

# WINGS CHAMBER

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## World Travel Awards Asia and Oceania 2019 winners announced in Phu Quoc, Vietnam

The finest travel brands in Asia and Oceania have been unveiled at a star-studded gala ceremony in Vietnam. The elite of the travel industry assembled for the World Travel Awards (WTA) Asia & Oceania Gala Ceremony 2019 on the pristine island of Phu Quoc to find out who amongst them had been crowned best of the best. Winners at the red carpet ceremony included Philippines Department of Tourism, which was named 'Asia's Leading Tourist Board' following a year of impressive visitor arrival growth. The stunning natural beauty and intriguing culture of Vietnam was acknowledged with the title of 'Asia's Leading Destination', whilst New Zealand fended off stiff competition to emerge as 'Oceania's Leading Destination'. Hundreds of the travel industry VIPs from Asia and Oceania attended the evening at Vinpearl Convention Center Phu Quoc, the state-of-the-art meeting and event facility and the latest addition to the five-star Vinpearl Phu Quoc integrated complex. Graham Cooke, Founder, WTA, said: "It has been an honour to host WTA at the Vinpearl Convention Center Phu Quoc. This fabulous addition to the Vinpearl Phu Quoc integrated complex has proven a gracious host of what has been a spectacular evening of travel triumph, and a



highlight of our 26th Grand Tour. We have had the privilege of recognising many of the leading hotels, airlines and hospitality providers from across Asia and Oceania and my congratulations to each of them." Dang Thanh Thuy, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Vingroup, said: "Vinpearl is proud to have hosted the WTA Asia & Oceania Gala Ceremony 2019 at our Vinpearl Convention Center on Phu Quoc Island. On this special occasion, we have been honoured to present a charming image of modern Vietnam to international visitors, as well as the world's

leading tourism and hospitality brands. This significant event has offered Vinpearl a golden opportunity to showcase its world-class all-inclusive resort complex at Phu Quoc, Asia's most promising island destination, as well as to promote Vietnamese tourism to the global travel industry." In the aviation sector, Singapore Airlines was named 'Asia's Leading Airline' whilst an unprecedented fleet upgrade helped Vietnam Airlines lift the title of 'Asia's Leading Airline - Economy Class'. AirAsia collected 'Asia's Leading Low-Cost Airline' and Singapore Changi

Airport was named 'Asia's Leading Airport'. Oceania winners included Air New Zealand ('Oceania's Leading Airline') and Brisbane Airport ('Oceania's Leading Airport'). The enchanting mix of French Indochine haute couture in a breathtaking mountain setting led Hotel de la Coupole MGallery by Sofitel to be voted 'Asia's Leading New Hotel'. Other newcomer winners included Anantara Quy Nhon Villas ('Asia's Leading New Resort') and Van Don International Airport ('Asia's Leading New Airport'). Vinpearl's contribution to Vietnam's travel and tourism economy was acknowledged

with victories for Vinpearl Resort & Spa Phu Quoc ('Asia's Leading Family & Beach Resort') and Vinpearl Discovery 2 Phu Quoc ('Asia's Leading New Villa Resort'). Hospitality winners included The Grand Ho Tram Strip ('Asia's Leading Resort'); The Ascott Limited ('Asia's Leading Serviced Apartment Brand'); InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort ('Asia's Leading Green Resort'); Conrad Hotels & Resorts ('Asia's Leading Lifestyle Hotel Brand') and InterContinental Hotels & Resorts ('Oceania's Leading Hotel Brand'); and InterContinental Melbourne The Rialto ('Oceania's Leading Hotel'). Travel provider winners included Vietravel ('Asia's Leading Tour Operator'), Abercrombie & Kent ('Oceania's Leading Tour Operator') and RezLive.com ('Asia's Leading B2B Travel Provider'). The VIP ceremony formed the sixth and final leg of the WTA Grand Tour 2019 - a search for the finest travel and tourism organisations in the world. Other 2019 regional ceremonies included Montego Bay (Jamaica), Abu Dhabi (UAE), Mauritius, Madeira (Portugal), La Paz (Bolivia), with the winners progressing to the Grand Final in Muscat (Oman) on 28 November.

