

September 1, 2017

## Royal BC Museum joins Canadian cultural delegation to China

**VICTORIA, BC**—Prof. Jack Lohman, CEO of the Royal BC Museum, is joining 24 other cultural leaders in a major exchange between Canada and China, meeting with officials and counterparts in Beijing and Dunhuang from Sept 4 to 8.

“Our dialogue with Chinese counterparts will focus on strengthening our relationships with museums and exchanging ideas, values and culture, to create influence, jobs and growth,” **said Lohman.** “It is a privilege to be part of this initiative.”

**“I intend to look for opportunities for the Royal BC Museum to develop exchange agreements with similar museums in China. This is a tremendous opportunity,”** **said** delegate Karen Bachmann, President of the Canadian Museums Association. **“China is such an important trading partner,** and we really need to know more about the country and its rich diversity in order to build stronger bonds **between our two great nations.”**

Former Deputy Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Sheila Copps, will lead the twenty-five-member strong delegation, along with Dr. Nelly Ng, Chair of the Canadian Fund for International Understanding through Culture (Can4Culture).

**“The timing of this Canada-China Dialogue is so perfect,”** **said Copps.** **“China is building two hundred new museums each year. Canada has had its own massive museum building boom and has incredible experience to share with China. We have expertise in design, exhibitions, conservation and so much to offer.”**

**“This is an incredible opportunity to explore trade and promotion between our two great nations,”** **said Ng.** **“We have a lot to offer and so much to receive in return. I hope to see many exchanges of exhibitions and knowledge between our nations as we need to build a better understanding—culture is the way to open doors and remove walls.”**

In recent years the Royal BC Museum has deepened its cultural connections to China, showcasing two travelling exhibitions in Guangdong Province, sending two staff members to the Nanjing Museum to exchange cultural knowledge and best practices and repatriating a selection of Manchukuo-era books from BC to the Nanjing Museum. The Royal BC Museum promotes itself in China through social media, a Chinese-language website and by participating at Showcase Canada Asia, a travel trade networking event in China.

On this trip, Canadian officials will be meeting with government officials and museum colleagues. Delegates include 15 museum and gallery professionals,



two medical doctors and others who wish to offer their services as volunteers in needed fields. A list of delegates is attached.

Can4Culture has previously facilitated exchanges between Canada and China in the areas of cultural heritage, artistic and professional exchanges, and assistance for libraries in rural and disaster areas.

### **About the Royal BC Museum**

**The Royal BC Museum explores the province's human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. We are a hub of community connections in BC—onsite, offsite and online—taking pride in our collective histories.**

### **5th Canada-China Cultural Dialogue Innovation and Cultural Ingenuity Beijing & Dunhuang, China | September 4-8, 2017**

#### **Canadian Delegates**

##### **Can4Culture Board, Organizer of the Canada-China Cultural Dialogue**

- Ms. Monique Horth, VP, Collections, Research, Governance, Ingenium: Canada's Museums of Science and Innovation
- Mr. John McAevity, Executive Director and CEO, Canadian Museums Association
- Ms. Sylvie Morel, Board Member, Canadian Fund for International Understanding through Culture
- Dr. Nelly Ng, Chair, Canadian Fund for International Understanding through Culture

#### **Dialogue Speakers**

- Professor Jack Lohman, CEO, Royal BC Museum
- Ms. Karen Bachmann, Director/Curator, Timmins Museum: National Exhibition Centre and President, Canadian Museums Association
- Mr. Eric Chan, Founder and Digital Artisan, EEPMON Inc
- The Honourable Sheila Copps
- Ms. Ellen Curtis, Director of Education, Canadian Geographic
- Mr. Gilles Gagnier, COO and Publisher, Canadian Geographic
- Mr. Guy Labine, CEO Science North
- Ms. Julie Leclair, Director, Travelling Exhibitions, Ingenium: Canada's Museums of Science and Innovation
- Ms. Donna Livingstone, President and CEO, Glenbow Museum
- Ms. Anne Élizabeth Thibault, Director, Exhibitions & Technology Development, Pointe-à-Callière - Montreal Archaeology and History Complex
- Mr. Jon Tupper, Director, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria

#### **Physicians and other participants**

- Dr. Collins Hong, Plastic Surgeon
- Ms. Carol O. Hong, Spouse of Dr. Hong
- Ms. Evelyn Lau, Registered Nurse and Spouse of Dr. Lau
- Dr. Lawrence Lau, Anesthetist
- Mr. Edward Cavell, President, Livingstone & Cavell Extraordinary Toys (spouse of Donna Livingstone)
- Dr. Hing Law, Volunteer, Canadian Fund for International Understanding through Culture

- Mr. Austin Thorne, Spouse of Ms. Sheila Copps
- Ms. Annie Kwok, Vice President, Corporate and Community Relations Hong Kong Canada Business Association, Toronto Chapter
- Dr. Wai Ng, Retired nuclear engineer
- Dr. Lily Ng, Retired Chemist
- Ms. Dorothy Pang, Principle, DP Consulting
- Mr. Aaron Salus, Founder & Strategist, Strut Creative

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