

May 22, 2013

to :
Office of the City Clerk
Richmond.
FAX : 278 - 5139

re : presentation to Council on May 27, 2013
regarding "Richmond's China Town".

I am enclosing for your information a letter to Mayor & Council dated May 14th, 2013, as well as copies of stamps that are available at post offices right now, picturing the gates to the 8 most prominent China Town's in Canada.

Sincerely : Erika Simm, Richmond
Tel: 604-273-3282
Fax: 604-273-3240

May 14th, 2013

to Mayor and Council
of the City of Richmond

from Erika Simm
Tel: 604-273-3282

Dear Mayor and Council,

a few weeks back there was a delegation to Council by two ladies about the " Chinese only " signs along No 3 Rd. After speaking with them myself they also voiced a concern about vacant investment houses in Richmond, which destroy neighbourhoods as we know them. I do understand their concerns. Being a person who seeks solutions to problems I took a while to think about it and. I think I found a good solution to the "Chinese only signs" issue. I ran the idea past several young Chinese persons, as well as Theresa Wat, who is the Liberal Candidate for Richmond Centre. They liked the idea. I think Magdalene Leung may be a person who also could have a good opinion on this if approached, .and. I would love to discuss this idea with her:

In many major cities there are " China Towns," like the one in San Francisco, which I visited years ago, and which is a fantastic tourist destination! Vancouver also has a very distinct and central China Town, enhanced by old buildings and open market places. It is a destination, has been upgraded and is very interesting. It and San Francisco's China Town are distinct and different places. And they are both excellent tourist destinations.

Richmond has a China Town in the making. However, it has no character whatsoever like the other two. It is generic, bland and modern. Modern is good, but not generic and bland. So, it stands to reason that this area should be called what it is. Richmond's China Town. I would like to see Gates like in San Francisco, I would like to see Dragons and Lions, I would like to see colour, pocket parks with trees and plants like those in China, within walkable distances . I would like to see a distinct cultural character, cultural festivals, dragon dances, and so on, on a yearly basis for the world to see. A tourist destination, only 5 minutes by Sky train from the Airport to Aberdeen!
If you call it what it is, and if you embellish it, then who cares if there are Chinese only signs. Then it is what it is : Richmond's China Town.

I would like to hear from you, or if you wanted to have a presentation to council from me. I think it is important to plant the seed for this idea. Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely:

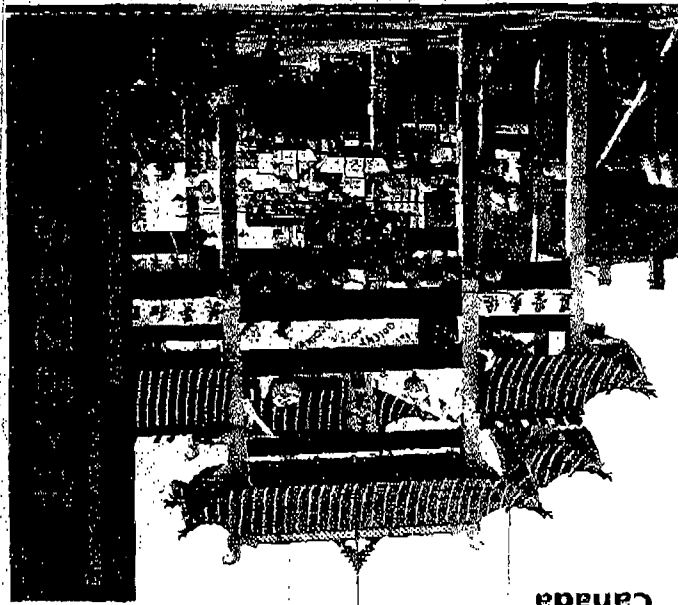
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Erika Simm

Illustrated by regional artists, these eight gates stand watch over Canada's most prominent Chinatowns. On the cover, a temporary gate built in 1882, for visiting royalty and the Marquess of Lorne, 4th Governor General of Canada, adorns Victoria's Chinatown, one of Canada's oldest.

Huit artistes ont illustré les portails qui surplombent les plus importants quartiers chinois du pays. En couverture figure la porte du quartier chinois de Victoria, érigée temporairement en 1882 pour accueillir le marquis de Lorne, 4^e gouverneur général du Canada, et son épouse, la princesse Louise.

LOWE-MARTIN
Design: Hélène L'Heureux

Illustrations: Harvey Chan, Charles Vinh,
Renyi Lantano, Gabe Wong, Janice Wu,
Normand Cousineau, Albert Ng, Mark Holne



Canada
Permanent stamps /
Timbres permanents

8



May. 22 2013 12:34PM P3

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FROM : ERIKA SIMM FAX 273 3240

Canada's most prominent China Towns:

- Toronto
- Montreal
- Winnipeg
- Vancouver
- Edmonton
- Ottawa
- Mississauga
- Victoria

