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UPCOMING EVENTS

2026 ACCE West Coast Gala

The Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs (ACCE) will host the 2026 West Coast Gala on October 7 in Vancouver. ACCE recognises the achievements of outstanding Chinese Canadian entrepreneurs and promotes the spirit of entrepreneurship. The event serves to foster the spirit of entrepreneurship, innovation and corporate citizenship among the Chinese Canadian community. The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) is a supporter of the event.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.acce.ca/new/2026-acce-west-coast-gala/>.

Cantonese opera performances to honour veteran Hong Kong artist

A charity Cantonese opera performance entitled 「阮眉百歲頌主恩 作品慈善大匯演」 will be held on September 2 in Toronto to honour the lifelong dedication of Madam Yuen May to Cantonese opera and celebrate her 100th birthday. As a distinguished opera producer, lyricist and artist, Madam Yuen has made invaluable contributions by enriching the cultural fabric of Hong Kong and Canada through education, scriptwriting and nurturing of future generations of performers. HKETO is a supporter of the event.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/14jwtfWR5QK/>

HONG KONG NEWS

Economic performance in second quarter of 2026 and latest GDP and price forecasts for 2026

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) released on August 14 the Half-yearly Economic Report 2026, together with the revised figures on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the second quarter of 2026. The highlights of the report are:

- Hong Kong's economy continued to expand robustly in the second quarter, underpinned by buoyant external trade and resilient domestic demand. Real GDP grew by 4.3% year-on-year in the second quarter, following 5.9% growth in the first quarter.

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- Total exports of goods accelerated, surging by 28.9% year-on-year in real terms in the second quarter, thanks to the robust trade flows driven by strong global demand for artificial intelligence (AI)-related electronic products.
- Domestic demand remained resilient across consumption and investment.
- The labour market remained stable in the second quarter. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 3.7%.
- Asset market conditions in Hong Kong were broadly supportive of both consumption and investment sentiment.
- Consumer price inflation rose slightly but stayed moderate.
- Looking ahead, the economy should see solid growth in the second half of 2026. The vibrant global demand for AI-related electronic products is expected to continue supporting Hong Kong's merchandise trade performance, and related logistics services should benefit from this momentum as well.
- Taking into account the stronger-than-expected actual outturn in the first half of the year and the near-term outlook, the real GDP growth forecast for 2026 as a whole is revised up to 3.5% – 4.5%.
- On the inflation outlook, consumer price inflation is expected to rise in the coming months as the earlier surge in international oil prices continues to feed through.

The Half-yearly Economic Report 2026 is available online at www.hkeconomy.gov.hk/en/situation/index.htm. The Report of the Gross Domestic Product by Expenditure Component, which contains the GDP figures up to the second quarter of 2026, is available on the website of the Census and Statistics Department, www.censtatd.gov.hk.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202608/14/P2026081400308.htm>

AAHK and Qatar Airways Cargo sign MOU to strengthen co-operation on air connectivity and aviation development

Qatar Airways Cargo opened its air cargo regional office in Hong Kong and signed with the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Strengthening Cooperation on Air Connectivity and Aviation Development on August 19.

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The MOU will enable the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) to capture greater cargo flow tonnage, while leveraging the capacity of Qatar Airways Cargo to enhance connectivity with markets with development potential, such as destinations in South America. The MOU also covers co-operation in advancing operational excellence and service enhancement, as well as supporting sustainability and talent development.

Meanwhile, Cathay Pacific announced on August 20 details of its newly launched flights to Almaty, Kazakhstan, further expanding Hong Kong's global aviation network.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202608/19/P2026081900580.htm>

Chinese Mainland enterprises establish bases in Hong Kong

Invest Hong Kong on August 13 announced that S-GAME, a leading Chinese Mainland game and content developer, has established a new Hong Kong office dedicated to game publishing and distribution, promotion, trading, and cross-media intellectual property (IP) business. Using Hong Kong as its base, S-GAME will drive the overseas expansion of its soon-to-be-launched AAA martial-arts action game Phantom Blade Zero.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202608/13/P2026081200213.htm>

GQ Homepot, a leading home-dining ingredient brand, has opened a retail store in Wan Chai on August 19, the first one outside the Chinese Mainland. GQ Homepot has established its regional headquarters in Hong Kong as the starting point for its international expansion. Founded in 2015, GQ Homepot has built a leading presence on the Chinese Mainland with its "home dining" concept, aiming to make home hot pot and home-cooked meals fuss-free. As of end-2025, the brand had grown to over 11 500 stores across the Chinese Mainland.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202608/19/P2026081800549.htm>

Information Services Department signs MOU with Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

The Information Services Department (ISD) of the HKSAR Government and the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) signed an MOU on Co-operation on August 22 to strengthen collaboration and exchanges on matters related to media and communication, and to bring the good stories of Hong Kong to the global stage.

