

THE PAPER TRAIL

TO THE

1923 Chinese Exclusion Act

June Chow | ARCHIVIST

Catherine Clement | CURATOR

<https://1923-chinese-exclusion.ca>

NUMBER 75466

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECEIVED FROM

Wong Sui Yew whose photograph is attached hereto, on the date and at the place hereunder mentioned, the sum of Five Hundred Dollars being the head tax due under the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act.

The above mentioned party who claims to be a native of *China* in the District of *Shanghai* of the age of *26* years arrived or landed at *Victoria, B.C.* on the *26* day of *December* 19*12* by *CHICAGO MARU*

The declaration in this case is C.I. No. *5125*

Dated at *VICTORIA, B.C.* on *DEC. 26 1912*

G. Milne
CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



NUMBER 14794

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR


THIS CERTIFIES THAT

OTTAWA, *April 11, 1914*

Wo Lem whose photograph is hereto attached, claims to be *Wo Lem* who arrived at *Vancouver* on the *28* day of *June, 1898* who was registered at *Ottawa* under No. *26437* at *Vancouver* under No. *1183* and to whom No. *2113* was issued.

This certificate is given in exchange for above mentioned and while it is not an admission, that the party to whom it is issued, was ever legally admitted into Canada, it may, unless cancelled upon presentation, be used when registering out under C.I.9.

W. D. D.
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



NUMBER 02839

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

NG SAU YUE whose photograph is attached hereto arrived or landed at *Vancouver, B.C.* on the *5th* day of *January 1912* ex *Empress of Russia* and upon the representations made has been admitted as exempt from head tax under the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act.

The above mentioned party claims to be a native of *San Cheung* in the District of *Toi Shui* of the age of *30* years. The declaration in this case is C.I. No. *3506*

Dated at *Vancouver, B.C.* on *January 10th 1912*

A. S. Miller
CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



NUMBER 02049

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR


THIS CERTIFIES THAT

OTTAWA, *October 18 1912*

Mak Bing whose photograph is hereto attached, claims to be *Mak Bing* who arrived at *Victoria* on the *30th* day of *March 1900* who was registered at *Ottawa* under No. *3779* at *Victoria* under No. *1880* and to whom No. *2652* was issued.

It is claimed that certificate was lost or destroyed and while this certificate is not an admission that the party to whom it is issued, was ever legally admitted into Canada, it may, unless cancelled upon presentation, be used when registering out under C.I.9.

E. Blake Robert
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



NUMBER 75466 NEW C-1 SERIES

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
RECEIVED FROM

Wong Sui Yew whose photograph is attached hereto, on the date and at the place hereunder mentioned, the sum of Five Hundred Dollars being the head tax due under the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act.

The above mentioned party who claims to be a native of *China* in the District of *Victoria* of the age of *26* years arrived or landed at *Victoria* on the *26* day of *December* 1912 by *CHICAGO MARU*. The declaration in this case is C.I. No. *5125*.

Dated at *VICTORIA, B.C.* on *DEC. 26 1912*

G. Miller
CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



NUMBER 14794 C-1 36

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
THIS CERTIFIES THAT

OTTAWA, *April 11, 1919*

Wo Lem whose photograph is hereto attached, claims to be *Wo Lem* who arrived at *Vancouver* on the *28* day of *June, 1898* who was registered at *Ottawa* under No. *26487* and to whom No. *21183* was issued. This certificate is given in exchange for above mentioned and while it is not an admission, that the party to whom it is issued, was ever legally admitted into Canada, it may, unless cancelled upon presentation, be used when registering out under C.I.9.

W. J. Blaker
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.




DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE
No. 27405

C.I. 45

This is to certify that *(MISS) EMILIA LEE,* whose photograph is attached hereto, has registered as required by Section 18 of the Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Dated at *Vancouver, B.C.,* this *30th* day of *June, 1924.*

W. J. Blaker
Controller of Chinese Immigration.
This certificate does not establish legal status in Canada.



NUMBER 02839 C-1 30

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
THIS CERTIFIES THAT

NG SAU YUE whose photograph is attached hereto arrived or landed at *Vancouver, B.C.* on the *5th* day of *January 1921* ex *Empress of Russia* and upon the representations made has been admitted as exempt from head tax under the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act.

The above mentioned party claims to be a native of *San Cheung* in the District of *Yoi Shui* of the age of *30* years. The declaration in this case is C.I. No. *3590E*.

