CITPS Brief 053

China's New Foreign Investment Law Cornerstone for the new round of reform

新版中国外商投资法

一持续开放发展新基石

The New China's Foreign Investment Law Forum will be held on :

Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2019

Address: Morris J. Wosk, Simon Fraser University,

580 W. Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC

Registration: 1:30pm – 2:00pm Forum: 2:00 pm – 4:30pm Dress Code: Business

Vancouver-based Trade Association CITPS Hosts Forum

On China's Foreign Investment Law



Hosted by local Chinese Canadian business group Canada International Trade Promotion Society (CITPS), the China's New Foreign Investment Law - Cornerstone for the new round of reform was held at the Morris J. Wost Centre for Dialogue at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver on May 22, 2019. The event aimed to interpreting China's newly adopted foreign investment law

from Canadian perspectives and exploring potential opportunities the new law will bring to Canadian business communities. Over 200 people joined the event, including representatives from the Chinese Consulate General and French Consulate General in Vancouver, Global Affairs Canada, BC Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology, local business and community leaders.



















Jeannie Cheng, president of CITPS said, "I have been doing international business for over 30 years. I have witnessed the rise of China and its influence and contributions to global trade. Canada and China have very strong people-to-people ties and enjoyed a long history. I have full confidence that in Sino-Canadian relations, especially the economic cooperation between the two counties. The new round of reform and opening-up in China has provided a huge room and unprecedented opportunities for Canadian enterprises in China."



Cheng added, "CITPS has been committed to promoting Canadian-Chinese economic and trade cooperation, helping local enterprises to understand the latest policies and developments of Chinese business, and helping them seize the opportunity to expand their business in China. We hope to offer our members with the latest Chinese investment policy in a timely way, capture new opportunities, develop better quality services, and give stronger support for your future development."

Kirk Lapointe, editor-in-chief of Business in Vancouver kicked off the forum. Leaders in politics, academia, business and the legal sector were among speakers at the event, including Hon. Tong Xiaoling, Chinese Consul General in Vancouver, Hon. George Chow, B.C. minster of state for trade, Hon. Stockwell Day, former federal minister of international trade, minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, president of treasury board; Prof. Gordon Houlden, director of China Institute, University of Alberta; Wei Shao, senior partner of Dentons Canada LLP, and David Choi, former national governor of the Canadian International Council.



In her speech, Consul General Tong Xiaoling highlighted major points in the new law. "The the formulation of this fundamental law governing foreign investment is of milestone significance in China's 40-year journey of reform and opening up to the outside world. It is also one of China's significant initiatives to open its door even wider, to boost foreign investment, to protect the legal rights of the foreign investors and to regulate the administration and management system for foreign investment. It serves as a powerful legal guarantor for a higher level of openness." TONG stressed that China's commitment for non-stop reform and further openness will not be deterred. China's sustained efforts in promoting free and convenient investment, mutually beneficial economic globalization will continue! As always, China welcomes foreign businesses to China for investment and/or doing business of mutual benefits.



Tong also noted that today's China is at a critical historical juncture of a great national renaissance in an ever-changing world unprecedented in the last century. China will never succumb to the bully behavior. However, China's determination to defend her sovereignty, national security and development interest is rock solid. China has the capability to defend its national interest. On behalf of BC Premier John Horgon, Hon. Gerorge Chow, B.C. minister of state for trade, congratulated the successful launch of the forum and commended CITPS for its continued dedication to promoting Canada-China trade.





Hon. Stockwell Day indicated that the new foreign investment law is a signal that China has determined to move further to a law-based society. Despite challenges and problems Canada, China's ongoing One Belt, One Road (OBOR) initiative presents a major opportunity for Canadian small businesses, especially considering that China is aware that it needs sustainable, clean energy and resources – something that Canada can provide. As we know more and more about One Belt One Road and the strength of its progress, Canada has to really look at it and decide what role we want to play. Given our long-time friendship, and given what China needs and Canada does have and can surely continue to provide, Canada needs to speak out otherwise, we will the train.







Dentons, globally over 10,000 lawyers in 78 countries and 46 offices in China, knows well doing business in China. Wei Shao, senior partner at Dentons Canada and leads the national China practice group, interpreted the existing legal framework governing foreign investment in china, the process of enactment of the new Foreign Investment Law, key provisions and changes in the new law, impact on foreign investors, certain things never change from the aspect of the background of enactment of the new law, present hot topics in the field of international trade such as US-China trade disputes as well as the future trend of the development of China such as One Belt One Road Initiative, Hainan Island Initiative, Greater Bay Area Initiative.



