

Toronto ETO hosts Hong Kong Week opening ceremony and "Connect & Excel – Past, Present & Future" photo exhibition (with photos)

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (Toronto ETO) hosted the opening ceremony of Hong Kong Week and the "Connect & Excel – Past, Present & Future" photo exhibition at the Dr Hin-Shiu Hung Art Gallery of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto yesterday (June 18, Toronto time).

In delivering a welcome speech at the opening ceremony, the Director of the Toronto ETO, Ms Emily Mo, said the Hong Kong Week event under the theme "Connect and Excel" aims to promote Hong Kong's strengths, advantages and potential with an emphasis on the core values and attributes of Hong Kong, Asia's world city.

Given Hong Kong's high degree of connectivity, globally and with Mainland China and the rest of Asia, the city helps propel people and businesses to excellence in their chosen fields under a "Connect and Excel" theme. "Hong Kong's sound fundamentals not only relate to physical connectivity but also to financial, legal, scientific research and creative links as well as people-to-people connectivity," Ms Mo said.

Ms Mo also introduced the series of activities to be held in Toronto and Vancouver in the inaugural Hong Kong Week event organised by the Toronto ETO, which include the "Think Asia, Think Hong Kong 2.0" business conference to discuss how Hong Kong connects businesses between Canada and Asia, an academic seminar and a concert on how music connects Hong Kong and Canada, a Hong Kong-themed drama, dragon boat festival activities and photo exhibitions.

Entitled "Connect & Excel – Past, Present & Future", the photo exhibitions are jointly presented by the Toronto ETO and the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto. More than 80 photos are being displayed to showcase Hong Kong's high degree of connectivity from different perspectives.

Among the photos, two newly commissioned infrastructure projects, namely the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, which greatly enhance the connectivity of Hong Kong to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and destinations further afield in Mainland China, are featured.

The photo exhibition also showcases the many types of transport and world-class infrastructure in Hong Kong.

Ms Mo invited guests at the opening ceremony and the Canadian public to

learn more about Hong Kong's connectivity by visiting the photo exhibitions and participating in other Hong Kong Week activities.

Yesterday's opening ceremony was attended by the Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Toronto, Mr Han Tao; Members of the Provincial Parliament of Ontario Ms Daisy Wai and Mr Billy Pang.

Before the opening ceremony came to a close, the guests were treated to a Chinese instrumental performance by four professional musicians from the Hong Kong Oratorio Society (HKOS). Led by the Music Director of the HKOS, Professor Chan Wing-wah, the HKOS will jointly stage a concert with Kindred Spirits Orchestra of Markham and the Vancouver Oratorio Society on June 22 (Toronto time).

The "Connect & Excel – Past, Present & Future" photo exhibition will run from June 15 to 30 (Toronto time) in various venues in the Greater Toronto Area and in downtown Vancouver. The dates and venues are listed below:

June 18-20	Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto
June 18-22	North York Civic Centre in Toronto
June 18-30	Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library of the University of Toronto
June 24-30	Sunroom & Gallery, Robson Square, University of British Columbia in Vancouver

Other activities of Hong Kong Week include:

June 18 Seminar on "Connecting Hong Kong and Canada through Music" at

the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library of the University of Toronto

June 21 2019 National Conference themed "Think Asia, Think Hong Kong 2.0" at Hilton Toronto/Markham Suites Conference Centre & Spa

June 21 to 23 Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival in Vancouver

June 22 "Voices of the World" concert at the Richmond Hill Centre for Performing Arts

June 30 Hong Kong-themed musical performances "Try to Remember" at Michael J Fox Theatre in Vancouver