Dated at *Vancouver, B.C.* on *January 10th 1921*

W. J. Blaker
CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.




NUMBER 02049 C-1 30

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
THIS CERTIFIES THAT

OTTAWA, *October 18 1912*

Mak Bing whose photograph is hereto attached, claims to be *Mak Bing* who arrived at *Victoria* on the *30th* day of *March 1900* who was registered at *Ottawa* under No. *18080* and to whom No. *2652* was issued. It is claimed that certificate was lost or destroyed and while this certificate is not an admission that the party to whom it is issued, was ever legally admitted into Canada, it may, unless cancelled upon presentation, be used when registering out under C.I.9.

E. Blaker
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.




DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE
No. 16412

C.I. 45

This is to certify that *QUAN JEW LOUIE,* whose photograph is attached hereto, has registered as required by Section 18 of the Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Dated at *Vancouver, B.C.,* this *11th* day of *June, 1924.*

W. J. Blaker
Controller of Chinese Immigration.
This certificate does not establish legal status in Canada.



“This is to certify that ... has registered as required by Section 18 of the Chinese Immigration Act, [1923].” ... [1923/1924]

IMPORTANT
IT IS NECESSARY THAT
CERTIFICATE BE CAREFULLY
PRESERVED AS IT IS
AS A MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION

此照務須小心保存以爲
人照相符之證據此佈



REGISTRATION No. 6176

This is to certify that the person, whose photograph appears on the face of this certificate, has registered as required by Section 18, of the Chinese Immigration Act, 1923.

Dated at Vancouver B.C.
this 17th day of March 1924

A. L. Jolliffe
Controller of Chinese Immigration.


DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE

C.I. 45
No. 16412

This is to certify that QUAN JEW LOUIE,
whose photograph is attached hereto, has registered as required by Section 18 of the Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Dated at Vancouver, B.C.,
this 11th day of June, 1924.

255 e georgie
R197806
A. L. Jolliffe
Controller of Chinese Immigration.



This certificate does not establish legal status in Canada.

Section 18, Chinese Immigration Act, 1923

Every person of Chinese *origin or descent* in Canada to register within 12 months from the date of the Act

C.I.44 forms

Chinese immigration records

Library and Archives Canada

Department of Immigration and Colonization

CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE



6176 This is to certify that the party described below registered at this office pursuant to Section 18, Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.
Name Chang Yip Kee,

Place of Birth China Sex Male
Age 36 Female

Also names and addresses of children, if in

Country China

B.C. March 30th, 1913
C.I. No. 75980
(C.I. 3, 28, 30 or 36)



192

75980
17

Department of Immigration and Colonization

CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE



16412 This is to certify that the party described below registered at this office pursuant to Section 18, Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Name QUAN JEW LOUIE

Otherwise known as
Address 256 Georgia St. East, VANCOUVER, B.C.

Present Occupation Child Age 3 Male

Single if (husband) in Canada give name and address. Also names and addresses of children, if in Canada.

VANCOUVER, B.C., February 5, 1921.

DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE



No. 16412

This is to certify that QUAN JEW LOUIE,

whose photograph is attached hereto, has registered as required by Section 18 of the Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Dated at Vancouver, B.C.,

this 11th day of June, 1924.



Controller of Chinese Immigration.

This certificate does not establish legal status in Canada.



Vancouver, JUN 11 1924

This space for use of Department.

Arrival verified.
C.I. 4 No.
C.I. No.
File No.
Serial No.

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE No. 16412

ISSUED June 11 1924

A. L. Jolliffe

NUMBER 75980

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
RECEIVED FROM

Chang Yip Kee whose photograph is attached hereto, on the date and at the place hereunder mentioned, the sum of Five Hundred Dollars being the head tax due under the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act. The above mentioned party who claims to be a native of China in the Province of Shanghai of the age of 36 years arrived or landed on the 11th day of June at Vancouver, B.C. on the 11th day of June 1924.
The declaration in this case is C.I. No. 15974
Dated at Vancouver, B.C. on MAR 20 1913 1913

CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

IT IS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THIS CERTIFICATE AS A MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION

人與相符之證據此佈

REGISTRATION No. 6176


This is to certify that the person, whose photograph appears on the face of this certificate, has registered as required by Section 18, of the Chinese Immigration Act, 1923.

Dated at Vancouver B.C.
this 17th day of March 1924

A. L. Jolliffe
Controller, Chinese Immigration.

C.I.44 (registration) forms

Department of Immigration and Colonization
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE



This is to certify that the party described below registered at this office pursuant to Section 18, Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Registration No. **6176**

Name Chang Yip Kee,

Otherwise known as _____

Address 4357, 27th Ave. E., Vancouver, B.C.

