

RECENT ACTIVITY

“Hong Kong: Asia’s World City” Roving Exhibition

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) continues to stage the roving exhibition called “Hong Kong: Asia’s World City” at the Toronto City Hall from August 27 to 31. First launched in May, the exhibition aims to showcase to members of the Canadian public the achievements of Hong Kong in areas such as economic development, innovation and technology, transport and infrastructure, and arts and culture, as well as the beauty of its natural environment.

The tentative dates and venues of other stops of the roving exhibition are as follows:

September 4 to 10	City Centre Library in Surrey
September 11 to 17	Vaughan City Hall
October 8 to 14	Metropolis at Metrotown in Burnaby
Early October	McMaster University in Hamilton

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Seminars on Hong Kong

HKETO will sponsor the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library of the University of Toronto to host two Hong Kong-themed seminars in September. The first one on “Mix the Spurious with the Genuine: An Introduction to Xiqu (Chinese Opera) Performance” will be held on September 12. The seminar is part of the programme under the Hong Kong Cultural Expo organised by the Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre.

Dr Chan Chak-lui, Lecturer at the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, will be the keynote speaker. She will present the performance technique in Cantonese opera of “mixing the spurious with the genuine” through demonstrations and interactive activities. Director of HKETO, Miss Kathy Chan, will give welcoming remarks before the seminar.

For details of the seminar, please click the following link:

<https://hongkong.library.utoronto.ca/event/mix-spurious-genuine-introduction-xiqu->

[chinese-opera-performance](#)

Another seminar to illustrate the economic developments of Hong Kong since 1960s, “The Making of Hong Kong since the 1960s”, will be held on September 25.

The seminar will be composed of two parts, namely “Hops, Skips, and Jumps: Hong Kong Becoming a World Hub” and “Hong Kong’s Miraculous Growth Path: Coincidence, Nurtured or Cultivated?”. Dr Andrew Parkin will present in the first part a personal and poetic picture of Hong Kong in the 1960s and 1990s, while Dr Li Kui-wai will identify and highlight the key economic growth features in each decade in the second part. Deputy Director of HKETO, Miss Florence Tsang, will give welcoming remarks before the seminar.

For details of the seminar, please click the following link:
<https://hongkong.library.utoronto.ca/event/making-hong-kong-1960s>

Hong Kong-Canada Business Association to organise Canadian delegation to Hong Kong

The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association is organising a Canadian delegation to Hong Kong from December 3 to 5, 2018. A major highlight of the programme is the 19th Annual Hong Kong Forum, which provides a platform for delegates from around the world to exchange ideas, connect with market players and engage in the exchange on the latest information on China. There will also be networking opportunities with businesses and professionals from the other 41 member Hong Kong business associations in 30 countries and regions of the Federation of Hong Kong Business Associations Worldwide. For more information, please click [here](#).

HONG KONG NEWS

CE attends meeting of leading group for development of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and visits China Railway Corporation in Beijing

The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Mrs Carrie Lam, attended the first plenary meeting of the leading group for the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area as a member at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on August 15. The meeting was hosted and

convened by the Vice Premier of the State Council, Mr Han Zheng, to discuss and plan for priority areas of work for the next stage of the Bay Area's development.

Mrs Lam expressed her gratitude to the Central Government for setting up the leading group as a top-tier body to advance the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and strengthen its co-ordination. She also reported at the meeting the latest work progress of Hong Kong on the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area into an international innovation and technology (I&T) hub.

On the same day, Mrs Lam visited China Railway Corporation (CR) to meet with the General Manager of CR, Mr Lu Dongfu, and tour its dispatch and command centre. Mrs Lam expressed her gratitude to CR for its staunch support in the construction of and operational arrangements for the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link over the years.

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

Operating arrangements announced for Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link

The Transport and Housing Bureau of the HKSAR Government announced on August 23 the operating arrangements for the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL). The XRL will be commissioned on September 23 to connect with the national high-speed rail network. Direct trains will depart from Hong Kong to 44 destinations. The service concession of the XRL has been formally granted to the MTR Corporation Limited.

