

4. Historical Discrimination Against People of Chinese Descent in Vancouver

MOVER: Councillor Louie

SECONDER: Councillor Tang

WHEREAS

1. The Prime Minister of Canada has formally apologized in the House of Commons for the Chinese Head Tax and subsequent exclusion of Chinese immigrants;
2. The British Columbia Legislature apologizes for more than a hundred laws, regulations, and policies that were imposed by past provincial governments that discriminated against people of Chinese descent since 1871, when British Columbia joined Confederation, to 1947;
3. The City of New Westminster has issued a formal apology for past discriminatory practices towards the Chinese community; and
4. The City of Vancouver has proclaimed June 21, 2013, to June 20, 2014, as the Year of Reconciliation in Vancouver.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to conduct research into the laws, regulations and policies of previous Vancouver City Councils that discriminated against the people of Chinese descent in the City of Vancouver from 1886 to 1947, and consult with the Vancouver Chinese community, historians and Chinese community organizations on the research findings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to report back to Council with recommendations on steps and actions in support of reconciliation, including a public acknowledgement and formal apology.

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