Present Occupation vegetable peddler Age 36 Male Female

Married if (husband) _____
Single if (wife) _____ in Canada give name and address. Also names and addresses of children, if in Canada _____

Born at San San Hong Kong China

Originally admitted to Canada at the port of Victoria, B.C.

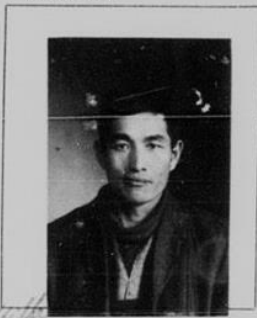
Ex. SS. "Ision" Date March 20th, 1911

Amount Head Tax Paid \$ 500.00 Is in possession of certificate C.I. 5 No. 75980

Height 5 feet 7 inches.

Facial Marks and Physical Peculiarities:—
Hole behind left ear.
Scar right side hand.
Long scar under right eye around to right upperlip.

Remarks:—



This is to certify that the party registering (is) (is not) the party whose photograph appears on the certificate above stated.

Signature of Registrar [Signature]


Title _____ Place and date Vancouver, JUN 11 1924 192

This space for use of Department.

CERTIFICATE C.I. 5 No. 75980
ENDORSED Mar 17 1924

Arrival verified.
C.I. 4 No. Vict. 6E974
C.I. No. _____
Fyle No. _____

Department of Immigration and Colonization
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE



This is to certify that the party described below registered at this office pursuant to Section 18, Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Registration No. **16412**

Name QUAN JEE LOUIS

Otherwise known as _____

Address 256 Georgia St. East, VANCOUVER, B.C.

Present Occupation Child Age _____ Male Female

Married if (husband) _____
Single if (wife) _____ in Canada give name and address. Also names and addresses of children, if in Canada _____

Born at VANCOUVER, B.C. February 5, 1921

Originally admitted to Canada at the port of NATIVE BORN


Ex. SS. _____ Date None

Amount Head Tax Paid \$ _____ Is in possession of certificate C.I. _____ No. _____

Height 33.5 feet 1.5 inches.

Facial Marks and Physical Peculiarities:—
No marks.

Remarks:—
Birth registered at Vancouver, B.C.
Father: Hawk Yat Louis.
Mother: Young Shee.



This is to certify that the party registering (is) (is not) the party whose photograph appears on the certificate above stated.

Signature of Registrar [Signature]

Title _____ Place and date Vancouver, JUN 11 1924 192

This space for use of Department.

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE No. **16412**
ISSUED June 11 1924
[Signature]

Arrival verified.
C.I. 4 No. _____
C.I. No. _____
Fyle No. _____
Serial No. _____

Working from the inside (temporary / student)



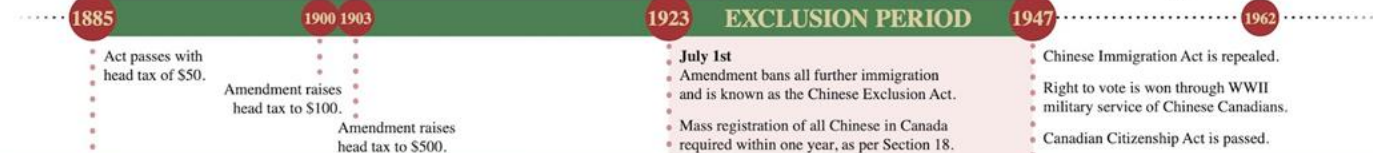
RECORDS OF THE CHINESE IN CANADA

This infographic outlines major records created by the Chinese Immigration Act, including its 1923 amendment known commonly as the Chinese Exclusion Act. Records are organized by where they can be found. This piece is produced for *The Paper Trail to the 1923 Chinese Exclusion Act* by June Chow 周慕慈 (Archivist) with design support by Jeffery Chong 鄭加衡. © 2023. Version 1.0.

Chinese labour completes Canadian Pacific Railway across B.C.

Chinese Immigration Act (1885-1947)

Chinese Adjustment Statement Program grants amnesty to "paper sons."



FAMILY ARCHIVES

Original **Chinese Immigration (C.I.) certificates** issued for registration and identification purposes. Those issued to immigrants are commonly referred to as entry, landing, and/or head tax certificates.

Explore the largest community collection of C.I. certificates at UBC Library, Rare Books and Special Collections: The Paper Trail collection.

Images in this section courtesy of The Paper Trail collection.

C.I.5 NO PHOTO [1885 to 1912]

The first C.I.5 had no photo and was used for both head tax payment and exemption. Its "new series" re-design included a photo and made payment more clear.



C.I.5 (no photo)



C.I.5 (new series)

C.I.5 NEW SERIES [1912 to 1923]

Over Exclusion, less than 50 new Chinese are admitted to Canada.

