

香港 澳洲 商會

HONG KONG
AUSTRALIA
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
(VICTORIA CHAPTER)



In this Newsletter, we:

- Keep you informed of our upcoming events including the inaugural National HKABA-Cathay Pacific Asia Business Awards and the Victorian Hong Kong Budget Briefing
- Shine the spotlight on the 2012 Chinese New Year Reception
- Invite you to visit our new website
- Bring your attention to the Australasian Financial Forum 2012
- Provide you with news and updates on Hong Kong

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

We wish all our members a happy Chinese New Year and hope that the year of the Dragon will bring success and prosperity to all.

If you need to get in touch with us, please contact us at:

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Email: info@hkaba-vic.com.au

Daren Yeoh
Vice-President and Editor



UP COMING EVENT

2012 EVENT CALENDAR

Kee an eye on our upcoming newsletters for dates and details. The following is a snapshot of the planned events for 2012.

- HK Budget Briefing 20 March 2012
- Food and Wine Appreciation Dinner June 2012
- 15th anniversary of HK returning to China July 2012
- Official Launch of HK Forum July 2012
- Annual Business Awards Gala Dinner 31 August 2012
- Annual General meeting October 2012
- Yum Cha Networking function November 2012
- HK Forum November-December 2012
- Young Professionals Event April 2012 and September 2012

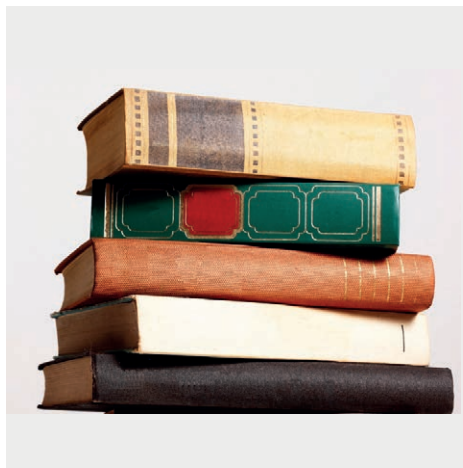
NATIONAL HKABA-CATHAY PACIFIC ASIA BUSINESS AWARDS

The National HKABA-Cathay Pacific Asia Business awards will be launched for the first time in 2012. Winners from the various State based awards will be entitled to participate in the National awards

The details of the event are set out below:

- Date: 16 March 2012
- Venue: Le Montage, Frazer St, Lilyfield, Sydney, NSW
- Time: 6:30 for pre-dinner drinks 7:00 dinner
- Cost: \$150 for individual, \$1,300 for table of ten

To attend, please contact Teresa Lee at (02) 9267 3158 or email: hkaba@hktdc.org



HONG KONG BUDGET BRIEFING

Hong Kong Australia Business Association is proud to present our 2012 Hong Kong Budget Briefing in March 2012 hosted by Hong Kong Economic Trade Office in conjunction with Wilson HTM Investment Group, one of Australia's leading wealth management firms.

The Hong Kong Budget Briefing will include:

- Presentation from Steve Barclay, Director of Hong Kong Economic Trade Office, on Hong Kong Government's 2011-12 budget as well as current Hong Kong economic conditions
- Presentation from Edward Plowman and Ben Rickman Senior Investment Advisors of Wilson HTM Investment Group, on investment strategies and tips to navigate and maximise your return on investments in the current economic climate

Details:

Date: 20th March 2012
Time: 5:30pm
Location: Wilson HTM Investment Group
Level 11
8 Exhibition Street
Melbourne

Please join us for what is an informative and insightful session on economics and investments!





2012 CHINESE NEW YEAR RECEPTION

The 2012 Chinese New Year Reception was held at the Ballroom of the Langham Hotel on 30 January 2012 to celebrate the New Year of the Dragon.

The event was hosted by the:

- Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office
- Hong Kong Trade Development Council
- Hong Kong Tourism Board
- Invest Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Australia Business Association – VIC Chapter

More than 200 members and guests attended the event including Government officials from Australia, Hong Kong and China and business leaders



Mr Steve Barclay, Director of the Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office and representing all hosts welcomed all guests and provided the opening speech. Mr Barclay highlighted the strength and resilience of the Hong Kong economy in 2011 and praised the strength of the relationship between Australia and Hong Kong and China



The Hon. Gordon Rich-Phillips, representing the Victorian Premier, in his speech echoed Mr Barclay's sentiments on the strength of the relationship between the Victorian Government and Hong Kong and China. The Minister referred to the visit by the Premier of Victoria Ted Baillieu to China last year and the visit by the Chief Executive of Hong Kong, Mr. Donald Tsang to Victoria in the same year. The Minister also touched on the Victorian-China strategy and noted the importance that Hong Kong plays in that strategy.



