



SIEN LOK NEWSLETTER

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

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Memberships/Social Parks	Eileen Tam Robert Jim/Edmond Lee/ Carl Wu/Kevin Lam/Ray Lee Thomas To/Jason Luan
Scholarships	Thomas To
Digitization Project	Thomas To/Ray Lee/Kim Fung
Webmaster	Kevin Wong
Director	Lisa Woo

President's Message

by Thomas To, President

The Sien Lok Society of Calgary always puts up a fine party every year – our Annual Chinese New Year Banquet for this year was held on February 11, 2006 at the Regency Restaurant. Sien Lok is known for this outstanding annual event in which Cori Louis-Smith (Chair) and her Committee did a tremendous job in the planning and organizing, which made it enjoyable for everyone. We especially thank Cori and the rest of the committee for their dedication and long hours to make this year's banquet a memorable event.

We express special thanks to RBC Financial Group for being the Exclusive Financial Services Sponsor for 2006, and for donating the red envelopes, centerpieces and the grand door prize.

We were also honored to have the following Entertainment Sponsors:

Commercial Radio – Les Louis
 Cohos Evamy
 Hewlett Packard

And last, but certainly not the least, we offer our special thanks to all of our Donors who contributed to the Silent Auction and made it a wonderful success.

Please see Cori Louis-Smith's article for further details about the Chinese New Year Banquet.

I would like to welcome Lisa Woo back as a Director on our Board.

Volunteer Appreciation and Fun Money Social Event

by Wendy Tsui

Volunteers and Directors--Thank you! You have helped the Sien Lok Society achieve another successful year. We would like to show our gratitude by having a Volunteer Appreciation and Fun Money Event in your honour!

Of course, our members are invited as well. If you participated in last year's event, then you already know about the glorious buffet, but to spice things up this year, we will also be having a fun money casino. Real money is not used, and we guarantee it will be absolutely enjoyable for everyone. Casino games include Blackjack, Poker, Craps, and Roulette. As usual, there will be tons of prizes to be given away as well. So, be sure to join us, and don't miss out on this next Sien Lok bash!

Event Details

Sunday May 28, 2006

10:30 am

Canada Olympic Park.

Outdoor Tent

88 Canada Olympic Road SW

FREE for Board Members and Volunteers who have helped us since last year's Volunteer Appreciation Day (May 29, 2005) in the following events:

2005 Seniors Visitation

Builders & Patriots Photo Exhibit

2005/06 AGM

2006 Chinese Banquet

2006 Digitization Project

Sien Lok Society of Calgary Members:

\$10/person

Because there is limited seating, this will be a first-come first-serve event.

Please RSVP by May 12, 2006.

Volunteer Appreciation Committee:

Wendy Kit Tsui, Carl Wu, Mary Yuen-Sears, Cory Louis-Smith, Katy Fok and Eileen Tam

Chinese New Year Banquet

by Cori Louis-Smith

What a night! 650 people attended the 37th Annual Sien Lok Chinese New Year's Banquet for a fabulous 10 course gourmet meal, entertainment and dancing at the Regency Palace Restaurant on Saturday, February 11, 2006. The evening was graced by Senators, MP's, Aldermen, and many of our returning guests. It was once again, a sold out event. If you enjoyed yourself at this year's gala, or happened to have missed out, then be sure to mark Saturday, February 24, 2007 on your calendars to join us at next year's gala event!

Photos from the 2006 Chinese New Year's Banquet can now be viewed on our website at: www.sienlok.org/gallery.html under '2006 New Year's Banquet'.

Builders and Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians

by Robert Jim and Sharon To



Builders & Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians consists of two companion exhibits: **Reflections: Images of Chinese Women in Canada: A Historical Photo Exhibit**, which was curated by the Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO) and the **Southern Alberta Chinese Photo Exhibit**, curated by the Sien Lok Society of Calgary.

If you did not get a chance to view these exhibits when they were displayed at the Chinese Cultural Centre from Sept 18 – October 16, 2005, or the Southern Alberta Chinese Photo Exhibit portion at the 2006 Chinese New Year Banquet on February 11, 2006, you will now yet get another chance to see them.

The Provincial Archives of Alberta, located in Edmonton (which is only about a three hour drive from Calgary) will be displaying **Builders & Patriots** from May to August, 2006. So, the next time you find yourself up there visiting our northerly neighbors, take some time to pop in and view the exhibit!

The Provincial Archives of Alberta
8555 Roper Road
Edmonton, Alberta
T6E 5W1
Phone: (780) 427-1750
www.cd.gov.ab.ca/preserving/paa_2002/

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday to Saturday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Wednesday evening 4:30 to 9:00 pm
(no retrievals after 3:30 pm)

Closed Sundays and Mondays

The Provincial Archives of Alberta is closed on all statutory holidays.

Photographs can be viewed on our website at www.sienlok.org. Click on the prompt: "View the Builders & Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians photo gallery".

