

# Liquor Licensing Board members visit licensed liquor premises (with photos)

The following is issued on behalf of the Liquor Licensing Board:

Members of the Liquor Licensing Board, led by the Board Chairman, Dr Wong Kong-tin, visited a number of premises with liquor licences in Central District and Tsim Sha Tsui District in the small hours today (December 17) to learn more about the operation of the premises and enforcement action by the Police and the Fire Services Department (FSD).

During the visit, members were briefed by representatives of the Police on various issues related to the regulation of premises with liquor licences, including crowd control, traffic flow, law and order, and noise problems.

Representatives from the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the FSD, the Buildings Department and the Environmental Protection Department also joined the visit.

The Board issued 910 new licences and renewed 5 392 liquor and club liquor licences from January to October this year.

Apart from the Board Chairman, others taking part in the visit were the Vice-chairman, Ms Fan Chui-wah, and Board members Mr Chung Kong-mo, Mr Ho Chin-choi, Ms Hui Mei-sheung, Mr Leung Po-sang, Ms Lo Oi-ling and Mr Tou Yat-lung.

They were joined by the Permanent Secretary for Environment and Ecology (Food), Miss Vivian Lau, and the Acting Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene, Mr Arsene Yiu.



# CHP reminds public on precautions against cold weather

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (December 17) reminded the public, particularly the elderly and people with chronic illnesses, to adopt appropriate measures to protect their health in view of the cold weather.

A spokesman for the CHP said that cold weather can easily trigger or exacerbate diseases, especially among the elderly and persons suffering from heart disease, respiratory illness or other chronic illnesses.

"Elderly people have less insulating fat beneath their skin to keep them warm and their body temperature control mechanism may be weaker. Their body may not be able to appropriately respond to the cold weather," the spokesman said.

Some senior persons may have decreased mobility, which can in turn impair their ability to generate and conserve body heat. Chronic illnesses, such as hypertension, diabetes and endocrine disorders may undermine the health of elderly people and lower their metabolic rate, subsequently causing their body to generate less heat. Persons with chronic illnesses such as chronic respiratory illnesses or heart disease are vulnerable to disease aggravation due to cold weather.

The CHP reminded the public, in particular the elderly and persons with chronic illnesses, to adopt the following preventive measures:

- Take note of the weather forecast. Wear warm clothing, including hats, scarves, gloves and socks accordingly;
- Consume sufficient food to ensure adequate calorie intake;
- Perform regular exercise to facilitate blood circulation and heat production;
- Stay in a warm environment and avoid prolonged outdoor exposure;
- Use heaters with care, and maintain adequate indoor ventilation; and
- Seek medical advice if feeling unwell.

In addition, the public should avoid alcoholic beverages.

"Drinking alcohol cannot keep you warm. Alcohol accelerates the loss of body heat through dilated blood vessels, resulting in chilling instead," the spokesman said.

"Parents should ensure that babies are sufficiently warm, but it is also important to keep babies relatively lightly clothed to avoid overheating them," the spokesman added.

Parents should observe the following safety measures when putting their children to bed:

- Keep the room well ventilated and at a comfortable temperature;
- Always place babies on their back to sleep. Leave their head, face and arms uncovered during sleep;
- Babies do not need pillows. Place babies on a firm and well-fitted mattress to sleep. Avoid soft objects, pillows and loose bedding;
- Let babies sleep in a cot placed in the parents' room and near their bed; and
- Maintain a smoke-free environment.

In addition, seasonal influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons aged 6 months or above except those with known contraindications. Persons at higher risk of getting influenza and its complications, including the elderly and children, should receive seasonal influenza vaccination early. Please see details of the vaccination schemes on the [CHP's website](#).

A person who gets influenza and COVID-19 at the same time may be more seriously ill and would have a higher risk of death. Influenza vaccination may reduce the likelihood of hospitalisation and the length of stay. It is important for elderly persons, especially those residing in residential care homes, to receive both seasonal influenza vaccination and COVID-19 vaccination. They should also receive an additional booster against COVID-19 according to recommendations as soon as possible. The public should also maintain good personal and environmental hygiene against respiratory illnesses and note the following:

- Surgical masks can prevent transmission of respiratory viruses from ill persons. It is essential for persons who are symptomatic (even if having mild symptoms) to wear a surgical mask;
- Wear a surgical mask when taking public transport or staying in crowded places. It is important to wear a mask properly, including performing hand hygiene before wearing and after removing a mask;
- Avoid touching one's eyes, mouth and nose;
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water properly whenever possibly contaminated;
- When hands are not visibly soiled, clean them with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub;
- Cover the mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose of soiled tissue paper properly into a lidded rubbish bin, and wash hands thoroughly afterwards;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation;
- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or attending classes at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly; and
- Maintain a balanced diet, exercise regularly, take adequate rest, do not smoke and avoid overstress.