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Guests were then entertained by the talented Hong Kong Melody makers. The young medal winning group, using only their vocals sang:

1. Chinese New Year Songs in Cantonese
2. Isn't she lovely
3. Staying Alive - signature song of the Bee Gees arranged by an Australian group "The Idea Of North"

The event concluded with honoured guest taking the stage for a Chinese New Year toast.



You can also view more photos of the event by clicking on the following link (password: hketo1):
http://www.phocusphotos.com/Events/HKETO/HKETO-CNY-2012/21290447_HDRW7c

NEW WEBSITE



The screenshot shows the HKABA website homepage. At the top left is the HKABA logo. The main header features a banner with the text '香港澳洲商會' and a background image of Hong Kong skyscrapers. Below the banner is a 'Main Menu' with links: Home, Latest News & Events, Membership, Sponsorship, Photo, Links, and Contact Us. The main content area is titled 'Home' and 'Hong Kong Australia Business Association (Vic. Chapter)'. There is a collage of photos showing various events and buildings. At the bottom, there is a small text block: 'The Hong Kong - Australia Business Association Inc. (HKABA), initiated by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, was established in 1987 aiming to develop a positive image for Hong Kong and to reinforce economic ties between Hong Kong and Australia.'

We have launched our new improved website and invite you to visit our website by clicking the following link: <http://www.hkaba-vic.com.au/>



AUSTRALASIAN FINANCIAL FORUM 2012

Members of the HKABA can register to attend the Australian Financial Forum 2012 on a complimentary basis. The details of the event in Melbourne are set out below.

Date: Wednesday 14th March 2012

Time: 12 noon sharp to 2pm (light lunch included)

Place: Mallesons Stephen Jaques, Bourke Place, 600 Bourke St, Melbourne, VIC, 3000

To register for the event, click on the attached link (<http://affmelbournemarch2012.eventbrite.com/>)

SPONSORSHIP

We extend our warmest welcome to our sponsors in 2012.

2012 proves to be another exciting year for the Victoria Chapter of the HKABA with many exciting events planned throughout the year and we look forward to your continued support.

We would also like to pass on our gratitude to the Hong Kong Economic Trade Office, Hong Kong Tourism Board, Hong Kong Trade Development Council and Invest Hong Kong for sponsoring our highly successful Chinese New Year function held on the 30th of January 2012 at the Ballroom in the Langham Hotel.

Should you be considering a sponsorship opportunity with us, a range of sponsorship packages is available to suit your individual needs. For further details, please contact Gary Cheung on 03 9671 7602 or email: garcheung@deloitte.com.au



MOORE STEPHENS
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS



MEMBERSHIP:

CONTACT US

Gary Wolff; Membership Committee Chair:

For membership queries please contact me at gary@wolff.net.au.

We extend our welcome the following new members:

- Herald Fok
- Milad Hassani
- Eagle Investments

INTERVIEW WITH A HKABA MEMBER, MR WILKIN FON, DIRECTOR, JEANSWEST GROUP

Tell us about your organisation

Jeanswest is a national retailer of casual clothing for both genders. It is a fully owned subsidiary of the Glorious Sun Enterprises Ltd, which in turn is a listed company in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. We operate about 200 stores in Australia and have presence in each and every state. We also operate about 30 stores in New Zealand. We have a sister chain by the same name "Jeanswest" in China and its store network covers all 30 provinces in China with more than 2,900 stores.

Why did you join the HKABA?

I joined HKABA back in 1995 when we relocated our Australian head office from Perth to Melbourne. At that time we were keen to establish more contacts with the local business community, especially those that have an interest in promoting bilateral trade between Hong Kong and Australia. I joined the Victorian Committee and have since made many many friends and managed to broaden my horizon with the opportunity to work closely with similar minded colleagues in various functions and projects.

What do you like about the HKABA?

