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UPCOMING EVENTS

Hong Kong-Mississauga Innovation Exchange Event

Co-organized by IDEA Mississauga, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto), and Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) (Canada), the inaugural Hong Kong-Mississauga Innovation Exchange will be held on April 11, 4:00 pm - 6:30pm, at IDEA Square One, Mississauga. It aims to facilitate innovative idea exchanges, foster business partnerships, and cultivate meaningful connections between the City of Mississauga and Hong Kong. Participants can join live panel discussion with industry experts from McMillan, MNP and Roynat Capital Scotiabank, and informative sessions on government funding and support for startups by IDEA Mississauga, YSpace York University and InvestHK (Canada).

For registration, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hong-kong-mississauga-innovation-exchange-tickets-859019720107?aff=oddtcreator>

HONG KONG NEWS

New Capital Investment Entrant Scheme attracts strong response in first month

InvestHK announced on April 9 that the New Capital Investment Entrant Scheme (the Scheme) has seen good response since its launch on March 1, recording double-digit applications and over 1 600 enquiries mainly by professional service providers. This reflects the strong confidence from high-net-worth individuals in Hong Kong.

The Director-General of Investment Promotion, Ms Alpha Lau, said that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will continue to roll out measures to further enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness as an asset and wealth management hub and hence the attractiveness of the Scheme. InvestHK will also actively promote the Scheme to various business associations, international stakeholders, family offices, and professional service providers in addressing enquiries and ensuring clarity.

Under the Scheme, an eligible applicant must make an investment of a minimum of HK\$30 million in the permissible investment assets. A successful applicant may bring dependents (including spouse and unmarried dependent children aged under 18) to Hong Kong. Permission to stay will normally be granted to them for two years. Upon expiry of the two-year period, they may apply for an extension.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/09/P2024040900153.htm>

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Hospital Authority and HKSTP launch data platform to support scientific research for tech enterprises

The Hospital Authority (HA) and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) announced on March 28 that the Data Collaboration Lab at the Science Park is officially open to eligible innovation and technology enterprises in Science Park, mainly biotech and healthcare companies, for applications to use HA clinical data for research and development purposes.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202403/28/P2024032800560.htm>

Leading Mainland companies expand businesses in Hong Kong

InvestHK announced on April 2 that it has assisted a leading Mainland e-signature services provider, eSign, to build its international headquarters in Hong Kong as part of the company's global expansion strategy.

Founded in 2002, eSign offers comprehensive electronic signature services for corporates, governments and individuals. The company plans to use Hong Kong as its international headquarters.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/02/P2024040200205.htm>

In addition, InvestHK announced on April 9 that Mainland barbecue chain, Muwu BBQ, will officially open its debut store in Mongkok and a second one in Western district next month, as part of a global expansion.

Established in 2003 in Shenzhen, Muwu BBQ offers barbecue and skewers at affordable prices. It has opened more than 400 chain stores in 20 cities on the Mainland, including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/09/P2024040900246.htm>

Hong Kong Observatory supports global meteorological co-operation

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) updated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on March 28 to further strengthen meteorological co-operation.

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The HKO and the WMO first signed the MOU in October 2018 to support global weather information services. Under the updated MOU, the HKO will continue to develop and operate two WMO global weather information websites which are core components of the WMO Global Multi-hazard Alert System framework for increasing the availability of authoritative warnings and information related to extreme and potentially high-impact weather, water, and climate events to contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Early Warnings for All initiative.

Moreover, the HKO will strongly support the WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme by providing a variety of meteorological training courses to WMO members through the Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202403/28/P2024032800280.htm>

Policy on change of sex entry on Hong Kong identity card revised

The HKSAR Government announced on April 3 that the policy on change of sex entry on Hong Kong identity card (the Policy) has been revised. With effect immediately, in addition to persons who have completed full sex reassignment surgery (SRS), generally, if persons who have not completed full SRS have completed the specified surgical treatment for the purpose of modifying sexual characteristics and satisfied the revised criteria and requirements, they may apply for a change of sex entry on their Hong Kong identity cards.

A spokesperson for the HKSAR Government said that the revision concerns the policy on change of sex entry of Hong Kong identity card only, and such entry does not represent the holder's sex as a matter of law. It does not affect any other policies of the Government or the handling of any other gender-related matters under the law in Hong Kong or relevant legal procedures.

Click the following link for details:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202404/03/P2024040300189.htm>

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