

Tenders invited for government property tenancy

The Government Property Agency is inviting tenders for a one-year tenancy of Shop No. 17 on Podium Level 2 of Shun Lee Disciplined Services Quarters, 32 Lee On Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

The premises should only be used for (i) retail or provision of services (excluding TV or Internet game centre, off-course betting centre and mahjong school); or (ii) eating outlet; or (iii) the combination of both (i) and (ii).

The tender notice was uploaded today (April 26) to the Agency's website: www.gpa.gov.hk. Tender documents are available for collection at the Government Property Agency, 31/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, during office hours (8.30am to 5.45pm from Mondays to Fridays). The documents can also be downloaded from the Agency's website.

Interested tenderers who wish to inspect the site should make prior appointment with the Government Property Agency by calling 2594 7654 on or before May 9 this year.

Tenderers must submit their tenders by placing them in the Government Logistics Department Tender Box situated on the ground floor, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, before noon on May 21 this year. Late tenders will not be accepted.

Qingdao art group to showcase intangible cultural heritage of Shandong

The Qingdao Song and Dance Theatre will perform a dance drama entitled "Red Sorghum" in June.

"Red Sorghum" is one of the programmes in "Genesis and Spirit – A Showcase of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Shandong" presented by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Home Affairs Bureau, as well as organised by the Shandong Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The performances will be staged at 8pm on June 7 and 8 (Friday and Saturday) at the Auditorium of Tsuen Wan Town Hall.

Adapted from the novel of same title by Mo Yan, a Nobel Prize laureate in literature, "Red Sorghum" tells the story of life forces through the varied use of body language to externalise nuanced emotions, covering the tenacious pursuit of love and freedom in life by people living in a highland region where sorghum grows.

The story takes place in Gaomi, Shandong Province, during China's Republican period in the early 20th century. Jiu'er is forced by her parents to marry an old leper who owns a winery. When she is on the way, a bandit stops her sedan chair. One of the sedan carriers fights with the bandit and finally drives him away. Jiu'er and the sedan carrier fall in love and later they have a child. When the old leper dies, he has no heir to take over the winery, and Jiu'er becomes the new owner. Later, the Japanese army invades China and Jiu'er's friend is brutally killed. Determined to avenge her friend's death, she asks the winery workers to help bury mines and make bombs, and a fight begins.

Established in 1960, the Qingdao Song and Dance Theatre handles the entire process of staging a production, i.e. from concept development, choreography and scriptwriting to performance. The group has taken on an active role in the organisation, co-ordination and logistics of many of Qingdao's gala events. It has toured Germany, Korea, Japan, Russia, Australia and Singapore, conducting cultural exchange and promoting Chinese traditional culture.

Tickets for "Red Sorghum" priced at \$150, \$220 and \$300 are now available at URB TIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7323 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/tc/dance/programs_791.html.

Labour Department to hold occupational health public talks

The Labour Department (LD) will hold a public talk entitled "First aid in the workplace" on May 3 (Friday). The talk will present basic information on first aid and explain how to assist and handle injured employees in workplace accidents through case illustrations.

The talk, to be given by the LD's occupational health nurse, will be held at 3pm in the Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui.

The LD will hold another talk entitled "Manual handling operations and prevention of back injuries" on May 9 (Thursday). The talk will give a brief

account of the structure and functions of the back, causes of back injuries and preventive measures, and proper manual handling operations. The demonstration and practice of workplace exercises will also be included.

Given by the LD's occupational health nurse and occupational hygienist, the talk will be held at 6.30pm in Activity Room 1, G/F, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay.

Both talks will be conducted in Cantonese. Admission is free. For enquiries or registration, please call 2852 4040.

Cross-boundary passenger traffic estimation and arrangements for Labour Day festive period

The Immigration Department (ImmD) estimates that around 6.68 million passengers (including Hong Kong residents and visitors) will pass through Hong Kong's sea, land and air control points during the upcoming Labour Day festive period (from April 30 to May 5). Among them, about 82 per cent, or around 5.48 million passengers, will pass through land boundary control points. The number of inbound passengers using land boundary control points will reach its peak on May 1 (Wednesday), with around 595 000 passengers arriving in Hong Kong, while the number of outbound passengers will be at its highest on May 4 (Saturday) with around 543 000 passengers departing Hong Kong.

Lo Wu will be the busiest control point, and it is estimated that there will be around 1.58 million passengers, with a daily average of about 263 000 passengers, travelling via this control point during the festive period. The passenger traffic at the Lok Ma Chau Spur Line and Shenzhen Bay control points will also be heavy, with daily average forecasts of about 185 000 and 146 000 passengers respectively.

To cope with the anticipated heavy traffic during the festive period, the ImmD has minimised leave for front-line officers for flexible deployment and operation of extra clearance counters and kiosks. Additional security guards will also be deployed to provide crowd management support.