### Vinpearl Convention Center Phu Quoc, Vietnam to welcome travel leaders for World Travel Awards



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**B2B Meetings Stage 1 reminder - Mexico's Auto Industry Summit 2019**

Trade ministers from across the Commonwealth today made a commitment to resist all forms of protectionism, and to work urgently together towards reforming the World Trade Organisation, which sets the global rules for international trade.

Following a meeting in London, ministers from the 53 Commonwealth member countries declared their collective support for free trade in a transparent, inclusive, fair and open multilateral trading system, with the WTO as its core institution.

They agreed that any WTO reform should take into account the views of all members, underlining the special circumstances of the developing and the least developed countries, as well as small and vulnerable economies, including Small Island Developing States. Ministers also endorsed an action plan designed to boost trade among their countries to at least \$2 trillion by 2030, through the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda. Intra-Commonwealth trade is projected to reach \$700 billion by next year.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland said: "The multilateral trading system is the only way for our countries, as diverse as they

## Reform WTO and resist protectionism, say Commonwealth trade ministers



are, to trade in a predictable, stable, transparent and fair environment. While the global trading system may be far from perfect, it is the surest pathway towards eradicating poverty.

"Building on this, the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda will help businesses, including micro, small and medium sized enterprises, to plug into global trade networks and benefit from world trade. In this way, intra-

Commonwealth trade offers immense opportunities to contribute to reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development."

The Chair of the meeting, UK Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade Liz Truss said: "The UK along with its Commonwealth partners has today clearly set out its commitment to fight against protectionism.

We must work together to promote free trade and reform the multilateral system to make sure it works for every nation, small or large. "Trade has the power to drive growth, jobs and opportunities - it is an essential tool in the fight against extreme poverty and insecurity.

"By sharing experience across the diverse Commonwealth community, we can help to break down existing barriers to trade which currently prevent

businesses in all our countries from trading successfully." Ministers called for an end to the impasse regarding the WTO's Appellate Body – a key panel of judges, whose rulings help resolve the trade disputes. They highlighted the need to update WTO rules to address new challenges and opportunities, including e-commerce. They pledged support for a global agreement that would prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by the end of 2019.

In their communique issued from the meeting, ministers also welcomed progress made under the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda, including the work of active country-led 'clusters' focused on five areas: digital, physical, regulatory, supply side and business-to-business connectivity. The outcomes of the meeting will inform leaders' discussions at the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kigali, Rwanda in June 2020.



## Commonwealth Secretary-General available for interviews on global debt and climate change

Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland will convene the annual meeting of ministers of finance from 53 member countries on 17 October 2019 in Washington D.C.

The meeting comes at a time when global financial institutions, including the IMF, have indicated another global debt crisis could be on the horizon.

Ministers will discuss how Commonwealth debtors can collaborate with creditors to prevent the recurrence of debt crises which - as witnessed in Greece, Argentina and Sub-Saharan African - can devastate economic growth, increase poverty and has the potential to derail global agendas such as climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Secretary-General Scotland will discuss the forthcoming 2019 Commonwealth Economic Development Report which looks at the debt challenges facing member countries in aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis.

The meeting will be chaired by Cyprus and will focus on the theme 'Preventing Debt Crises: The Role of Creditors

H.H. Lt. General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, inaugurated the world's first floating Smart Police Station, at GITEX 2019.

Dubai Police has partnered with the group behind the innovative Floating Seahorse Villa, Kleindienst to reveal the world's first floating Smart Police Station. The announcement was made during GITEX Technology Week in Dubai,

which takes place at the Dubai World Trade Centre from October 6 – 10. The floating seahorse Smart Police Station (SPS), which will be located at Kleindienst Group's Heart of Europe project, and is expected to open in Q1 2020, will offer unmanned innovative, high performance e-police services to the residents of the development as well as the Dubai community at

large.

The partnership also further underscores Dubai's innovative 360-degree plan to promote happiness, sustainability and public safety by using smart technology as well as educating the community on protecting marine life.

Major General Abdullah Khalifa Al Marri, Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police said: "This

## Saif bin Zayed unveils first floating Smart Police Station



## Successful 2019 TBMOPA convention in Denver

Daher congratulates the TBM Owners and Pilots Association on its successful 2019 annual convention



The TBM Owners and Pilots Association's (TBMOPA) 2019 convention brought together TBM owners and their Daher-built very fast turboprop aircraft from around the world, underscoring this annual gathering's importance as one of the largest such meetings for a turbine aircraft type.

