



## THE VICTORIA CHINESE MESSENGER

维多利亚华人信息

June 2013 (1<sup>st</sup> Ed.)

Victoria, British Columbia

### Chinatown Night Market Returns for 2013

The Victoria Chinese Commerce Association will present its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Chinatown Night Market for one evening in each of June, July, August and September 2013. The themes will be:

#### June 12 – “Chinatown Celebrates Youth Performances and the Arts”

Some of the best youth musicians and artists will take to the night market stage as a showcase of our young prodigies.

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#### July 10 – “Night of the Karaoke Stars”

This night the finalists will compete for the coveted trophy. If you want to enter, you will need to attend the pre-selection events. The dates and places will be announced on the night market website once they are set.

Last year the karaoke contest not only drew great singers but great crowds and proved to be a very entertaining night.

#### August 14 – “Asia: Its All About Food”

What is Asia, but about food and its enjoyment in the company of others. Watch for demos on the diversity of foods with Asian influences and from different cultures.

#### September 11 – “The Sun Sets in Chinatown”

As the sun sets and dusk comes, the enchantment of Chinatown glows in the dark. With the mid-autumn festival comes mooncakes, and for this night market lanterns will be displayed with your participation.

Come join the Victoria Chinese Commerce Association at its 2013 Night Market.

Check out the new Asia Pulse  
online at  
[www.victoriachinesemessenger.com](http://www.victoriachinesemessenger.com)

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## Happenings

Happenings are regularly updated  
online at  
[www.victoriachinesemessenger.com](http://www.victoriachinesemessenger.com)

Our Public Service and Community Service  
Happenings column is published under our sole  
discretion and is published information as a free  
service.

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## Chinatown Celebrates Youth Performances and the Arts!

**The Chinatown Night Market opens  
June 12 with "Chinatown  
Celebrates Youth  
Performances and the Arts"**

The season opens with a highly  
energetic performance by the Uminari  
Taiko drummers presented by Industrial  
Plastics and Paints.

Some of the region's top youth performers  
will perform solo on piano and violin. There  
will be a range of other performances  
including a Taiwanese fan dance by the  
Victoria Society of Chinese Performing Arts  
at 6 pm, traditional Chinese instruments  
and drum performances. The performance  
schedule will open with a performance by  
the Uminari Taiko drummers at 5:15.

This season features an expanded roster of  
street vendors, especially food vendors;  
traditional and contemporary music and  
dance and family craft activities.

Chinatown shops and restaurants will be  
open late during the markets, offering the  
full Chinatown experience.

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## Tradition in Felicities at the Royal BC Museum

There's a new exhibit at the Royal BC  
Museum running until September. With the  
help of members of the Chinese community  
"Tradition in Felicities: Celebrating 155  
Years of Victoria's Chinatown at the Royal  
BC Museum" is open to the public.

It's full of history and artifacts from Victoria's  
Chinatown, including a special lantern with  
an internal moving carousel, originally  
constructed by the Chinese Free Masons  
and restored by the museum.

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## Victoria Chinese Commerce Association

Regular Meeting  
June 19, 2013

At Don Mee Restaurant, Fisgard Street  
5:30 pm Mix & Mingle  
6:30 pm Dinner  
Registration is online – Everyone is  
Welcome

You do not have to be member to join VCCA  
in enjoying a delicious Chinese Dinner

For info email VCCA via [www.vcca.ca](http://www.vcca.ca)

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Check regularly online at  
[www.victoriachinesemessenger.com](http://www.victoriachinesemessenger.com)  
for updates on articles and  
information

**Chinatown NIGHT MARKET**  
Victoria Chinese Community Association 中華協會  
 In the Heart of Canada's Oldest Chinatown

**2013 MARKET SEASON**

Family Fun Food  
 Crafts Culture  
 Entertainment Market Vendors

500 Block Fisgard Street  
 5:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm

**Wed, June 12**  
 Chinatown Celebrates Youth Performances & the Arts

**Wed, July 10**  
 Night of the Karaoke Stars

**Wed, Aug 14**  
 It's All About Food

**Wed, Sept 11**  
 The Sun Sets in Chinatown

more info at [ChinatownNightMarket.ca](http://ChinatownNightMarket.ca)

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## Confucius is the first to use Weibo!



In recently days, a forum post "Confucius is the first person who used Weibo" has been hot on the Internet in China.