A few factors make HKABA stand apart from other business or Chinese organizations. First and foremost the invaluable support and assistance from government and semi-government organizations such as the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Hong Kong Tourism Board are truly unique in the space of national

business associations. And we have a truly bicultural organization with good membership size from both the local Australian community as well as expatriates originating from Hong Kong. HKABA has also got the right mix of knowledge based and networking functions. In a HKABA function, you never feel you are just there to learn or just to network, but a healthy mix of the two. And of course we who came from Hong Kong really know how to run a good party!

Do you have a message for organisations considering joining the HKABA?

For those organizations who are considering doing business in Hong Kong or in China, I strongly urge you to join HKABA. This is an organization that not only could assist your entry into the ever expanding Asian market but you would be able to meet peers who could share their experiences with you. Strong friendships are continuously being developed amongst its members. By joining the HKABA, you are also joining the large family of the Federation of Hong Kong Associations Worldwide comprising similar associations in 31 different countries in the world boasting more than 30,000 members. There is simply no better

MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2011

Corporate Membership: \$400 (including GST and nomination of 3 members from same company same state)

Individual membership: \$150 (including GST)

Student membership: \$30 (including GST)

Please note membership renewal can be made electronically via the Association's website www.hkaba.com.au



NEWS AND UPDATES

Hong Kong 2012/2013 Budget

The Financial Secretary, Mr. John Tsang, delivered the 2012/2013 budget speech of the Government in the Legislative Council on 1 February 2012.

To read a Hong Kong Budget brief visit: <http://www.ms.com.hk/>

Hong Kong Port Usage grows steadily in 2011

Recent statistics are showing that contrary to popular belief, Port of Hong Kong is not losing significance on the world stage. Statistics released indicated that input through the Port is growing. It has been shown that in the third quarter that total port cargo throughput increased by 4% on the same period a year earlier.

To read more click on the following link
http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__68.php

Hong Kong tops Open Markets Index

Hong Kong has been ranked the world's most open market, with a score of 5.4 on a scale of one to six, in the first Open Markets Index, published by the International Chamber of Commerce. The index ranks 75 economies based on a variety of criteria, including trade openness, trade policy, trade-enabling infrastructure, and Foreign Direct Investment Openness. Hong Kong did well across the board.

To read more click on the following link:
http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__63.php

Supplement VIII to CEPA Deepens liberalization of Trade in Services

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSARG) and the Central People's Government today reached agreement on the enhancement of economic and trade co-operation and exchanges between the two places under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA).

To read more click on the following link:
http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__62.php

Hong Kong ranked world's freest economy for the 18th consecutive year

Hong Kong has been ranked the world's freest economy by the Heritage Foundation for the 18th consecutive year since the index was first published in 1995.

To read more click on the following link:
http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__66.php

Hong Kong, Shanghai Strengthen ties

Hong Kong and Shanghai have signed co-operation agreements in business and trading, culture, civil servant exchange and hospital management, and reached agreement on 28 joint projects. This was the news from Chief Executive Donald Tsang after co-chairing the Second Plenary Session of the Hong Kong-Shanghai Economic & Trade Co-operation Conference in Shanghai today with the city's Mayor Han Zheng. Mr Tsang said the meeting achieved ideal results, with both sides signing the four co-operation agreements.

To read more click on the following link:
http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__65.php



Hong Kong Tops financial Development Index

Hong Kong has topped the World Economic Forum's Financial Development Index for the first time, up from fourth in 2010. According to the WEF Financial Development Index released today, Hong Kong has overtaken the US and the UK to take the top spot with a score of 5.16 on a scale of 1-7. Singapore ranks fourth, while Mainland China ranks 19th, up from 22nd.

To read more click on the following link:

http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__61.php

Hong Kong is on the list of most worth-watching cities in the world

Hong Kong is on the list of 16 most worth-watching cities in the world, says Harvard University economist, Edward Glaeser, and Columbia University sociologist, Saskia Sassen.

To read more click on the following link:

http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem__60.php

Hong Kong is the leading centre of offshore Renminbi Business

Hong Kong is now hosting the largest pool of RMB liquidity outside Mainland China according to Steve Barclay, Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO), speaking today (7 November) at the Off-shore Renminbi Seminar in Sydney.

To read more click on the following link

<http://www.hketosydney.gov.hk/wntem.php?wn=53>