

FOUNDATION TO COMMEMORATE THE CHINESE RAILROAD WORKERS IN CANADA

紀念加拿大鐵路華工基金會

fccrwc@gmail.com

Media Advisory Toronto, Ontario

JULY 1, 2023, MARKS 100 YEARS SINCE THE PASSING OF THE CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT IN CANADA

The Foundation to Commemorate the Chinese Railroad Workers in Canada (FCCRWC) <https://fccrwc.com/> will hold a **press conference** regarding two tribute events on July 1, 2023, to commemorate 100 years of the [Chinese Exclusion Act](#).

Press Conference

Date: Monday, May 15, 2023
Time: 11:00 am (Light refreshments served)
Venue: New Century Restaurant, New Century Plaza
398 Ferrier St, Markham, ON L3R 2Z5

Media RSVP/Contact

Chinese: Derek Wu, Vice-Chair
Telephone: 416.617.6268
Email: derekwutoronto@gmail.com
English: Landy Anderson, Chair
Telephone: 416.435.3138
Email: fccrwc@gmail.com

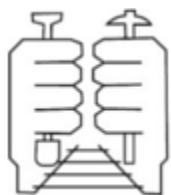
Ms. Landy Anderson, Chair, FCCRWC, will be in attendance with Mr. Derek Wu and Mr. Binh Chau, Directors, along with the Commemoration Organizing Committee. Photo and interview opportunities are available.

Morning Memorial Wreath-Laying Ceremony (open for Public - FREE)

Time: July 1, 2023, 10:30am
Venue: 4 Blue Jays Way, Toronto, ON M5V 3S9
Program: Lion Dance Northern Legs, Southern Fist | Musical Performances by Victoria Yip | Speeches by Community Leaders | Ontario Chinese Senior Association Choir and Orchestra

Formal Dinner & Awards

Time: July 1, 2023, 5:00pm – 10:00pm
Ticket: \$80 per person (Dinner) No ticket sales at the Door
Venue: New Century Restaurant, New Century Plaza
398 Ferrier St, Markham, ON L3R 2Z5
Program: Lion Dance Northern Legs, Southern Fist | Musical Performances by Victoria Yip | Screening of the "Ties That Bind" documentary | Feature keynote speakers Landy Anderson, Arlene Chan | James Pon Memorial Video Scholarship Awards | Attendees will receive an exclusive commemorative book and plaque



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Event Details

The FCCRWC will produce a documentary of the day's event. We are seeking support for this historical and monumental event from federal, provincial, and municipal governments, communities/organizations, descendants of Chinese Head Tax Payers/Chinese Railroad Workers, filmmakers, and the public/individuals.

Backgrounder

The Foundation to Commemorate the Chinese Railroad Workers in Canada, (FCCRWC) is a registered charitable organization. The goals of the Foundation include:

- Promoting the understanding and awareness of the contribution to Canada by the Chinese Railroad Workers who participated in the construction of the first transcontinental railway (the Canadian Pacific Railway) that united Canada geographically, politically, and economically;
- Promoting the awareness of the government's legislation of unjust Immigration Acts against the Chinese pioneers and their families;
- Establishing scholarships; and
- Sponsoring other Canadian charitable organizations to promote Chinese Canadian History.

The commemorative events will pay homage to the Chinese pioneers who came to Canada in the 1880s to help build the railroad. Of the 17,000 men who came from the Province of Guangdong, China, over 4,000 lost their lives due to unsafe working conditions, landslides, and premature [blastings](#). After being recruited to build the first transcontinental railroad, the Chinese were banned from Canada through the Chinese Immigration Act (aka the Chinese Exclusion Act). This discriminatory law took effect on July 1, 1923, what most Canadians refer to as Canada Day, which the Chinese Community refers to as “Humiliation Day”. The Chinese Exclusion Act banned Chinese immigrants for 24 years until its repeal in 1947. During the exclusionary period, many wives and children in China were separated from the Chinese men in Canada. The impacts of the Chinese Exclusion Act reverberate through Chinese families and communities to this day.

On [June 22, 2006](#), Prime Minister Stephen Harper stated that building the railroad was a nation-building enterprise, and he formally apologized for the unjust legislation of the Chinese Exclusion Act, and compensated the living Head Tax Payers and the spouses of Head Tax Payers.

The FCCRWC annually commemorates the 17,000 Chinese lives who helped build the Canadian Pacific Railway which united Canada from coast to coast, politically, geographically, and economically, and the Foundation calls them Nation Builders.

Email: fccrwc@gmail.com

Website: <https://fccrwc.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FCCRWC/> (@FCCRWC)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChineseRailroad> (@ChineseRailroad)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@ChineseRailroad> (@ChineseRailroad)

2023 MARKS

100 YEARS

SINCE THE PASSING OF THE

CHINESE EXCLUSION

ACT IN CANADA



TRIBUTE EVENT WILL RUN ON

JUL 1, 2023

AM Wreath-Laying Ceremony

PM Formal Dinner & Awards

In the 1880s, 17,000 Chinese pioneers came from the Province of Guangdong, China, to Canada, and helped build the first transcontinental railroad, the Canadian Pacific Railway; 4,000 lives were lost due to unsafe working conditions, landslides, and premature blastings of the dynamite.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Chinese Immigration Act of July 1, 1923, (Chinese Exclusion Act) which prohibited Chinese immigration after the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed. The Foundation to Commemorate the Chinese Railroad Workers in Canada (FCCRWC) will host our annual morning commemorative event at our permanent Toronto Monument to pay homage to the Chinese pioneers, as railroad workers, **nation builders**, and the legacy they left behind, and a formal dinner later in the evening.



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-  fccrwc@gmail.com
-  www.fccrwc.com
-  [@FCCRWC](https://facebook.com/FCCRWC)
-  [@ChineseRailroad](https://twitter.com/ChineseRailroad)
-  youtube.com/@ChineseRailroad

A Tribute to Nation Builders

Join us, in their honour, and listen to the history from the descendants of the Chinese Railway Workers and be a part of this historic milestone.



Image D-07548 courtesy of the Royal BC Museum

Morning Memorial Wreath-Laying Ceremony

Open for Public (FREE)

📅 July 1st, 2023, 10:30am

📍 4 Blue Jays Way, Toronto

★ Lion Dance Northern Legs, Southern Fist | Musical Performances by Victoria Yip | Speeches by Community Leaders | Ontario Chinese Senior Association Choir and Orchestra

Formal Dinner

Ticket : \$80 per person (Dinner)

*No Ticket Sales at the Door

📅 July 1st, 2023, 5:00pm - 10:00pm

📍 The New Century Restaurant 新世纪皇宫
New Century Plaza 世紀廣場
398 Ferrier St, Markham, ON L3R 2Z5

★ Lion Dance by Northern Legs, Southern Fist | Musical Performances by Victoria Yip | Screening of the "Ties That Bind" documentary | Feature keynote speakers Landy Anderson, Arlene Chan | James Pon Memorial Video Scholarship Awards | Attendees will receive an exclusive commemorative book and plaque



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100 years since the passing of the
Chinese Exclusion Act in Canada

100
YEARS
1923-2023

SCAN QR CODE FOR
EVENT DETAILS