Speaking at a press conference on 23 August, the Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan, said that the commissioning of the XRL is a historic moment for Hong Kong. It will bring not only a brand new, faster and more convenient means of cross-boundary transport to and from Mainland China for people in Hong Kong, but also strengthen links between Hong Kong and Mainland China by connecting the city to the 25,000-kilometre national high-speed rail network. It will foster commercial and cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and Mainland Chinese cities and enhance Hong Kong's status as a transport hub. It will also enable Hong Kong to tap into the synergy and opportunities brought about by the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. With more and more Hong Kong people working, conducting business, studying and retiring in Mainland China, the commissioning of the XRL can

enhance the long-term development opportunities for promoting sustainable growth in trades including tourism, commerce and professional services.

The 44 destinations that the direct XRL trains will reach comprise six short-haul destinations, namely Futian, Shenzhen North, Guangmingcheng, Humen, Qingsheng and Guangzhou South of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Passenger Line, and 38 long-haul destinations along the Beijing-Guangzhou Passenger Line, the Hangzhou-Fuzhou-Shenzhen Passenger Line, the Shanghai-Kunming Passenger Line and the Guiyang-Guangzhou Passenger Line, including Beijing, Shanghai, Kunming, Guilin, Guiyang, Shijiazhuang, Zhengzhou, Wuhan, Changsha, Hangzhou, Nanchang, Fuzhou, Xiamen and Shantou.

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

CE welcomes introduction of Regulations for Application of Residence Permit for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Residents

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, welcomed the Central Government's announcement of the Regulations for Application of Residence Permit for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Residents, and expressed deep gratitude for its continuous effort in introducing measures in the past year to assist Hong Kong residents studying, working, starting business and living on the Mainland.

The Regulations will be formally implemented on September 1 this year. According to the Regulations, Hong Kong residents living on Mainland China who meet the relevant criteria can apply for residence permits. A residence permit holder is entitled to enjoy, in accordance with the law, three categories of rights, six basic public services and nine facilitation measures in the place where he or she is residing, covering areas relating to daily living including employment, education, medical care, travel, financial services and so on.

The relevant Central Government departments have earlier introduced a series of concrete measures to assist Hong Kong residents studying, working and living on Mainland China, including installing ticket machines which can read Home Visit Permits in railway stations, allowing Hong Kong and Macao residents working on Mainland China to join the Housing Provident Fund and removing the requirement for Hong Kong and Macao residents working on Mainland China to apply for employment permits.

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

Talent List to attract quality people

The HKSAR Government promulgated on August 28 the first Talent List of Hong Kong. Aiming to attract quality people from around the world in a more effective and focused manner to support Hong Kong's development as a high value-added and diversified economy, the Talent List, which contains 11 professions, has been drawn up after extensive consultation with the stakeholders.

The Talent List highlights specific professions needed most for Hong Kong's economic development. In order to attract relevant world talents to Hong Kong, immigration facilitation is provided to eligible persons under the Talent List through the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (QMAS) within its existing annual quota of 1 000. Successful applicants under the QMAS are not required to have secured an offer of local employment for settlement in Hong Kong. For applicants who meet the specifications of the respective profession under the Talent List, bonus marks will be given under the General Points Test of the QMAS.

The 11 professions are listed as follows:

- (a) Experienced waste treatment specialists/engineers;
- (b) Experienced management professionals in asset management including but not limited to trust fund management;
- (c) Experienced professionals in marine insurance;
- (d) Actuaries;
- (e) Experienced professionals in Fintech;
- (f) Experienced data scientists and experienced cyber security specialists;
- (g) Innovation and technology experts in, but not limited to, the following fields: (i) pharmaceutical and life science/biotechnology; (ii) data engineering (e.g. data mining/data analytics), artificial intelligence, robotics, distributed ledger technologies, biometric technologies and industrial/chemical engineering, etc.; and (iii) materials science/nanotechnology;
- (h) Naval architects;
- (i) Marine engineers and superintendents of ships;
- (j) Creative industries professionals in: (i) music: recording engineers, mastering engineers, and cutting/pressing engineers for Vinyl LP; (ii) digital entertainment: game development experts (game designers, game programmers and game graphic designers) and game producers; and (iii) films: various roles in pre-production, production and post-production and winner of designated renowned international film festivals; and

(k) Dispute resolution professionals specialising in resolving international financial and investor-state disputes, and transactional lawyers with specialised knowledge of and experience in cross-border transactions from investing or host states.