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Under the MOU, both parties will seek to establish a dedicated communication mechanism for the exchange of views on media and communication co-operation; collaborate on hosting and supporting joint events in Hong Kong; leverage ABU platforms to present compelling stories of Hong Kong to global audiences; and facilitate and support visits by media professionals from ABU member organisations to Hong Kong to promote reciprocal dialogue and mutual understanding.

Established in 1964, the ABU is a not-for-profit, non-governmental professional association dedicated to advancing broadcasting in Asia-Pacific, promoting the collective interests of television and radio broadcasters, and facilitating regional and international media co-operation. Headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, it is the world's largest broadcasting union, encompassing more than 220 member organisations across 66 countries and serving more than half the world's population.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202608/22/P2026082100575.htm>

Meanwhile, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Robot Contest 2026 (ABU Robocon 2026) commenced on August 23 in Hong Kong. Jointly organised by Radio Television Hong Kong and Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, this year's competition sees 16 university teams from 15 countries and regions worldwide compete in the largest university-level robotics competition in the Asia-Pacific region.

ABU Robocon 2026 adopted the theme "Kung Fu Quest," inspired by the spirit of Chinese martial arts. Each team's two robots were required to cooperate in forging traditional Chinese weapons, collecting martial arts manuals, and engaging in strategic duels that demonstrated precision and tactics, combining martial arts philosophy with advanced robotics and automation technology.

Through student collaboration and friendly competition, it strengthened regional ties and promoted exchanges across technology, academia, media, youth, and culture in Asia-Pacific. The Contest attracted about 2,000 spectators, including more than 650 participants, supporters, and media representatives from the Chinese Mainland and overseas.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202608/23/P2026082300438.htm>

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Hong Kong students triumph at 38th International Olympiad in Informatics

A team of four students representing Hong Kong achieved excellent results at the 38th International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI 2026), winning two gold medals, one silver medal and one honourable mention. Representatives from 92 countries / regions participated in IOI 2026 held in Uzbekistan. The Hong Kong team ranked sixth, marking the city's best-ever performance at the IOI.

The IOI under the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is the most recognised worldwide computer science competition for secondary school students under the age of 20. It aims to promote coding education, nurture students' computational thinking and problem-solving skills.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202608/19/P2026081900287.htm>

The Financial Secretary's blog: Reinforcing Hong Kong's Status as an International Aviation Hub

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, Mr Paul Chan, wrote in his blog on August 16 highlighting that Hong Kong remains a preferred destination for major exhibitions and conventions. In the first half of 2026, the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and AsiaWorld-Expo hosted more than 170 events, attracting 3.5 million participants. Hong Kong's success as a convention and exhibition capital is underpinned by its role as a gateway between the Chinese Mainland and international markets, a vibrant business environment, dynamic city life and efficient global connectivity.

Around 140 airlines currently connect Hong Kong with more than 225 destinations worldwide, supporting both point-to-point and transit travel. Together with a vibrant lineup of mega events, this international connectivity helped attract 31.22 million visitors to Hong Kong in the first seven months of the year, up 12 per cent year-on-year, creating new business opportunities and injecting greater vitality into the city.

Mr Chan remarked that Hong Kong's status as an international aviation hub is vital to its continued development. In response to evolving geopolitics and regional trade patterns, the HKSAR Government is expanding the aviation network, strengthening bilateral air services arrangements and upgrading airport infrastructure. The Three-runway System will increase aircraft movement capacity, while smart airport technologies, including biometrics, artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things, are improving operational efficiency and the passenger experience.

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Looking ahead, HKIA is being developed into an integrated tourism and service destination through projects such as SKYTOPIA, which will bring together high-end commerce, art, tourism, leisure and wellness activities.

For details, please visit:

<https://www.fso.gov.hk/eng/blog/blog20260816.htm>

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