1912 C.I.36, 28, 30 [1912 to 1947]

C.I.36 is created to replace previous photo-less C.I.5. C.I.28 is created to replace a lost or stolen certificate. C.I.30 is created to make head tax exemption more clear.



Exclusion Act requires immigrants to re-register.

C.I.45 [1923 to 1947]

C.I.45 is created to register Canadian-born Chinese. Most are produced over the one-year deadline. Those who were abroad registered upon re-entry to Canada.



C.I.36



C.I.28



C.I.30



C.I.45

Images in this section courtesy of Library and Archives Canada.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

Chinese Immigration (C.I.) records
Passenger lists
Census records

Please note that records in Library and Archives Canada collections are those that were retained for long-term preservation. Many records were destroyed, or remain restricted.

General Registers of Chinese Immigration [1885 to 1949]

Registers (ledgers) list the names of arriving Chinese immigrants. Those in Canada prior to 1885 were registered retroactively. Separate registers were kept by Newfoundland which was not part of Canada until 1949 and had its own Chinese Immigration Act (1906 to 1949).



Over Exclusion, less than 50 new Chinese are admitted to Canada.

C.I.44 [1923 to 1947]

C.I.44 form is used to register all Chinese in Canada. Most are completed over the one-year deadline. Those who were abroad registered upon re-entry to Canada.



C.I.44

C.I.9 outward registration [1910 to 1954]

The C.I.9 form was issued to and returned by a Chinese person granted temporary leave of Canada. It was usual for men to return to China to marry and have a family.

Chinese immigration case files [1885 to 1962]

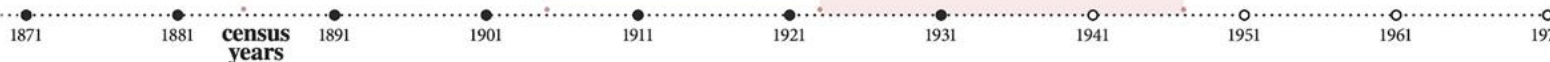
Case files were kept on individuals, businesses, and community organizations under investigation for engaging in illicit activities including false identities. Files are restricted and require submitting a formal request for access as per Canada's access to information and privacy acts (ATIP).

Passenger lists [1905 to 1922]

List of immigrants arriving at an official port of entry (Victoria or Vancouver) on a particular ship on a given date. Also known as a ship manifest.



C.I.9



An iceberg floating in the ocean. The tip of the iceberg is above the water surface, while the much larger base is submerged below. The background is a blue sky with white clouds and a blue sea. The entire image is set against a dark red background with a faint, repeating pattern of the word 'FRANCH' in a serif font.

