioned to attract enterprises, talent and technology from around the world, thereby laying a solid foundation for further advancing the I&T collaboration and development.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/04/P2025110400203.htm

Hong Kong FinTech Week x StartmeupHK Festival 2025

The Hong Kong FinTech Week x StartmeupHK Festival 2025 concluded on November 7, following a dynamic week of activities that began with a two-day main conference held November 3 and 4. The event brought together government officials, regulators, innovators, and industry leaders from around the world for a series of panels, keynote speeches, and strategic discussions.

The main conference showcased 11 themed forums. These included the Policy Forum, Visionary Forum, InsurTech Forum, HealthTech Forum, Wealth & Investment Management Forum, Digital Finance Forum, Digital Assets Forum, Blockchain & Web3 Forum, AI & Advanced Tech Forum, China-Global Innovation Forum, and TechX Forum.

The entire week attracted a record high of over 45 000 visitors from over 120 economies and featured over 1 000 distinguished speakers, over 800 exhibitors and more than 30 Chinese Mainland and international delegations.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/07/P2025110700382.htm

Hong Kong Maritime Week 2025 cum World Maritime Merchants Forum 2025

Hong Kong Maritime Week (HKMW) officially held its opening ceremony on November 17, showcasing Hong Kong’s status as a leading Global Maritime Capital with quality maritime services provided by the city’s vibrant maritime cluster amidst the theme “Navigating to a Greener Future” and the tagline “Propel Hong Kong”.

The seven-day HKMW 2025 hit a record-high participation number, and attracted over 18 000 participants from all over the world. The highlights of the event included the announcement of first-batch “partner ports”, facilitation of two industry collaboration agreements, and official establishment of the Hong Kong Shipowners Mutual Assurance Association.

In addition, the two-day World Maritime Merchants Forum 2025 explored topics on navigating crises and pursuing sustainability in the shipping industry amidst global geopolitical and economic transformations, with sub-forums focusing on shipping markets, legal and insurance issues, port and logistics, shipping finance, and shipbuilding and repair.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/17/P2025111700698.htm

HKMA introduces HKEX as strategic shareholder in CMU OmniClear Holdings Limited

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced on November 12 that Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX) will become a strategic shareholder of CMU OmniClear Holdings Limited, strengthening Hong Kong’s capital markets financial infrastructure and advancing the long-term development of Hong Kong's fixed income and currencies ecosystem.

Through the partnership, the HKMA and the HKEX will harness their combined resources, technology, talent, and market expertise to facilitate the development of Hong Kong’s post-trade securities infrastructure into a major central securities depository (CSD) in the region. This collaboration will also support the continued commercialisation of the Central Moneymarkets Unit and the pursuit of business development initiatives in areas such as expansion of its investor CSD services, asset classes coverage and collateral management services, with the goal of enhancing cross-asset class efficiency in Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/12/P2025111200183.htm

HKMA announces new phase of Project Ensemble to support real-value transactions in tokenised deposits and digital assets

The HKMA on November 13 announced the launch of EnsembleTX, marking the commencement of the pilot phase of Project Ensemble. This milestone represents a significant advancement in enabling real-value transactions involving tokenised deposits and digital assets within a controlled pilot environment.

EnsembleTX builds upon the successful outcomes of the Ensemble Sandbox experimentation, which since August 2024 has allowed industry pioneers to test comprehensive end-to-end use cases for settling digital asset transactions using experimental tokenised deposits. In the new pilot phase, the HKMA, participating banks and other industry pioneers aim to enable faster, more transparent and efficient settlement of real-value tokenised transactions. The initial focus will be on empowering market participants to utilise tokenised deposits in tokenised money market fund transactions, and to manage liquidity and treasury needs in real time.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/13/P2025111300366.htm

Leading Chinese Mainland digital payment solutions provider establishes overseas business headquarters in Hong Kong

The Lianlian DigiTech Co Ltd (Lianlian DigiTech), a leading digital payment solutions provider on the Chinese Mainland, established its overseas business headquarters in Hong Kong on November 18, leveraging the city's pivotal role as a "super connector" and "super value-adder" between the Chinese Mainland and the world to expand globally.

Founded in 2009 and listed on the main board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange in 2024, Lianlian DigiTech has established a global payment license network comprising 66 payment licenses and related qualifications, and holds a virtual asset trading platform license issued by the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong. As of June 30, Lianlian DigiTech provides services in more than 100 countries and regions, supporting transactions in over 130 currencies, and has served a cumulative total of over 7.9 million customers. In the first half of 2025, the total payment volume of its digital payment business reached RMB2.1 trillion.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/18/P2025111800231.htm

SCED hosts cocktail reception to give update on overseas HKETOs' and Mainland Offices' ongoing efforts in promoting strengths and opportunities of Hong Kong

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government, Mr Algernon Yau, on November 11 hosted a cocktail reception for about 200 guests, including members of the Executive Council, officials from the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR and the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR, representatives from consuls in Hong Kong, chambers of commerce, major trade associations and the arts and cultural industries, as well as relevant government board and committee members, to update them on the ongoing efforts of the overseas HKETOs and the Mainland Offices in promoting Hong Kong's diverse strengths and opportunities.

Speaking at the reception, Mr Yau said that despite the persistent uncertainties in the global economy and trade arising from intensifying geopolitical tensions, Hong Kong continued to demonstrate resilience. HKETOs, being the frontline representatives of the HKSAR Government responsible for promoting trade and investment ties between Hong Kong and its major trading partners, as well as the official representative to safeguard Hong Kong's economic and trade interests abroad, play a more critical role than ever.

Mr Yau added that to further expand Hong Kong's circle of friends in trade, the Government has been actively seeking to co-operate with trading partners to deepen Hong Kong's international economic and trade networks through forging free trade agreements, investment agreements and memoranda of understanding.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/11/P2025111100750.htm

Chief Executive in Council approves proposal for establishment of new medical school

The HKSAR Government announced on November 18 that the Chief Executive in Council has approved the establishment of the third medical school, and has approved in principle for the new medical school to be established by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST).

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, said that Hong Kong is proactively developing into an international medical training, research and innovation hub. The establishment of the third medical school to train more healthcare professionals is crucial to enhancing local healthcare services.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/18/P2025111800644.htm

SCST warmly congratulates all winners at 15th National Games

The Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism of the HKSAR Government, Miss Rosanna Law, extended her congratulations to the athletes and teams of Hong Kong, China on winning medals at the 15th National Games of the People's Republic of China. Miss Law hoped that the public will continue to support the Hong Kong athletes in the remaining events in the National Games.

As of November 18 (Hong Kong time), the Hong Kong, China Delegation has won seventeen medals, namely eight golds, two silvers and seven bronzes, in sailing, cycling, tennis, swimming, rugby, triathlon and fencing.

Click the following link for details:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202511/17/P2025111700740.htm

Euronews content partnership on the National Games

In partnership with the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government, Euronews, a multilingual news TV channel in Europe, has produced a five-minute TV segment to showcase Hong Kong's final preparations for the 15th National Games. The segment is aired in 13 languages, including the English and French versions accessible through the links below:

English:
https://www.euronews.com/2025/10/30/hong-kong-finalises-preparations-for-chinese-national-games-2025
French:
https://fr.euronews.com/2025/10/30/hong-kong-finalise-les-preparatifs-des-jeux-nationaux-chinois-de-2025

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For help setting up your business in Hong Kong, please contact:
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