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UPCOMING EVENTS

Uptown Asian Festival 2024

The Canadian Asian Heritage Association, supported by the Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan Chinese Business Association, organizes the Uptown Asian Festival 2024 to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival at Richmond Green Sports Centre & Park in Richmond Hill from August 30 to September 1. This vibrant festival brings together diverse traditions and acts as a catalyst for cross-cultural understanding with shows and performances by groups with multi-cultural background. The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Toronto (HKETO) is one of the sponsors of this community event. For details, please visit https://www.onrichmondhill.com/?q=uptown-asian-festival

2024 Asialicious Carnival

Enjoy the festival of food and fun! The 2024 Asialicious Carnival organized by the Federation of Asian Canadians Toronto will be held at Woodside Square, Scarborough, from September 6 to 8 to showcase the diverse Asian culture and heritage through fireworks, multicultural performances, street food, workshops and more. HKETO supports the event. For more details, please visit <u>www.AsialiciousCarnival.com</u>

Fête Chinoise's "Love at Mid-Autumn" Charity Campaign

Fête Chinoise's annual "Love at Mid-Autumn" charity campaign, supported by the HKETO, has returned to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival which symbolises family unity and reunion. The 2024 design of the campaign is inspired by the fascinating neon lights in Hong Kong. Please visit <u>https://www.fetechinoise.ca/loveatmidautumn</u> for more information.

2024 Moon Festival Celebration in Richmond Hill

The 2024 Moon Festival Celebration organized by MPP Daisy Wai Office will be held at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts on September 17. Programs and activities include dancing with lanterns, Chinese Opera, storytelling, lucky draw and riddles. The HKETO is a supporter of the event.

HONG KONG NEWS

Hong Kong attends APEC Energy Ministerial Meeting in Lima, Peru

The Secretary for Environment and Ecology of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government, Mr Tse Chin-wan attended the Asia-Pacific Economic

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Cooperation (APEC) Energy Ministerial Meeting (EMM) held in Lima, Peru on August 15 and 16, to elaborate Hong Kong's decarbonisation strategies.

At the meeting, Mr Tse discussed topics including the promotion of energy transition in the region with energy ministers or their representatives from APEC member economies. He said that the HKSAR Government has set "net-zero electricity generation" as one of the four decarbonisation strategies in the Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050, on top of its target to cease using coal for daily electricity generation before 2035 and to increase the share of usage of zero-carbon energy in electricity generation to around 60 per cent to 70 per cent by 2035.

Mr Tse also shared with other APEC member economies how the HKSAR Government promotes the development of hydrogen energy. Hong Kong, as an international city and financial centre, can become a demonstration platform for hydrogen technologies to assist the development of the hydrogen industry in different regions.

Click the following link for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/17/P2024081700253.htm

Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou science and technology cluster continues to rank second globally

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) published the Global Innovation Index 2024 top 100 science and technology (S&T) clusters on August 27, among which the Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou cluster continued to rank second globally for the fifth consecutive year.

A spokesman for the HKSAR Government noted that the Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou Greater Bay Area international I&T centre plays an important strategic role in the national S&T innovation system. Hong Kong will continue to actively promote I&T development by strengthening basic research capabilities, enhancing the local I&T ecosystem, accelerating the transformation and commercialisation of research and development outcomes, and promoting new industrialisation to accelerate the cultivation of new quality productive forces in accordance with local strengths.

WIPO examines the density of patent-filing and articles published in scientific research journals to identify and rank the leading geographical areas in global S&T invention and innovation activities. For the ranking this year, the Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou cluster filed 2 303 Patent Cooperation Treaty applications per 1 million inhabitants during 2019-2023 and published 3 469 scientific articles per 1 million inhabitants during 2022, both increasing from the previous cycles.

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Click the following link for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/27/P2024082700422.htm

CDI-CDEG linkage to promote development of Hong Kong's digital economy

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and the Digital Policy Office on August 26 jointly announced that the connection arrangement between the HKMA's Commercial Data Interchange (CDI) and the Government's Consented Data Exchange Gateway (CDEG) is now in full operation, with a promising growth in the utilisation rate by the pilot banks conducting trial transactions via the CDI-CDEG linkage established in late December 2023. With the successful completion of the trial run, the connection is now open to all CDI participating banks.

