



# The Maple Leaf and Dragon

A newsletter of the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society

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Judy Lam Maxwell, Editor

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## CELEBRATING CHANGE in 2011!



Col. Howe Lee, founder and the Chinese Canadian Military Museum's president for the past 12 years, hands over the reins to newly-elected Cmdr King Wan. Welcome!

### SPRINGTIME ISSUE

The long-awaited newsletter has resumed publication! Our apologies for the delay, but the number of activities, events, and outreach opportunities have kept the Editor and fellow Museum volunteers excessively busy. So much has happened since the Museum's last edition. Let's catch-up!

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And so much more!

Visit our website at <http://www.ccmms.ca/> or e-mail us at [info@ccmms.ca](mailto:info@ccmms.ca)

## FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS ...



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**Howard Mark Chan** passed away on 10 November 2010. A strong supporter of the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and Pacific Unit 280, we could always count on Howard to be at all of our special events like Canada Day, Remembrance Day, and our monthly meetings.



11 Nov 2009

Howard was born in Vancouver 26 September 1925. When he was 1-year-old, his mother took him to China to be raised by his grandmother. He stayed in China until the Japanese War reached Guangzhou, then he escaped back to Canada in 1937. In 1942, Howard attempted to join the Armed Forces but was rejected because he was 'Oriental'. One year later, he went over to Patricia Bay on Vancouver Island to join the Royal Canadian Air Force. Howard was accepted and served as a Wireless Air Gunner with Search and Rescue (Reserves). He spent the war patrolling the westcoast from Alaska to Seattle, looking for Japanese submarines. Howard was discharged in 1945 as a Warrant Officer Second Class.

Howard is survived by his wife Margaret, his 3 daughters, his son-in-laws, and his brother-in-laws Monty and Ed Lee. We all miss Howard, his warm smile, and generous heart.

## REVIEWING 2010 & GETTING UP TO SPEED

For those of you who don't know what has kept us so busy since last spring, the following is a list of some of our activities.

### BILLY BISHOP FORMAL MESS DINNER

Col. (Retd) George Ing attended the dinner on **May 1<sup>st</sup>** on behalf of the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and provided the following report --

The formal Mess Dinner was held to a full house at the historical site of the Billy Bishop Mess. During the Dinner, an announcement was made about plans to turn the present Mess into an official museum, as the location houses numerous unique and valuable items worthy of museum status.

The Mess Dinner was a full house with the volunteer staff providing an excellent meal and attentive service. I had taken the CCMMS material that I received from you. Arthur Hughes announced my status as representing the Museum, advised of the Museum's location, invited attendees to visit and announced that information pamphlets were available at the entrance. At the end of the Dinner, I responded to several individual queries.

Speakers during the Mess Dinner included Arthur Hughes, Jim Stanton of Honour House, and Lieutenant (Navy) Jeffrey Lee. Lt. Lee spoke of his experience during his two tours of Afghanistan and he received a standing ovation.

Overall, it was a pleasant evening. We will receive an invitation again next year.

## NAVY'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

From **May to December 2010**, the Navy hosted numerous events. Admiral Pile and the Royal Canadian Navy kicked-off the 'Freedom of the City of Victoria' on **May 4<sup>th</sup>** in which numerous Chinese Canadian Military Museum Directors attended. Other events included the Navy's Tattoo at the Pacific National Exhibition on **Sept 4<sup>th</sup>** (see below), a Centennial Concert 'Sailors & Songs' on **Sept 20<sup>th</sup>** at the Gateway Theatre in Richmond, and the Naden Band Concert at the Vogue Theatre on **Dec 9<sup>th</sup>**. All events were extremely successful.



## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR VISITS THE MUSEUM

On **May 13<sup>th</sup>**, British Columbia's first Aboriginal Lieutenant Governor, The Honourable Steven Point, paid a visit our Museum in Chinatown. The visit began with a tour led by Judy, followed by an Aboriginal and Chinese Friendship Dinner at Foo's Ho Ho. Attendance was very high.

We were surprised to find out that the Lieutenant Governor has a Chinese uncle who was a Second World War veteran!



From L to R: Cmdr King Wan (Aide-De-Camp), Catherine Clement, The Honourable Steven Point, Judy Lam Maxwell, Hilda Lee, Past President Col. Howe Lee, and Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Longley. Photo taken outside of the Chinese Cultural Centre's Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park (courtesy of Tiffany Brown Cooper).

## CORRECTIONAL SERVICES CANADA

Throughout the month of **May**, Col. Lee gave numerous presentations about the history of Chinese in Canada around British Columbia for Correctional Services Canada (CSC): at the Matsqui Institution, Regional Headquarters at Abbotsford, at the Parole Office in Vancouver, William Head Institution in Victoria, and Mountain Institution at Agassiz. Howe's speaking engagements were so successful that he was asked to be on the CSC National Diversity Committee.

## SENATOR MARTIN VISITS THE MUSEUM

On **June 11<sup>th</sup>**, President Howe Lee (L) gave a tour of the Museum to Senator Yonah Martin (background) -- the first Korean Canadian Senator -- her Executive Assistant Paul Seear (R), her Regional Assistant Edward Sem (not pictured), and Korean artist Alex Cho (with her back to the camera).

