

RECENT ACTIVITIES

HKETO and HKTB host joint Lunar New Year reception in Vancouver

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) and the Hong Kong Tourism Board (Canada) (HKTB) jointly held a Lunar New Year reception in Vancouver on February 13 to celebrate the Year of the Pig. In her welcoming remarks at the reception, Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, updated guests on the developments of Hong Kong in 2018 and said the city continued to prosper under the “one country, two systems” principle.

Ms Mo noted that Hong Kong had championed in various world rankings in the past year. With the commissioning of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, connectivity between Hong Kong, Mainland China and Macao has been greatly enhanced. Hong Kong’s position and role in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area development and the Belt and Road Initiative have also become more prominent.

Ms Mo also highlighted that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government last year launched new schemes to attract innovation and technology as well as research and development talents and experts.

In term of Hong Kong-Canada relations, Ms Mo said that the two places continued to have very close relations for trade and investment. She remarked that HKETO would continue to promote closer relations between Hong Kong and Canada on all fronts in 2019. She announced that HKETO would organise a “Hong Kong Week” event under the theme of “Connect and Excel” in June 2019.

A highlight of the reception was a special performance by the award-winning team SLASH from the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Academy. The team also performed at the joint reception hosted by HKETO and the HKTB in Toronto on February 8 and a charity gala in Toronto on February 9. They have also taken part in exchange workshops with local rope skipping teams in Toronto and Vancouver. The team returned to Hong Kong on February 15.

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

HKETO Director attends HKCBA’s Lunar New Year Gala Dinners

HKETO Director, Ms Emily Mo, attended the Lunar New Year Gala Dinner of the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association (HKCBA) Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Section in Toronto on February 23. The gala was graced by the presence of dignitaries including Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Toronto, Mr Han Tao, Senator Victor Oh, Members of Parliament Shaun Chen and Jean Yip, as well as Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti.

In her welcoming remarks at the gala, Ms Mo shared with the guests on how Hong Kong could be the ideal platform for Canadian companies to expand their businesses and seek new opportunities in Mainland China and the rest of Asia.

Ms Mo noted that the Central Government of China has just promulgated the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to promote coordinated economic development in the area. The two cross-boundary infrastructures commissioned in Hong Kong last year, namely the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link Hong Kong section, would greatly strengthen Hong Kong's position and role in the Greater Bay Area development and the Belt and Road Initiative.

Earlier this month, Ms Mo also attended the Lunar New Year Gala Dinners organised by the Ottawa, Montreal and Calgary Chapters of HKCBA. She expressed her gratitude to HKCBA for rendering continuous support to HKETO in promoting trade relation between Canada and Hong Kong over the years. Ms Mo invited Canadian enterprises to visit Hong Kong and seek new business opportunities in the city.

During her stay in Ottawa, Ms Mo has also paid a courtesy call on Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Canada Lu Shaye. She also met with the Canada-Hong Kong Friendship Group Chair MP Michael Chong, Co-chair of Canada-China Legislative Association MP Joe Peschisolido, and Director General for North Asia and Oceania of Global Affairs Canada Dr Sarah Taylor.

HKETO Director attends Confederation of Greater Toronto Chinese Business Association Chinese New Year celebration

Director of HKETO, Ms Emily Mo, attended the annual Chinese New Year Gala Dinner hosted by the Confederation of Greater Toronto Chinese Business Association to celebrate the Lunar New Year with the four major Chinese business associations in the Greater Toronto Area on February 16.

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In delivering her speech at the Gala, Ms Mo said that with the many unparalleled business advantages, such as bilingual environment, low tax rates, common law system as well as Hong Kong's free trade agreement arrangements with the Mainland China and ASEAN, Hong Kong has been serving as a platform to connect overseas business with the Chinese and Asian market.

As Canada is committed to trade diversification, Ms Mo encouraged Canadian businesses to leverage on Hong Kong's advantages to diversify and expand their businesses in Hong Kong or through Hong Kong.

Earlier on February 12, Ms Mo also joined the Chinese New Year Banquet organised by the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs to celebrate its 25th anniversary and the Lunar New Year.

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITY

Kung Fu Fridays: Fatal Fists and Crazy Kicks from the Shaw Brothers

HKETO, in partnership with the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), is proud to present The *Kung Fu Fridays: Fatal Fists and Crazy Kicks from the Shaw Brothers* at the TIFF Bell Lightbox. Ten kung fu classics produced by the Shaw Brothers Studio in Hong Kong in the 70s and 80s will be screened on Fridays until April 12, 2019.