Converging at the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport in Denver, Colorado were 102 aircraft representing all TBM versions produced by Daher to date: the TBM 700, TBM 850 and TBM 900 series. In total, 345 participants – including 135 owners, of which 51 were first timers – attended the convention, held September 25-29 at the Denver Marriott Tech Center.

TBMOPA's members attended three days of dynamic academic and learning sessions customized for TBM owners and operators. The primary focus was on airmanship and safety, with the performance of safe landings as topic of a

special session moderated by Raphaël Maitre, the Daher Airplane Business Unit's Vice President of Customer Support and involving Igor Lucas of Simcom and Dierk Reuter, a TBM 930 owner.

Among the convention's topics were the development and use of Daher's Me & My TBM application; the service advantages provided by the TBM Care organization. "The 2019 TBMOPA convention was the opportunity to unveil our development plans to a selected audience, including how the Quest Aircraft Company's acquisition will generate benefits for the TBM flying community," commented Nicolas Chabbert, Senior Vice President of the Daher Airplane Business Unit. "In Denver, we were able to meet many new members of the TBM family who represent different backgrounds and profiles."

Chabbert also confirmed

Daher's ongoing support for the TBMOPA's activities, with this member organization acknowledged as the aviation industry's closest working relationship between an aircraft manufacturer and an association of owners/pilots.

As part of the 2019 TBMOPA convention, presentations were made by Daher as the aircraft manufacturer, along with such TBM system vendors as Pratt & Whitney Canada (producer of the TBM's PT6 turboprop engine) and Hartzell (the TBM propeller supplier).

Among the convention's key speakers were aviation legend Dick Rutan, who spoke about his around-the-world record breaking flight with the Voyager aircraft; along with Dierk Reuter and Phil Bozek, describing their New York-Paris non-stop trans-Atlantic flight in a TBM 930. Dr. Ian Fries, a TBM owner and recognized medical expert, explained the challenges of a

pilot's medical examination. Erik Eliel from Radar Training International provided tips on the TBM weather radar's optimal use.

TBMOPA convention activities for companions of TBM owners and operators included the "pinch hitter" flight training program for non-pilots, a "TBM flying is fun" presentation by Catherine Fish, and a tour of vineyards in Denver area.

"The 2019 TBMOPA convention marked another step in meeting our association's goal of promoting safety and providing opportunities to maximize both the pleasure and utility of the TBM ownership experience," TBMOPA Chairman David Scobey explained. "We very much appreciate Daher's efforts in supporting safety-based enhancements to existing TBM currently in service, as well as for their new-production aircraft. This is a sign of the TBM manufacturer's long-term commitment to its product line."

He added that TBMOPA members' attendance at the convention's academic/learning sessions qualifies TBM owners for savings on insurance premiums, as participating underwriters offer a credit for as much as 10 percent of the hull premium after a claim-free year. "These insurance savings, plus the added safety awareness and operational knowledge gained from the technical seminars, are compelling reasons to attend the TBMOPA's annual conventions," Scobey concluded.

The next TBMOPA annual convention will be held September 8-12, 2020 in Montreal, Canada.

## Saif bin Zayed unveils first floating Smart Police Station

extraordinary, unique and pioneering project has grabbed the attention of police and security institutions around the world, as they seek to replicate the experience in their countries."

In addition to providing safety and security services the SPS will also play a crucial role in promoting sustainability and marine life protection in the Heart of Europe development and in the rest of the UAE. A series of visits to the SPS are planned for UAE residents, schools and tourists to see firsthand the positive impact Kleindienst is having on the marine ecosystem.

Josef Kleindienst, Chairman of Kleindienst Group said: "Our partnership with Dubai Police is built on innovation, engineering ingenuity and imagination. We were the first in the world to develop a luxury floating above and underwater living experience through the Floating Seahorse Villa and I'm pleased our design capabilities have been recognised by Dubai Police with the first floating Smart Police Station. As a Developer, we are committed to supporting Dubai's vision on sustainability, innovation and safety.

"The Heart of Europe project is gaining momentum and the SPS is a good example of the infrastructure and amenities which will in place and available to the waterfront community. Our vision for protecting underwater life is also being realised through the vital role the stations will play in promoting sustainability," added Kleindienst.