What's Happening in Sien Lok Park?

by Robert Jim

The Park Committee consists of Robert Jim, Ray Lee, Kevin Lam, Edmond Lee, Jason Luan, Thomas To, and Carl Wu. The Committee has identified three projects for this year; repairing the existing gazebo, re-cladding the Wall of Names monument and renaming the south entrance of the Park from "Chinatown Park" to "Sien Lok Park". Over the long-term, SLS would also like to complete two more monuments.

In the summer, you will see some new park banners, graciously funded by The City of Calgary Parks Department. Mr. Malcolm Ho-You, who has just retired from the City of Calgary, is responsible for the design of these beautiful banners. This project was made possible only through the strong leadership of Jason Luan (Past Chair of the Park Committee). On behalf of the Sien Lok Society, we would like to thank Jason for his tireless efforts in helping to maintain the Park.

The Committee has also met with Anthem Properties on several occasions to review their proposed development which is to be located on the old Greyhound bus site adjacent to the park. Anthem's proposal calls for approximately 1000 residential units in a four tower high-rise and low-rise development. The project is to be phased in three phases. We continue to meet with these developers to ensure that the concerns of the Society and adjacent residents are being addressed.

Digitization Project

Submitted by Al Rosen, University of Calgary

Through the development of this multicultural website, all Canadian ethnic groups now have the opportunity to capture and present their respective historical and cultural contributions to Canada's ever evolving cultural fabric. Each group can place important cultural materials online to teach, promote and disseminate new knowledge and to celebrate Canada's diverse ethnic heritage. This is a free and highly accessible cultural heritage portal. *Multicultural Canada* (www.multiculturalcanada.ca) fills a gap in our knowledge about ourselves as a nation and about our people.

This website creates powerful new learning opportunities for Canadian students and citizens. It provides a receptacle to preserve a wealth of unique and rare materials for historians and scholars. It will help to define the story of these multicultural groups as essential to the country's history as has been developed for other groups; in particular, the English and French documented histories.

Through digitization, the *Multicultural Canada* Project will gather together online searchable multicultural Canadian newspapers, books, journals, magazines, family papers, speeches, photographs, letters and oral histories. The website will preserve and make accessible the local histories of Canada's ethnic communities; accessible through vernacular, as well as English and French search engines. It will also

be accessed through an online version of the *Encyclopedia of Canada's Peoples*.

An initiative of this nature could contribute toward all citizens having an appreciation of our shared histories. For teaching and learning purposes, it will engage students, foster cross-cultural understanding, offer teachers easy-to-access online resources and include interactive tools which will enable students to explore their own and other communities. The *Multicultural Canada* Project is a partnership between the University of Calgary (Information Resources); the Sien Lok Society, Calgary; Simon Fraser University (SFU), Burnaby, the University of Victoria; and the Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO), Toronto. These organizations are considered the Founding Members of the initiative. Additional community and academic organizations will join this partnership as the project expands.

Work is well underway with digitization of 80 MHSO publications. These include writings from over 20 ethnic communities and range from richly illustrated textbooks and personal recollections of the past to guidebooks and bibliographic references.

Digitization has already been completed or is in progress for the Chinese Times (Da Han Gun Bao, Vancouver 1915-92); letters from the Chinese Benevolent Society of Victoria; historical Chinese, Ukrainian and other newspapers published in Canada; an Indo-Canadian oral history collection and other resources. The Sien Lok Society is working closely with the University of Calgary and SFU on gathering and digitizing oral histories from Chinese Canadian Seniors.

For more information on this project, please contact:

Al Rosen, Director of Development
Information Resources
University of Calgary
(403) 220-5955
arosen@ucalgary.ca

Scholarships

by Thomas To, President

The Sien Lok Society is proud to continue its long tradition of "happiness through good works" through our scholarship program, which offers scholarships to candidates from Mount Royal College, S.A.I.T. and the Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth.

This was the second year that we presented our Scholarship awards to the recipients at our Chinese New Year Banquet on February 11, 2006 at the Regency Palace Restaurant.

The following individuals are the recipients for this year's Sien Lok Society Scholarship Program:

Michael Bautista - Mount Royal College

Susan Xiuyan - S.A.I.T.

Rajesh Bria - Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth

Congratulations and Best Wishes to all of the recipients!

Collecting China: Beyond the Curio Cabinet

by Kim Fung

Earlier this year, the Sien Lok Society sponsored an exhibition called **Collecting China: Beyond the Curio Cabinet** on display at The Nickle Arts Museum from November 15, 2005 to April 15, 2006. Since its opening, the exhibition has been enjoyed by over 6,700 visitors, featured in the Calgary Herald's *Neighbours* edition, and had a very successful opening reception on January 20, 2006 with excellent attendance, great food, and just an overall good time had by all.

We are pleased to announce that The Nickle Arts Museum will be extending their showing of **Collecting China** until the fall of 2006. If you did not get an opportunity to view this

extraordinary exhibition the first time, you will now have another chance.

