

To: Apology Consultation MIT:EX
Subject: RE: Fill in the Missing Chapters of B.C. History: Chinese Pioneers in the building of B.C. and Canada

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 23, 2013 8:12 AM
To: Apology Consultation MIT:EX
Subject: Fill in the Missing Chapters of B.C. History: Chinese Pioneers in the building of B.C. and Canada

Dear Minister Wat:

I am pleased to learn that you are holding public consultation sessions to solicit input on the topic of injustices committed by the provincial government against Asian pioneers.

I am in the opinion that “apology” is nice, but timely corrective action is proof of sincerity.

To prevent the perpetuation of prejudice and bias against “new comers from non-Euro nations” and British Columbians of Asian heritage, recognition of our B.C. history is important.

It is most unfortunate that British Columbian history, indeed Canadian history, are written from the perspective of the British colonial government by colonist.

The history of our First Nations communities and our Chinese pioneers from the gold rush days in Barkerville to the railway construction, and participation in farming, fishing, mining, saw mills, and small businesses during the 1800s to 1900s are all sadly missing.

Only when our children and future nation builders learn of the full complement of Canadian history, our society may avoid committing past mistakes, and hopefully shed the invisible curtain of colonial bias.

To this end, I have the good fortune of having started to fill in the missing chapters of our Canadian history. I have researched into the Chinese pioneers of New Westminster, and their participation in the salmon fishing and canning industry during the 1880s to 1920s.

These reports were present at an international conference (WCILCOS 2012: The 5th International Conference of Institutes and Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies) on “Chinese in the Americas”:

<https://circle.ubc.ca/handle/2429/43391>

[Participation of Chinese pioneers in British Columbia salmon canneries, 1880s to 1920s](#)

[Chung Nye of New Westminster, B.C : a Canadian story from the perspective of Chinese pioneers living in B.C. during the 1880s to 1920s](#)

It is my recommendation that the provincial ministry of education will endorse the incorporation of the missing chapters in elementary text books and in high school social studies.

It will be my pleasure indeed if I could be of service during this endeavour.

Your truly,
Rudy Chiang
[REDACTED]