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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Fête Chinoise's 2026 Signature Event

Aptly themed “Bold New Beginnings,” the 2026 edition of the annual Signature Event by Fête Chinoise will return on February 7 to celebrate Chinese heritage and foster community connections. Blending design, live performances, culinary artistry and cultural activities, the evening will showcase an exceptional lineup of artists, including Zoe Siu, an acclaimed Hong Kong-based knot designer; and Master Hui Ka-hung, an esteemed artisan skilled in traditional paper crafting. The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) is a sponsor of the event. For details, please visit [www.fetechinoise.ca](http://www.fetechinoise.ca).

### York University's annual Chinese Culture Day

York University's Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies will host its annual Chinese Culture Day on February 11, aiming to celebrate the Lunar New Year and promote Chinese culture in the Greater Toronto Area, while strengthening cultural exchange and collaboration between Hong Kong and Canadian academic and artistic institutions. The HKETO is a supporter of the event. For registration, please visit: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=GBNTNBFw1E-H8KQ4FsSb0DU80mEDFrZKkR-7B1wuPhIUQzNKVjlyMFcyU0RCUzZQM1o2WTJFNINIVi4u&route=shorturl>

### Dragon Ball 2026

The Dragon Ball 2026 hosted by the Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation will be held on February 14 to welcome the Year of the Horse. As one of the event sponsors, the HKETO is pleased to present BRIO Singers, a Hong Kong a cappella choral group, at the event and bring Lunar New Year greetings to the audience in Canada. In addition, a selection of Hong Kong-style snacks curated by talented chefs and restaurants with roots in Hong Kong will be showcased. For details, please visit: <https://www.yeehongdragonball.org/>

### HKCBA Annual Lunar New Year Galas 2026

The HKCBA (Toronto Section) will organise the 2026 annual Lunar New Year Gala on February 21 to celebrate the Year of the Horse. Activities include traditional Chinese games, lion dance, live entertainment, silent auction, photo booth and lucky draw, etc.

In addition, the HKCBA's Sections in Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Montreal and Vancouver will host the 2026 annual Lunar New Year galas on February 5, 6, 7, 19 and

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26 respectively, featuring lively performances such as lion dance. The event in Calgary will also host an award ceremony honouring HKCBA Calgary Scholarship winners.

The HKETO is a sponsor of the galas. For details, please visit:

<https://toronto.hkcba.com/cpages/home>

[https://www.hkcba.com/event\\_list?current\\_page=1&sort\\_type=upcoming&filter%5Bperiod%5D=all&display\\_type=default](https://www.hkcba.com/event_list?current_page=1&sort_type=upcoming&filter%5Bperiod%5D=all&display_type=default)

## RECENT ACTIVITIES

### **Hong Kong highlighted as “super-connector” at 12<sup>th</sup> Transpacific Entrepreneurial Conference**

The HKETO reaffirmed Hong Kong’s unique role as a global business gateway at the 12th Transpacific Entrepreneurial Conference, held on January 28 (Hong Kong time). The Conference, themed “TransPacific Economic Diversification: New Investment Opportunities,” and held in a hybrid format connecting Hong Kong, Canada and Asia, brought together entrepreneurs, investors and business leaders to explore emerging trade and investment prospects between Asia and Canada.

The annual Conference is a signature initiative of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, jointly presented with the HKCBA and supported by the HKETO and Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK).

In his opening speech, the Director of the HKETO, Mr Bill Wong, described Hong Kong as a “super-connector” and “super value-adder”, highlighting the city’s distinct advantages under the “one country, two systems” principle. He noted that, despite global trade challenges, Hong Kong’s exports and imports of goods both grew strongly in 2025.

Hong Kong also reclaimed its position as the world’s leading initial public offering venue, raising approximately US\$35 billion, contributing to a year of economic growth expected to reach 3.2 per cent. Mr Wong pointed out that Hong Kong’s competitiveness continues to receive strong international recognition.

