

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO Director visits Vancouver

Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO), Miss Kathy Chan, paid a visit to Vancouver on October 4 and 5 to promote the business and career development opportunities in Hong Kong.

Miss Chan attended the West Coast Gala organised by the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs on October 4 to promote Hong Kong's position as an ideal gateway for Canadian businesses to tap into the vast business opportunities in Mainland China and the rest of Asia. She also briefed the board of directors of the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association Vancouver Section on October 5 about the latest economic developments of Hong Kong.

During the visit, Miss Chan met with various business organisations in Vancouver to promote the business opportunities in Hong Kong. She also gave an interview to Fairchild TV and attended a drama performance in Burnaby organised by the Federation of Alumni Associations of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and supported by the Alumni Association of the CUHK (British Columbia).

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

"Hong Kong: Asia's World City" Roving Exhibition

HKETO is currently staging the roving exhibition called "Hong Kong: Asia's World City" at the Metropolis at Metrotown in Burnaby from October 8 to 14. It is also the last stop of the roving exhibition. 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.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Table Tennis Tournament by Hong Kong Joint Universities Alumni Ontario

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Hong Kong Joint Universities Alumni Ontario will host a Table Tennis Tournament on October 14 at the Canadian Chinese Table Tennis Association in Markham. HKETO sponsors the "Hong Kong Cup" award of the tournament and Deputy Director of HKETO, Miss Florence Tsang, will present the Hong Kong Cup to the winning team at the Gala Dinner to be held in the evening after the Tournament.

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

<http://www.alumni.hku.hk/hkuaaont/2018hkjuao/>

Reel Asian showcases the best in Hong Kong Cinema

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (Reel Asian), in partnership with HKETO, is proud to present two Hong Kong films, namely "House of the Rising Sons" and "Tomorrow is Another Day", at this year's Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox on November 10 and 11 respectively. The films will be having their premieres in Canada at the Festival. HKETO is a major sponsor of the Festival.

Director of HKETO, Miss Kathy Chan, and Deputy Director, Miss Florence Tsang, will speak before the screenings of both films respectively. Mr Anthony Chan, Director of "House of the Rising Sons" and Mr Ling Man-lung, leading actor of "Tomorrow is Another Day" will also meet with the audience at the screenings. Tickets are on sale now and the full programme of the Festival can be found at

<http://www.reelasian.com/festival/>

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 of 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

Hong Kong once again regarded as freest economy in the world

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government on September 26 welcomed that the Fraser Institute once again ranked Hong Kong as the freest economy in the world in the Economic Freedom of the World 2018 Annual Report. Among the five areas of assessment, Hong Kong was ranked top in "Freedom to Trade Internationally" and "Regulation".

The HKSAR Government said it will continue to build a robust institutional framework, uphold the fine tradition of rule of law and maintain an efficient government, so as to provide a level playing field and a favourable environment for Hong Kong's economy to thrive.

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

SCED visits Canada to foster closer economic ties

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, Mr Edward Yau, met with Canadian senior government officials and parliamentarians in Ottawa and Montreal to promote closer ties between Hong Kong and Canada on September 27.

Speaking at a lunch meeting with parliamentarians in Ottawa, Mr Yau said Hong Kong and Canada have all along enjoyed excellent economic and trade relations and are important trade and investment partners. He encouraged Canadian enterprises to make use of the Hong Kong platform to explore the enormous market of Mainland China.

Earlier in the morning on September 27, Mr Yau called on the Federal Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion, Ms Mary Ng, and the Chairman of the Standing Committee on International Trade in the House of Commons, Mr Mark Eyking, to discuss issues relating to trade and economic co-operation between Hong Kong and Canada.

Mr Yau also had a breakfast meeting with key members of the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association Ottawa Section to learn about the association's efforts in

expanding commercial relations between Canada, Hong Kong and Mainland China as well as throughout Asia using Hong Kong as the platform.