This was Senator Martin's first visit to the Museum.  
(photo by Ed Sem)



## 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY BASH!



Past President LCol (Retd) George Ing of the Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans Pacific Unit 280 organized a 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash at Floata Seafood Restaurant on **June 26<sup>th</sup>** for three of the Chinese Canadian Second World War veterans (L to R): Bill Marr, Buster Chan, and Marshall Chow.

There will be another 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash this May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Chinese Cultural Centre's Atrium on 555 Columbia Street. Contact current President Paul Lee if you'd like to attend.

## CANADA DAY FESTIVITIES

On **June 27<sup>th</sup>**, the Richmond Public Library (RPL) held their Celebrate Canada event. Always successful, helpful veterans (L to R) the late Howard Chan, George Chow, and Monty Lee manned the Museum's table in full dress with medals.

The Museum also participated in the annual July 1<sup>st</sup> Canada Day Celebrations at Canada Place. As usual, the Society had a table manned with veterans and its 20-foot display panel. Admiral Pile — our strong supporter — was also at Canada Place with personnel from the Esquimalt Naval Base.



**Look for the veterans June 26<sup>th</sup> @ the RPL and July 1<sup>st</sup> @ Canada Place!**

## KOREAN WAR EXHIBITION

Senator Yonah Martin and the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society joined forces to host an exhibition from **July 27 to Aug 6** at the Chinese Cultural Centre's David Lam Hall to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean War, 1950-1953.

VIPs included Vancouver City Councillors Geoff Meggs, Kerry Jang, Susanne Anton, Ellen Woodsworth, George Chow; Consul-General of Korea Tong-mo Suh; MP Alice Wong; MLAs Henry Bloy, Dave Hayer, Ida Chong, Doug Horne; Coquitlam City Councillor Linda Reimer; The Honourable Mary Collins, PC and former Minister of Health; The Honourable John Yap, MLA; and Mr. Hong.



L to R: Col. Howe Lee, Senator Yonah Martin & Museum Director Alfred Woo

## CHINATOWN'S 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION



The CCMMS co-hosted an art and photographic exhibition to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vancouver's Chinatown. On display from **Aug 7 to Sept 7** at the gallery on 163 E. Pender Street, the exhibition was co-curated by Judy Lam Maxwell and Sheila Hall of Emily Carr University.



Visitors to the exhibition included Senator Martin (photos by Ed Sem & Judy Lam Maxwell), Michael Chong MP, Jenny Kwan MLA, Artist Raymond Chow, Ann Stevenson and Gerry Lawson of UBC's Museum of Anthropology, as well as many out-of-towners from Mexico, Argentina, England, Sweden, India, Malaysia, Taiwan, China, and all over North America.

## RCCS ANNUAL SENIORS LUNCHEON



The Richmond Chinese Community Society held their Annual Seniors Luncheon on **August 7<sup>th</sup>**. The Chinese Canadian Second World War veterans were the featured guests at the Continental Seafood Restaurant.

Of the 500 guests who came to the special event, 11 Museum members attended: Col. Howe Lee, Paul Lee, Ed Lee, Frank Wong, George Chow, Peggy Lee, Paul Tsui, Howard Chan, Marshall Chow, Monty Lee, and Judy Lam Maxwell.

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIPS!**  
**\$20 per year**

## VISIT from MAJOR SAM MAGEE

The BC Regiment Association helped to organize a special visitor to tour our Museum. Second World War veteran, Major Sam Magee of the First Special Service Force (Devil's Brigade) came to our Museum on **Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** for a tour, to meet his fellow Chinese Canadian comrades, and to have a dim sum lunch with us.

Great thanks to the BC Regiment for this opportunity!  
(photo by HMajor Ted Hawthorne)



## CCMMS 12<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING DINNER



Our Annual Dinner was another big hit! We had special guests such as Raminder Dosanjh -- wife of former Liberal MP Ujjal Dosanj -- and Bev Nann (photo by Patrick Tam), John Yap MLA; Gen. Wynnyk, Commander of Land Force Western Area; Col. Bryan Gagne, Commander of 39 Canadian Brigade Group; as well as filmmaker Alison MacLean who spoke about her trip to Afghanistan and the accomplishments of the Canadian Military.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY 2010



Ceremonies took place this year at Victory Square and Memorial Square in Chinatown

The ceremonies received a tremendous amount of media attention and so did Alison MacLean for her documentary 'Outside the Wire'. Alison's film



Was shown on numerous tv networks throughout BC, and she was featured in several tv and newspaper interviews. See <http://www.tomboyproductions.tv/> or contact the CCMMS.

## ROUNDING OFF THE YEAR ...

Mirian & Bill Lee graciously hosted a Christmas part for our group on **Dec 11<sup>th</sup>**.

On **Dec 12<sup>th</sup>**, the CCMMS had their year-end AGM and Elections with Cmdr King Wan elected as the new President and Catherine Clement elected as the new Director of Communications.

And on **Dec 15<sup>th</sup>**, members of the CCMMS attended the annual fundraising luncheon hosted by the Chinatown Rotary Club and Salvation Army.

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Our website will be getting a facelift soon, so check-in regularly for updates on our activities and events. The **Fall 2011 newsletter** will feature the Museum's **CHRP digitization project**, **May's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash**, Alison MacLean's **HONOR BOUND**, and much more.