

## SCMA visits Sai Kung District (with photos)

The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Patrick Nip, visited Sai Kung District this afternoon (December 28) and toured the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and a secondary school in the district. He also met with members of the Sai Kung District Council (SKDC). The Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Andy Chan, joined the visit.

Mr Nip and Mr Chan first visited the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). They toured a number of high-technology laboratories including a nanosystem fabrication facility, robotics institute and big data for bio intelligence laboratory to see for themselves the facilities and development of scientific research at HKUST.

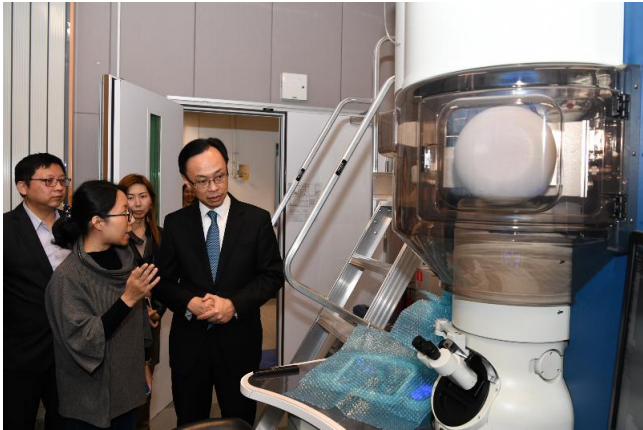
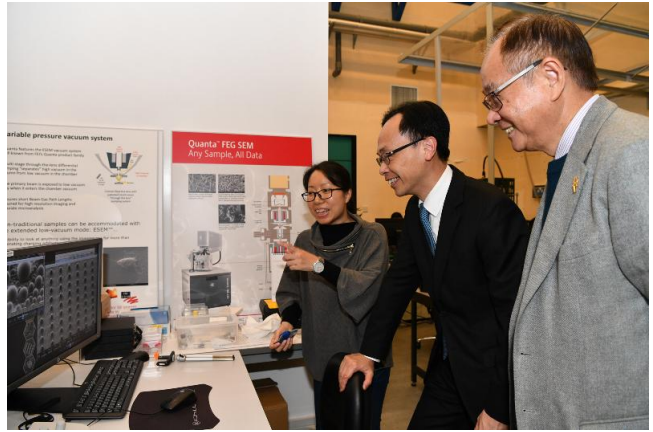
Mr Nip said he was pleased to learn that HKUST has signed collaboration agreements with the Guangzhou Municipal Government and Guangzhou University to establish Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou) (HKUST (GZ)) in Nansha, Guangzhou. This marked an important milestone in co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in nurturing innovation and technology (I&T) talents.

"With the establishment of a campus on the Mainland, HKUST can bring to the Mainland its teaching experience and Hong Kong's management model. At the same time, the well-developed high-technology manufacturing chain on the Mainland is conducive to knowledge transfer and provides development opportunities for students. This win-win collaboration will help inject new impetus into the I&T development of Hong Kong as well as the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area," Mr Nip said.

Mr Nip and Mr Chan also visited a secondary school in the district which enrolls non-Chinese speaking students. About 40 per cent of the students are non-Chinese speaking. During the visit, they exchanged views with teachers and students, and toured the school's facilities to learn about the teaching environment.

Mr Nip and Mr Chan were also briefed on the school curriculum, which is specially designed for non-Chinese speaking students, as well as its teaching effectiveness. They also listened to sharing by students who participated in a visit programme to Myanmar under the umbrella of the Belt and Road Initiative. Mr Nip encouraged the students to keep up with their studies, maintain a positive and proactive attitude, and grasp every opportunity to widen their horizons and embark on new initiatives.

Accompanied by the District Officer (Sai Kung), Mr David Chiu, Mr Nip and Mr Chan then met with the Chairman of the SKDC, Mr George Ng, and members of the SKDC to exchange views on district and community affairs.



## SDEV speaks to media on quarterly land sale programme for January to March 2019

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong, at the question-and-answer session of the media session today (December 28) on the quarterly land sale programme for January to March 2019:

Reporter: Regarding the change of the public housing ratio, would you reserve more land for public housing instead of the private? And secondly, how can you ensure the reserve price of the Government for these lands will be competitive, and would it affect the market price of the flats?

Secretary for Development: Your second question first. We have a panel of experts in our Lands Department who will set the price for individual sites according to the latest market situation, so it is not for me here to predict how the future reserve prices will be set. And as you know, we do not disclose that. The policy is clear that if we put out a site for tender, and if none of the prices (tendered premiums) submitted exceeds the reserve price, then we will not sell that piece of land. It is that simple. As regards the setting of the reserve price, it has always been done by a panel of experts taking into account the latest market situation. And your first question, the Government has already started doing that. In June this year, we changed the use of nine sites originally planned for private housing. We will be using those sites for public housing developments. In the future, the Government is prepared to continue to do so if suitable opportunities arise.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

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## Sterility test results on seasonal influenza vaccines

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

â€œThe Hospital Authority (HA) spokesperson said today (December 28) that following the announcement by the Department of Health on the sterility test results confirming the safety of using the earlier suspended batch of quadrivalent seasonal influenza vaccines (box label: R3J721V, syringe label: R3J72), the HA would continue the seasonal influenza vaccination service. Members of public are reminded to receive seasonal influenza vaccination



before the winter influenza season to protect themselves and their families. As the incident has come to an end, the enquiry hotline 2300 6028 set up specifically will be suspended in two weeks' time.

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## **"Claylaboration – Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition" to showcase inspiring and innovative contemporary ceramic artworks**

The "Claylaboration – Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition" will open tomorrow (December 29) at the Hong Kong Heritage Museum. For this exhibition, eight groups of local ceramic artists were invited to collaborate with creative partners from diverse disciplines including fashion design, stage and lighting design, printmaking, creative writing and Buddhism to form cross-sectoral collaborations and create ceramic artworks that infuse new artistic elements.

The participating local ceramic artists, namely Annie Wan, Rosanna Li, Wy Lee and Ryan Hui, Jackie Leung, Chan Kiu-hong, Yokky Wong, Fiona Wong and Nick Poon, worked with their creative partners from different disciplines to bring new creative inspiration to the traditional artistic medium of ceramics through the exchange of ideas, experience and techniques. The creative partners are artist Elvis Yip, space designer Ng Hoi-chi, Buddhist master Changlin Fashi, graphic designer Rex Chan, ceramists Denise Chen and Ryan Cheng, fashion designer Ken Hung, writer Lee Wai-yee, designer Kevin Tang, lighting designer Lee Chi-wai, set designer Jason Wong, photographer Lau Ching-ping and the Hong Kong Open Printshop.

Exhibits on display will include "Lushan", a kinetic installation made of tens of thousands of Yixing clay scales; "Mixture", with a main theme centring on the transmission of the ceramic art tradition; "No Story Today" which explores the connection between painting and ceramics; "Falling of Torso", which presents white porcelains in the shape of dancing figures against mysterious stage and lighting effects; "Hello!", a large-scale installation inspired by scenes of an inferno depicted on the wall reliefs of the Haw Par Mansion; "Remark a Bowl", a project which consists of 1000 ceramic bowls and involved nearly 1,000 volunteers; "By Feeling and Remembering...", which replicates the ceramic studio of the artist made of clay, in black and white only; and "A Sense of Eternity – Sea&Brick, This Sky, Bystander, Shatin", which integrates photography, printmaking and ceramics.

The exhibition will also feature tactile exhibits installed outside the

gallery to allow visitors to feel the different textures of the ceramic artworks with their own hands. The museum has invited the Acting Director of the Hong Kong Art School, Professor Kurt Chan, to write a feature article for the exhibition reviewing the artworks in the context of contemporary ceramics. A video installation by media artist Elaine Wong will also be displayed to show the eight collaborations in their distinctive styles.

An opening ceremony was held today (December 28). Officiating guests included the Chairman of the Art Sub-committee of the Museum Advisory Committee, Mr Vincent Lo; the Acting Deputy Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Culture), Mr Chan Shing-wai; the Chairman of the Contemporary Ceramic Society (HK), Mr Jakie Leung; and the Museum Director of the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, Ms Fione Lo.

The exhibition will run until April 15 next year and admission is free. The exhibition is presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and organised by the Hong Kong Heritage Museum.

The Hong Kong Heritage Museum is located at 1 Man Lam Road, Sha Tin. For details of the exhibition and related education programmes, please visit the Facebook page of the exhibition at [www.facebook.com/claylaboration](http://www.facebook.com/claylaboration), or the museum's website at [www.heritagemuseum.gov.hk/en\\_US/web/hm/exhibitions/data/exid255.html](http://www.heritagemuseum.gov.hk/en_US/web/hm/exhibitions/data/exid255.html), or call 2180 8188 for enquiries.

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## **Cluster of Influenza A cases in Kowloon Hospital**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson of Kowloon Hospital (KH) made the following announcement today (December 28):

Five patients (aged 69 to 86) in a male ward of Department of Respiratory Medicine in KH have presented with upper respiratory tract infection symptoms since December 13. Clinical tests were arranged and the test results were positive for Influenza A. Two patients have been discharged, while the remaining three are being treated under isolation and are in a stable condition.

Admission has been suspended in the concerned cubicle. Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close surveillance.

The cases have been reported to Hospital Authority Head Office and the

Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.