Looking ahead, Mr Wong highlighted initiatives announced in the latest Policy Address, including the establishment of a new task force to support Mainland enterprises in expanding overseas through Hong Kong, and the launch of the “Economic and Trade Express” platform, which brings together the efforts of Hong Kong’s overseas Economic and Trade Offices, InvestHK and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) to assist overseas companies in accessing Asian and Chinese Mainland markets via Hong Kong.

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The 12th Transpacific Entrepreneurial Conference included six panel discussions with over 30 speakers from leading companies in different sectors.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hong-kong-highlighted-as-super-connector-at-12th-transpacific-entrepreneurial-conference.html>

## HONG KONG NEWS

### **Record high numbers of companies and start-ups affirm Hong Kong's incomparable business advantages**

According to the results of the 2025 Annual Survey of Companies in Hong Kong with Parent Companies Located outside Hong Kong announced by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) on January 26, the number of companies in Hong Kong with Chinese Mainland or overseas parent companies rose to 11 070 in 2025, reaching a record high. The results demonstrate that Hong Kong's unique attractiveness to enterprises from around the globe continues to rise, and that the city is the ideal investment destination to set up or expand businesses.

In addition, based on the results of InvestHK's 2025 Startup Survey, start-ups in Hong Kong continued to flourish with a record high number of 5 221, spanning across financial technology; information, computer and technology; biotechnology; education and learning; and health and medical, etc.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/26/P2026012600135.htm>

Besides, InvestHK achieved outstanding results in 2025, assisting a total of 560 overseas and Mainland companies in setting up or expanding their businesses in Hong Kong. This represents a 4 per cent increase compared to 2024, reaching a record high and reflecting the strong appeal of Hong Kong's business environment and foreign investors' confidence and recognition in investing in Hong Kong.

The strong foreign direct investment performance was driven by investment across diverse and high-value industries. It is estimated that the total investment thereby brought to Hong Kong's economy has reached nearly HK\$69.4 billion, about 2 per cent increase compared to 2024. These companies are expected to create 10 748 job opportunities in Hong Kong during their first year of operation, covering transport, logistics and industrials, tourism and hospitality, as well as the financial services and fintech industries.

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The top five locations of origin among the companies assisted span markets in the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia.

In addition, the New Capital Investment Entrant Scheme received 2 852 applications by end- 2025 since its launch in March 2024, bringing in more than HK\$85.5 billion in investments to Hong Kong.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/26/P2026012300282.htm>

### **Asian Financial Forum in Hong Kong assembles global financial and business leaders**

The 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Financial Forum concluded on January 27 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, bringing together more than 3 600 influential leaders from over 60 countries and regions during the two-day summit. Co-organised by the HKSAR Government and the HKTDC, the forum, themed “Co-creating New Horizons Amid an Evolving Landscape”, gathered heavyweight speakers from around the world to exchange insights on the financial market developments and international co-operation.

In his opening address, the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, highlighted Hong Kong’s prowess as an international financial hub, citing Hong Kong’s robust regulatory system, deep market liquidity, innovative financial products and world-class investor protection. He also spoke of the boundless opportunities for Hong Kong under the unique principle of “one country, two systems”, that assures Hong Kong of the unwavering support of the nation, while continuing to expand its global reach.

Day one featured a keynote luncheon speech by Dr José Manuel Barroso, former President of the European Commission and current Chairman of the Goldman Sachs International Advisory Board, who shared his insights on the global landscape and macro-level challenges.

The second day marked the successful launch of the inaugural Global Business Summit, attended by more than 3 500 global leaders. The event highlighted Hong Kong’s position as the international financial and innovation and technology hubs.

Under the theme of “Finance Empowering Business,” discussions focused on financial–industrial integration and the latest market trends in the areas of life and health technology, artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, new energy, fintech, and other fast-growing sectors. Participants explored how cross-sector collaboration could generate synergies, drive industrial upgrading, and support Chinese Mainland enterprises in “going global” while also facilitate the “bringing in” of international businesses.