Tickets are on sale now and the full programme of the event can be found at <https://www.tiff.net/calendar.html?series=shaw-brothers&list>

HONG KONG NEWS

Governments of Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao co-organise Symposium on Outline Development Plan for Greater Bay Area

The HKSAR Government, together with the People's Government of Guangdong Province and the Macao Special Administrative Region Government held on February 21

the Symposium on the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, to introduce the contents of the Outline Development Plan and explore the development opportunities of the Greater Bay Area. Around eight hundred guests, representing relevant central ministries and various sectors of Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao attended the symposium.

Speaking at the symposium, the Chief Executive of HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, pointed out that “One Country, Two Systems” is not only Hong Kong’s advantage in the Greater Bay Area, but it is also the key foundation for the internationalisation of the Greater Bay Area. The development of the Greater Bay Area will enrich the practice of “One country, Two systems” and is conducive to maintaining the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong.

Mrs Lam also outlined the future work focuses of the HKSAR Government, namely:

1. consolidating and enhancing Hong Kong's status as international financial, transportation and trade centres as well as an international aviation hub;
2. developing an international innovation and technology hub;
3. expanding the scope of development for sectors in which Hong Kong's strengths lie;
4. strengthening infrastructural connectivity;
5. fostering youth innovation and entrepreneurship; and
6. fully utilising Hong Kong's international connections and networks to promote the Greater Bay Area overseas and attract capital and talents to the Greater Bay Area.

In accordance with the guiding directions set out in the Outline Development Plan, the HKSAR Government will continue to maintain close contact with members of the Legislative Council, industries, business associations, professional bodies and relevant stakeholders, and listen to their views on how to effectively take forward the development of the Greater Bay Area. The Government will continue to discuss with relevant central ministries, and the governments of Guangdong and Macao to strive for policy innovation and breakthrough necessary for industries to expand their development opportunities in the Greater Bay Area.

For the contents of the Outline Development Plan and the latest information about the development of the Greater Bay Area, please visit the dedicated website at bayarea.gov.hk and the new WeChat official account by searching Wechat ID “hkcmab”.

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

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Press release on HKSARG welcoming the promulgation of Outline Development Plan for Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area:

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

For the press statement issued by the National Development and Reform Commission on the promulgation of the Greater Bay Area Outline Development Plan released by the Central Government, please click the following link:

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

Air services arrangements between Hong Kong and Mainland expanded

The Transport and Housing Bureau of the HKSAR Government and the Civil Aviation Administration of China signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Beijing on February 19 to expand the Air Services Arrangement between the Mainland and the HKSAR.

Under the intermodal arrangements, operators of land and sea transport may share the codes of flights operated by designated airlines of both sides as an extension of flights, enabling both services (air-to-sea or air-to-land) to be available in the Global Distribution System. The new code-sharing arrangements are expected to bring much convenience to travellers taking different means of land and sea transport between the Mainland and Hong Kong International Airport.

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

Singapore-based orange juice vending machines provider extends its reach to Greater China region via Hong Kong

Singapore-based orange juice vending machines provider, Fruits Vending Pte Ltd, announced on February 14 that it has opened its Hong Kong office, Hong Kong IoT Technology Company Limited, and launched its i.Jooz smart vending machines services, offering automatic and freshly squeezed orange juice in the city.

The vending machine is a smart application of technology and hardware that the oranges directly in front of the customers to get juice straight from the fruit automatically. It also transfers data to the operation centre in Hong Kong via the

Internet for refilling.

The company said that Hong Kong is close to the Mainland and an important market in the Greater China region.

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

Mainland law firm opens Hong Kong office to tap growing demand for cross-border legal services

Mainland law firm Commerce and Finance Law Offices (Tongshang) announced on February 21 the launch of its Hong Kong office and its association with a local law firm, Eric Chow & Co, as part of its global expansion blueprint.

The Managing Partner of the Hong Kong office said that the strategic alliance will better position Tongshang with a solid on-the-ground presence in the face of increasing demand for cross-border legal services, in particular fundraising activities involving Mainland companies in the local stock market and major stock markets around the world. In recent years, Tongshang has participated in many restructuring and capital market projects for landmark state-owned and private enterprises.

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

Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas 2019 opens for applications

The Chief Secretary for Administration of HKSAR, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, on February 18 officiated at the launch ceremony of the Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas 2019. The Scheme is accepting applications until March 22.

The number of major companies participating in the Scheme has increased to 18 this year. They are all well-established enterprises based in Hong Kong and have undertaken to provide more than 280 internship places on the Mainland including cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Chongqing and Xiamen, as well as overseas countries including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Japan.

