

Speech by SCED at 2018 International Chinese New Year Night Parade

Following is the speech by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, at the opening ceremony of the 2018 Cathay Pacific International Chinese New Year Night Parade at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza in Tsim Sha Tsui tonight (February 16):

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

Kung Hei Fat Choy! Welcome to the International Chinese New Year Night Parade - a world party for everyone. It is my great pleasure to join you all for the 23rd staging of this magnificent event organised by the Hong Kong Tourism Board.

The Parade has established itself as a spectacular festive event that reflects Hong Kong's status as a vibrant and dynamic destination. I know some of you have travelled great distances to join this party and share our joy during this traditional festival. Hong Kong never fails to impress our visitors with its wonderful offerings from a stunning city landscape, unique culture and gourmet food from around the world to its tranquil country parks. I promise you that your journey will have been worth the effort.

The Year of the Dog will be an exciting one for the tourism industry of Hong Kong. In the year ahead, we are set to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the completion of a number of cross-boundary infrastructural projects, including the world's longest sea bridge and our new high speed railway link with Mainland China. With these new connections, international visitors will be even more attracted to Hong Kong as an ideal base for multi-destination travel in the region. These developments are sure to further consolidate Hong Kong's position as a premier tourist destination.

Lastly, I would like to wish every visitor a most rewarding and memorable stay, and everybody in Hong Kong a happy, healthy and successful new year. Thank you.

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