

Beijing Municipal Health Commission and Hong Kong held meetings to strengthen collaborations (with photos)

â€œUpon invitation of the Beijing Municipal Health Commission (BJHC), the Director of Health, Dr Ronald Lam, led a delegation to attend working meetings with health authorities of Beijing together with representatives of the Hospital Authority. Dr Lam also attended the Beijing International Conference for Public Health Cooperation of the 2024 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), where he delivered a keynote speech, and participated in the first Beijing Capital International Medical Conference.

During his meeting with the Party Committee Secretary of the BJHC, Mr Zhong Dongbo, Dr Lam reviewed the progress of key health and medical initiatives in the Chief Executive's 2023 Policy Address, including the application of innovation and technology in public health, the Department of Health's (DH) efforts in strengthening health services and interventions through a life course approach, and achievements in the digitalisation of communicable disease prevention and control measures, etc. Both sides engaged in in-depth discussions on standardisation of Chinese medicine and the development of maternal and child health services, agreeing to strengthen co-operation in medical innovation and technology.

Dr Lam emphasised that, "The strengths of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's (HKSAR) healthcare system lie in its high-quality medical professionals and a comprehensive healthcare system and legal framework. Hong Kong is the only city in Asia with five world's Top 100 universities. Meanwhile, Beijing, a leader in healthcare, has the most Tier III Class A hospitals and national medical centres which rank first in the country, along with a wealth of diagnostic interventions and a diverse spectrum of specialised disease databases. Strengthening collaboration will enable both sides to join force in medical innovation research and seize opportunities for high-quality development of the nation's healthcare services by leveraging Hong Kong's unique role as a super connector, thereby contributing to the building of a healthy country which also stands tall in science and technology!"

This year's CIFTIS Beijing International Conference for Public Health Cooperation focused on "Innovation Promotes Global Health Equity and Accessibility". In his keynote speech, Dr Lam introduced various strategies and measures the HKSAR Government is implementing to establish the city as an international medical innovation hub. He also shared the DH's public health innovation strategy, emphasising the importance of talent training, digital transformation, data management and fostering an innovative culture with a view to enhance convenience, enhance efficiency, and developing smart healthcare. This approach aligned with the National 14th Five-Year Plan and

the goals set forth in the Policy Address by the HKSAR Government in pursuing a "Healthy Hong Kong".

During the visit to Beijing, the DH representatives also attended the first Beijing Capital International Medical Conference and exchanged views with participants on global health management, establishment of services that promotes healthy aging, as well as innovations in artificial intelligence. The delegation also participated in the 7th Belt and Road Forum for Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Development to report on TCM development. Afterwards, the delegation visited the National Cancer Centre to facilitate mutual understanding on the work and development of cancer prevention, screening, treatment and rehabilitation. Dr Lam also witnessed the DH and the Experimental Research Center of the China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, which is a subsidiary organisation under the National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, signing a Co-operation Arrangement on Research for Quality Testing and Standards of Chinese Medicines that covers a period of five years.

Assistant Director of Health (Chinese Medicine), Dr Edmund Fong, and the Principal Medical Officer (Service and Manpower Planning), Dr Anne Chee, also joined the visit. The delegation will return to Hong Kong today (September 14).



Public reminded to not burn wax, fly sky lanterns or litter

Attention radio/TV announcers:

Please broadcast the following at suitable intervals:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) reminds people to keep places clean, not burn wax or put lit candles on the ground, grass pitches or beaches, not throw glow sticks or other objects onto trees, and not fly sky lanterns while celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival.

People littering at LCSD venues such as parks, beaches and barbecue sites are liable to a penalty of \$3,000, while the maximum penalty for burning wax, throwing objects onto trees or flying sky lanterns is a fine of \$2,000 and 14 days' imprisonment.

SED visits Paris (with photos)

The Secretary for Education, Dr Choi Yuk-lin, visited Paris September 12 and 13 (France time) and called on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the French National Research Agency.

On September 12 (France time), Dr Choi first visited UNESCO and met its Director of the Future of Learning and Innovation Team, Dr Sobhi Tawil, to discuss the latest trends in global education development. She said that Hong Kong strives to enhance the quality of education to provide better education for children, nurturing them to become virtuous, knowledgeable and responsible lifelong learners with global perspectives, positive values and attitudes, and love for the country and Hong Kong, who are ready for future challenges and opportunities. She looked forward to more collaborations with the international community including UNESCO for the betterment of children.

She then met members of the Directorate for Education and Skills of the OECD to discuss how best to improve the quality of teachers, teaching and learning, as well as the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that students need in the 21st century, as well as new knowledge on curriculum design, implementation and evaluation.

On September 13 (France time), Dr Choi paid a courtesy call on the Chinese Ambassador to France, Mr Lu Shaye, to introduce Hong Kong's latest education policies and initiatives.

On the same day, she visited the French National Research Agency and met its Scientific Operations Director, Mr Dominique Dunon-Bluteau. She said that the Joint Research Scheme rolled out by the Agency and the Hong Kong Research Grants Council in 2012 has awarded close to 40 projects so far. The research partnership between Hong Kong and France not only has fostered significant research projects, but also has strengthened the bonds between the French and Hong Kong academic and research communities. Both sides have agreed to further enhance collaboration to bring more impactful research results to the communities.

On September 14 (France time), Dr Choi will meet Hong Kong youth studying or working in France to learn about their studies and career development there. She will also share Hong Kong's latest developments with

them.

Dr Choi will attend the closing ceremony of WorldSkills Lyon 2024 on September 15 (France time).



Sheung Shui Swimming Pool temporarily closed

Attention TV/radio announcers:

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

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (September 14) that Sheung Shui Swimming Pool in the North District has been temporarily

closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of vomit in the pool.

It will be reopened at 1pm today.

The department appeals to swimmers to be considerate and to keep the swimming pools clean. They are advised not to swim after a full meal and should use the toilet facilities if necessary before swimming.

Red flags hoisted at Big Wave Bay Beach and Shek O 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 (September 14) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Big Wave Bay Beach and Shek O Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches.