

Subject: NCCC release this afternoon

This went out from Chinese National Congress this afternoon.

Media Release
For Immediate Release

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全加华人联合会 全国执行主席
蔡宏安

National Congress of Chinese Canadians' (NCCC's) response to B.C. Government's announcement today to conduct Consultation to Right Historical Wrongs.

"Acknowledging and correcting a past wrong is having the courage to move forward as a B.C. Community and is the proper and right thing to do. "

- said David Choi, National Executive Chair of National Congress of Chinese Canadians.

"A sincere B.C. apology should not be short of a parliamentary apology on behalf of the B.C. Government in a legislature session." Said David Cho, chair of NCCC

The National Congress Of Chinese Canadians was formed in 1992 with over 280 Chinese Canadian organizations across Caanda and called for the redress of the "Chinese Head Tax" and the Chinese exclusion Act of 1923-1947. Canadian parliament made a formal apology in 2006 and began to address past wrongs against the Chinese in Canada.

NCCC since its existence in 1992 has stood up for equal rights of Chinese Canadians, supported Chinese Canadian history and the education of Canada's Chinatowns, promoted Canada-China relations for mutual benefit, promoted cross cultural understanding and harmony, and informs and encourages Chinese Canadians to be the best that they can be and be contributors to and builders of Canadian Society.

"The Chinese community is please to see that the B.C.'s Minister of Multiculturalism is taking the lead to conduct consultation with the community in righting past wrongs in the best interest of B.C.

"If one understands history, Chinese in B.C. has made significant contributions in B.C., which included building the C.P railway which connected B.C. through the rockies under treacherous conditions, sacrificing more than one Chinese live per mile built. Chinese wives and children were not allowed to unit with their fathers in Canada through the Chinese Exclusion Act. Chinese veterans also fought for Canada during world war while denied the right to vote or become citizens." Said David Choi, who is also adjunct professor and co-chair of the Chinese Canadian History Council at SFU's David Lam Center for International Communication.

"B.C. need to turn the dark pages of her history of mistreatment of the Chinese with proper action. What needs to done is a sincere apology, preserve the history for archive and ensures that the promotion and access to education of B.C.'s history guides our informed future. NCCC and the community will play important roles to help to communicate and encourage same and connect Canadians to ensure new forms of prejudice do not take place as its inconsistent with Canadian values and Canada's standing in the world." Said NCCC's National Chair David Choi

"Let us all work together on this in moving forward without the politics and do the right thing for B.C. without delay." Said

NCCC's National Executive Chair David Choi

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