

The Editor
Letters to the Editor
The Globe and Mail
By Email: letters@globeandmail.com

Dear Editor,

I refer to your article "As Hong Kong passes anthem bill, people defy ban on Tiananmen Square vigil" published online on June 4, 2020.

In the article, it mentioned "But the disappearance of Thursdays' candlelight memorial, though it was cancelled on health grounds, presented critics with a tangible sign of what the future may hold for the city." Restrictions on public gatherings in Hong Kong have been in place for more than two months and their need is reviewed in light of the actual situation, in particular whether there are any cases of community transmission.

In recent days, Hong Kong has seen a new community cluster with some, as yet, unexplained transmission vectors. This is a legitimate concern. Based on the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government's experience containing the virus, the only prudent course is to extend restrictions on public gatherings until we are confident this latest cluster is under control and we can understand how and why it has spread. The decision on the proposed public gathering has nothing to do with any political considerations, just the public health of our people. To throw caution to the wind to allow any large public gathering at this time would be reckless.

Sincerely,
Emily Mo
Director
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)