

February 12, 2026



## Happy Chinese New Year!

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) wishes you and your loved ones a healthy and prosperous Year of the Horse!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 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. The HKCBA's Sections in Montreal and Vancouver will host the 2026 annual Lunar New Year galas on February 19 and 26 respectively, featuring various lively performances.

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

[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)

### Hong Kong – Metro Vancouver Innovation Exchange 2026

Co-hosted by Invest Vancouver, the HKETO and Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) (Canada), an inaugural hybrid event, Hong Kong – Metro Vancouver Innovation Exchange 2026 entitled “Sparking Growth Beyond Borders”, will bring together innovative companies and forward-looking entrepreneurs from Hong Kong, Asia, and Metro Vancouver to explore emerging technologies, cross-border growth strategies, and how governments in both cities support innovation through funding and essential initiatives. Live streaming session will be held for virtual attendees around the world to take part in conversation shaping growth beyond borders. Admission is free.

Date: Tuesday, March 24

In-person: 5:00 – 8:00 PM (PT)

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Virtual: 5:30 – 7:00 PM (PT) / 8:30 – 10:00 PM (ET)

In-person spots – RSVP confirmation required  
<https://luma.com/fb61xpfq>

Virtual attendance available via Zoom

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_UuhhCi24TGmGUEMY6Vn00g#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UuhhCi24TGmGUEMY6Vn00g#/registration)

## RECENT ACTIVITIES

### **HKETO presents traditional Chinese craftsmanship to celebrate the Year of the Horse**

The HKETO presented knotting and paper crafting as part of the Fête Chinoise Signature Event at Lunar New Year 2026 in Toronto, Canada on February 7 to celebrate the Year of the Horse.

The cultural activities featured knotting specialist Zoe Siu, a celebrated designer renowned for her innovative reinterpretations of Chinese knotting, and paper crafting master Hui Ka-hung, an esteemed artisan skilled in traditional paper crafting, both from Hong Kong. Paper crafting is included in the first Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Hong Kong, reflecting its significant value for cultural preservation.

The Director of the HKETO, Mr Bill Wong, said that the contributions of these artists exemplify the vitality of Hong Kong's artistic traditions and their evolving expressions on the global stage, as the city continues to position itself as an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.hketotoronto.gov.hk/newsroom/hketo-presents-traditional-chinese-craftsmanship-to-celebrate-year-of-the-horse.html>

## HONG KONG NEWS

### **Hong Kong's single-family offices injecting over HK\$10 billion annually into local economy**

The Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government and InvestHK jointly announced on February 10 that over 3 380 single-family offices were in operation in Hong Kong as at end-2025. This

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represents an increase of about 680 offices or a growth of more than 25 per cent over the past two years.

Family offices contribute to the local economy in various ways, such as making diversified financial investments, managing their operations, pursuing philanthropic endeavours, etc. The study estimates that single-family offices operating in Hong Kong contribute approximately HK\$12.6 billion (about US\$1.6 billion) annually to the local economy through operating expenditures alone, and that they directly employ over 10 000 full-time professionals within their operations.

The study also highlights Hong Kong's pivotal role in asset and wealth management in Asia, with assets under management of approximately HK\$35 trillion (about US\$4.5 trillion) as of end-2024. In addition, Hong Kong ranked second in the number of ultra-high-net-worth individuals as of June 2025, being one of the top destinations for setting up family offices.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202602/10/P2026021000234.htm>

### **Pilot Innovation and Technology Accelerator Scheme attracts the setup of accelerator bases**

The Innovation and Technology Commission of the HKSAR Government launched the Pilot Innovation and Technology Accelerator Scheme (PITAS) on January 29 to provide funding support for innovation and technology (I&T) enterprise service providers to set up accelerator bases in Hong Kong to a ceiling subsidy of HK\$30 million (about US\$3.8 million). Eligible I&T enterprise service providers are welcome to apply by April 30, 2026 (Hong Kong time).

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, announced the HK\$180 million (about US\$23 million) PITAS in his 2025 Policy Address to attract more professional start-up service providers with proven track records in and beyond Hong Kong to set up accelerator bases in Hong Kong and, through their business networks and experience, support the development and needs of start-ups in a more comprehensive and targeted manner.

Details are available at the Innovation and Technology Fund website ([www.itf.gov.hk/en/funding-programmes/supporting-start-ups/pitas](http://www.itf.gov.hk/en/funding-programmes/supporting-start-ups/pitas)).

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/29/P2026012900339.htm>

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## Global Talent Summit Week in mid-March to foster cross-regional talent exchange

The Hong Kong Talent Engage announced on January 29 that the international mega talent event, Global Talent Summit Week (GTS Week), will take place in mid-March, focusing on the integration of education, technology, and talent to foster cross-regional talent exchange and explore future talent trends.

