

OUR GREAT CONDO GIVEAWAY
STARTS TODAY! GAME BOARD AND DETAILS INSIDE. Page L9
WEEKEND EDITION
THE VANCOUVER SUN
100 Influential Chinese-Canadians in B.C.
Meet some of the people of Chinese descent who strengthen our community
Report on girl's death shows how system failed
Sherry Charlie's vulnerable brother was left with her violent killer, and a coroner ignored a pathologist's autopsy suspicions
WEEKEND EXTRAS
HOW A DINNER PARTY LAUNCHED A QUEST FOR JUSTICE A1
RANDY SHORE'S SECOND LIFE ONLINE | A8
HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION: 50 YEARS LATER | S1
WORKING THE LAND GAVE LINEBACKER HIS EDGE | I1
3 GRAND PRIZES! WORTH OVER \$4.5 MILLION
\$50 3 EARLY BIRD PACKAGES WORTH OVER \$350,000 TAX FREE

A COMMUNITY OF INFLUENCE

ARTS

- Juliana Chen C1
- Johnson Susing Chow C6
- Choo Chiat Goh C6
- Xiong Gu C6
- Kenneth Hsieh C7
- Joseph Koo C7
- Lydia Kwa C7
- Julia Kwan C7
- Evelyn Lau C7
- Nancy Lee C7
- Lorita Leung C8
- Bernice Liu C8
- David Y. H. Lui C8
- Raymond Mah C8
- Paul Wong C9
- Sheng-tian Zheng C9

BUSINESS

- Sunny Bai C1
- Caleb Chan C1
- Tung Chan C1
- James Cheng C1
- Raymond Cheung C1
- Sam Cheung and Wing Wu C6
- David Choi C6
- Gordon Chu C6
- Andrea Eng C6
- Peter Eng C6
- Albert Fok C6
- Johnny Fong C6
- Robert Fung C6
- Thomas Fung C6
- David Ho C6
- Edmund Ho C6
- James Ho C6
- Victor Leung Mau Ho C6
- Terry Hui C7
- Peter Joe C7
- Eugene Hsiao Yu Kwan C7
- Eva Kwok C7
- Grace Kwok C7
- Cindy Lee C7
- Henry Lee C7
- Paul Lee C7
- Robert H. (Bob) Lee C8
- Kin Wah Leung C8
- George Lian C8
- Alban Lo C8
- Brandt Louie C8
- Edmond Luke C8
- Perry Quan C8
- John Shen C9
- Bing Thom C9
- David Wong C9
- Hong-Yee Wong C9

From A1

History lost track of what became of that first "Chinaman," but his pioneering footsteps cleared a path for innumerable others. Today, people of Chinese ancestry are the province's most populous ethnic minority, numbering almost 500,000 in the Lower Mainland. They wield immense influence on every aspect of our shared society. In field after field — arts, politics, law, medicine, science, finance, business, religion, community affairs, philanthropy — Chinese-Canadians have become leaders and innovators.

In some ways, this is Canadian multiculturalism at its very best, a colour-blind gathering of talent and shared purpose.

There's just one problem: For most of our history, we have been anything but colour-blind. It wasn't the Anglo-Europeans of British Columbia who fought for the right to belong, or who endured a century of racism of the most despicable and institutionalized sort. It wasn't the Anglo-Europeans who were reminded, for generations, that they were different, lesser than other Canadians: required to pay taxes but not allowed to vote.

These dark facts make the contemporary accomplishments of Chinese-Canadians in B.C. all the more impressive. Not only have they distinguished themselves in so many ways, but Chinese-Canadians have done so against a background of racism and discrimination that only just began to abate in the second half of the 20th century.

Prejudice has finally given way to politeness, but our divisive history lives on in the way the Anglo-European majority and the so-called Chinese community (actually not one homogenous group, but many sub-groups divided along linguistic, political and cultural lines) continue to conduct themselves as two solitudes: nodding acquaintances who sometimes still ignore each other.

Earlier this year, *The Vancouver Sun's* senior editors and writers began discussing new ways to reflect the depth and breadth of multicultural life in British Columbia. As a newspaper, we disagree with the old adage that good fences make good neighbours. In our experience, communities need ways to connect cultures, not separate them.

In multicultural Vancouver, bridges make better neighbourhoods than fences do. With that in mind, we present this special tribute to the influence and contributions of our region's *Hua-ren* (meaning, literally, "China-people," regardless of whether they were born overseas and arrived a year ago, or are the Canadian-born great-grandchildren of 19th-century immigrants).

In the pages that follow, we profile 100 individuals whose talents and world views enrich our shared life as British Columbians.