Mr Yau then proceeded to Montreal in the afternoon where he had a meeting and dinner with Federal Minister of International Trade Diversification, Mr James Carr, to exchange views on Hong Kong-Canada bilateral trade relations.

Mr Yau returned to Hong Kong on September 29 (Hong Kong time).

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

Celebrations to mark 69th National Day

A series of celebration activities were held in Hong Kong on October 1 to mark the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Major activities included a flag-raising ceremony and a National Day reception in the morning, and a variety show and a fireworks display in the evening.

The flag-raising ceremony was held at 8am at Golden Bauhinia Square outside the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) in Wan Chai. The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, joined some 2 400 people at the ceremony including community leaders, senior government officials, and members of uniformed groups and community groups.

Hosted by the Chief Executive, the National Day reception was held after the flag-raising ceremony at HKCEC. About 4 000 guests attended, including members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, the consular corps, government officials, community group leaders and members of various community sectors.

In the evening, the Organising Committee of Compatriots in Hong Kong in Celebration of the 69th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China presented a variety show at the Hong Kong Coliseum in Hung Hom.

A spectacular fireworks display was also held at Victoria Harbour to celebrate the National Day.

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

Hong Kong welcomes EU amendment to watchlist on tax co-operation

The HKSAR Government welcomed the amendment made by the European Union (EU) on October 2 to its watchlist on tax co-operation in recognition of Hong Kong's latest efforts in participating in the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (the Convention).

As an international financial centre, Hong Kong has all along been supportive of the efforts of the international community in enhancing tax transparency and combating cross-border tax evasion. The HKSAR Government is confident that Hong Kong will meet the prevailing standards on international tax co-operation, and will continue to closely liaise with the EU.

In 2017, Hong Kong made commitments to the EU on participation in the Convention and implementation of the automatic exchange of financial account information in tax matters (AEOI). Such commitments were set out in the watchlist published by the EU last year.

The Convention came into force in Hong Kong on September 1, 2018 to allow Hong Kong to effectively implement the AEOI and the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting package promulgated by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

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

Visa-free access for HKSAR passport holders to Myanmar

The HKSAR Government has received further visa relaxation information from the Consulate General of Myanmar in Hong Kong. Under the Tourist Visa Exemption Pilot Scheme of Myanmar, starting from October 5, 2018 till September 30, 2019, HKSAR passport holders do not need a visa for visiting Myanmar for a stay of up to 30 days upon arrival at Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport, Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, Yangon International Seaport of Myanmar and the land border checkpoints of Myanmar-Thailand and Myanmar-India.

Including Myanmar and Canada, 163 countries/territories have granted visa-free access or visa-on-arrival to HKSAR passport holders. Please visit the following website for details:

www.immd.gov.hk/eng/service/travel_document/visa_free_access.html

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

Japanese eyewear brand rides on Hong Kong's international status to spur global business expansion

Japanese eyewear brand JINS Inc opened its first store in Hong Kong on September 28 as part of its global expansion plan, utilising the city's sophisticated retail market to tap into the growing eyewear market in the region.

The Hong Kong store at a major Kwun Tong shopping mall measures about 1 000 square feet. Customers can select from a collection of 1 000 frame designs, and have their prescription glasses ready in 30 minutes at the earliest. The company aims to become the world's leading eyewear brand by accelerating its global expansion plan.

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

Article of "Hong Kong: Connected foundations, future strength" by The Economist

The Economist, a leading political and economic magazine, has published online an article entitled "Hong Kong: Connected foundations, future strength" on Hong Kong's position as a global legal, financial and economic hub.

Please click [here](#) to view the article.

ICAC updates business community on international anti-corruption efforts

The latest issue of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)'s electronic newsletter, ICAC Post, for the international and Mainland Chinese business community has been uploaded on the ICAC corporate website. Highlights of this issue include:

- Building anti-graft capacity – a business perspective
- Preventive education – the first line of defence against corruption
- Indonesian prosecutors visit ICAC
- Figures of corruption complaints in the first half of 2018
- 7th ICAC Symposium: Fighting Corruption – A New Perspective

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

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