

Press Release

 [Email this article](#) | [Government Homepage](#)

Harbour Fest inquiry panel gets more time to submit report

The following is issued on behalf of the Independent Panel of Inquiry on the Harbour Fest:

The Independent Panel of Inquiry on the Harbour Fest notes the keen community interest in the Harbour Fest in response to the Director of Audit's value for money report. While its work has been progressing satisfactorily, the panel feels that it may need to look further into some of the areas of inquiry as a result of the report.

"The panel has had a chance to read the Director of Audit's value for money report on the Hong Kong Harbour Fest. There is only a brief reference to the audited accounts of Red Canvas Limited, the special purpose vehicle that organises the event for the American Chamber of Commerce," the panel members said.

"Given the relatively greater access we have to the financial information of Red Canvas Limited, we may be able to further explain our observations in the report. To do so, we shall need a bit more time. While we have completed most of our investigative work, the extension is helpful to our review of additional documentation pertinent to the inquiry to which we have only recently gained access. In fact, the panel has just completed further interviews with some parties involved in the Harbour Fest who have been absent from the territory."

The panel has accordingly communicated with and obtained the agreement of the Chief Executive to submit its report as soon as it is ready but not later than May 15, 2004.

Ends/Monday, April 26, 2004

NNNN

 [Email this article](#)