The Chinese character, *Hua*, which introduces this special feature, was brush-penned by Johnson Su-Sing Chow, 84, of Vancouver, specifically for *The Vancouver Sun*. Chow, who is revered internationally as a master painter and calligrapher.

His contributions, both to world art and to Vancouver's cultural life, are acknowledged more fully inside these pages. The fact he has been here since 1980 and never received a mainstream museum exhibition is an example of the two solitudes in action.

To create our character, Chow used what is known as cursive or grass style calligraphy, an ancient brush style that prizes the free-flowing movement of hand and arm. While the original meaning of *Hua* is blossom, or flower, or flowering, nowadays it also usually connotes, in different contexts, the notion of China and of Chinese person, including that of people from China, or people of Chinese descent, living abroad.

The calligraphy



PETER BATHISTON / VANCOUVER SUN

The Chinese character, *Hua*, was drawn by Johnson Su-Sing Chow, 84, of Vancouver, specifically to be the emblem of *The Vancouver Sun's* 2006 profile of 100 influential Chinese-Canadians in the Lower Mainland. Chow, internationally revered as a master calligrapher and scroll painter, is also the subject of 18 foreign-language art books, and the author of many textbooks on the subject of Chinese painting. He has lived in Vancouver since 1980 and had a huge impact on the city's culture.

WEEKEND EXTRA

WHO MADE THE 100? Complete List | C1

We felt that this character and its layers of meaning create an apt symbol for the blossoming of contemporary Chinese-Canadian influence in the Lower Mainland.

To create this special feature, we began by canvassing the newspaper's senior editors and reporters for suggestions of whom to include. Those preliminary lists were scrutinized by our colleagues at Chinese-language newspapers, who had many other names to add. We also consulted officials at the University of B.C. and Simon Fraser University, as well as trusted community members, who provided key counsel and advice.

One person who deserves particular thanks for his participation is Jan Walls, the director of the David Lam Centre for International Communication at SFU. Walls, whose profound understanding of Chinese language and culture regularly earns him the admiring sobriquet of "more Chinese than the Chinese," would certainly have appeared

Your choices

Vancouver Sun readers are invited to nominate their own influential Chinese-Canadians by e-mailing us at influential@png.canwest.com

on our list in his own right, except for his Caucasian ancestry.

We do not intend the list to be a *Top 100* ranking, or comprehensive in any hierarchical way. We see it more as an assembly of individuals who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. We have tried to balance the various areas of endeavour, gender and geographical origin. Where necessary, we opted to include people whose influence is already well-established, rather than younger people with great promise.

We opened the list to anyone living and working in British Columbia on a permanent basis, whether they are Canadian citizens, or longtime foreign residents.

Early on, we decided not to include the names of pioneers who are deceased. This was a difficult decision, because it meant overlooking people such as Lilian To, whose humanity and drive made Vancouver's immigrant aid society, S.U.C.C.E.S.S., one of the largest institutions of its kind in North America; and Douglas Jung, the first Chinese-Canadian member of Parliament, whose valiant efforts as a Canadian soldier during the Second World War partly led to Chinese-Canadians being enfranchised in 1947.

The final list presents an astonishing array of talent and dedication. Here are history-makers like Dorothy Kostrzewa, the first Chinese-Canadian woman to hold elected office in this country, still serving her Chilliwack constituents more than 30 years later; David Lam, B.C.'s former lieutenant-governor, the first Chinese-Canadian to hold a vice-regal post; and Justice Linda Loo, the first female Chinese-Canadian to serve on the B.C. Supreme Court.

Here are people who helped define an era, such as Roy Mah, the longtime editor of the English-language *Chinatown News*, and David Y. H. Lui, whose passion for the arts persuaded some of the world's best performing arts companies to come to Vancouver.

We meet business titans, like the dentist-turned-developer Benjamin Yeung, whose modest personal demeanour belies a portfolio of development projects worth \$800 million; and humane financier Milton Wong.

Here are architectural giants, responsible for the new face of Vancouver, James Cheng and Bing Thom; as well as writers, artists, dancers, choreographers. Here are scientists, fighting disease, including Weihong Song and Victor Ling; politicians, media moguls, athletes, essayists and philanthropists.

Attempting to identify only 100 luminaries in a community of nearly 500,000 people is, of course, going to be dogged by omissions, whatever criteria are applied. With that in mind, we invite readers to nominate their own influential Chinese-Canadians. (See factbox, below left, for instructions).

In the process of interviewing the many people whose profiles are included here, one quality presented itself repeatedly. Perhaps it is a vestige of long-held Confucian principles, deeply laced into family memory; perhaps it is a result of personal style; but repeatedly our reporters noted the abiding humility of the major achievers they were interviewing.

