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Hong Kong News-Expo invites members of the public to vote for 10 major news featured when it opens in December

The revitalisation of Bridges Street Market into Hong Kong News-Expo (HKNE) is about to complete to pave way for the installation of exhibition fittings and information technology systems. HKNE is expected to open to the public in December 2018.

HKNE is an exhibition and education centre with news as the main theme. Utilising interactive and multi-media technologies, it will display the development of the city's newspapers, radio news, television news and new media over the past years. It will also demonstrate how the news industry has affected the social development of Hong Kong. Through partaking in activities in the immersive and interactive games studios, visitors will be able to understand in a fun way how news is reported.

Mr John Chan Cho-chak, Chairman of HKNE, said: "The establishment of HKNE links the history of the city's news industry to its overall development, allowing visitors to understand how press freedom and the free flow of information have contributed to the success of Hong Kong as an international metropolis and financial hub. We also hope that HKNE will be able to contribute to Hong Kong, especially in nurturing the younger generation."

HKNE is holding a voting campaign on "What major news stories do you wish to see featured when Hong Kong News-Expo opens?" The public can vote for 10 of 30 news events about Hong Kong's politics, economy, livelihood and social development shortlisted by historians and journalism scholars. HKNE will consolidate the results from public voting and the views of its executive committee (each with an equal weighting of 50%) in deciding which of the 10 news events with the highest votes will be selected as the first batch of news stories to be put on exhibition in December.

The public voting exercise will target two sectors: secondary school students and the general public. Members of the public can start voting this month via the following link: <https://goo.gl/YVfRQM>. The deadline for voting is 20 April 2018. Secondary school students have started voting since March.

Professor Clement So York-kee, Chairman of the HKNE Programme Committee, said: "Over the past hundred years, many important events had major impacts on Hong Kong's society, livelihood, economy and politics. We hope that through displaying in batches the news reports of these events, visitors will understand the roles of news media and its impacts on the social development of Hong Kong. We will update the exhibition content from time to time, and introduce, in succession, major events of

different eras in Hong Kong over the past hundred years. We will also use different media to tell the story so that visitors will gain a better understanding of the close connection between news and Hong Kong's social development."

Ms May Chan Suk-mei, Vice-Chairman of HKNE, expresses her gratitude to all those who have rendered their support and assistance to HKNE. She said: "The renovation of Bridges Street Market is about to finish. The most challenging part of the project was to present numerous interesting stories of the news profession within the limited space. After the completion of the renovation works, we will install exhibition fittings and information technology systems for the display of interactive and multi-media content. We hope that HKNE will become a landmark for Hong Kong that will attract both locals and tourists."

The transformation of the Bridges Street Market, a Grade 3 historic building, into HKNE has been carried out by the Journalism Education Foundation Hong Kong Limited under the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme. HKNE will be the first exhibition facility with news as the main theme in Asia and free admission. It will be open for six days a week and members of the public are welcome to visit it by appointment.