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THOUSANDS OF ARTIFACTS CHRONICLING EARLY B.C. HISTORY, IMMIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT, AND THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

THE WALLACE B. CHUNG AND MADELINE H. CHUNG COLLECTION

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
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“We are giving the collection to UBC so that people can have the opportunity to understand and appreciate the struggles and joys of those who have come before them.”

-Dr. Wallace Chung

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AN EXCEPTIONAL GIFT

Dr. Wallace Chung and Dr. Madeline Chung and their family have made an outstanding gift of their magnificent collection to the University of British Columbia Library. In bestowing this priceless gift, Dr. Chung gives back to Canada something of what he and his family have experienced and gained since his grandfather came from China to settle in Victoria more than 100 years ago.

THE COLLECTION

When Wally Chung was just six years old he spent many hours in his father's Victoria tailor shop. One thing in particular that fascinated him was a colourful poster of the Empress of Asia, the CP ship that brought his mother to Canada in 1919. It fired the young boy's imagination and inspired him to start collecting.

Starting with clippings for his scrapbook, Dr. Chung spent more than 60 years assembling one of the most extensive collections of its kind in North America. The Chung Collection includes more than 25,000 rare items: documents, books, maps, posters, paintings, photographs, silver, glass, ceramic ware and other artifacts related to early B.C. history, immigration and settlement and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Left: Head tax certificate for Lee Chew Bin, 1920.

THE EXHIBITION

Selections from the collection are on display in Rare Books and Special Collections, organized to show some of the most compelling stories of Canada's past. The three major themes of the exhibition explore:

VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY:
Included in the exhibition are rare editions of the narratives of many Pacific voyages of discovery including: Valdes, Galiano, Malaspina, Cook and Vancouver. Also exhibited are charts recording the exploration of the Pacific Northwest.

IMMIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT:
The Fraser River gold rush that sparked Chinese immigration to British Columbia is highlighted through books and government documents relating to the restriction of such immigration, such as head tax certificates. Chinese-Canadian cultural, social and economic life is displayed through archival documents, photographs and artifacts.

European immigration to Canada is illustrated with promotional brochures and posters encouraging settlers to the West, and archival material from the Clandonald colony in Alberta, a community of immigrants from the Scottish Hebrides.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY:
Documents, maps and publications show how the Canadian Pacific Railway was built, and how Vancouver was chosen as the western terminus. Photographs and accounts of the building of the railway are presented, along with vibrant posters promoting travel and tourism via CPR rail and steamships. Beautiful examples of cruise ship memorabilia provide a glimpse of the style of the times.