Weibo is a Chinese micro-blogging website. Akin to a hybrid of Twitter and Facebook, it is one of the most popular such sites in China.

According to the post, six pieces of evidence point to Confucius as the first microblogger. First, every paragraph of The Analects has fewer than 140 characters, which is the earliest collection of Weibo; second, it always uses simple words to give a profound message; third, most of the words are Confucius' own opinion and philosophical communication; fourth, Confucius has more than 3000 followers; fifth, Confucius called for a policy of benevolence, but there was no room for such a policy; sixth, Lao Zi (founder of Taosim) would have been a follower of Confucius'.

After reading the post, netizens had heated discussions on the Internet. Some calling Confucius "the father of Weibo."

From: China Daily  
[http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/culture/201305/21/content\\_16515125.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/culture/201305/21/content_16515125.htm)

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## Victoria Dragon Boat Festival Kicks Off for 2013

Its only a few months to go, with the Victoria Dragon Boat Festival's official launch happening on June 12, 2013. The countdown to the Canada Dry Victoria Dragon Boat Festival starts on June 12 - the Fifth Day of the Fifth Month of the Chinese Lunar Calendar; the traditional day of the Duanwu (Dragon Boat) Festival celebrated across China.

Its annual gala dinner event takes place on June 26, 2013 at Don Mee Restaurant in the heart of Chinatown and is sure to be a fun event. It fills up quickly and if you want to enjoy some great Chinese Food and join in the fun you can email the Festival Office via its website [victoriadragonboat.com](http://victoriadragonboat.com).

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## New Parent and Grandparent program re- opens January 2, 2014

Citizenship and Immigration Canada will re-open the Parent and Grandparent (PGP) program for new applications on January 2, 2014, by which time the backlog and wait times in the program are expected to have been cut in half.

"The Action Plan for Faster Family Reunification is on track to meet the goals of cutting in half the backlog and wait times in the Parent and Grandparent program," said Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Minister Jason Kenney. "It is very important that we continue to make progress and not return to the old broken system with wait times as long as a decade—that would be unfair to families."

Phase II of the Action Plan for Faster Family Reunification will provide even faster processing times, reduce the backlog further, prevent future backlogs, ensure that families have the financial means to support those they sponsor, and protect the interests of taxpayers.

**First** – In 2012 and 2013, Canada will admit 50,000 parents and grandparents as permanent residents. This represents the highest level of parents and grandparents admitted in 20 years. In 2014, Canada will maintain high levels of admissions for parents and grandparents.

**Second** – The Super Visa will become permanent and will continue to provide flexibility for families who access the 10-year multiple-entry visa, allowing visa holders to remain in Canada up to two years at a time. Over 15,000 Super Visas have been issued since the program's launch in December 2011 with approval rates averaging 86 percent.

**Third** – New qualifying criteria for permanent residency sponsorship of parents and grandparents will increase the financial responsibility of sponsors to ensure they have the means to support those they sponsor, while limiting the program's cost to taxpayers and Canada's strained health and social programs.

**Fourth** – 5,000 new sponsorship applications will be accepted in the program in 2014. By accepting 5,000 applications in 2014 while maintaining high levels, the government will be able to further reduce the remaining backlog so that families can be reunited more quickly.

“These new criteria ensure sponsored family members are well supported by their sponsors throughout their time in Canada,” said Minister Kenney. “The redesigned Parent and Grandparent program reunites families faster while respecting Canadian taxpayers and the limited resources for

health and social programs.”

Canada has one of the most generous family reunification programs in the world. The United States, United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand do not allow grandparents to be sponsored at all or only in very limited circumstances, and they have very restrictive criteria for the sponsorship of parents.

*(This information is partly reproduced from information on the CIC or BC PNP website and is provided by Sarina Hoi, BA, MA, RCIC, of Ocean Pacific Immigration Associates Ltd. additional information may be found on the website)*



## **Foodies**

**Our online version is regularly updated with a “Foodie” comments section. Look forward to more online content and “news” as we grow our service to community events. Here are some snippets for your “digestion”**

*"...for some of the best home style noodle soup try out Shanghai Noodle on Quadra Street, just across from Crystal Pool"*

*"... La Tea Ah on 700 block Fort, just tried their crepe and beef noodle dishes, both were excellent and well priced. For a casual Taiwanese Noodle experience... this is the place in Victoria..."*

*"...if you get a chance, try Laos Vietiene a newer restaurant at Gateway Village (on Blanshard just past Vernon Ave, in Saanich...the recipes are unique and not the standard dishes found at the existing Thai or Vietnamese restaurants in town...it is worth the trip..."*

*"...just had the tonkatsu at Shima Sushi on Wharf St.... a recommended try for you Japanese Food lovers..."*

"... new owners of Forum Seafood Restaurant at 612 Fisgard...try it out and report to us what you think....try their Sichuan Menu...hot stuff"

"...how about some BBQ duck?...give Ming's on Quadra a try...."

