

RECENT ACTIVITY

HKETO Director attends MRVCBA's Inauguration Gala

Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Miss Kathy Chan, attended the Inauguration Gala of the Markham, Richmond Hill & Vaughan Chinese Business Association (MRVCBA) on September 8.

Speaking at the event, Miss Chan remarked that Hong Kong is an ideal gateway to Mainland China for Canadian businesses. Hong Kong has in place a free trade arrangement with Mainland China which offers tariff-free treatment for goods of Hong Kong origin exported into Mainland China as well as the most preferential market access into Mainland China in a wide range of sectors for business operating in Hong Kong regardless of their nationality.

On the new national strategy of the Chinese government of developing the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, Miss Chan said that policy breakthroughs would soon be announced to facilitate the movement of people, goods and capital between Hong Kong and other cities in the Bay Area. Two mega infrastructure projects, including the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong express rail link which would be commissioned on September 23, and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge which would be put into operation later this year, will greatly enhance the connectivity of Hong Kong with other cities in the Bay Area and bring further opportunities to businesses operating in Hong Kong.

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

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

HKETO continues to stage the roving exhibition called “Hong Kong: Asia’s World City” at the Vaughan City Hall from September 11 to 17. 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 dates and venues of the remaining two stops of the roving exhibition are as follows:

October 4 to 5	McMaster University in Hamilton
October 8 to 14	Metropolis at Metrotown in Burnaby

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Seminars on Hong Kong

HKETO will sponsor the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library of the University of

Hong Kong e-News Bulletin

September 12, 2018



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. Head of Public Relations of HKETO, Ms Ivy Yue, 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>

Cantonese Opera Performances

HKETO sponsors the Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre (Starlight) in organising the Hong Kong Cultural Expo 2018. Under the Expo, a full length Cantonese opera performance "The Legend of Mermaid" will be staged by a group of Hong Kong young Cantonese opera talents including graduates from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, together with young artists and starlets from Starlight on September 14 at the Flato Markham Theatre. In addition, a matinee performance of "Selected Cantonese Opera Excerpts" will be staged on September 15 at the Flato Markham Theatre.

For details of the Cantonese Opera performances, please click the following link:

<http://www.starlightopera.com/index.html>

Common recruitment examination in Toronto and Vancouver and booths and talks on working in Hong Kong in universities

For the convenience of those studying or residing outside Hong Kong, prospective applicants for civil service posts at degree or professional levels in Hong Kong can apply for the Common Recruitment Examination and Basic Law Test (CRE and BLT) scheduled to be held in seven overseas cities including Toronto and Vancouver on December 8, 2018. Applications for taking the examination outside Hong Kong will be open between September 22 and October 5, 2018.

HKETO will host a series of information talks and booths at different universities across Canada to provide local students with information about working or furthering their studies in Hong Kong. The schedule is as follows and you can get in touch with the respective career centre of the universities or HKETO if you need further information:

September 18, 10am - 3pm	York University – information booth
September 19, 11:30am - 1pm	York University – information talk
September 20, 10am - 4pm booth	University of Toronto (St. George Campus) – information
September 20, 10am - 3pm	McMaster University – information booth
September 21, 10am - 3pm	McGill University – information booth
September 24, 4:30pm - 6pm talk	University of Toronto (St George Campus) – information
September 26, 10am - 4pm	University of Alberta – information booth
September 26, 1pm - 2pm	University of Calgary – information talk
September 27, 11:30am - 12:30pm	University of Alberta – information talk
September 27, 10am - 3pm booth	Simon Fraser University (Burnaby Campus) – information
September 28, 11am - 4pm	University of British Columbia – information booth
October 2, 12nn - 1pm	University of British Columbia – information talk
October 2, 5:30-6:30pm information talk	Simon Fraser University (Harbour Centre Campus) –
October 2, 10:30am - 3:30pm	University of Calgary – information booth
October 3, 10am - 3pm	University of Victoria – information booth

For more details about the CRE and BLT, please visit:

www.csb.gov.hk/eng/cre.html

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

HKSAR participates in the 12th Pan-Pearl River Delta Regional Co-operation and Development Forum and Trade Fair

The 12th Pan-Pearl River Delta Regional Co-operation and Development Forum and Trade Fair (PPRD Forum) was held in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, on September 5. The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Mrs Carrie Lam, led the HKSAR Government delegation to join the Forum.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the PPRD Forum themed "Greater Bay Area: Driving Innovation, Collaboration and Opportunities", Mrs Lam said that the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Bay Area) will inject further impetus to the regional economic development of the PPRD provinces/regions. She encouraged enterprises in the region to tap on Hong Kong's financial and professional services, infrastructural as well as logistics support to participate in the development of the Belt and Road Initiative, with a view to seizing the opportunities available.

