



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.”

Inside this edition . . .

New Board of Directors for 2006 - 2007
 President's Message
 Chinese New Year Banquet—Cori Louis Smith
 AGM—Kevin Wong
 Sien Lok Casino Night—Philip Slen
 Builders and Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians—
 Robert Jim & Sharon To
 Sien Lok Park—Kevin Lam
 Sien Lok Memberships—Wendy Tsui
 Digitization Project—Ray Lee & Leonard Lee
 Scholarships—Thomas To
 Collecting China: Beyond the Curio Cabinet—Kim Fung
 Special Announcements

New Board of Directors 2006-2007:

President	Thomas To
Past-President	Edmond Lee
Vice-President	Sandy Kwong
Treasurer	Ka-Yee Wong/Katie Fok
Secretary	Sharon To/Mary Yuen Sears
Communications	Sandy Kwong/Eileen Tam
Director Emeritus	Ray Lee
Fundraising/Casino	Cori-Louis-Smith
New Year Banquet	Cori-Louis-Smith
Legal Counsel	Allen Wong/Kevin Wong
Volunteers	Wendy Kit Tsui/ Mary Yuen Sears
Archives/Newsletter	Kim Fung
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

President's Message

by Thomas To

This is my first greeting to you as the new President of The Sien Lok Society of Calgary for 2006 – 2007. I have big shoes to fill following the ex-presidencies of Edmond Lee, Allen Wong and Ray Lee. I would like to welcome the new Board of Directors listed on the left hand side of the newsletter. We will work together to accomplish our Mission Statement: *“Through a legacy of cooperation, advancing and preserving Chinese Canadian heritage by creating bridges between generations and cultures.”*

Special thanks go to Annie Louis and Philip Slen who organized our 6th fundraising Casino on November 25 & 26, 2005. I would also like to thank all our volunteers who invested much time and effort to make this event a great success. Without you, it would not have been possible.

This year, the planned events include:

- Chinese New Year Banquet on February 11, 2006
- Volunteer Appreciation in May
- Senior's Visitation in June
- Picnic-In-Our-Park in the early Fall

Since the great success of our **Builders & Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians** Photo Exhibit, we are pleased to announce that the Provincial Archives of Alberta in Edmonton have asked us to lend the exhibits to them for March 2006, where they will be on display for three months. We are working on the details.

The Digitization Project is well underway. More details are found in Ray Lee's report.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our Past Directors: Pamela Fearon, Peter Fung, Jason Luan, Philip Slen, Lisa Woo, Allen Wong and Kevin Wong—all who have generously provided us with their time and services for numerous years. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors, and even though they are leaving the Board, they will still be volunteering at various events.

I look forward to meeting you at our events.

Chinese New Year Banquet

by Cori Louis-Smith

Just a reminder:

The Sien Lok Society's 37th Annual Chinese New Year's Gala

Year of the Dog

Saturday, February 11, 2006

\$75.00/person

Formal Dress

**For tickets please contact Cori Louis-Smith
(403) 256-5687**

AGM

by Kevin Wong

October 26, 2005 marked another signature Sien Lok Annual General Meeting (AGM). Attended by almost 100 members, it was not only a well-attended event, but as usual a very entertaining one. Thank you to our volunteers who helped to make the event another success. Thanks also to our guest speaker, author Paul Yee, for his discussion about the survival of Chinatowns in Canada.

We enjoyed another Year in Review, which highlighted the extraordinarily busy year the Society experienced including our landmark Photo Exhibit **Builders and Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians**, and the launch of another Sien Lok legacy, the Multicultural Canada Chinese History Digitization project.

At the AGM, the members voted to accept the 2004-05 financials, as submitted, and also elected a new board. We're pleased to welcome the new leadership to this dynamic, rewarding, and fun organization. You're sure to enjoy your directorship term!

Sien Lok Casino

by Philip Slen

The Sien Lok Society had its 6th Casino fundraising event on November 25 & 26, 2005, held at Cash Casino. Proceeds from Casino are an important source of funding for the society. It helps to financially support our community work projects, such as the annual Seniors Visitation, and Picnic in the Park. Funds raised through the Casino have been approved to support our historical Digitization Project with the University of Calgary, Simon Fraser University and the Multicultural History Society of Ontario.