Furthermore, the ImmD, the Police, the Customs and Excise Department and the MTR Corporation Limited will set up a joint command centre at Lo Wu Control Point to make necessary arrangements. The ImmD will also establish close communication with the Mainland frontier inspection authorities. To ensure smooth passenger traffic flow, passenger conditions will be closely monitored and appropriate traffic diversion plans will be adopted when

necessary.

To avoid congestion and a longer than usual waiting time for immigration clearance, the ImmD advises all land boundary passengers to plan in advance and avoid making their journeys during busy periods, and to keep track of radio and TV broadcasts on traffic conditions at the various control points. The expected busy times at boundary control points are available on the website of the ImmD at www.immd.gov.hk. Furthermore, passengers may also check the estimated waiting times of all land boundary control points at any time or place via the Immigration Mobile Application (ImmD Mobile App). They can then plan their trips effectively and save time queuing up at control points. The ImmD Mobile App can be downloaded free of charge from the Apple App Store (supports iOS version 9.0 or above) and Google Play (supports Android version 5.0 or above). The links for downloading can also be found on the ImmD website, www.immd.gov.hk. In addition, information on public transport services to and from various control points is available on the Transport Department website at www.td.gov.hk.

The ImmD will upload daily passenger statistics for the above festive period to its website at www.immd.gov.hk for public reference.

For travellers making journeys to the Mainland, the ImmD reminds them to carry their proof of identity and valid travel documents for crossing the boundary. Hong Kong residents should also check the validity of their Home Visit Permits. Non-permanent residents must carry their valid smart identity card as well as their Document of Identity for Visa Purposes or valid travel document.

Holders of the acknowledgement receipt issued due to reported loss or replacement of their Hong Kong identity cards, or children under 11 years old who hold Hong Kong identity cards, should carry a valid travel document or Re-entry Permit.

Over 700 e-Channels have been installed at various control points. Re-enrolment for the e-Channel service is required for enrolled Mainland visitors holding a booklet-type Exit-entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macao who have changed their enrolment information, e.g. having renewed their exit endorsement. Furthermore, eligible Mainland holders of the electronic Exit-entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macao (e-EEP) can enrol for the e-Channel service by using their e-EEP and undergoing the enrolment process at a traditional entry counter on their first visit to Hong Kong. Eligible Mainland visitors who have renewed their e-EEP have to go through the aforesaid enrolment process again before they can use the e-Channel.

In addition, all control points have introduced self-service departure for visitors to Hong Kong (Smart Departure) which provides greater travel convenience for visitors. The service employs facial recognition technology for identity verification, which allows eligible visitors holding electronic travel documents to perform self-service departure clearance through Smart Departure e-Channels without prior enrolment.

Hong Kong residents who require assistance while travelling outside Hong Kong may call the 24-hour hotline of the Assistance to Hong Kong Residents Unit of the ImmD at (852) 1868.

Appointment of members of Equal Opportunities Commission

The Government announced today (April 26) that the Chief Executive has appointed three new members and re-appointed 11 incumbent members to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) for a term of two years with effect from May 20, 2019.

The newly appointed members are:

Mr Vincent Cheng Wing-shun
Ms Anna Thompson
Mr Gary Wong Chi-him

The re-appointed members are:

Professor Cecilia Chan Lai-wan
Professor Andy Chiu Man-chung
Professor Susanne Choi Yuk-ping
Mr Mohan Datwani
Miss Maisy Ho Chiu-ha
Ms Elizabeth Law
Ms Juan Leung Chung-yan
Ms Shirley Marie Therese Loo
Dr Henry Shie Wai-hung
Dr Rizwan Ullah
Miss Yu Chui-yee

"We are grateful for the contribution of all incumbent members to the work of the EOC in the past two years. They have displayed enthusiasm and commitment in assisting the promotion of equal opportunities. They have also provided valuable input to the various areas of work of the EOC," said the government spokesperson.

"The membership of the EOC continues to represent a balanced mix of expertise and sectors, including women, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, members from the employment, social services, legal, accounting, academic and education sectors, and the community at large. Their experience and expertise will be instrumental to the work of the EOC in promoting equal opportunities.

"We would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr Holden Chow Ho-ding, Dr Trisha Leahy and Professor Joseph Lee Kok-long, who will be stepping down from the EOC after six years of service. We are grateful for their staunch support for the work of the Commission.

"We look forward to effective collaboration of all EOC members under the leadership of the newly appointed Chairperson, Mr Ricky Chu Man-kin, to take new strides in implementing the four existing anti-discrimination ordinances through the promotion of equal opportunities and elimination of discrimination in the community," the spokesperson added.

Brief background information on the newly appointed members is at Annex.