The Nickle Arts Museum is located in the University of Calgary campus. Curated by Geraldine Chimirri-Russell, Michele Hardy and Kim Fung, **Collecting China** features a unique mixture of both historical and contemporary Chinese artefacts. These artefacts include Qing Dynasty costumes and various ancient Chinese coins drawn from private collections, as well as the Nickle's own holdings of Chinese sculpture, carpets, coins, and ceramics. With these objects, **Collecting China** explores the motifs and symbols that are commonly found in Chinese material culture, as they derive from mythology, religion and philosophy. It also examines their persistence and variation, and show how they are aesthetically interpreted in various mediums. The exhibition is offered in both English and Chinese.

The Nickle Arts Museum
University of Calgary
434 Collegiate Blvd NW
(403) 220-7234
www.ucalgary.ca/~nickle

Summer Hours of Operation as of May 1, 2006:

10:00 am – 5:00 pm Mon - Fri
Closed evenings and weekends

Admission:

Free Tuesdays
\$5 Adults, \$2 Seniors
Free for kids K-12
Free for Post Secondary Students
(Student ID required)

Special Announcements

By Sharon To

IT'S A BOY!!!

Name: Jordan Chek-Yin Kwan
 Date of Birth: January 23, 2006
 Weight: 6 lbs 3 ozs
 Proud Parents: Ka-Yee Wong (Treasurer)
 and Kenneth Kwan

Congratulations Ka-Yee and Kenneth!

Upcoming Events

Senior's Visitation

By Sharon To & Cori Louis-Smith

Every June, the Sien Lok Society goes out to visit Senior citizens who reside in nursing homes within the city of Calgary. Some of these seniors do not speak English, and may have a hard time communicating with others that don't speak their native language. The Sien Lok Directors and volunteers all help put together fruit baskets, and then deliver them to the residents of nursing homes in various areas of the city. They also stay and visit with them for a while, and the seniors are very happy to have someone outside of the home to communicate with, and gratefully welcome this opportunity of fellowship. Last year, we visited about 110 seniors, and also received a heartfelt letter of thanks, which showed us just how greatly this gesture is appreciated, and how important it is that we continue to remember the aging members of our community. The purpose of having a Senior's Visitation is to reach out to residents that are living in cultural environments different from their own. We will not be visiting the Wing Kei Care Centre as the residents are living in a Chinese environment.

The annual Senior's Visitation will be held on Sunday, June 11, 2006. This year, the Directors will be filling the fruit baskets. If you would like

to join us and visit with the seniors (must speak both English and Chinese), please contact Wendy Tsui.

Picnic in Our Park

By Sharon To

This year we will be hosting our Picnic in the Park event. Free of cost, the picnic is open to all the members of The Sien Lok Society, as well as to the general public. So bring your family and friends!

Date: September 10, 2006
 Location: Sien Lok Park
 Corner of 1st Street &
 Riverfront Street S.W
 Time: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm.

There will be games for the children, food, drinks, entertainment and souvenirs for everyone. You will also have an opportunity to view the park projects the Sien Lok Society is very proud of, which were designated with this guiding principle in mind: "*Sien Lok Park shall reflect the visions of all Canadian Chinese and their ancestral heritage*". They include the following:

- Search of Gold Mountain (1999)
- Wall of Names (2001)
- Name a Bench
- Lions

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please phone 874-7572 or email us at info@sienlok.org.

Call for Suggestions

Please let us know if you would like something specific included in the Sien Lok's quarterly newsletter. This newsletter is intended to keep its members 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 (7572)
 Email: info@sienlok.org
 Website: www.sienlok.org

Please advise Sien Lok Society if you have a change of address, telephone number, cell phone number, or email address. This will ensure Sien Lok is able to maintain communication with its members.

\$1,500/bench

NAME A BENCH!

Send us your submission to sponsor a bench within the heart of Sien Lok Park



A Plaque will be inscribed & placed on top of the bench in Sien Lok Park.
A Tax Deductible Receipt will be issued for this purpose.

INTERESTED APPLICANT *please fill in your submission -*

NAME: _____

PHONE (home): _____ (work): _____

Address: _____

Bench (how many): _____


Tax Deductible Receipt Required: Yes _____ No _____

The followings are some samples for your review. The plaque is 12" x 3" and will be engraved in bronze lettering. Interested parties please contact _____ for more information.

12"

Dedicated to:
 Frank and Jenny Lung in recognition and appreciation
 of their support to the Chinese Community
 With Love from their Family

3"



Sien Lok Society



info@sienlok.org (403) 874-7572

Volunteer/Membership Sign-up (2006 – 2007)

Send form and cheque to:
 Sien Lok Society
 PO Box 20150
 RPO Bow Valley
 Calgary, AB T2P 4K3

\$5.00 Annual Single Membership
 \$15.00 Annual Family Membership

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Business Tel _____

Home Tel _____

Cell Tel _____

E-mail _____

Method of Payment:

Cash _____ VISA _____ Cheque _____

This sign up is for a single member _____

Family members _____

Additional family members: _____

I would like to volunteer for:

Chinese New Year Banquet _____

Casino _____

Communications _____

Creative Writer _____

Seniors Visitation _____

Social Club _____

Park Beautification _____

Picnic in Our Park _____

Social Club _____

Special Projects _____

Comments: _____
