



# SIEN LOK NEWSLETTER

PO BOX 20150, RPO BOW VALLEY, CALGARY, AB, T2P 4K3

TELEPHONE: (403) 874-SLSC (7672)

EMAIL: [INFO@SIENLOK.ORG](mailto:INFO@SIENLOK.ORG) WEBSITE: [WWW.SIENLOK.ORG](http://WWW.SIENLOK.ORG)

EDITORS: SANDY KWONG AND PAMELLA FEARON

**“Through a legacy of co-operation, advancing and preserving Chinese Canadian heritage by creating bridges between generations and cultures.”**

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## Board of Directors

President	Edmond Lee
Past-President	Allen Wong
Vice-President	Pamella Fearon
Treasurer	Ka-Yee Wong
Secretary	Sharon To
Communications	Sandy Kwong
Director	Peter Fung
Director Emeritus	Ray Lee
Fundraising	Philip Slen
Legal Counsel	Allen Wong Kevin Wong
Membership/Volunteers	Wendy Kit Tsui
New Year Banquet	Cori Louis-Smith
Projects	Robert Jim Thomas To
Parks	Jason Luan
Social Club	Lisa Woo
Webmaster	Kevin Wong

## Vice-President’s Message

by Pamella Fearon, Vice-President

The new Board of Directors is certainly an ambitious lot. Building on the work that was completed during the last term, the Board is charging ahead with a number of special projects.

This newsletter contains many updates on the work of the Sien Lok Society and I encourage you to provide your feedback on the projects we are undertaking.

We have enjoyed participating at several banquets with a variety of other organizations. Our goal of creating bridges between generations and cultures is one that requires constant attention to other organizations. If you are involved with another organization that could use the support of Sien Lok, please do not hesitate to ask for it. While we cannot accommodate all requests, we will certainly try and do our part.

While we are seeking out projects other than enhancements to Sien Lok Park, that project is always forefront in our planning. At present we are considering a gate or other element to improve the current facility.

Special thanks goes to all the volunteers who have made fundraising events such as the annual New Year banquet and the casino a success. The board looks forward to saying “thank you” in person at the upcoming volunteer appreciation.

Given the success of the Calgary Flames this year, make sure you check out the Social Club Update and opportunity to attend the final Calgary Flames home game of the season—thanks to Lisa Woo, Director, Social Committee.

## Social Club Update

by Lisa Woo

March 31--Final Home Game—Flames

The first social event of this year will be to cheer on the FLAMES on March 31, 2004. We only have 40 tickets to this event. The cost will be \$20.00/ticket for members and \$30.00 for non-members. This will include supper at nearby restaurant.

If you would like tickets, please contact me by March 20, 2004, at [lady\\_of\\_mine@hotmail.com](mailto:lady_of_mine@hotmail.com).

There is a limit of one ticket per member.

## New Year Banquet

by Cori Louis-Smith

The 35th Annual Sien Lok Chinese New Year's Banquet was a great success! We celebrated the Year Of the Monkey with dignitaries from the Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels of Government. Some of the famous faces were: Senator Thelma Chalifoux; Art Hanger, Member of Parliament; Minister of Health and Wellness, Gary Mar; Minister of Economic Development, Mark Norris; Minister of Revenue, Greg Melchin; Aldermen Druh Farrell, Gord Lowe, Diane Danielson, and Madeleine King. The 10-course banquet dinner prepared by The Regency Seafood Restaurant was delicious. The band Fine Line, supplied us with an assortment of music that was enjoyed by many, until the wee hours of the morning.

Don't forget to mark **Saturday, February 19, 2005**, on your calendars for the year of the Rooster.

## 2004 Casino

by Philip Slen

Our casino this year was another great success; in large part due to the tremendous efforts of our amazing volunteers again. It was held on February 24 and 25, from 11:00 am to 2:30 am at Cash Casino. The volunteers had a great time and enjoyed the food and beverage. When they are not busy, they walk the floor and take in the scene or just lounge around in the volunteer lounge playing cards or just chatting up with others. The General Manager was our very own Annie Louis. This was Sien Lok's fifth Casino. Funds from the Casino will go toward ongoing park projects, park upkeep and maintenance. This year we are applying for use of funds toward the Digitization project and the Chinese Women Photo Exhibit. Sien Lok casino is an important funding source for our ongoing projects that benefit the community at large. Therefore, the Society has already been slotted for the next casino. It will be in the fall of 2005. We would like to thank all our volunteers:

2004 Casino Volunteers:

Victor & Beth Byrant, Alex Bulechowsky, Francis Chiu, Pamela Fearon, Jeannie Gee, Robert Jim, Sandy Kwong, Edmond Lee, Ray Lee, Hugh & Annie Louis, George Louis, Leslie Louis, Cori Louis-Smith, Albert Low, Paul Lui, William Mah, James Maxim, Charles Cheun Ping Ng, Ben Pond, Roger Robinson, Philip Slen, Kevin Wong, Lisa Woo, Roger Yee.