Detailed information on the 11 professions in the Talent List and qualification/experience requirements of the talents can be found in the dedicated website for the Talent List (www.talentlist.gov.hk).

Application under the QMAS for eligible persons in the Talent List starts on August 28. Information on application arrangements can be found in the websites of the Talent List and the QMAS (www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/quality_migrant_admission_scheme.html). Meanwhile, the QMAS continues to welcome talents from other industries and sectors not covered by the Talent List.

The Talent List will be regularly updated to ensure that it can keep up with Hong Kong's latest economic development and the changing needs for different talents.

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

Toll levels of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Main Bridge announced

The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Authority (HZMBA) announced on August 23 that with the approval and consent of the People's Government of Guangdong Province, the toll levels of the HZMB Main Bridge (per vehicle per trip) have been confirmed as follows:

Light passenger vehicles (private cars, hire cars): RMB150
Heavy passenger vehicles (cross-boundary coaches): RMB200
Shuttle buses: RMB300
Container trucks: RMB115
Goods vehicles: RMB60

The HZMB Main Bridge is located within Mainland Chinese waters and the toll plaza is also situated in the Mainland.

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

Technology Talent Scheme opens for application

The Innovation and Technology Commission launched on August 22 the Technology Talent Scheme to nurture and bring together more technology talent on a pilot basis for five years. There are two initiatives under the scheme - the Postdoctoral Hub programme and the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP).

The Technology Talent Scheme subsidises research institutions and enterprises to recruit talent to carry out research and development activities, and train their existing staff to apply advanced technology for adding value to their businesses.

The Postdoctoral Hub programme provides funding support to recipients of the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), as well as incubatees and innovation and technology tenants of Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation and Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, to recruit up to two postdoctoral talents for research and development work. The ITF will provide a monthly allowance of HK\$32,000 for each postdoctoral talent for up to 24 months. The talents concerned must possess a doctoral degree in a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)-related discipline from either a local university or a well-recognised non-local institution.

The RTTP subsidises local companies on a 2:1 matching basis to train their staff in advanced technologies, especially those related to Industry 4.0. The trainee must be a Hong Kong permanent resident and employed by a non-government and non-subsided local enterprise.

More information on the Technology Talent Scheme is available on the ITF website (www.itf.gov.hk).

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

Commencement of Hong Kong/Hungary Working Holiday Scheme

Applications under the Hong Kong/Hungary bilateral Working Holiday Scheme will be accepted from September 1 to enable young people from the two places to broaden their horizons and gain living and working experience in a foreign culture.

The working holiday visa will allow young people from Hong Kong and Hungary to stay in the host economy for up to 12 months. During the period, they may work to finance

Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

August 29, 2018



their stay and/or take up short-term study course.

Since 2001, Hong Kong has established Working Holiday Schemes with Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, Germany, Japan, Korea, France, the United Kingdom, Austria, Hungary, Sweden and the Netherlands.

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

HKTDC - US Trade online resource

To help Hong Kong's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) deal with the U.S. tariffs and trade dispute issue, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) has launched a U.S. Trade online resource in its "Hong Kong Means Business" webpage. The webpage provides up-to-date information on the latest developments of the U.S. tariffs as well as available support and resources for companies from Hong Kong or doing business with or through Hong Kong.

English: <http://hkmb.hktdc.com/en/ustrade>

Hong Kong as a great place to work, rest and play by Monocle magazine

Monocle magazine published a new online content hub about Hong Kong as a great place to work, rest and play, highlighting the dynamic, cosmopolitan and eclectic sides of Hong Kong.

<https://monocle.com/brandhk>

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