At the Forum, Mrs Lam also exchanged views with government leaders of other PPRD provinces/regions and other guests on the topics of co-operation and development in the PPRD region, opportunities in the Bay Area, as well as opening up and innovation.

At the Chief Executive Joint Conference, Mrs Lam had an interactive discussion with government leaders of other PPRD provinces/regions on the development of the Bay Area and the establishment of an express rail link economic belt in the PPRD region etc. Mrs Lam noted that the present term of the HKSAR Government strived to identify new engines for economic growth and development of technology and innovation was one of the key areas.

The PPRD Forum, which is an important regional co-operation platform, covers nine provinces/regions (namely Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Sichuan, Guizhou and Yunnan) and the Hong Kong and Macao SARs, accounting for more than one-third of the country's population and gross domestic product. Photo

[Click here to read the details.](#)
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Hong Kong Legal Services Forum in Guangzhou

Giving a keynote speech at the luncheon of the fifth Hong Kong Legal Services Forum under the theme "From Bay Area to International Arena" in Guangzhou on September 5, the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, said that distinguished and professional legal services are important elements for the Bay Area to go global. It is also the driving force for enterprises in Guangdong and Hong Kong to join forces to tap the global market.

Mrs Lam pointed out that laws of Hong Kong are well established and are familiar to the international business community. Legal professionals in Hong Kong are equipped with extensive experience and international perspective. According to the Global Competitiveness Report 2017-2018 published by the World Economic Forum, Hong Kong's judicial independence ranked first in Asia. It shows that the independence of the Judiciary in Hong Kong is highly recognised in the international community. She hopes Hong Kong can leverage these advantages to support and promote the development of the Bay Area.

The Secretary for Justice of the HKSAR, Ms Teresa Cheng, SC, together with the Vice-Governor of Guangdong Province, Mr Li Chunsheng, officiated at the opening of the Forum. Ms Cheng said in the Worldwide Governance Indicators project of the World Bank Group, Hong Kong's percentile rank in rule of law has improved from 69.9 in 1996 to 93.3 in 2016. These statistics suggest an upward trend in the rule of law in Hong Kong.

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

FS visits Israel to forge closer economic and I&T co-operation

The Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, Mr Paul Chan, started his first official visit to Israel to forge closer economic and innovation and technology (I&T) co-operation between Israel and Hong Kong from September 3 to 6.

Joined by the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Mr James Lau, and the Director-General of Investment Promotion, Mr Stephen Phillips, Mr Chan called on the Chairman of the Israel Innovation Authority and Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Economy and Industry, Dr Ami Appelbaum in Tel Aviv on September 3, to keep himself abreast of the latest developments of I&T of Israel. Mr Chan remarked that Hong Kong can draw valuable lessons from Israel's successful experience on various fronts, such as Fintech, biotech and biomedicine.

Mr Chan also addressed at a luncheon co-organised by the HKSAR Government and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council to promote Hong Kong's innovation and technology (I&T) industry and encourage the Israeli innovative companies to make use of the Hong Kong's world-class financial platform to raise fund.

On September 4, Mr Paul Chan attended the 6th Annual Summit for Business with China in Tel Aviv. One of the key topics of the Summit is the massive opportunities arising from the Belt and

Road Initiative. Mr Chan pointed out in his keynote speech that Hong Kong boasts unique advantages and strategic position to serve as multiple service platforms for the Belt and Road, and for Israeli businesses and entrepreneurs.

Mr Chan then headed to Jerusalem for a visit to a technology company which specialises in developing artificial vision products that aim to improve the lives of the visually impaired. The delegation also attended a luncheon hosted by an Israeli equity crowdfunding platform to learn more about its operation. The platform is investing in start-ups from around the world, including companies from Hong Kong.

On September 5, Mr Chan attended a breakfast meeting with a number of Israeli I&T, Fintech and biotech enterprises, whose business scope ranges from blockchain technology, pharmaceuticals, electronic payment to artificial intelligence.

Mr Chan also called on the Minister of Economy and Industry of Israel, Mr Eli Cohen and had a lunch meeting with the Minister of Finance, Mr Moshe Kahlon. They exchanged view regarding the latest economic development in Israel and Hong Kong, and the global economic outlook.