## Upcoming Event: Volunteer Appreciation in May 2004

by Wendy Kit Tsui

In appreciation for all the volunteers who helped out for the following events since August of 2003:

James Maxim's BBQ

Picnic In Our Park/Walk-A-Thon

Annual General Meeting  
 Chinese New Years Banquet  
 Casino  
 Upcoming seniors visit

We will be hosting this event in May - time and place to be determined. We hope all our volunteers will attend so we may say a big **"THANK YOU!"**

## Bylaws Update

by Kevin Wong, Webmaster/Legal Counsel

We are pleased to announce the Special Resolution to amend the Society's by-laws was unanimously passed on January 31, 2004. Thanks to all who mailed-in their votes on the resolution. The new by-laws have now been registered with Alberta Registries.

We look forward to the flexibility and modern conveniences allowed by the new by-laws in everything from Board size to electronic communications.

Note that any Member may review the new by-laws upon request to any member of the Board.

As always, any questions on this issue can be directed to Kevin Wong at [kwong@sienlok.org](mailto:kwong@sienlok.org) or 403-397-1778.

## 2004 Scholarships

by Thomas To

Sien Lok Society has an Annual Scholarship Program.

The scholarships are given to four organizations:

### **MOUNT ROYAL COLLEGE--\$500**

The recipient of this award is Patsy Cheng, a second year student in the Disability Studies Diploma Program in the Faculty of Health and Community Studies. This scholarship is

awarded for academic effort and contributions to Scholastic Life. Congratulations Patsy!

### **CALGARY BRIDGE FOUNDATION--\$1,000**

This year's recipient of this award is Hong Lu who was born and raised in Vietnam. She was awarded this scholarship because of her exceptional leadership qualities. She plans to study toward an education degree at the University of Calgary. Congratulations Hong!

### **S.A.I.T.**

A request has not yet been received, but the Society will certainly consider providing a scholarship again this year.

### **UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**

A request has not yet been received, but Sien Lok will certainly consider providing a scholarship.

The Directors is contemplating presenting the scholarships as part of the annual Chinese New Year Banquet. The purpose of this change is to let our guests know about some of the fine work we do. Another reason is to let the recipients of the Scholarship be aware of what we do and who we are. Also, it gives us a chance to recognize the recipient.

## Bilateral Business and Cultural Exchange

By Jason Luan

At the invitation of the Consul General Mr. Song Xizhu, Sien Lok Board engaged in dialogs with his Excellency Mr. Song and the Head of the Commercial Development Section of the Consul General of China in Calgary, Mr. Liu Huabo. Ideas and interests were explored, followed up with a completion of a Memorandum of Understanding, which outlined areas of collaboration between Sien Lok Society of Calgary and the Commercial Section of the Consul General's Office. It was proposed that

Sien Lok would play a bridging role between the cultural and business communities in China and Canada, to assist with future exchanges between the two countries. Sien Lok would utilize its existing network of a large diverse membership and strong connections with the Canadian business and cultural communities to organize exchanges activities between the two countries, which ultimately benefit Canadian and Chinese enterprises. 2004 will pilot a project to build for future success. Please keep tuned for further development.

## Call for suggestions

If you would like something specific included in Sien Lok's quarterly newsletter, please let us know. This newsletter is intended to keep the membership up-to-date on events and activities and provide opportunities for involvement. Please contact us by phone, email, or regular post.

Sien Lok Society of Calgary  
 PO Box 20150, RPO Bow Valley  
 Calgary, AB, T2P 4K3  
 Telephone: (403) 874-SLSC (7672)  
 Email: [info@sienlok.org](mailto:info@sienlok.org)  
 Website: [www.sienlok.org](http://www.sienlok.org)

## Things that make you go, "Hmmm"

His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse surroundings. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved.

"I want to repay you," said the nobleman. "You saved my son's life."

"No, I can't accept payment for what I did," the Scottish farmer replied waving off the offer. At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family hovel.

"Is that your son?" the nobleman asked.

"Yes," the farmer replied proudly.

"I'll make you a deal. Let me provide him with the level of education my own son will enjoy. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll no doubt grow to be a man we both will be proud of." And that he did. Farmer Fleming's son attended the very best schools and in time, graduated from St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin.

Years afterward, the same nobleman's son who was saved from the bog was stricken with pneumonia.

What saved his life this time? Penicillin.

The name of the nobleman? Lord Randolph Churchill. His son's name?

Sir Winston Churchill.