Food-borne diseases, particularly those linked to hot pot cuisine, are also common in cold weather. The following preventive measures should be

taken:

- Wash hands before handling and consuming food;
- Do not patronise unlicensed vendors or those with poor hygienic standards while selecting food;
- Wash and cook all food thoroughly;
- Vegetables should be washed thoroughly in clean running water before cooking and consumption. When appropriate, scrub vegetables with hard surfaces with a clean brush to remove dirt and substances, including pesticide residues and contaminants, from the surface and crevices;
- Shrimps should be fully cooked until the shells turn red and the flesh turns white and opaque;
- For shellfish such as scallops and geoduck, scrub the shells thoroughly and remove internal organs;
- Most hot pot ingredients should be stored in a refrigerator at 4 degrees Celsius or below, while frozen food should be stored in a freezer at -18 degrees C or below;
- Never use raw eggs as a dipping sauce for hot pot; and
- Use different sets of chopsticks to handle raw and cooked food to avoid cross-contamination.

In addition, when using fuel-burning appliances, especially in indoor areas, the public should ensure adequate ventilation to avoid harmful exposure to carbon monoxide (CO) and prevent CO poisoning.

For more health information, the public may call the DH's Health Education Infoline (2833 0111) or visit the [CHP's website](#) and [Facebook Fanpage](#).

The public may also call Dial-a-Weather (1878 200) or visit the [website of the Hong Kong Observatory](#) for the latest weather information and forecast, or its [page on Weather Information for Senior Citizens](#).

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## **Employers and employees should take precautions during cold weather**

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following special announcement immediately, and repeat it at frequent intervals when the Cold Weather Warning is in force:

The Labour Department reminds employers that as the Cold Weather Warning is in force, they should take appropriate precautions such as reminding employees who have to work outdoors or in remote areas to wear appropriately warm clothing, and make arrangements for employees to rotate from outdoor to

indoor or sheltered work sites as far as possible. Employees should take note of the weather report, wear appropriately warm clothing and be mindful of their health conditions. They should notify their supervisors and seek medical help immediately if feeling unwell, such as having cold limbs and body shivering.

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## [Yellow fire danger warning](#)

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Yellow fire danger warning

The fire danger situation today (December 17) is yellow and the risk of fire is high. People are urged to prevent fires breaking out and hikers should also be vigilant.

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## [HKCPEC held Final Round of Competition cum Award Presentation Ceremony for HKCPEC Youth Programme \(with photos\)](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation:

The Final Round of Competition cum Award Presentation Ceremony for the Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (HKCPEC) Youth Programme (Youth Programme) – "Digital Art x Speak up Hong Kong Story" Art Design and Storytelling Competition, co-organised by the HKCPEC and Education Network, was successfully held today (December 16) at The Mills in Tsuen Wan. Officiating at the Award Presentation Ceremony were the Chairman of the HKCPEC, Professor Tam Kar-yan, and the Vice Chairman of the HKCPEC and the Deputy Director-General of Trade and Industry, Mr Francis Ho.

In his opening remarks, Professor Tam said that this year marked the ninth edition of Youth Programme held by the HKCPEC, which provided an opportunity for students to better understand the strengths and prospect of Hong Kong in the Asia-Pacific region through participating in a series of workshops, seminars and visits, and to tell the world the good stories of Hong Kong through integrating digital art and creativity.

Speaking at the Award Presentation Ceremony, Mr Ho expressed his delight

for HKCPEC to organise this year's Youth Programme, as the objective coincided with the priorities of the current-term Government on youth development and promoting Hong Kong. It also echoed the recent development of digitalisation in the region, and enabled the younger generation in Hong Kong to deepen their understanding in regional trend and economic co-operation.

The HKCPEC Youth Programme aims at advancing understanding among the youth community on Hong Kong's role and contribution to trade and economic development and co-operation in the Asia-Pacific region; and increasing their knowledge, developing their analytical skills and encouraging their strategic thinking in the process of the participation.

This year's Youth Programme seeks to inspire students to share the good stories of Hong Kong with the use of new media while producing digital artwork that reflects their innovative thinking. Participating senior secondary school students in Hong Kong completed in a series of nurturing activities, including seminars, workshops and company visits. In the Final Round of Competition, 14 shortlisted teams each presented a complete set of digital artwork and shared their design concept and vision of good stories of Hong Kong through a short video.

In the Award Presentation Ceremony, ECF Saint Too Canaan College was awarded the Asia-Pacific Grand Vision Award, the Hong Kong Story Award and the Digital Art Award. The awarded team of the Best Presentation Award was one of the teams from Po Leung Kuk Yao Ling Sun College. The artwork and video of one of the teams from SALEM-Immanuel Lutheran College also won both the Popularity Artwork Award and Popularity Video Award from an online polling on social media. All digital artwork entering the Final Round of Competition are exhibited at M4 Atrium on the first floor of The Mills from December 16 to 18 (Saturday to Monday). Members of the public are welcome to visit.

The HKCPEC ([www.hkcpec.org/](http://www.hkcpec.org/)) was established in March 1990 to co-ordinate Hong Kong, China's participation in the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC). In line with the nature of the PECC, the composition of the HKCPEC is tripartite, comprising members from the Government, the business sector and academia.

The PECC is a non-governmental organization set up in 1980 to develop closer co-operation in trade and economic issues among economies in the region. Currently, the PECC has 25 member committees, of which 22 are full members. For details, please visit the PECC's website at [www.pecc.org/](http://www.pecc.org/).