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Click the following links for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/26/P2026012600630.htm>  
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/27/P2026012700843.htm>

### **Financial Secretary attended the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland**

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, Mr Paul Chan, attended the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting themed “A Spirit of Dialogue” from January 19 to 23. Mr Chan participated and spoke in multiple luncheons and networking sessions and met with political, business and financial leaders from various regions, including the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, to exchange views on the current global landscape and future of international trade.

In a thematic session entitled “How to Finance Decarbonization?”, Mr Chan, told the audience that both the country and Hong Kong are firmly and steadily progressing towards the goal of carbon neutrality. He shared Hong Kong’s target of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 and the strategies to realise it.

The WEF Annual Meeting this year brought together nearly 3 000 leaders from various sectors, international organisations, non-governmental organisations and think tanks from over 130 countries and regions to jointly explore important global issues.

Click the following links for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/21/P2026012100099.htm>  
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/22/P2026012200132.htm>  
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/23/P2026012300134.htm>

### **International and Mainland businesses establish regional headquarters in Hong Kong**

LEEKAJA x AMONG, a collaboration between Korean premium hair brand LEEKAJA and creative brand AMONG, has launched a new flagship store in Central. The brand also established its Hong Kong regional headquarters as a core base for expanding its Asian operations. Founded in 1972, LEEKAJA is Korea’s leading high-end hair brand with a global footprint of 130 locations across Asia, the United States, and Europe. The brand’s Hong Kong regional headquarters will leverage Hong Kong’s role as a key Asian hub.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/20/P2026010600248.htm>

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In addition, a Mainland professional AI technology product and service provider, PCI Technology Group Co. Ltd. (PCITECH), has established a research and development centre in Hong Kong as its regional headquarters responsible for Hong Kong and overseas business and industrial co-operation. PCITECH has delivered a number of large-scale benchmark urban rail projects, including high-value projects for Guangzhou Metro, Changsha Metro and Chengdu Metro, and has established a nationwide presence across the urban rail transit value chain.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/21/P2026012000503.htm>

Chinese Mainland karaoke brand Star Party KTV has officially opened two new stores in Hong Kong, located in Lan Kwai Fong and Causeway Bay. Founded in 2011, the company has opened over 1 000 stores covering more than 140 Chinese Mainland cities. The brand is leveraging AI-powered interactive systems and multi-sensory entertainment environments to revolutionise the traditional karaoke experience.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/27/P2026012600465.htm>

## 2026 Administrative Service Summer Internship Programme

The 2026 Administrative Service Summer Internship Programme (ASSIP) was launched on January 19. The programme offers Hong Kong students who aspire to pursue a career in the Administrative Service of the HKSAR Government an early opportunity to gain hands-on experience working with Administrative Officers (AOs) so as to enrich their understanding of the roles and missions of an AO and facilitate their future career planning.

Last year, the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) of the HKSAR Government received a total of 215 applications from non-local students, and a number of whom were eventually appointed as AO Summer Interns alongside local students. Riding on the successful experience last year, CSB will continue to accept applications from outside Hong Kong for the upcoming 2026 ASSIP.

Applicants must be undergoing full-time undergraduate or postgraduate studies at a local, Chinese Mainland, or overseas tertiary institution during the 2025–26 and 2026–27 academic years, with a view to obtaining a bachelor's degree or higher qualification by summer 2028.

The application form and details of the 2026 ASSIP are available on the CSB's website: <http://www.csb.gov.hk/english/grade/ao/279.html>

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The application deadline is February 27 (Friday) (Hong Kong time).

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HKETO Toronto LinkedIn Page <https://www.linkedin.com/company/hketotoronto>

Brand Hong Kong Facebook page [www.facebook.com/brandhk.isd](https://www.facebook.com/brandhk.isd)

Brand Hong Kong Instagram page [www.instagram.com/brandhongkong/](https://www.instagram.com/brandhongkong/)

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Brand Hong Kong LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/company/brand-hong-kong/>

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