As the first government data source of CDI, the Companies Registry (CR) has connected to CDI through CDEG. By connecting to the CR via the CDI-CDEG linkage (also known as "CR@CDI"), banks can directly obtain company particulars such as company names, registered office addresses and share capital structure, which helps streamline various banking processes including account opening, fraud detection and Know Your Customer.

Since its official launch, CDI has successfully enhanced the small and medium-sized enterprise loan approval processes, facilitating more than 27,000 loan applications and reviews, with an estimated credit approval amount exceeding HK\$23.8 billion as of end-June 2024.

To unleash the potential of CDI beyond corporate level and to bolster the Government's digitalisation initiatives that enhance public convenience, the HKMA will explore the feasibility of extending the use of CDI to personal level leveraging the CDI-CDEG linkage.

Click the following link for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/26/P2024082600287.htm

Thai luxury health and beauty brand opens first overseas store in Hong Kong

Invest Hong Kong announced that Thai holistic wellness and lifestyle brand PAÑPURI has officially opened its first store in Hong Kong on August 27, taking the brand to the world stage.

The new store at a shopping mall in Tsim Sha Tsui offers a wide range of fragrance and beauty products, including essential oils, ambience diffusers, fragrances and more. It also provides an exclusive Hong Kong Edition EXTRACT Perfume Oil collection and a Bespoke Sensorial Bar. The company's goal is to expand to three or four stores in Hong

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Kong and to establish its Hong Kong office, capitalising on the city's status as a strategic gateway to Asia and a sought-after international hub.

Click the following link for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/27/P2024082700272.htm

CE welcomes Hong Kong, China Delegation returning from Paris 2024 Olympic Games

The welcome home reception for the Hong Kong, China Delegation to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games was held at the Central Government Offices on August 21 to congratulate the Delegation to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games for their outstanding achievements, and express gratitude to the coaches for their nurturing, as well as the medical teams for their contributions.

Addressing the reception, the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, remarked that the Hong Kong athletes showcased their abilities in this year's Paris Olympic Games, and their achievements were most heartening. He stressed that the HKSAR Government will continue to spare no effort in training local sports talent and to promote the development of sports in Hong Kong, including comprehensive planning, development and optimisation of sports facilities.

The Paris 2024 Olympic Games was held in France between July 26 and August 11 this year. The Hong Kong, China Delegation sent a total of 35 athletes to compete in 13 events, and achieved historic results by winning two gold medals and two bronze medals in fencing and swimming events.

Click the following link for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/21/P2024082000485.htm

In addition, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau of the HKSAR Government on August 23 announced that the 2024 Paris Olympic Games Mainland Olympians delegation's visit to Hong Kong from August 29 to 31 includes 65 athletes and eight coaches from 16 sports events.

The delegation will attend a welcome reception and welcome banquet hosted by the HKSAR Government, and visit the Hong Kong Sports Institute to hold exchanges with Hong Kong athletes, as well as attending three public events.

Click the following link for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/23/P2024082300538.htm August 28, 2024



CE attends 2024 Policy Address District Forums

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR, Mr John Lee, led his team of Principal Officials to attend the 2024 Policy Address District Forums to listen to the views and suggestions of members of local communities on the third Policy Address of the current-term Government on August 18 and 25 respectively.

At the forums, the matters raised straddled across many areas, including land and housing, transport, innovation and technology, financial services development, cultural and creative industries, education, youth issues, poverty alleviation and support for the disadvantaged, healthcare and more.

Members of the public can also give their views through various channels, including the Policy Address website, social media platforms, hotlines, email, fax and post.

Click the following links for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/18/P2024081600210.htm https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202408/25/P2024082500189.htm

Recruitment of non-locally trained dentists

Following the passage of the Dentists Registration (Amendment) Bill 2024 by the Legislative Council, the Department of Health (DH) of the HKSAR formally commenced the recruitment of non-locally trained dentists.

With the phased implementation of the amended provisions starting from 2025, qualified non-locally trained dentists will be allowed to practise in Hong Kong. Dentists who are interested in practising in Hong Kong and granted a conditional offer after the interview may submit a limited registration or special registration application to the Dental Council of Hong Kong, and upon approval directly practise at the DH.

The deadline of submitting application for the Contract Dentist position is 23 September 2024 at 23:59 (Hong Kong time). For more details, please visit www.dh.gov.hk/english/main/main_ds/main_co.html

Click the following link for details: https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202407/23/P2024072300506.htm

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