The Kleindienst Group was established over 30 years ago in Austria and Hungary and has been present in Dubai since 2003. The Heart of Europe is the flagship masterplan of the developer in Dubai.



# Mente Group Ribbon Cutting & 10th Anniversary Celebrated



Mente Group President and CEO Brian Proctor (C) cuts the ribbon to the company's new worldwide headquarters in Frisco's prestigious North Dallas' HALL Park. The recent move to larger offices, with more than 6,000 square feet coincided with the company's 10th anniversary and doubled the size of its offices with more room to continue the growth of the leading full-service aircraft consulting company. Proctor was joined by (L-R) Mente VP of Transactions Brian Hammer, Frisco Mayor Jeff Cheney, wife Karin Proctor, and Mente Chief Strategy & Development Officer Scott Johnson, VP Asset Management Jeff Dorrrough and VP Strategic Consulting Cole White.

## Readout from EXIM Chairman Kimberly Reed's Meeting with Cabo Verde Secretary of State for Finance Gilberto Barros and Cabo Verde Ambassador Carlos Wahnnon Veiga

Today Kimberly A. Reed, president and chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM), met with Cabo Verde Secretary of State for Finance Gilberto Barros and Ambassador of Cabo Verde to the United States Carlos Wahnnon Veiga. Also in attendance was Ermixon Pina Ribeiro, third secretary for Development and Economic Affairs. The participants discussed Cabo Verde's strategic focus on private-sector investment to reach the goal of becoming a developed country in 20 years, including the process of privatizing the national airline. Chairman Reed promoted President Trump's Prosper Africa Initiative and the importance for Cabo Verde of building ties with U.S. interagency partners at the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), and the U.S.

International Development Finance Corporation (DFC). Minister Barros highlighted Cabo Verde's intentions for future wind power, infrastructure, data centers, and maritime projects. This important bilateral meeting continues the discussion Chairman Reed previously had with Secretary Barros on May 27 on Sal Island, Cape Verde when she led the U.S. Presidential Delegation to Africa .

Left to right, Cabo Verde Secretary of State for Finances Gilberto Barros; EXIM President and Chairman Kimberly Reed; Ambassador of Cabo Verde to the United States Carlos Wahnnon Veiga; and Ermixon Pina Ribeiro, third secretary for Development and Economic Affairs. Behind the Cape Verde Delegation and Chairman Reed in the Chairman's office hangs a painting by a Cape Verde artist.





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## iLiftCLEAN education contributes to culture change at 2019 IWF World Championships

The IWF maintained its emphasis on educating athletes about Anti-doping, and in particular their rights and responsibilities, with a range of activities linked to the #iLiftCLEAN campaign. Now a mainstay of the activities for athletes and their entourages at the IWF World Championships, #iLiftCLEAN in Pattaya included both a booth made in the framework of the WADA legacy outreach programme, to engage with the educational materials and also

dedicated workshops. Past successes have already seen elements of #iLiftCLEAN held up as an exemplary programme for other sports to follow: quite literally held up in the case of the #iLiftCLEAN barbell, which has also become a feature of WADA's annual Anti-Doping Symposium in Lausanne and its outreach activities at major multi-sport competitions like the Lima 2019 Pan American, the Parapan American Games and the European Games in

Minsk.

Visitors to the #iLiftCLEAN booth have been invited to complete the WADA quiz, in order to win their iLiftCLEAN t-shirts and other promotional gifts bearing the campaign's clean sport branding. And athletes have been encouraged to go further, completing the #iLiftCLEAN comprehensive e-learning course developed in partnership with USA Weightlifting and the US Anti-Doping Agency.

### The IWF and the ITA had a joint outreach program at the 2019 WWC.

Two seminars for athletes and their entourages, meanwhile, provided opportunities to learn in-depth from world-leading experts. The seminars were attended by a high number of athlete support personnel, the IWF pays great attention to educate coaches and team doctors as well. The risk of inadvertent positives through contaminated supplements was directly addressed in the first workshop, which looked at diet. Athletes' responsibilities were covered, with the importance of checking ingredients against the WADA Prohibited Substances list and carefully consulting medical personnel with regard to prescribed medicines among the subjects of discussion. The experts leading the seminars included Dr Kyle Pierceformer IOC Medical Director Dr. Patrick Schamasch and from the International Testing Agency, Education Manager Olya Abasolo. On completion of the second seminar, three athletes were drawn at random to receive prizes – including barbells and a PlayStation4 – kindly offered by IWF Partners DHS Barbell, Uesaka Barbells and Eleiko.