"... good casual food at casual prices at JJ Morgan's... well satisfied before a movie at University Heights...."

"... more casual food close to downtown at Jonathan's Restaurant, found in James Bay in the Royal Scot Inn...a quieter pace"



Hotel Grand Pacific

### **Founding Sponsors:**

Founding sponsors are visionary sponsors who commit their support to us, to the Chinese/Asian community in Victoria and to the Oldtowne districts of the Chinatown, Oldtowne and Design areas in Victoria. They have committed as longer term sponsors to support the sustainability of the community service provided by Victoria Chinese Messenger. We thank them for their faith and support of our community services.

### **2013 VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Please note that the listed organizations are not limited to persons of Chinese descent.

### **Victoria Chinese Commerce Association**

New projects on the go including the need for volunteers for the 2014 Chinatown Night Market. Find out more:

Check website [www.vcca.ca](http://www.vcca.ca) for more

information on that and the regular meetings.

### **Victoria Chinatown Lions Club**

If you wish to serve the community, the Victoria Chinatown Lions Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday at Golden City Restaurant. Contact Art Quon at [art.quon@rbc.com](mailto:art.quon@rbc.com) or Alan Yuen at [yuenfam@shaw.ca](mailto:yuenfam@shaw.ca)

### **Victoria Chinatown Lioness Club**

Meetings are second Monday of the month at Golden City Restaurant. Will need to contact their president for more info (to follow). This a very active club which has won awards for its philanthropy.

### **Victoria Chinatown Care Foundation**

Mandate is to support and fundraise for the needs of the Victoria Chinatown Care Centre located in Chinatown. Volunteers for fundraising events. For information on the foundation go to [www.chinatowncarefoundation.com](http://www.chinatowncarefoundation.com)

### **Victoria Chinese Messenger**

You can also volunteer by submitting foodie tips, articles and photos of Victoria things, places and events for posting on our facebook or online publications.

### **Victoria Chinese Messenger Advisory Board and Panel**

#### **VCM Community Affairs Advisory Board:**

- Alan Lowe**, Former Mayor of the City of Victoria, Architect
- Tony Joe**, Former President of Victoria Real Estate Board, Realtor
- Wayne Lee**, Chartered Accountant and CGA
- Charlayne Thornton-Joe**, City of Victoria Councilor

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We bring and report on happenings in the community. Our focus is on public and community service within the context of your social networks. Our goal is to bring the community closer and to pass on social happenings and community service events. Join us as we work with you to make our community a better place. Help us use social media to make for better communities, grow our community, help others, and bring people together for

common purposes.

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Happenings: Submit your events, news, or interesting facts. Our Public Service and Community Service column may publish information as a free service to non-profit groups. Again, any publication of information provided is in our sole discretion

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Please include your name and email

**If you are the winner of the dinner for two, additional information will be required to arrange for delivery of the prize. Information is subject to our privacy policy.**

**Previous Winners:** D. Bratzer, A. Blainey, J. Ngai, R. Fong, P. Battles, L. McArthur, P.Hannah, B. Hung, L. MacDonald, R. Archibald, B. Cornborough, R. Eng, B. Yan, S. Scott, L. Wong, R. Lalev, for certificates to Ming's Restaurant, Forum Restaurant, Jonathan's Restaurant, Shima Sushi Japanese Restuaranty or Dynasty Restaurant.

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We have 1000 friends and would love you to join the VCM Facebook Community. Liking our page will help our growth as well.

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<http://www.knowledge.ca/>

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### **This Month's Feature Organization: Victoria Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA)**

CSSA is a non-profit student organization having over 700 members hosting and organizing many events in Victoria. It has hosted a Spring Festival Gala, Flea Market and the Holy Horse Music Festival.

As a non-profit organization its fundraising is used to support the students as they continue their education in Canada and it also assists new international students to acclimatize themselves to their new temporary home, "Victoria."