

# **CHINATOWN TRANSFORMATION** 唐人街經濟文化發展

Check out the latest updates from the City of Vancouver's Chinatown Transformation Team

# **ANCOUVER**

### **Legacy Stewardship Group Update**

- Working Groups' first update for LSG
- LSG looking for more members
- Artist panel and tours celebrate new Chinatown murals
- SYS courtyard gate project moving ahead

## **Community Update**

- Close of another successful Hot & Noisy Summer
- Volunteers needed for Chinatown Storytelling Centre

## Working groups' first update for LSG



At the September meeting of the Legacy Stewardship Group(LSG), sponsors of the six working groups that have begun their meetings since August were invited to give a brief report on the discussions so far on issues relevant to their respective topics. Here are highlights of their updates:

#### **Culture (Sonny Wong)**

- Culture in Chinatown is an all-encompassing subject that touches everything from business and arts to language and heritage
- Twleve priority areas have been identified: public spaces, events and entertainment, wayfinding and signage, cultural and economic development. culinary heritage, supporting traditional and contemporary arts, buildings and infrastructure, living heritage in culture, education, community participation and outreach, external outreach, and intangible assets.

#### Relationship Building, **Public Education and Capacity Building** (Kevin Huang)

Group has developed guiding principles, and brainstormed projects within the three topics of relationship building, public education and

- capacity building
- Discuss what are the values and principles to help assess and prioritize projects for the short, mid and long term
- Propose session to solicit feedback from other LSG members and the public before end of the year or early 2010.

#### **Heritage (Carmut Me)**

- Group is developing guiding principles and mandate
- Recognition of the need for awareness and education about heritage issues
- Support existing programs including expanding and recognizing buildings that are within and outside of Chinatown
- Identify existing gaps in practice and policy around heritage
- Develop a community definition of heritage that is inclusive of Chinatown's sense of place and identity

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## Artist panel and tours celebrate new Chinatown murals

Explore the murals created through the 2019 Chinatown Artists Call Program and learn how the art works contribute to the community, culture and the public realm.

**Time**: Sunday October 6, 2019 1.30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Place: Dr. Sun Yat-sen Classical Chinese Garden, 578 Carrall

Street

Members of the public are invited to join artists of the 2019 Chinatown Artists Call program at a panel discussion and tours to learn about their experiences from producing public art in Chinatown.

Following the panel discussion, the artists will lead tours to the sites of their murals to further discuss their works and to answer questions from the audience.

Organized by the Youth Collaborative for Chinatown and presented by the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Classical Chinese Garden with support by the City of Vancouver, the event aims to help answer the question 'What is the role of public art in Chinatown?'

#### **Artist panel:**

- Arthur Shuren Cheng
- Bagua Artist Association
- Dawn Lo
- Paul Wong

More info can be found by visiting vancouver.ca/murals and vancouver.ca/chinatown

## Volunteers needed for **Chinatown Storytelling Centre**

The Vancouver Chinatown Foundation is currently recruiting volunteers to support the Chinatown Storytelling Centre and other community projects. Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles, including guest services, archival and curatorial support, retail, administrative and IT support.



The Storytelling Centre boasts an immersive space that celebrates stories of the Chinese Canadian experience told through the lens of Vancouver's Chinatown. Located in the heart of Chinatown, the Centre will share the Chinese Canadian journey and highlight pivotal moments in Chinese Canadian history, as well as offer a venue and platform for others to share their stories.

Please visit the foundation's website to learn more about the volunteering opportunities or contact volunteers@chinatownfoundation.org



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## Close of another successful **Hot & Noisy summer**



Visitors and local residents of all ages and cultural backgrounds lingered late into the evening on September 7 to celebrate the end of summer at the season finale of the Hot & Noisy Mahjong Social at Memorial Square in Chinatown.

First held in 2015, this popular annual series organized by the Youth Collaborative for Chinatown, with the support of EasyPark and the City's VIVA Vancouver program, invites participants to help build vibrant streets and community together by playing traditional games of mahjong, ping pong, Chinese chess and checkers, and new this year, karaoke singing.

Thanks to the hard work of the organizers and volunteers, the summer-long gatherings are widely regarded as an important effort to teach and practice Chinese heritage within the daily public life of this quickly changing neighbourhood.

## LSG looking for new members to fill vacant spots

Are you interested in joining a dedicated team of community leaders, local residents, professionals, entrepreneurs and stakeholders of all ages and cultural backgrounds who care about the well-being of Vancouver's Chinatown and want help make it a successful and vibrant neighbourhood for everybody?

To fill a limited number of spots vacated by the departure of a few former Legacy Stewardship Group (LSG) members, the Chinatown Transformation Team is seeking new expressions of interest from individuals and organizations to join the LSG in order to continue its work on guiding and supporting community actions for a vibrant Chinatown.

In view of the plan to extend the term of the existing LSG members to December 2021, pending City Council's approval, the new members' term will also expire at the same

To apply, please review the <u>LSG's Terms of Reference</u> and then submit your expression of interest by either:

1) using our online form here: LSG Expression of Interest; or

2) completing a paper copy of the same form and submitting in-person between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday to Friday at CTT's Chinatown House office at 188 E. Pender Street, Vancouver. You can download a copy on our website vancouver.ca/chinatown or pick up a print copy at our office.

LSG Expressions of Interest are open until October 21st. For more information, contact us at chinatown@vancouver.ca.

## Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden courtyard gate project moving ahead

The Vancouver Park Board's project to install gates at the Pender and Carrall entrances to the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Classical Chinese Garden courtyard has cleared another hurdle with the successful application for the building permit, which is expected to be issued in the next few weeks.

Earlier in the summer, the gate design proposal received unanimous approval from the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee at its July board meeting.

As the project enters the design/build phase in the fall, contractors will be hired to repave sections of the Carrall Street entrance and to fabricate and install the gates. The existing gate at the public section of the Sun Yat-Sen Garden will also be redesigned and updated as part of the current work.

The purpose of the gates is to address safety concerns and to minimize unwanted activities taking place at the courtyard at night.

#### Working group updates continues

#### **Small Business & Economic Development (Jordan Eng)**

- Finding out what has been done in the past by the community and the City and what has worked, what hasn't and why
- Discuss changes in the Chinatown environment over the last 20 years
- Explore goals and objectives what do we want to see after this process
- Bring other groups such as Tourism Vancouver, Vancouver Economic Commission and St. Paul's Hospital into the conversation

#### Streets, Safety & Health/Public Spaces & Activation (Mark Lee)

- Starting discussion to get to a mutual understanding of where people are at and where they are coming from
- Hoping to identify any disagreements about things in the group and understand the reasons behind them and then try and move past that.
- Need to engage more frontline workers, anyone who can speak to the experiences of those living on the street in the neighbourhood and adjacent neighbourhoods.

#### **Low-income Living Conditions and Gentrification** (CTT staff)

- This group has held only one meeting and a sponsor will be chosen later
- First meeting attended by 4 LSG members and a good mix of residents as well as representatives from a number of on-the-ground service providers.
- Topics discussed include: increasing low-income housing, improving conditions of existing housing, importance of affordable services and the lack of local stores to meet daily needs, empowerment and involvement of seniors, building strong relationship with the indigenous community, need for more research to understand the different dialects spoken by seniors in Chinatown.