### Alliance of Independent Recognised Members of Sport (AIMS) President Stephan Fox has visited the iLiftClean booth.



Visiting the #iLiftCLEAN booth, IWF President Tamas Ajan said: "The IWF has much to be proud of in the way we have worked to ensure that weightlifting is a clean sport, that respects and protects clean athletes. And we have seen the results of that work here in Pattaya with more countries than ever

before bringing men and women athletes and enjoying hard-earned success. We knew that culture change would also be a long-term effort and that attitudes would need to change. Education has been a very important way in which we have shown we can deliver that change."

### Why sustainable agriculture matters

By HE Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Al Mehairi, The Minister of State for Food Security, UAE  
Sustainable agriculture is at the heart of the comprehensive food security strategies of many nations today as they seek to eliminate hunger within their respective territories, while at the same time ensuring they protect the environment. This practice focuses on providing a sufficient supply of nutritious food to the citizens without adding further pressures on natural resources in the face of exponentially booming populations. Observing the best agricultural practices that promote healthy food production with due regard to the environment is timely and critical to the global sustainable development movement. Here



we see efforts to promote rationalised use of natural resources to ensure that everybody, including future generations, will have access to these finite resources needed for survival. Part of implementing sustainable agriculture is eliminating food waste and strengthening crop production.

It is at this juncture that technological innovations and human capacity building in the agricultural industry come in. According to an online article posted on the National Geographic website, sustainable agriculture involves "farming practices that mimic natural ecological processes." Doing so would require employing the necessary tools to grow food in a natural, healthy way.

Hence, we have witnessed the emergence of agricultural technology (AgTech) such as vertical farming, data science, and farm drones. In the UAE, where 90 per cent of food is imported, AgTech is gaining traction in light of the

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## AirMed Adds Challenger Medical Jet for Long Range Transports

AirMed International has added a Bombardier Challenger 601 widebody jet to its fleet to fly national nonstop and longer range international medical patient transports. Based at Sacramento McClellan Airport, the Challenger will also be available for day trips from the Hawaiian Islands and provide faster response times to Hawaiian and Western Pacific patients.

"This additional widebody aircraft will enable AirMed to provide longer range flights to medically complex and neonatal patients," said AirMed International President Denise Treadwell. "It adds to our growing capabilities around the world, specifically to Hawaii, Guam and the entire Asia Pacific region for many hospitals and medical facilities in the area."

The widebody Challenger 601 has a large medically dedicated interior to accommodate larger medical equipment, wheelchairs and luggage for family members accompanying their loved ones on longer range medical transports. The Challenger joins a growing AirMed jet fleet to include Beechjet,



Cessna Citation, Hawker, Learjet, and Nextant aircraft. In addition, the company flies numerous turboprops, including Beechcraft King Airs and Pilatus PC-12s.

The Challenger flown by AirMed International, a Global Medical Response (GMR) company, will provide added capabilities to sister companies, including REACH Air Medical and Guardian Flight, which serve the western U.S. including California, Alaska and Hawaii. It will also work with Air

Medical Response (AMR), a large ground ambulance service that serves the continental United States and Hawaii, that is also a part of GMR.

AirMed International offers medical care and bedside-to-bedside transportation on a worldwide basis from multiple bases strategically located across the globe. It is the preferred fixed-wing air medical transportation provider for many of the top hospitals in the United States, including the world-renowned

Mayo Clinic.

It is a contracted air carrier for the U.S. Department of Defense and has flown U.S. Presidents and countless heads of state. AirMed is medically equipped for virtually every critical care scenario, regardless of patient age or location throughout the world.

With global reach, AirMed International is one of the leading air medical transport companies in the world, with more than 20,000 missions in all 50 states and over 150 countries on six continents. AirMed offers unparalleled medical care and bedside-to-bedside transportation on a worldwide basis and has some of the most experienced air medical crews in the industry. Chosen as a preferred operator for many of the top hospitals around the globe, as well as a contracted carrier for the U.S. Department of Defense, AirMed operates its own fleet of fully customized and permanently configured jets.