Perhaps lawyer and vintner Eugene Kwan put it best. Formerly the managing director of the Hong Kong office of top law firm Stikeman Elliott, senior counsel to some of the largest Asian investors in North America and a very active board member at VGH/UBC Hospital Foundation, Kwan was uncomfortable being part of this list.

"You want to put me on a list of the 100 most influential Chinese-Canadians in the Lower Mainland," he asked. "Gosh, I don't know about that." A long pause. "If it were the 10,000 most influential, I might just deserve to be on it."

mscotia@png.canwest.com

- Milton Wong C9
- Benjamin Yeung C9
- Raymond Yeung C9
- Catherine Yuen C9

COMMUNITY

- Victor Chan C1
- Henry Chau C1
- James Chou C6
- Bill Chu C6
- Gary Ho C6
- Maggie Ip C7
- Tony Lam C7
- Kwok-Chu Lee C7
- Don Montgomery C8
- Mary-Woo Sims C9
- Sid Tan C9
- Baldwin Wong C9
- Patrick Wong C9
- Charlie Wu C9
- Bennie Yung C9

EDUCATION

- Chak Kwong Au C1
- Josephine Chiu-Duke C6
- Lawrence Chu C6
- Grace Wong C9
- Yuen Pau Woo C9
- Vincent Cheng Yang C9
- Eleanor Yuen C9

GOVERNMENT

- Ida Chong C6
- Dorothy Kostrzewa C7
- Jenny Wai Ching Kwan C7
- David See-Chai Lam C7
- Richard T. Lee C8
- Linda A. Loo C8
- Raymond Louie C8
- Alan Lowe C8
- Sandra Wilking C9
- William (Bill) Yee C9

MEDIA

- Ronald Ying Nin Leung C8
- Roy Mah C8
- Han Shang Ping C8

MEDICINE

- Chan Gunn C6
- Dr. Victor Ling C8
- Dr. Harvey Lui C8
- Dr. Hiram Mok C8
- Weihong Song C9

SPORTS

- Andrea Stephanie Holmes C7
- Mira Leung C7
- Eugene Wong C9

of trade development, responsible for setting up the port's Beijing office in 1993 — a move that propelled China to the port's top source of cargo.

ANDREA ENG

Sector: Business

Origin: Canada

Andrea Eng, the former Miss Universe Canada representative, established her name on both sides of the Pacific in the world of real estate, working for some of Asia's most powerful tycoons. She is currently a private fund manager and global business strategist, guiding investments in real estate and high tech.



PETER ENG

Sector: Business

Origin: Hong Kong

Years in Canada: 39

Peter Eng is the head of the Allied Holdings Group of companies, which develops and owns numerous properties and hotels, with interests in the Crowne Plaza hotels in Edmonton and Toronto. Eng donated to Simon Fraser University the downtown heritage building that is now the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue. Eng serves as a director at HSBC Bank Canada and was a founding board member of the B.C. Achievement Foundation.



ALBERT FOK

Sector: Business

Origin: Hong Kong

Years in Canada: 30

Albert Fok has been instrumental in getting the federal government to recognize Chinese traditional medicine. As an advisory member for Health Canada's Natural Health Products Directorate, and president of Kiu Shun Trading Co., Ltd., Fok has helped the government create a new category for regulating herbal remedies that were formerly classified as either food or drugs.



JOHNNY FONG

Sector: Business

Origin: Hong Kong

Years in Canada: 32

Johnny Fong is chairman of Canasia Toys & Gifts Inc., an importer and distributor of consumer products. He is chairman and president of International Sources Ltd., an importer and distributor based in Vancouver. He also has real estate investments. Fong is extremely active in benevolent work. To name just one of his efforts: In 2003, he was instrumental in setting up a relief campaign for families hit by the devastating Kamloops forest fire. He has raised huge amounts of money for cancer research and health care initiatives.



ROBERT FUNG

Sector: Business

Origin: Canada

A property developer who cut his teeth with Concord Pacific, Robert Fung now focuses on restoring and developing heritage buildings on the Downtown Eastside. Fung's enlightened approach combines social conscience with a rigorous business model.



THOMAS FUNG

Sector: Business

Origin: Hong Kong

Years in Canada: 39

With wide-ranging interests in commercial real estate (Aberdeen Centre) and media (Fairchild TV), Thomas Fung has amassed an enterprise worth more than \$200 million US. *Time* magazine has named Fung as one of the most influential people in Canada. *Business in Vancouver* magazine chose Fung as one of the top 10 business people for the past decade.