The volunteers are the ones who make this event possible for us. This year, we had previous volunteers returning to help, as well as some new ones. We express our gratitude and thanks to all of them. Special thanks to Annie Louis for managing the entire event, and to Cori Louis-Smith, who will coordinate the next Casino. They attended and anchored the Casino for both days from 11 am to 3 am! We will further show our appreciation to the volunteers at the annual Volunteer Appreciation, happening some time in the spring--another fun event to look forward to as it is always done at a great location and with great taste, literally.

We would like to acknowledge the following volunteers for their help at the Casino:

Annie Louis	Andrew Chin
Philip Slen	Sean Chu
Cori Louis-Smith	Leslie Louis
Wendy Tsui	Katey Fok
Pamella Fearon	Slava Gruszczynska
William Mah	Robert Jim
Sandy Kwong	Edmond Lee
Kenneth Kwan	Hing Ngo
Hugo Tam	Jan Mah
Alex Bulenowski	Ellen Leung
Daniel Chan	Jonathan Chan
Roger Robinson	Hugh Louis
Linda McPhee	Gordon McPhee
Albert Low	Vic Bryant
Beth Bryant	

Builders and Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians

by Robert Jim and Sharon To

After two years of planning, **Builders & Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians** became a reality. The show consisted 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. The exhibits resided in the Calgary Chinese Cultural Centre from Sept 18 - October 16, 2005. This exhibit was deemed Sien Lok's contribution to Alberta's Centennial celebrations.

On Wednesday September 21, 2005, the Sien Lok Society and Swan Group co-hosted the exhibit opening gala reception. Special guests in attendance were Her Honour, **Mary Kwong**; His Honour, The Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable **Norman Kwong**; **Dora Nipp**, Director of the MHSO; **Gary Mar**, Minister of Community Development, Province of Alberta; Ward 8 Alderman **Madeleine King**; **Richard Li**, President, Swan Group; **Consul General Song**,

People's Republic of China and **Edmond Lee**, Past-President of Sien Lok Society. We had 450 guests attend the event. It was a special time for all to view the exhibit and mingle with old friends and new acquaintances.

The Provincial Archives of Alberta has recently approached the Sien Lok Society about displaying this exhibit in Edmonton for sometime in the spring. We are presently working on the details for this showing, so stay tuned to this newsletter for further developments. In addition, the **Southern Alberta Chinese Photo Exhibit** will be on display at our annual Chinese New Year's Banquet, to be held on Saturday, February 11, 2006.

In closing, we would like to thank all our sponsors of the photo exhibit: **Swan Group, Calgary Herald, Cohos Evamy Architects and Engineers, Diagraphix Photo Processes Inc., Anvy Digital** and **Alberta Centennial 2005**. Special thanks must also be extended to our gala sponsors: **Royal Liquor Merchants, Lovse Surveys Ltd., Jerry Chong Soft Furnishings Designer** and **Irene Besse Keyboards**. We also wish to thank all those who participated in the creation of the exhibit and the gala. Photographs can be viewed at the Sien Lok website: (<http://www.sienlok.org>). Click on the prompt: "View the Builders & Patriots: Portraits of Chinese Canadians photo gallery".

Sien Lok Park

by Kevin Lam

We value your opinion!!! Please help us shape and define your park!

Located at the base of the Centre Street Bridge on the south bank of the Bow River, Sien Lok Park has seen many developments since its opening in 1982 as Chinatown's only green space.

In November 1999 the Park unveiled its central monument in the park, "In Search of Gold

Mountain”, created by sculptor Chu Honsun as a symbolic representation of the proud history of Chinese settlement in Canada.

A second monument was erected in October of 2001 called the “Wall of Names” created by artist Ferdinand Spina as a specific dedication to the history of Chinese settlement in Canada between 1886 and 1947.

We are currently looking for ideas and suggestions on what Sien Lok Park should build for its next monumental piece. Your role in defining it will help keep the heritage alive! Please send us your great ideas through regular post, or e-mail us at info@sienlok.org.