## Excitement builds for The Air Charter Association 2019 Excellence Awards

The first ever set of Excellence Awards for The Air Charter Association are to be presented at London Guildhall on the 16th October. Formerly known as the BACA Awards the recent rebranding of the Association means that there will be a completely new theme for the Awards and will include a brand new award, the Sir Michael Marshall Award for Diversity. The awards lunch is a key highlight in the calendar of air charter brokers and operators with the awards being recognised as one of the highest accolades an aviation company can receive.

Members of The Air Charter Association have been given the opportunity to vote on a short list of finalists. The winners will be decided by a combination of members votes and a judging panel. This year Cambridge City Airport is sponsoring the Sir Michael Marshall Award for Diversity, this will recognise the achievement of companies in promoting diversity and accessibility within the aviation industry. Sir Michael Marshall was a true entrepreneur, an avid and vastly experienced pilot and a champion of developing and

nurturing skills and talent in young people across all areas of society. Chairman of The Air Charter Association, Nick Weston comments "The 2019 Excellence Awards Lunch is set to be a must attend event and the remaining tickets are in high demand. The Awards presented are our way of recognising and rewarding the achievements of companies in the key sectors of our industry. I look forward to an outstanding event and welcoming guests to London Guildhall on 16th October."



## Why sustainable agriculture matters

government's efforts to produce locally grown crops despite challenges such as scarcity of water resources and arable land. The growth in AgTech in the UAE has been made possible by the National Food Security Strategy, which was launched in November 2018. One of the strategy's key pillars is to increase technology-enabled domestic food production by 30% by 2021. Using a UAE 'Government Accelerator' platform, my colleagues and I at the Food Security Office developed this sector with over 50 stakeholders by, among other things, creating a unified AgTech license, a national sustainable agriculture label, building codes for closed environment agriculture and a database for potential AgTech investors. In additional efforts to boost the AgTech sector, our office, in partnership with Tamkeen, an Abu Dhabi-based company mandated to deliver projects to meet the UAE's vision of knowledge-based development, launched the global FoodTech Challenge in the UAE. The challenge, launched in September 2019 aims to promote innovative and technology-based food systems. The Challenge is open for all and invites particularly the youth, entrepreneurs and innovators to find solutions to identified challenges across the food value chain in the UAE, with a focus on home and community farming. Four winning teams will be honoured at New York University Abu Dhabi and share a prize pot of USD one million in April 2020.

In the meantime, in terms of human capacity development, the UAE has launched the 'Ziraai' programme to provide training, marketing support, and interest-free loans to its citizens involved in the agriculture sector. These are just some examples of the UAE Government's sustainable agriculture-related programs. Across the GCC, many member states are also involved in similar initiatives as part of their food security programs. Worldwide, sustainable agriculture is making fast headway as more and more countries continue to adopt this strategic approach to agriculture. We should welcome new methods and constantly find ways to feed our ever-growing community. For more information, let's meet at WGES 2019, which will take place on October 20th and 21st at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre.

## Ontario Leads National Job Growth in September

The Ontario government is making Ontario open for business and open for jobs, and the results show its economic plan is working.

Statistics Canada announced this morning that employment in Ontario increased by 41,100 in September. Since June 2018, employment in Ontario has risen by 272,400. "We will continue to ensure that we are creating a stable and competitive business environment where good jobs are created, and employers are given the opportunity to grow and prosper here," said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. "Creating good jobs is top priority for us."

Ensuring Ontario is the best

place to invest and do business is a key part of the government's plan to make Ontario open for business and open for jobs. According to the recent Global Location Trend 2019 report by IBM, Ontario is the North American leader in the number of new jobs created based on foreign direct investment (FDI).

"By supporting our job creators and reducing our regulatory and tax burden, we are laying the foundation for a growing economy that will benefit Ontario families and businesses."

### QUICK FACTS

· Ontario's Open for Business Action Plan has set a

target of reducing the cost of complying with regulations affecting businesses by \$400 million annually by 2020 to help business keep, grow and create good jobs.

