

April 13, 2016

The Royal BC Museum investigates Chinese Canadian history through a *Curious* lens

Victoria, BC — This week, the Royal BC Museum launched the latest version of its online magazine, *Curious*, in an edition devoted to exploring the efforts and experiences of the people working “behind the scenes” of the Chinese Canadian Legacy Projects.

The edition, at curious.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca, delves into the task of preserving and providing access to the history of Chinese Canadians in BC, including the social, economic and legislative persecution of these newcomers.

The [Legacy Projects](#) flow from the formal apology made by the British Columbia legislative assembly in May 2014 to Chinese Canadians for historical wrongs imposed on them by past provincial governments.

“Despite deep discrimination and hardships, early Chinese Canadians played an integral role in shaping our province into what it is today,” says Teresa Wat, Minister of International Trade and Minister Responsible for Asia Pacific Strategy and Multiculturalism. **“This edition of *Curious* gives British Columbians a unique look at the many contributions of Chinese Canadians to our province and provides special insights into the Chinese Legacy Projects, which are creating new legacies for generations to come.”**

“Despite the scale and scope of their hardships, the contributions of early Chinese Canadian immigrants are substantial,” says Angela Williams, Deputy CEO and Chief Operating Officer of the Royal BC Museum. **“It was the tenacity of spirit and the backbreaking labour of these men and women that helped build Canada, including the country’s unification by rail from sea to sea.”**

This edition of *Curious* honours the many Chinese Canadian pioneers who overcame adversity by highlighting the work of the individuals tasked with preserving important legacies and contributing to the apology.

The issue features a dynamic collection of articles from the educators, historians, cultural professionals and community leaders who guided and worked on the Legacy projects.

Curious is available online as well as on your mobile device via iOS and Android apps. Read the latest issue – and archived editions – at curious.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca. By May 2016 this issue will be available in both Simplified and Traditional Chinese, a first for the publication.

The Royal BC Museum has developed a number of tools to inspire the public to learn more about Chinese Canadian history and the vast contributions of immigrants to



Canada. These include The Writing on the Wall [Outreach Kits](#) and two articles on the online Learning Portal: [Acknowledging Past Wrongs](#) and [Early Chinese Canadian Experiences in British Columbia](#).

About the Royal BC Museum

The Royal BC Museum explores the province's human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Looking to the future, the Royal BC Museum will be a refreshed, modern museum, extending its reach far beyond Victoria as a world-class cultural venue and repository of digital treasures.

- 30 -

Media contact:

Royal BC Museum Media Inquiries

250-387-5051

news@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca

 @RoyalBCMuseum  [royalbcmuseum](#)  [RoyalBCMuseum](#)