

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

**6 CANADIAN
WOMEN
YOU NEED TO
KNOW**

**華埠掌故
CHINATOWN
STORYTELLING
CENTRE**

A VANCOUVER CHINATOWN FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

ChinatownStorytellingCentre.org

VICTORIA CHUNG

FIRST ASIAN CANADIAN TO EARN A MEDICAL DEGREE IN CANADA

In 1922, the University of Toronto graduated its first Chinese Canadian physician. Born in Victoria, BC, Dr. Chung decided to bring Western medical care to China after her residency at Toronto General. She would not have been able to practice in BC, her home province, because of her race. Practicing for over 40 years in Guangdong, Dr. Chung is the only Canadian missionary to have worked throughout the second Sino-Japanese War, World War II, and the Cultural Revolution.



ADRIENNE CLARKSON

FROM REFUGEE TO JOURNALIST TO GOVERNOR GENERAL

Clarkson arrived on a Red Cross ship with her family as a refugee from Hong Kong. In 1965, she was the first visible minority to host a national TV show. Clarkson became the Agent-General for Ontario in France, and she returned to the CBC as the executive producer and host of *Adrienne Clarkson Presents*. In 2005, Clarkson was named Governor General of Canada, the second woman and first visible minority appointed to this honour. After her tenure at Rideau Hall, Clarkson co-founded the Institute for Canadian Citizenship.



MAGGIE IP

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF S.U.C.C.E.S.S.

Ip arrived in Canada to complete a Masters in Education in Ottawa, where she struggled to integrate. She relocated to Vancouver in the 1960s and found that the resettlement support not accessible to a new class of immigrants arriving from Asia. Ip and 15 other volunteers decided to form S.U.C.C.E.S.S in 1973 with Ip as the founding chair. S.U.C.C.E.S.S. is now one of the largest, independent immigrant assistance organizations in Canada and is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.



JEAN LEE

ONLY WOMAN OF CHINESE DESCENT TO ENLIST IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE DURING WWII

Jean Lee is a Canadian veteran of World War II, the only woman of Chinese descent to serve in the Royal Canadian Air Force. She took basic training in Toronto and served mainly in Rockcliffe, Ontario until the end of the war. On February 19, 1947, Jean Lee joined six other veterans to become the first ever Chinese Canadians to receive their Canadian Citizenship Certificates.



JEAN LUMB

FIRST CHINESE CANADIAN WOMAN TO BE AWARDED THE ORDER OF CANADA

Born in Nanaimo, BC, Lumb moved to Toronto to work at 16 and opened a greengrocers at 18. Within 2 years, she earned enough to bring her family from BC. Lumb lost her citizenship status when she married her Chinese-born husband. As an activist and community leader, she was pivotal in changing Canada's anti-Chinese immigration laws and saving Toronto's First Chinatown. In 1976, she became the first Chinese Canadian woman and first restaurateur to receive the Order of Canada.



GRETTA WONG GRANT

FIRST CHINESE CANADIAN FEMALE LAWYER

When London, Ontario-born Gretta Wong was called to the bar in 1946, the significance of becoming the first Chinese Canadian female lawyer did not dawn on her. Wong articulated at a prestigious law firm in Toronto and worked in London's first legal aid office where she pushed to make services more accessible to clients, many of whom were First Nations and unfamiliar with the law. In 1969, Wong was appointed Queen's Counsel.



There are more incredible stories to be celebrated, and we invite you to learn more about the Chinese Canadian community at the Chinatown Storytelling Centre, a women-led non-profit organization.

To the wonderful women who have come before us, the many more who are leading the way today, and the generations of women finding their paths...

Happy International Women's Day!

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Learn more at ChinatownStorytellingCentre.org or
Visit us at 168 East Pender Street, Vancouver, BC V6A 1T3