Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

November 18, 2026

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

2026 Mulan International Film Festival

The 2026 Mulan International Film Festival will be held from November 21 to December 3. The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto (HKETO) co-presents with the Festival six Hong Kong films at this edition, namely:

- Cyclone (超風) directed by Philip Yung (翁子光)
- Full Moon in New York (人在紐約) directed by Stanley Kwan (關錦鵬)
- Farewell China (愛在別鄉的季節) directed by Clara Law (羅卓瑤)
- The Illegal Immigrant (非法移民) directed by Mabel Cheung (張婉婷)
- Homecoming and Going (逆留) directed by Kristie Ko (高思約)
- The Story of Woo Viet (胡越的故事) directed by Ann Hui (許鞍華)

For details, please visit:
https://mulanfestival.com/festival-2026/

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong ranked 4th in Asia in digital and AI competitiveness

Hong Kong ranked fourth in Asia and 11th among 70 economies globally in the World Digital and AI Ranking (WDAIR) 2026 published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) on November 11.

Among the five factors in WDAIR 2026, Hong Kong ranked among the world's top 10 in "Workforce development" (2nd), "Efficiency" (5th) and "Technology & infrastructure" (10th). At the sub-factor level, Hong Kong ranked first globally in three sub-factors, namely "Technological framework", "Practices" and "Education & training", and also ranked among the world's top 10 in "Talent" (5th), "Societal attitudes" (6th) and "Regulatory framework" (8th).

WDAIR succeeds the prior World Digital Competitiveness Ranking with the addition of a substantial set of AI-specific indicators. It assesses an economy's capacity to develop and/or adopt, deploy and govern digital technologies and AI in a manner that produces sustained economic and societal value.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/11/P2026111100168.htm

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CE attends APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and related events in Shenzhen

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Mr John Lee, attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting themed "Building an Asia-Pacific Community to Prosper Together" in Shenzhen from November 17 to 19. The meeting focuses on three priority areas, namely, "Openness, Innovation and Cooperation".

On November 17, Mr Lee participated in the APEC CEO Summit themed "To Prosper and Win the Future Together", and delivered a special address at the discussion session on "The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and Asia-Pacific Development Opportunities".

Mr Lee will continue to attend the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and hold bilateral meetings with APEC leaders.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/17/P2026111700402.htm

Hong Kong Maritime Week marks 10th anniversary milestone

The 10th anniversary edition of Hong Kong Maritime Week (HKMW) opened on November 16 until November 22. Under the theme "Trusted Resilience Powering Global Maritime Trade", the event brings together over 18 000 policymakers, key international maritime organisation leaders, business decision-makers, experts and industry leaders from around the world to jointly explore the latest development opportunities in the global maritime industry and promote Hong Kong's strengths as a preferred destination for maritime business.

The seven-day HKMW presents over 60 online and offline events organised by more than 80 local, Chinese Mainland and overseas maritime organisations, featuring an array of high-level international conferences and seminars.

The Asian Logistics, Maritime and Aviation Conference 2026 under the theme "Driving Inclusive Growth through Innovation and Sustainability" is one of the flagship events, focusing on developments and opportunities in relation to logistics, supply chain management, aviation, shipping and green fuels, among others.

The conference announced the establishment of the Vietnam-Guangxi-Hong Kong Land-Air Super Logistics Corridor - the successful extension of the SuperLink China Direct land-air intermodal service, operated by Hong Kong Air Cargo Industry Services Limited under

Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited, from the Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong to Vietnam.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/16/P2026111600521.htm
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/17/P2026111700611.htm

Hong Kong Legal Week 2026

Hong Kong Legal Week 2026, an annual flagship event of the legal sector, concluded on November 6. Themed "Collaboration & Innovation: Legal Synergy for a Shared Future", the Hong Kong Legal Week featured a series of events over five consecutive days attracting more than 6 000 participants from over 50 jurisdictions.

During the Hong Kong Legal Week 2026, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)'s 60th anniversary celebration event was held to discuss on UNCITRAL's contribution to the international transport of goods and trade finance, and the challenges and opportunities faced in an increasingly paperless and digitally enabled ecosystem for global commerce.

As one of the highlight events, the Hong Kong LawTech Fest has returned to the Hong Kong Legal Week, featuring the LawTech Forum, LawTech Exhibition, and the Insight Stage to showcase the latest developments in lawtech and foster a critical dialogue on the ethical and professional implications of the adoption of AI for the legal sector.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/04/P2026110400693.htm
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/06/P2026110600703.htm

World Class University Presidents Forum 2026

The World Class University Presidents Forum 2026 concluded on November 5. Themed "Higher Education Reimagined: Innovating for the Future", the Forum brought together over 130 higher education leaders from more than 50 leading universities and institutions worldwide, fully demonstrating Hong Kong's role as a premier international education hub.