· In 2019, actions taken by the government will result in savings for businesses of \$5 billion. Ontario is leading a trade mission to Japan and South Korea from October 12-25, 2019, focused on agriculture, automotive, aerospace and other key emerging sectors. The trip will be led by Minister Fedeli, Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility.

## Ontario More Than Doubles Mental Health Funding for Students

On World Mental Health Day, Education Minister Stephen Lecce announced an investment of nearly \$40 million, more than double the funding from 2017-18, to advance student mental health in partnership with education groups. The government also announced that it will permanently fund approximately 180 frontline mental health workers in secondary schools (social workers, psychologists and psychotherapists) to reduce wait times and improve access to critical services. "Too many students are struggling with their mental health and well-being," said Minister Lecce. "I am proud to be a member of this government that is applying a compassionate eye to making mental health a priority by more than doubling mental health supports for our kids." In Ontario, 70 per cent of mental health and addictions issues begin in childhood or adolescence. One in five students in grades 7-12 rate their mental health as fair or poor.

"We will continue working hard to ensure that we provide effective mental health programs and services for Ontario's students," said Michael Tibollo,

Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. "Too many families have waited too long for the mental health services they require for themselves, and for their children. By investing in frontline programs and services, we will continue

moving forward to create a mental health system in Ontario that fully supports our students."

As part of the government's ongoing commitment to supporting mental health and addiction programming, the Ministry of Education in investing in nine front-line programs with education partners:

1. \$25 million of permanent funding for approximately 180 (FTEs) mental health workers in secondary schools (social workers, psychologists and psychotherapists);
2. \$6.5 million to Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board/School Mental Health Ontario to support district school boards;
3. \$3 million to well-being and mental health programs through all district school boards;
4. \$1.5 million to Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Canada;
5. \$1 million to Kids Help Phone;
6. \$1 million to Roots of Empathy;
7. \$250,000 to WE Charity to support the WE Schools program;
8. \$245,000 to the Principal Association Projects

Service Partners and the Ontario Principal's Council for cyberbullying prevention skills development for school leaders; and

9. \$120,000 to White Ribbon for an educator resource focusing on the prevention of sexual exploitation.

"Mental health is a key component of an individual's overall health, so I applaud the government for making these valuable investments," said Katherine Hay, president and CEO of Kids Help Phone. "Today's announcements will make a big difference in the lives of students and their families."

## Ontario Supports Farmers with Farmers' Market and On-Farm Sales

### Local Food Industry Gets a Boost During Agriculture Week

As part of Ontario's Agriculture Week celebration, Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, announced the government's investments in the Ontario Farm Fresh Marketing Association and Farmers' Markets Ontario, two important organizations that connect farmers with consumers through direct sales experiences.

"We are proud of Ontario's hardworking farmers who grow and sell local food directly to consumers," said Minister Hardeman. "Whether you visit a farmers' market, farm gate or on-farm market to purchase local food, you are supporting our local farmers and Ontario's agri-food industry."

Ontario is home to almost 46,900 farms that grow over 200 agricultural commodities. More than 7,000 farms engage in direct sales with consumers, which is higher than any other province. Foodland Ontario works in partnership with Ontario Farm Fresh Marketing Association and Farmers' Markets Ontario to promote all the good things that are grown and made in Ontario.

"We look forward to continuing our excellent relationship with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, said Kristin Ego MacPhail, President of Ontario Farm Fresh Marketing Association. "This funding

allows OFFMA to increase awareness and sales of local food at on-farm markets across the province."

"Farmers' Markets Ontario is proud to continue its partnership with OMAFRA and Foodland Ontario to increase public engagement and support for agriculture, local food and rural development," said Catherine Clark, Executive Director of Farmers' Markets Ontario.

The Ontario government supports Farmers' Markets Ontario and Ontario Farm Fresh Marketing Association because buying local supports the province's farmers, economy and a sustainable environment.

### QUICK FACTS

Ontario is celebrating Agriculture Week from October 7-13, 2019.

· Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to learn more about this special week.

· Visit Foodland Ontario's Availability Guide to know what is seasonally available in Ontario.

· To learn more and find an on-farm market, farm-gate and pick-your-own farms, visit Ontario Farm Fresh Marketing Association.

· To learn more and find a local farmers' market near you, visit Farmer's Markets Ontario Visit My Pick for more information on Farmers' Markets Ontario's verified local farmer program.