The internship placements cover various industries such as financial services, the energy sector, property development and management, and public utilities services. Apart from offering these young people quality internship placements outside Hong Kong, participating companies will also shoulder key expenditure items including airfare and accommodation. The companies will also assign dedicated personnel to provide training and support to the interns.

Interns should be undergraduate or postgraduate students holding a valid Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card. The internship placements will take place from May to September this year and last for no less than six weeks.

Details of the Scheme, including a central online application system, can be found at the dedicated webpage of the Youth Development Commission (www.ydc.gov.hk/scsi/en).

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

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected cannabis buds

Hong Kong Customs on February 18 seized about 30 kilograms of suspected cannabis buds with an estimated market value of about HK\$6.2 million at Hong Kong International Airport.

During Customs clearance, the batch of suspected cannabis buds was found concealed inside two suitcases of a male passenger from Vancouver, Canada. The man was then arrested and has been charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug.

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drug is a serious offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of HK\$5 million and life imprisonment.

Customs also reminds that cannabis and tetrahydro-cannabinol (THC) are classified as dangerous drugs under the Ordinance. Importation of products (including food and drinks) containing cannabis or THC into Hong Kong is prohibited unless the relevant provisions in the Ordinance are complied with. In order to avoid breaching the law inadvertently, special attention should be paid to the packaging labels of food and drinks.

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

Land Registry launches Property Alert service

The Land Registry announced that the e-Alert service for property owners has been renamed as Property Alert with enhanced services.

The Property Alert service with a subscription fee is a smart tool which gives property owners an easy way to remain vigilant of their properties. The related service is particularly useful under the following circumstances:

- Your property is vacant or is not occupied by you.
- Whether or not you have rented out the property, you are staying overseas for extended periods of time.
- You want to be alerted as soon as your property is subjected to or may be affected by potential or actual disputes (e.g. Unexpected mortgages, repair notices or orders issued by the Building Authority, etc.).

For further details of Property Alert and application form for subscription, please visit the Land Registry's website (https://www.landreg.gov.hk/en/services/services_e.htm)

Copy of the Service's information leaflet
(https://www.landreg.gov.hk/en/pdf/ealert_service.pdf)

Recruitment of qualified doctors outside Hong Kong

The Hospital Authority (HA) in Hong Kong on February 15 submitted to the Medical Council of Hong Kong the new applications of three non-locally trained doctors for limited registration to serve in public hospitals.

The HA spokesperson said public hospitals have been facing doctor manpower shortages and workload issues in various clinical units. The recruitment of overseas doctors has been progressing well since last year with the extension of limited registration to a three-year term. So far about 20 non-locally trained doctors have been assessed to be eligible for the recruitment exercise and considered suitable for appointment after interviews by user departments.

As at January 2019, there are 10 non-locally trained doctors working in public hospitals under limited registration in the specialties of anaesthesia, cardiothoracic surgery,

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emergency medicine, family medicine and internal medicine to help relieve the manpower pressure in the respective units.

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

Besides, the HA continues to recruit non-locally trained doctors for the positions of:

a. Service Resident

https://erecruit.ha.org.hk/career/Default.asp?ID=3&AC=HKHA&EC=HA_Adm&GC=HAA_DM&JobID=30669&LID=1&WD5B84991091489792

and

b. Associate Consultant under various specialties

https://erecruit.ha.org.hk/career/Default.asp?ID=3&AC=HKHA&EC=HA_Adm&GC=HAA_DM&JobID=31448&LID=1&WD5A94968813657761

Interested candidates are welcome to visit HA's website

http://www.ha.org.hk/visitor/ha_visitor_index.asp?Content_ID=2010&Lang=ENG&Dimension=100 for online application.

A promotional brochure is also enclosed for reference.

[\[Attachment HA 1\]](#)

The application period for the posts will close on 31 March 2019 (Hong Kong time).

In addition, the Department of Health in Hong Kong is recruiting qualified doctors outside Hong Kong for the positions of Non-civil Service Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) and Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) (Child Assessment).

Applications for the above two posts are accepted all year round. Eligibility requirements are set out in the attached recruitment notices of the Department of Health. Enquiries can be made to the Department of Health at appts_registry1@dh.gov.hk and online application can be made through the Civil Service Bureau's website at <http://www.csb.gov.hk>. Job numbers are 40221 (Contract Doctor (without Full Registration)) and 40248 (Contract Doctor (without Full Registration) (Child Assessment)).

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[\[Attachment DH-1\]](#)

[\[Attachment DH-2\]](#)

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/7qkvxwho1qap26f/DH-1.pdf?dl=0>

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/s9ixdjmzn0ayipp/DH-2.pdf?dl=0>

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