The GTS Week consists of three parts: the International Talent Forum and CareerConnect Expo, which will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on March 18-19, alongside a week-long series of satellite events dedicated to human resources and talent development.

The International Talent Forum will be streamed live online. For details of the mega event and pre-event registration, please visit: [gts.hkengage.gov.hk](https://gts.hkengage.gov.hk).

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/29/P2026012900377.htm>

## HKMA unveils Fintech Promotion Blueprint: From adoption to advancement

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) published a Fintech Promotion Blueprint to foster responsible innovation and fintech advancement.

Under “Fintech 2030”, the tactical Blueprint focuses on more sophisticated applications of artificial intelligence (AI) and distributed ledger technologies (DLT), enabled by the infrastructural support of High-Performance Computing. With Data Excellence and Cyber Resilience being the foundational pillars, the Blueprint aims to further strengthen the banking sector’s ability to better manage risks associated with advanced technologies.

The Blueprint sets out a cohesive framework of initiatives structured around tactical dimensions of Ecosystem Collaboration, Technological Advancement, as well as Talent and Outreach. In the coming months, the HKMA will launch four flagship projects, including:

- Quantum Preparedness Index
- New Risk Data Strategy
- Fintech Cybersecurity Baseline
- Competency development support

The Blueprint also introduces a series of activities to address the key challenges to further fintech advancements. These initiatives include FiNETech events, responsible innovation

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competitions, a revamp of the Fintech Connect matching platform and practical workshops.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202602/03/P2026020300415.htm>

### **Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement with Türkiye enters into force**

Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (CDTA) between Hong Kong and Türkiye signed in September 2024 came into force on January 30 after both parties completed the relevant ratification procedures. This CDTA will be applicable to Hong Kong tax for the years of assessment beginning on or after April 1, 2027.

Under this CDTA, companies and residents of Hong Kong and Türkiye will not have to pay tax twice on a single source of income, and will allow them to have certainty on tax liabilities and save tax when they engage in cross-border business activities, thus helping promote bilateral trade and investment.

Hong Kong has signed CDTAs with 55 tax jurisdictions, with 51 of them already in force, including that with Canada.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/30/P2026012900461.htm>

### **Two Hong Kong historic buildings declared as monuments**

Hong Kong's Antiquities Authority has declared the Main Building of Old Tsan Yuk Maternity Hospital in Sai Ying Pun and Kwong Fook Tsz in Sheung Wan as monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.

Located on Western Street in Sai Ying Pun and opened in 1922, Old Tsan Yuk Maternity Hospital was established by the Chinese Public Dispensaries Committee to provide maternity services for Chinese women in Hong Kong and train Chinese midwives using modern methods. The main building is an iconic red-brick building constructed on a coursed rubble plinth, featuring a granite portico at the main entrance and a spiral staircase in the interior.

Located on Tai Ping Shan Street in Sheung Wan, Kwong Fook Tsz, also known as Pak Shing Temple, was built in 1895 with funds raised by Chinese elites. In its early years, Kwong Fook Tsz provided refuge and medical services for the sick, destitute and elderly, later contributing to the establishment of Tung Wah Hospital. Kwong Fook Tsz adopts the

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three-hall-one-bay layout with a two-courtyard design, which is rare among Hong Kong temples. The Shiwan ceramics on the ridge of the entrance hall are the most prominent external architectural feature.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202601/30/P2026012900516.htm>

### **Three new permanent exhibition galleries launched at Hong Kong Science Museum**

The Hong Kong Science Museum launched three new permanent exhibition galleries, namely Living Tech Gallery, InnoTech Gallery, and AI Gallery, on February 6. The new galleries introduce how technology shapes daily life, the technologies driving modern innovation, and the principles and applications of AI.

The Living Tech Gallery centres around three major aspects in daily life, including “transport”, “living”, and “food”. It features about 20 sets of interactive exhibits introducing how technology drives more convenient, environmentally friendly, and sustainable ways of living.

The InnoTech Gallery introduces five pivotal technologies that are shaping the future of science, including quantum technology, materials technology, biotechnology, computers and AI, and robotics.

The AI Gallery introduces visitors to the basic principles of AI, highlighting its integration with creative arts and Chinese culture, as well as its applications in healthcare and life sciences.

For details, please visit:

[hk.science.museum/en/web/scm/index.html](https://hk.science.museum/en/web/scm/index.html)

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202602/05/P2026020500269.htm>

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

This message was sent from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto, 174 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5R 2M7.

For enquiries, please contact:

[info@hketotoronto.gov.hk](mailto: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](mailto:christopher_chen@hketotoronto.gov.hk) or visit [www.InvestHK.gov.hk](http://www.InvestHK.gov.hk)

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