Hong Kong Children's Hospital to commence inpatient service

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Hong Kong Children's Hospital (HKCH) will commence its inpatient service in phases starting from this Wednesday (March 27), beginning with paediatric haematology and oncology ward, paediatric intensive care unit and operating theatre services.

The first inpatients will come from the Children's Cancer Centre of Prince of Wales Hospital, while services of the other four centres in Queen Mary Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital and Tuen Mun Hospital will gradually be provided in HKCH within this year.

The Hospital Chief Executive of HKCH, Dr Lee Tsz-leung, said, "Inpatient services for nephrology, paediatric surgery, neonatal intensive care, cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery will be commissioned gradually in 2019-20. Phased commissioning allows us adequate time to run through the service models and clinical workflow to ensure patient safety and service quality."

HKCH's specialist outpatient, pathology, radiology and pharmacy services have commenced since December 18, 2018. HKCH is a tertiary referral centre providing multidisciplinary management for complex, serious and uncommon paediatric diseases, including diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation for clinically indicated patients below 18 across the territory. There is no accident and emergency department or general outpatient clinic in the hospital. All patients must be referred by public hospitals or private doctors.

Hospital service information and latest news are available at www.ha.org.hk/hkch.

First-round applications invited for Community-driven Projects under ICH Funding Scheme

The Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) launched the ICH Funding Scheme today (March 25) and invited the first round of applications for the Community-

driven Projects.

The objective of the funding scheme is to support individuals and organisations in Hong Kong in carrying out ICH projects with a view to strengthening the safeguarding, research and promotion of local ICH items and education about them, as well as supporting the transmission of ICH by local bearers and bearer organisations. By engaging the community's participation in safeguarding ICH, it is hoped that the public can enhance their awareness and understanding of ICH and boost their respect for it.

The scope of support covers projects related to the items in the Representative List and the Inventory of the ICH of Hong Kong. The proposed projects must be of a certain scale or larger than others of the same type, and the funding amount applied for on each project shall not be less than \$250,000.

The LCSD has set up an assessment panel under the ICH Advisory Committee for assessing applications as well as monitoring and evaluating the progress and effectiveness of the funded projects. The panel will assess the applications based on the objectives and contents of the proposed projects, the uniqueness of the ideas and feasibility of the implementation, the relevant knowledge and skills of the applicants, the effectiveness in promoting ICH in the community, the rationality of the proposed budgets, and the self-assessment mechanisms. The assessment results and funding recommendations of the panel will be submitted to the LCSD for due consideration.

The ICH Office will also report regularly to the ICH Advisory Committee on the submissions and results of each round of applications, as well as the progress and effectiveness of the funded projects.

Application information is available at the ICH Office (address: Sam Tung Uk Museum, 2 Kwu Uk Lane, Tsuen Wan, New Territories) and the ICH Office website (www.lcsd.gov.hk/ICHO). The closing date of application is May 3.

A briefing session will be held at 11am on April 8 at the Lecture Hall of the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre, Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, to brief interested individuals and organisations on the content and application details of the funding scheme. Registration for the briefing session can be made online on the above website or by phone. For registration or other enquiries, please contact the ICH Office at 2267 1971.

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Chain supermarket convicted of supplying frozen fish with false trade description

A chain supermarket was fined \$18,000 today (March 25) at West Kowloon Magistrates' Courts for supplying frozen fish with false trade descriptions applied, in contravention of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO).

Hong Kong Customs earlier received information alleging the sale of prepacked frozen whole areolate grouper and two-spot red snapper suspected to be carrying false scientific names at a chain supermarket in Tsuen Wan.

Upon examination by the Government Laboratory, it was confirmed that the species of the frozen fish were different from the scientific names indicated on the packages.

Customs reminds traders to comply with the requirements of the TDO. Under the TDO, any person who supplies goods with a false trade description in the course of trade or business, or is in possession of any goods for sale with a false trade description, commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

Members of the public may report any suspected violations of the TDO to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Monday, March 25, 2019 is 103.2 (down 0.1 against last Saturday's index).

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Saturday, March 23, 2019 was 103.3 (up 0.2 against last Friday's index).