

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Hong Kong is a key link for tapping into the Belt and Road markets

The Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Miss Kathy Chan, gave a presentation at a business workshop entitled “One Belt One Road - Demystified” jointly organised by the Canada Eurasia Russia Business Association (CERBA) and the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (Greater Toronto Area) on May 23. She invited Canadian entities to make full use of the advantage of Hong Kong in grasping the emerging opportunities brought by the Belt and Road initiative.

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

Award Ceremony of the 17th Chinese Arts and Literary Contest for Youth

The 17th Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth Award Ceremony organised by the Association of Chinese Arts and Literacy Contest for Youth was held on May 22. HKETO sponsored the “Hong Kong Cup” for winners in the drawing and calligraphy contest categories as part of its programme to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. The competition this year had attracted more than 7 000 entries.

For more information, please visit the official website of the organiser:

<https://sites.google.com/site/newcalcywebsite/home>

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

HKSAR 20th Anniversary Celebration Activities

1. Creative Visions Hong Kong Cinema 1997-2017

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, CreateHK would stage a film retrospective entitled “Creative Visions Hong Kong Cinema 1997-2017” in the Cinematheque of Vancouver from June 1-23. Filmmakers Alex Law and Mabel Cheung will be present at the opening presentation of the “Echoes of a Rainbow” on June 1 and Ms. Heiward Mak will meet the audience at the film of “High Noon” on June 22 and 23. Tickets are on sale and check out the full programme at the website below.

<http://thecinematheque.ca/creative-visions-hong-kong-cinema-1997-2017>

A similar film retrospective would be held in Toronto on June 23-25 and the details would be

announced at hk20.hketo.ca soon.

2. 2017 HKCBA National Conference

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) will host a 3-day National Conference with the title "Hong Kong & Canada - The Next 20 Years" from June 1 to 3 in Vancouver. The Conference will look into the Hong Kong-Canada trade relations, economic developments of the two places and how Canadian companies can take advantage of Hong Kong to enter into China and the rest of Asia. HKETO supported and sponsored this National Conference as part of its programme to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR in Canada.

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

3. HKSAR 20th anniversary seminar series continues

HKETO sponsored a series of seminars on Hong Kong organised by the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR.

The third seminar of the series on "What Cantonese Opera Accompaniment Is Not: In Comparison with Classical Music" will be held on June 6 at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library. Professor Li Siu Leung, Dean of School of Chinese Opera, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) will speak at the seminar and a demonstration by students and faculty members of the HKAPA School of Chinese Opera will follow.

For more information about the seminar, please visit the website below :

<https://hongkong.library.utoronto.ca/event/>

4. 29th Toronto International Dragon Boat Race Festival

The 29th Toronto International Dragon Boat Race Festival organised by the Toronto Chinese Business Association will be held on June 17 - 18. About 200 teams with over 5 000 athletes from all provinces across Canada, U.S., the Caribbean Islands, Europe and Asia will compete in the 2-day race. HKETO is pleased to sponsor the event as part of our programme to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR in Canada.

For more information, please browse the organiser's website:

<http://dragonboats.com/>

HONG KONG NEWS

HKSAR Government welcomes establishment of Bond Connect

The People's Bank of China (PBoC) and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) made a joint announcement on May 16 on their approval for the relevant Mainland and Hong Kong financial infrastructure institutions to collaborate in establishing mutual bond market access between Hong Kong and the Mainland (Bond Connect). The HKSAR Government welcomed the joint announcement.

The Bond Connect would enable eligible overseas investors to access, for the first time, the Mainland interbank bond market through infrastructural connection established between the Mainland and overseas bond markets. Under the new initiative, Hong Kong, as China's international financial centre, continued to play a unique and significant role in the opening up of the Mainland's financial markets to the rest of the world.

Bond Connect will be formally launched after relevant rules and system development have been finalised, market participants' practical needs suitably addressed, relevant regulatory approvals granted and all other necessary preparations completed.

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

Hongkong Post announces sale of Mainland and overseas philatelic products

Hongkong Post announced on May 22 that annual albums issued by the postal administrations of China, Macau and Switzerland would be put on sale at the selected Posts Offices in Hong Kong. From the same day, selected philatelic products issued by the postal administrations of Australia, Canada, the Isle of Man, Liechtenstein, Macau, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Singapore, the United Nations and the United States would also be put on sale at all philatelic offices.

The annual albums and the philatelic products would also be available for sale at the Hongkong Post Internet shopping mall ShopThruPost (www.shopthrupost.hk).

Further information about these products can be obtained from the Hongkong Post Stamps website at www.hongkongpoststamps.hk.

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

Hong Kong/France Working Holiday Scheme quota to increase

The Government of the HKSAR announced on May 23 that an agreement had been reached with the French Government to further expand the annual quota under the Hong Kong/France

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Working Holiday Scheme (WHS) from 500 to 750 from July 1, 2017.

Since 2001, the HKSAR Government has established bilateral WHS arrangements with 11 economies. Apart from France, the other partners are New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, Germany, Japan, Canada, Korea, the United Kingdom, Austria and Hungary. So far, more than 78 000 Hong Kong youths have joined the aforementioned WHSs.

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

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