Following meetings with a number of Israeli companies, Mr Chan visited the annual DLD Tel Aviv Innovation Festival which is the largest of its kind in Israel and attracts several thousand I&T participants from around the world. At the Festival, Mr Chan introduced to the audience the unique strengths of Hong Kong under the "one country, two systems" as well as the city's excellent business environment.

Before concluding the visit to Israel, Mr Chan visited Ramot at Tel Aviv University, a centre for commercialisation of the university's research work, for a briefing by academics on the latest development in areas such as Fintech and Smart City.

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

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Hong Kong and Chongqing sign MOU on investment promotion co-operation

Invest Hong Kong and the Chongqing Municipal Commission of Commerce signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on September 3 at the Chongqing Hong Kong Symposium pledging mutual co-operation on investment promotion exchange and support. The MOU provides a framework to enhance co-operation of the two places in investment promotion and the business opportunities, especially in the areas of financial services, exhibition, trading, commerce and retail, and logistics, arising from the Belt and Road Initiative.

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR, Mr Edward Yau, delivered opening remarks at the Symposium, which aims to explore mutual business opportunities between Hong Kong and Chongqing. The Chongqing Municipal Commission of Commerce also announced at the event that it will open its China (Chongqing) Pilot Free Trade

Zone Hong Kong representative office, leveraging the city's international status to assist Chongqing companies to "go global" and attract overseas companies to Chongqing.

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

Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (Co-location) Ordinance comes into operation

The Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (Co-location) Ordinance (Ordinance) came into operation on September 4 to dovetail with the commissioning of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL) later this month.

The Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan Fan, and the Deputy Secretary General of the People's Government of Guangdong Province, Mr Lin Ji, jointly hosted a ceremony to mark the commissioning of the Mainland Port Area at the West Kowloon Station (MPA) to commemorate the moment, signifying that the HKSAR and the Mainland China will cooperate with each other to jointly implement the co-location arrangement with a view to maximising convenience for future high-speed rail passengers.

The Hong Kong Section of the XRL will commence operation on September 23, 2018. It will connect Hong Kong to the ever-expanding national high-speed rail network, enabling passengers to travel among Hong Kong and various Mainland cities in a breeze, and offer a speedy, convenient and comfortable transport alternative.

To enhance the public's understanding of the co-location arrangement, the HKSAR Government has produced a booklet entitled "Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link Co-location Arrangement - What You Need to Know" to inform the public on various matters requiring their attention as high-speed rail passengers or staff working within the MPA. The booklet can be downloaded from the Transport and Housing Bureau's website (www.thb.gov.hk).

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

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

Fintech Co-operation between Hong Kong Monetary Authority and Central Bank of Brazil

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and the Central Bank of Brazil (BCB) signed a Co-operation Agreement on September 9 to enhance collaboration between the two central banks involving Fintech issues, with a view to encouraging and enabling innovation development in financial services in both markets, and supporting innovative financial businesses in expanding to each other's jurisdiction. Under the Co-operation Agreement, the HKMA and BCB will collaborate on the referral of innovative businesses, information and experience sharing, and joint innovation projects.

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

Hong Kong team excels in International Olympiad of Metropolises

A team of eight Hong Kong students achieved outstanding results in the 3rd International Olympiad of Metropolises (IOM). The Hong Kong team won three gold medals and five silver medals, as well as a gold award in the team competition. The success of the Hong Kong team this year once again demonstrated the fruitful collaboration among different parties, including the Education Bureau and the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education as well as the tertiary institutions and professional bodies concerned, in nurturing talented students in Hong Kong.

The IOM is a competition covering four disciplines: physics, mathematics, chemistry and informatics. The competition was held in Moscow, Russia, from September 2 to 7, with around 260 students from 33 cities of 26 countries participating in the event.

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

Elevator Pitch Competition 2018

The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation is organizing its 3rd edition of [Elevator Pitch Competition 2018](#) (EPiC) themed “Elevate 100 floors in 60 sec – Your Opportunity to Disrupt” on October 26.

100 start-ups will be selected to pitch their ideas to investors and inspire audience with disruptive thoughts on five technology trends including artificial intelligence & robotics, smart city, fintech, healthy ageing and the next generation technology in a 60-second elevator ride at the International Commerce Centre, the most iconic skyscraper in Hong Kong. They will also compete for the chance to win an investment prize of not less than US\$120,000.

For details of the competition, please visit:
<https://events.hkstp.org/events/2018/EPiC/>

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