

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO Director attends the HKCBA Montreal Section Chinese New Year Gala Dinner

Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Miss Kathy Chan, attended the HKCBA Montreal Section Chinese New Year gala dinner on 31 January. She was joined by Canadian Federal Minister of International Trade The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Chinese Consul General (Montreal) PENG Jing-tao, Chairman of Executive Committee of the City of Montreal Pierre Desrochers, other local government officials and around 200 members from the local business community.

She noted that the HKETO continued to work very closely with HKCBA Montreal Section in the past year to encourage and help Quebec businesses, Montreal companies in particular, to make use of the super-connector role of Hong Kong to explore the business opportunities in Asia and the wider Belt and Road markets.

She also gave a review of the development of Hong Kong-Canada relations in the past year. She further invited attendees to join the series of activities that are being planned by HKETO in 2017 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

HKSAR 20th anniversary seminar series on Hong Kong Canada interrelations kicks off

Director of the HKETO, Miss Kathy Chan, gave an opening remark at the first seminar on 20 January of the seminar series on Hong Kong Canada interrelations organised by the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library throughout 2017 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR.

The first seminar was about literature at which Emeritus Professor of English of the Chinese University of Hong Kong Andrew Parkin shared his stories and experiences in Hong Kong through his poems.

Upcoming seminars will cover a wide range of topics, from films, creative industries and heritage to economic development of Hong Kong. The seminar series aims to foster the understanding and relations between Hong Kong and Canada.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

HONG KONG NEWS

InvestHK StartmeupHK Festival concludes

Invest Hong Kong's second StartmeupHK Festival, which opened on January 16, came to a successful close on 20 January. Over 5 000 participants attended various events on subjects ranging from retail innovation and fashion technology to smart cities, financial technology and health technology.

The festival's centrepiece was the InvestHK's StartmeupHK Venture Forum on 17 January which combined talks, panel sessions, presentations and a touch of magic. It was attended by 1 000 delegates and had speakers including best-selling author and founder of the Moven mobile banking service Mr Brett King; Director of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Health Sciences of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Professor Dennis Lo, and cyber illusionist Mr Marco Tempest.

Other programmes included the kick-off event ---“Retail's Cutting Edge” forum organised by Inside Retail Asia, “The Connected City” by KPMG and the Smart City Consortium, the Next Money FinTech Finals 2017, and the HealthTech Asia 2017 by APAC BioHealth.

For more details, please visit the website at www.startmeup.hk/festival2017.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited lays out its 2017 work plan

Improvements to the listing regime, an expansion of the Connect scheme, new products and enhanced platforms are the four themes of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited's (HKEX) key initiatives in 2017. The four themes are a continuation of HKEX's Strategic Plan 2016-2018, which was released in January 2016.

HKEX will remain focused on its long-term vision to transform itself into a multi-asset class exchange group and Hong Kong into a global asset management centre connecting China with the world.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

Hong Kong's overall law and order situation stable in 2016

The Hong Kong Police delivered a year-end review of its work in 2016.

The overall law and order situation in Hong Kong was stable in 2016 with the overall crime figure dropping to 60,646 cases, a decrease of 5,793 cases or 8.7 per cent when compared with 2015. While this overall crime figure is a new low after 1978, the crime rate measured by the number of crimes per 100,000 population was 825 cases, which also represents a new low in 44 years.

Looking ahead, the Hong Kong Police Force will continue to rise to the challenge and maintain the law and order of Hong Kong.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

Year-end review of the Immigration Department of Hong Kong

The Immigration Department of Hong Kong delivered a year-end review of its work in 2016.

As far as attracting overseas talents is concerned, the review gave an account of the progress of different admission schemes in the year, including the Admission Scheme for the Second Generation of Chinese Hong Kong Permanent Residents (ASSG), which was launched in May 2015 to attract the second generation of Chinese Hong Kong permanent residents from overseas to return to Hong Kong. As at the end of December 2016, 417 applications were received and 235 of them were approved. The majority of the applicants approved came from the United States, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

To take a more proactive approach to attract talent and professionals, the Immigration Department will continue to make overseas visits and co-operate with Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices to promote the admission schemes outside Hong Kong in 2017.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

To stay tuned to updates on Hong Kong, please follow us at Brand Hong Kong Facebook page www.facebook.com/brandhk.isd or Brand Hong Kong Instagram page www.instagram.com/brandhongkong/