"Sien Lok Park shall reflect the visions of all Canadian Chinese and their ancestral heritage"

Sien Lok Memberships

by Wendy Tsui

Invite your friends to sign up as a Sien Lok Volunteer or Member!

Why join the Sien Lok Society?

Well, our members are very loyal. We've had the same members now year after year, and we are still growing. New members feel welcome and make friends during our social functions, so they come back year after year. It is a tradition, much like Christmas gatherings. You come to expect to see your friends at these Sien Lok functions, and of course, to have fun. The membership is only \$5, and once you become a member, you will be informed of all the upcoming social events.

There is also a sense of pride that comes with knowing you are contributing to the community, and being part of a non-profit organization that is making a difference. You will have much to be proud of when you are involved in important projects like the Sien Lok Park, the Digitization

Project, Picnic-In-Our-Park, or the annual Chinese New Year Banquet.

It gets only better when you sign up with your friends or family members. We can use some help at the upcoming Chinese New Year Banquet and Picnic-In-Our-Park. Give us a call at 874-7572 or email us at info@sienlok.org.

Digitization Project

by Ray Lee and Leonard Lee

The Digitization Project is progressing exceptionally well. A trailer of Paul Dofoo's interview was received enthusiastically by members at the luncheon earlier in the year. The interview has been sent to Simon Fraser University (SFU) where it will be streamed on the multiculturalcanada.ca website early in the New Year. The site will be linked to the Sien Lok Society home page. To date, five interviews have been filmed. Leonard is currently editing four of the interviews to be sent out to SFU for streaming. Many more new interviews are planned for the coming year.

Scholarships

by Thomas To

The Sien Lok Society does many wonders. One of them is the scholarship program that we offer to Mount Royal College, S.A.I.T. and the Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth. Last year, we awarded the scholarships at our Chinese New Year Banquet. We received a thank you letter from one of the Mount Royal College recipients, Krista Taldorf:

Dear Mr. To,

I hope this letter finds you well. I would like to thank you for the \$500 Sien Lok Society of Calgary Scholarship granted to me. It is an honour to be recognized for my volunteer work within Calgary's cultural communities and my academic achievements.

I am a mature student attending fulltime classes towards my non-profit degree at Mount Royal College. Throughout my time at school I have had to work fulltime, and it has been a constant struggle with student loans and making ends meet. Your generosity has enabled me to concentrate more on my studies and without having to worry about finances. As a result of your support, I will finish my degree in December of 2006.

Once again I would like to thank the society for their support.

*Sincerely,
Krista Taldorf*

Collecting China: Beyond the Curio Cabinet

by Kim Fung

The Sien Lok Society is pleased to announce their sponsorship of an exciting exhibition called **Collecting China: Beyond the Curio Cabinet**, now on display on the second-floor gallery of The Nickle Arts Museum, 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, and runs from November 14, 2005 to April 15, 2006.

The Sien Lok Society and The Nickle Arts Museum invite you to come and visit this

extraordinary exhibition, and introduce yourself to the rich visual and symbolic traditions of Chinese material culture. A public opening reception will be held at The Nickle Arts Museum on **Friday, January 20, 2006**, 4:30 pm, to which you are welcome to attend.

The Nickle Arts Museum
University of Calgary
434 Collegiate Blvd NW
(403) 220-7234

www.ucalgary.ca/~nickle

Hours of Operation:

10:00 am – 5:00 pm Mon - Wed & Fri

10:00 am – 9:00 pm Thurs

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Sat

Admission:

Free Tuesdays and Thursday evenings
(after 5:00 pm)

\$5 Adults, \$2 Seniors

Free for kids K-12

Free for Post Secondary Students
(Student ID required)

Please note: The Nickle Arts Museum will be closed for the holiday season from December 24, 2005 – January 2, 2006.

Special Announcements

Congratulations are in order for Pamela Fearon, Edmond Lee and Sandy Kwong, all who have received the *Outstanding Service to the People and Province of Alberta Award* and the Alberta Centennial Medal. Well done!!!

The Board of Directors from the Sien Lok Society of Calgary would like to wish you all a wonderful Holiday season, and All the best in 2006!

Call for Suggestions

Please let us know if you would like something specific included in Sien Lok's quarterly newsletter. 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 (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 following 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: _____