## SIRIO GROUP INTRODUCES ONE-STOP-PLATFORM FOR PLANT-BASED NUTRACEUTICALS AT SUPPLYSIDE WEST



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Feb 22-Mar 1, 2020



## FIFA President and FIFA Legends help kick off second Football for Schools pilot project in Lebanon



FIFA President and FIFA Legends – including Kaka, Laura Georges, Tim Cahill, Marcel Desailly, Samuel Eto'o and Jose Mourinho – in Lebanon to launch second Football for Schools pilot project



## Edmonton get 1st FIBA 3x3 World Tour Masters win in Nanjing

## IAAF RESPONSE TO FALSE CLAIMS MADE BY ATHLETE REGARDING DSD TREATMENT

**IAAF**  
The Home of  
World Athletics

Whilst we have not seen the full open letter from French athletes, as reported by AFP today, we feel compelled to respond to this story in the strongest terms.

The IAAF does not advise, nor has it ever advised, an athlete on a preferred treatment route. The IAAF encourages relevant athletes to seek independent, medical advice and will, if

requested, provide athletes with information on independent experts and reference centre specialists. The IAAF has never forced any athlete affected by its regulations to undergo surgery, nor paid for any of their treatment. It has in some cases paid for the medical investigation and diagnosis of the athlete by an independent medical centre so the athlete is fully aware of her condition. Regarding the Ugandan athlete, Annet Negesa, interviewed in the ARD documentary, the IAAF strongly denies any suggestion that the IAAF or Dr. Stephane Bermon was involved

## Asuncion 2020 Logo presented today to the international audience



Julio Ferrari, Pro Secretary of the Paraguayan Olympic Committee and Rodrigo Medina, Sport Deputy Ministry welcomed the press attending the presentation. Lorena Veiluva, CPP President said: "Keeping on with the responsibilities set to the host cities, we advocated ourselves in developing a corporate image with the purpose of promotion

as well as the look and feel during the Artistic Skating World Championships Asunción 2020 through a unique concept that will be impregnated in all the spectators of the event. After a series of meetings with a lot of designer, we decided that the approach presented by the visual, branding and packaging expert Mrs. Laura Piñero was the more suitable

for the event."

Mrs. Pinero's proposal manages to materialize a series of ideas, such as our wildlife and wild places, the world second largest freshwater reserve on the planet the Guaraní aquifer and Asuncion's historic sites, using a selection of colors of our preference, following traces of an aesthetic called neo-Guarani art.



## Ulaanbaatar, first-ever All-Asian team to win a FIBA 3x3 Challenger

Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia) made history by becoming the first-ever All-Asian squad to claim a FIBA 3x3 Challenger in Jeju, South Korea on October 5-6, 2019. A force on the professional circuit for the last 3 years, Ulaanbaatar finally won their first Challenger on the touristic island of Jeju.

First created in 2013, the FIBA 3x3 Challengers are standalone international qualifiers to the FIBA 3x3 World Tour with prize money. The Challengers were upgraded several times in the last few years: they were added to the FIBA 3x3 professional circuit in 2017 and became FIBA 3x3 Official Competitions in 2018. Ulaanbaatar previously finished 3rd in Inje and Manila this season. The Mongolian powerhouse gave a preview of their hot form by reaching the semi-finals of the FIBA 3x3 World Tour Los Angeles Masters powered by L.A. Times on September 20-21, 2019. The 4 players in Jeju were on the team which won the FIBA 3x3 Asia Cup representing Mongolia in 2017 after beating China, New Zealand and Australia. They finished second in 2017 and 2018.

Mongolia never competed in the



final phase of a senior FIBA official competition in basketball. The country finished 6th and 10th (women and men respectively) at the FIBA 3x3 U23 World Cup 2019, which just ended on October 6, 2019. Mongolia is currently ranked 4th with men and 5th with the women in the FIBA 3x3 Federation

Ranking.

On November 1, 2019, FIBA will officially announce the 8 teams (4 per gender) who will qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and the 40 teams (20 per gender) who will participate in the FIBA 3x3 Olympic Qualifying Tournament, based on the FIBA 3x3 Federation Ranking.

## African clubs to compete in Qualifying Tournaments for the Basketball Africa League confirmed

