

CHINESE RECONCILIATION: FEEDBACK FORM

Background:

At the New Westminster Council meeting of July 13, 2009, Council approved a motion that directed staff **to research the history of racism and discrimination against the Chinese community and any role that the City played in these events ...**



To conduct the research, a City staff team was assembled and the subject of the investigation was the actions of the City in its dealings with the Chinese community.

Based on the research, four general categories or themes emerged:

1. Employment Opportunities
2. Land and Buildings
3. City Regulations
4. Requests to the Senior Levels of Government

With respect to 1) and 4), the evidence indicated that the City acted in a discriminatory manner against the Chinese community. With respect to 2) and 3), there was insufficient evidence to clearly conclude that the City acted in a discriminatory manner as many other citizens were also affected and caught up in the application of the City by-laws.

Council Motion in Support of Reconciliation:

At the New Westminster Council meeting of March 22, 2010, Council approved the following motion: ***that the first phase of the project – research and documentation – be concluded; and that City staff commence the second phase of the project – enter into a discussion regarding appropriate steps towards reconciliation.***

Next Steps:

Based on the Council motion of March 22, 2010, City staff are seeking your input on the following questions. Please note that your input will be used to inform a Report to Council in June 2010 as to appropriate actions in support of reconciliation.

Questions:

1. **What does reconciliation look like for you? What do you think are appropriate actions for the City to take in support of reconciliation?**

2. **How can the City recognize and commemorate the significant contributions of its Chinese community to its growth and development?**

3. **Who, from the Chinese community, should be consulted with regard to identifying appropriate actions in support for reconciliation?** If possible, please provide their name, affiliation, phone number and e-mail address.

Return Information:

Please return your completed form to John Stark, Senior Social Planner:

511 Royal Avenue, New Westminster, BC, V3L 1H9

604-515-3777 (Phone); 604-527-4511 (Fax); jstark@newwestcity.ca

The deadline for receipt of completed feedback forms is Friday, June 4, 2010.