Prof. Gordon Houlden, director of China Institute in University of Alberta, talked about the China International Import Expo (CIIE) held last year. He said that the successful launch of CIIE was a signal that Beijing is open to more foreign economic presence in China. Canada should seize the opportunity to catch up with the development of the times.









The event was wrapped up by Chuck Chiang, editor of Asia-Pacific of Business in Vancouver. CITPS Vice President Angela Fang and Leo Liu delivered note of thanks at the event.













Chinese Consul General TONG Xiao Ling was invited to present awards to all speakers, co-hosts and supporting organizations for their tremendous support.

























For media reports on the forum, please see the links below: *Ignore Huawei fallout: Stockwell Day - Business in Vancouver*

<u>China committed to opening doors wider to foreign investment</u>

By <u>Tong Xiaoling</u>, Business in Vancouver

关于中国《外商投资法》

2019年3月15日,中国第十三届全国人大二次会议通过了《中华人民共和国外商投资法》(简称《外商投资法》)。《外商投资法》将取代《中华人民共和国中外合资经营企业法》、《中华人民共和国中外合作经营企业法》和《中华人民共和国外资企业法》(合称"外资三法")。该法是中国在外商投资领域具有划时代性的一步。

About China's Foreign Investment Law

On March 15, 2019, the Foreign Investment Law of the People's Republic of China was adopted at the second session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC). The new law will replace the Law of the People's Republic of China on Chinese-foreign Equity Joint Ventures, the Law of the People's Republic of China on Wholly Foreign-Owned Enterprises, and the Law of the People's Republic of China on Chinese-foreign Cooperative Joint Ventures (hereinafter referred to as "Three Foreign Investment Laws"). This law has taken epoch-making step in the field of foreign investment in China.



《外商投资法》的颁布亦宣告了中国在实行准入前国民待遇与负面清单管理制度的原则下,保护外商投资企业的合法权益,给予外商投资企业平等竞争的机会,同时将与外商投资企业的规范、监管与保护相关之法律法规和与内资企业相关之法律法规进行逐步统一,成为中国外商投资的基本法。《外商投资法》将自 2020 年 1 月 1 日起实施。

The promulgation of the Foreign Investment Law also declares that under the principle of implementing the system of pre-entry national treatment plus a negative list management for foreign investment., China will protect the legitimate rights and interests of foreign-funded enterprises and give them equal opportunities to compete with domestic enterprises. At the same time, it will gradually unify the relevant laws and regulations with respect to the regulation, supervision and protection of foreign-funded enterprises with that domestic-funded enterprises. It will become the basic law for foreign investment in China. The Foreign Investment Law will go into effect as of January 1, 2020.

中国《外商投资法》突出了积极扩大对外开放和促进外商投资的主基调,使这部法律成为一部外商投资的促进法、保护法,为外商投资开辟发挥作用的广阔空间,能够使外资企业对中国市场更加充满信心。

China's Foreign Investment Law highlights China's keynote to further expand opening up, actively promote foreign investment, making it a promotion law and protection law for foreign investment, opening up a broad space for foreign investment to play its role, and making foreign-funded enterprises more confident in China's market.

关于加拿大国际贸促会

加拿大国际贸促会(CITPS)是一家非盈利机构,以促进加拿大和亚洲及欧盟国家之间的贸易、投资和经济技术合作,增进相互了解和文化交流为宗旨,在国际联络、会议展览、经贸

咨询以及信息交流等领域提供服务,发挥"民间经济大使"的独特作用。加拿大国际贸促会是首届、第二届中国进口博览会加拿大卑诗省/育空地区指定招展机构。如需要了解更多资料,请浏览: http://www.citps.org

About Canada International Trade Promotion Society (CITPS)

Canada International Trade Promotion Society (CITPS) is a non-profit organization whose objectives are to:

- * *Promote trade*;
- * Facilitate investment;
- * Foster economic and technical cooperation; and
- * Support and encourage mutual understanding and cultural exchanges between Canada and countries in Asia and the European Union.

CITPS can help play a unique role as a Non-governmental Economic Ambassador by providing services in such areas as: international relations;

- * Economic and trade consultation;
- * Information exchanges; and
- * Organizing conventions and exhibitions.

CITPS is the authorized exhibition invitation provider in British Columbia and Yucon area for the first and the second China International Import Expo. For more information, please visit http://www.citps.org