

May 10, 2021

## The Royal BC Museum Celebrates Asian Heritage Month with Events, Popup Exhibits and Partnerships

**VICTORIA, BC**—To commemorate Asian Heritage Month, the Royal BC Museum is featuring online events, promoting the work of its partners and offering plenty of resources to learn more about the experiences of Asian settlers in BC.

The Royal BC Museum is committed to sharing and honouring these stories—and those of other diverse settler communities in BC—in part as a knowledge-based counterpoint to the recent rise of anti-Asian hate crimes in BC.

**“Understanding each other’s intercultural experiences through stories and material culture empowers us to cultivate empathy and unites us in the work towards our collective goal of social justice,” says Dr. Tzu-I Chung, Royal BC Museum curator of history.**

On May 4, the **museum’s** online RBCM@Home series featured a webinar about the [Broken Promises](#) exhibit at the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre. The exhibit, which will travel to the Royal BC Museum in 2022, explores the dispossession of Japanese Canadians in the 1940s. You can view a recording of the webinar [here](#), on the museum's YouTube channel.

On May 20, the RBCM@Outside series will focus on the “Hidden History of Esquimalt Teahouse.” **Participants can join us** for a virtual walk and talk about the history of the Japanese Teahouse in Esquimalt Gorge Park, in Victoria. More info and a link to register is available [here](#).

And on May 26, RBCM@Home (Kids) **will host** “Into the Interior”, a choose-your-own-adventure, interactive narrative game that follows two Japanese Canadian siblings as they experience internment during the 1940s. You can find more info and a link to register [here](#).

The Royal BC Museum thanks the South Asian Studies Institute at the University of the Fraser Valley for collaborating on a number of programs that raise awareness of the significant role of South Asian



Canadians in **BC's history**. You can learn more about our partnership projects, from curriculum development to the interpretation of historic sites, [here](#).

Victoria-area residents might wish to explore the [Peering into the Past](#) pop-up mini-exhibit, celebrating **Canada's oldest Chinatown**. The exhibit, at 103-3 Fan Tan Alley, has been extended until March 2022.

No matter where you live in BC (or the world), you can access the Royal BC Museum's many educational resources about the histories of Asian settlers in BC, including multimedia material about [early Chinese Canadian](#) and [Punjabi Canadian](#) experiences, on the [Learning Portal](#).

Follow the Royal BC Museum on its social media platforms (Instagram, Facebook and Twitter) for more announcements and posts related to, and supporting, Asian Heritage Month.

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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. Located in Victoria on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations), we are a hub of community connections in BC—onsite, offsite and online—taking pride in our collective histories.

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