As a flagship event in the global higher education calendar, the Forum provided a valuable platform for dialogue among global higher education leaders on the future of universities. Through detailed panel discussions and roundtable sessions across three key topics: "The University in the AI Era", "The University and Society", and "The University and Civilization", participants exchanged forward-looking insights and inspiring strategies

regarding how the higher education sector could navigate rapid technological advancements, demographic shifts, global competition for talent, and the imperative of sustainable development.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/06/P2026110600486.htm

HKMA and Swift continue collaboration to explore cross-border payment interoperability

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced on November 16 a strengthened collaboration with Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (Swift) to explore the use of tokenised deposits in enhancing the efficiency and end-to-end experience of cross-border transactions.

Since 2023, the HKMA has partnered with Swift to examine interoperability between Central Bank Digital Currency systems through the Project Ensemble Sandbox. To advance this initiative, the HKMA has continued the collaboration with Swift and the broader banking community, including Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited, Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, to explore interoperability between Swift ledger and the settlement layer of Project Ensemble. This collaborative effort focuses on developing cross-border payment mechanisms that utilise tokenised deposits in multiple currencies.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/16/P2026111600561.htm

Overseas companies set up global base in Hong Kong

Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) announced on November 6 that ClearVue Technologies Limited (ClearVue), an Australian-listed clean technology company that converts solar energy absorbed by building façades into renewable energy, has established a new global research and development (R&D) base in Hong Kong. The facility will further expand to address increasing project management and business development needs in Asia, with a strategic focus on the GBA.

ClearVue integrates solar technology into building façades and rooftop surfaces to provide renewable energy generation and offset the operational carbon footprint of buildings. The company's advanced, patented glass technology preserves glass transparency, maintaining building aesthetics while generating energy.

In addition, leading global trading firm IMC Trading (IMC) has almost tripled its office space in Hong Kong to nearly 20 000 square feet at Two International Finance Centre (Two IFC). Coming just a year after its last major expansion, the move reinforces Hong Kong's position as one of IMC's two core operating hubs in Asia Pacific and supports the firm's continued growth across the region.

IMC's core business is to provide liquidity in financial assets on trading venues, and to deliver optimal value and risk outcomes to investors.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/06/P2026110400652.htm
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/12/P2026111200358.htm

Canadian pianist Jan Lisiecki to perform in Hong Kong

One of the highly sought-after musicians of his generation, Canadian pianist Jan Lisiecki will return to Hong Kong on December 6 to deliver a solo recital as the finale of the "Great Music 2026" organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of the HKSAR Government. The performance will feature a selection of dance-inspired masterpieces by 10 great composers, sweeping across continental Europe and Latin America, offering a unique interpretation of various dance music through his virtuoso artistry of the keyboard.

Lisiecki has been praised for his "pristine, lyrical and intelligent" performances. He became the youngest-ever recipient of Gramophone magazine's Young Artist of the Year award at age 18, alongside receiving the Leonard Bernstein Award. He has graced the world's greatest stages and worked closely with the foremost conductors and orchestras of the time, performing over 100 concerts each year.

For details, please visit:
https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202611/05/P2026110400585.htm

Promotion of "Police University Recruitment Express – Overseas" in Winter 2026

To facilitate and expedite the recruitment of high-caliber Hong Kong students from overseas universities to join the Hong Kong Police Force, the "Police University Recruitment Express – Overseas" (PURE Overseas) will be launched again in December 2026 and January 2027, offering an exclusive express lane for overseas university students.

For details, please visit:
https://www.police.gov.hk/ppp_en/15_recruit/pure_main_o.html

The FS's blog - *Finance and Trade: Moving from Volume to Value*

The Finance Secretary of the HKSAR, Mr Paul Chan, shared in his blog on November 15 that Hong Kong's offshore renminbi (RMB) bond market has grown rapidly, with dim sum bonds accounting for 38 per cent of the total value of bonds listed in Hong Kong in the first three quarters of this year, overtaking US dollar-denominated bonds for the first time.

Mr Chan noted that amid changing global financial landscape, geopolitical tensions and the green transition, the wider use of RMB in international trade and investment is creating new opportunities for Hong Kong. Trade between the Chinese Mainland and ASEAN has continued to expand, while cross-border supply chains are becoming increasingly interconnected.

The article highlighted that Hong Kong aims to strengthen its position as an international maritime centre by expanding high value-added services, from ship finance, marine insurance, ship management to fuel supply, mediation and arbitration, while building stronger partnerships with ports worldwide. Hong Kong is also advancing maritime digitalisation and green shipping through initiatives such as its Port Community System, the HKMA's Project CargoX and the development of green maritime fuel bunkering.

For details, please visit:
https://www.fso.gov.hk/eng/blog/blog20261115.htm

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