

Red flags hoisted at Hap Mun Bay Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (July 19) that due to inclement weather, the red flag has been hoisted at Hap Mun Bay Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Lifesaving services suspended at Golden Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (July 19) that due to an insufficient number of lifeguards on duty, the lifesaving services at Golden Beach in Tuen Mun District is suspended until further notice.

First aid services will be maintained at the beach.

Appointments to Elderly Commission

The Government announced today (July 19) the appointment of a new member and the re-appointment of 14 incumbent members to the Elderly Commission. All the appointments will take effect from July 30, 2019, for a term of two years.

The new member is Miss Yu Chui-ye. She is a representative of the Hong Kong Wheelchair Fencing Team, and is now a member of the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Sports Commission.

Fourteen incumbent members, namely Ms Maggie Chan Mei-kit, Ms Tammy Chan

Yee-ching, Mr Cheung Leong, Mr Chua Hoi-wai, Ms Diana Chung Wai-yee, Professor Diana Lee Tze-fan, Ms Grace Li Fai, Ms Alexandra Lo Dak-wai, Dr Pang Fei-chau, Mrs Susan So Chan Wai-hang, Dr Doris Tse Man-wah, Mr Wong Kit-loong, Mr Kenneth Wong Tai-lun and Dr Yeung Ka-ching, have been re-appointed.

The Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Dr Law Chi-kwong, welcomed the above appointments. He said, "Given the rapidly ageing population, the Elderly Commission plays an increasingly important role in advising the Government on the policies and initiatives relating to the elderly's well-being.

"As in the past, we will fully consider the valuable advice of the Elderly Commission in devising policies for our elderly people."

Dr Law also thanked the outgoing member, Mr Victor Lam Hoi-cheung, for his sterling contributions to the Elderly Commission.

The Elderly Commission was established in 1997. Its main task is to provide advice to the Government in the formulation of a comprehensive policy in caring for elderly persons.

The membership list of the Elderly Commission with effect from July 30, 2019, is as follows:

Chairman

Dr Lam Ching-choi

Non-official members

Ms Maggie Chan Mei-kit
Ms Tammy Chan Yee-ching
Mr Cheung Leong
Mr Chua Hoi-wai
Ms Diana Chung Wai-yee
Professor Diana Lee Tze-fan
Ms Grace Li Fai
Ms Alexandra Lo Dak-wai
Dr Vivian Lou Wei-qun
Dr Pang Fei-chau
Mrs Susan So Chan Wai-hang
Dr Doris Tse Man-wah
Mr Wong Kit-loong
Mr Kenneth Wong Tai-lun
Dr Yeung Ka-ching
Miss Yu Chui-yee

Official members

Secretary for Food and Health or representative
Secretary for Labour and Welfare or representative
Secretary for Transport and Housing/Director of Housing or representative
Director of Health or representative
Director of Social Welfare or representative

Chief Executive, Hospital Authority or representative

Research Grants Council to present public lecture on FinTech on July 27

The following is issued on behalf of the University Grants Committee:

The Research Grants Council (RGC) will present its first public lecture this year under the theme "FinTech" on July 27 (Saturday) at the Hong Kong Science Museum.

The RGC has invited the Dean of Business and Management of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Professor Tam Kar-yan, and Professor of Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Professor Chan Chun-kwong, to share their research findings and knowledge with the public. Details are as follows:

Time: 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Venue: Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Science Museum

Language: Cantonese

Admission is free on a first-come, first-served basis.

Hong Kong has a competitive edge in fintech and has developed its own ideas and strategy suited to the trajectory of its economy. Through research, we can gain a deep understanding of the interplay between technology and financial services, and build an intellectual foundation for a strategy on fintech for Hong Kong. Professor Tam, in his talk titled "Contributing to the Development of Hong Kong into a Global FinTech Hub", will illustrate how this strategy needs to take into consideration its impact on individual investors, financial institutions and regulators, as well as society in general.

Fintech is defined as the application of technology to improve the level of financial services provided to customers. The technology includes blockchain, cloud computing, open API and virtual banking. Professor Chan will share his experience in his talk, "How will the FinTech Movement Change the World of Financial Services?"

The public lectures of the RGC aim to arouse public interest in local research developments. Since 2009, the RGC has invited numerous leading scholars to speak at these lectures. For enquiries, please call 2524 3987 or visit the University Grants Committee webpage (www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/lectures/lectures.html).

Cross-boundary driver jailed for smuggling gold

A cross-boundary driver was convicted and sentenced to 39 months' imprisonment today (July 19) at the District Court for using a private car to smuggle gold, in contravention of the Import and Export Ordinance (IEO).

Customs officers intercepted an incoming private car at Sha Tau Kok Control Point on October 26, 2016. Twenty-seven gold slabs weighing about 27 kilograms with an estimated market value of about \$8 million were found concealed inside a compartment beneath the air filter at the front of vehicle. The 44-year-old male driver was then arrested.

Smuggling is a serious offence. Under the IEO, any person found guilty of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years.

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