General Registers of Chinese Immigration

C.I.9 forms

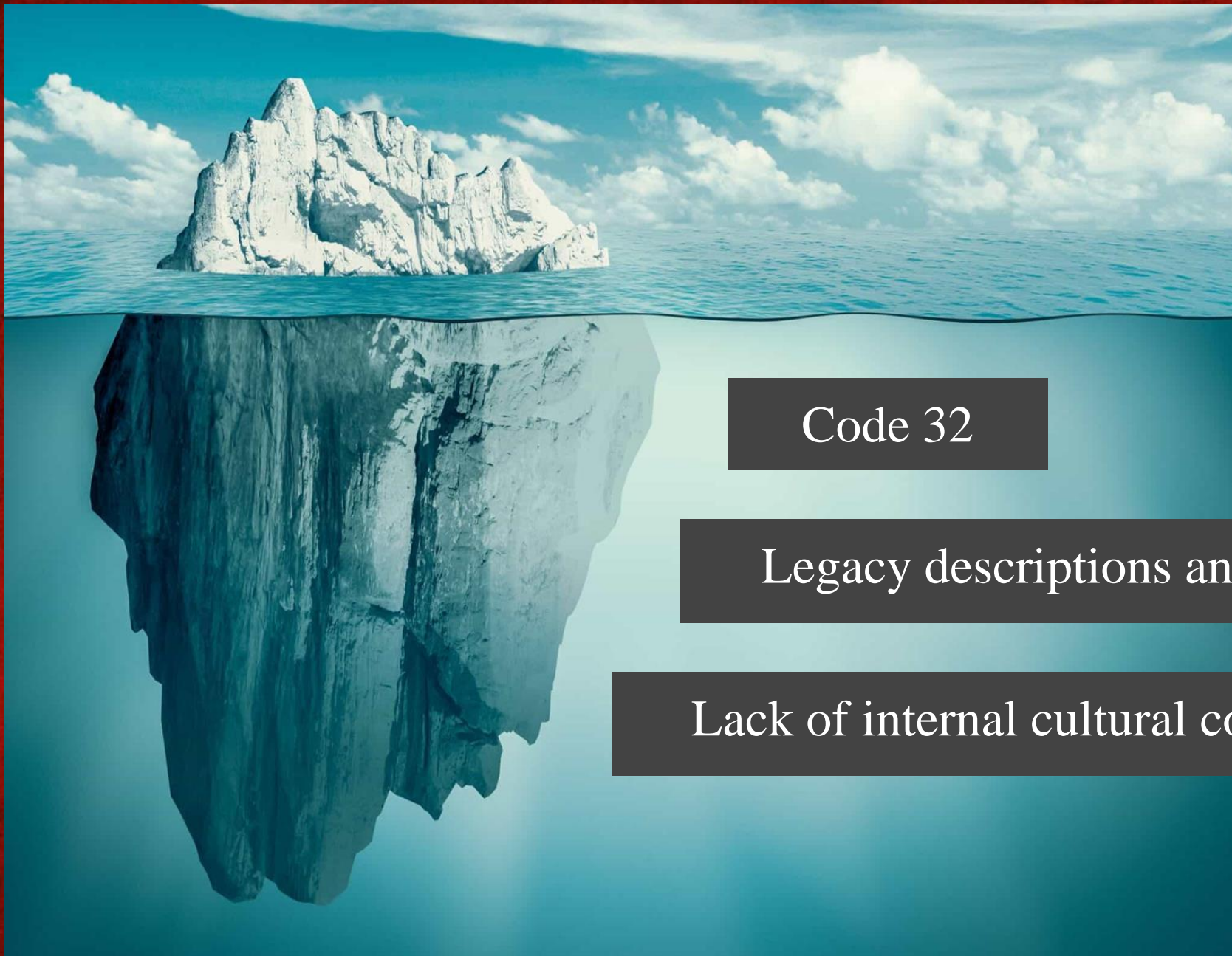
C.I.44 forms

Case files

RCMP raids

Chinese Adjustment Statement Program

Head tax redress



Code 32

Legacy descriptions and finding aids

Lack of internal cultural competency

BRANCH



From Custody to Stewardship

University of British Columbia Special Collections

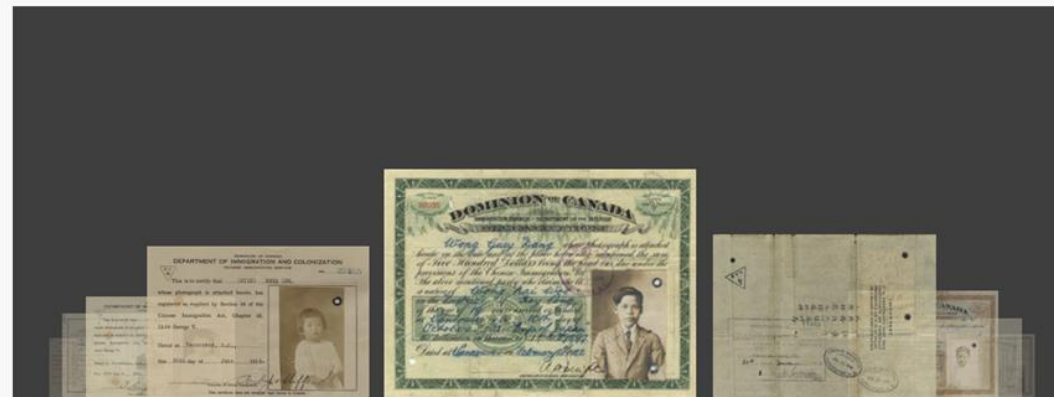


Quick search

Search hierarchy

Collection RBSC-ARC-1838 - The Paper Trail collection

- [Collection] RBSC-ARC-1838 - The Paper Trail collection, 1893-1955
 - [Series] Registration and identification certificates, 1893-1955 (predominantly 1912-1924)
 - [Item] DO-0001 - C.I.5 certificate of Wong Chung Lum, 4 Apr. 1913
 - [Item] DO-0002 - C.I.36 certificate of Hum Kim Jam, 14 May 1913



RBSC-ARC-1838-DO-0017r.tif

Results 1 to 50 of 856 [Show all](#)

Title and statement of responsibility area

Title proper	The Paper Trail collection
General material designation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Records in electronic form
Level of description	Collection

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[Government](#)

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NUMBER 75466 NEW C.I. SERIES

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECEIVED FROM

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The above mentioned party who claims to be a native of *China* in the District of *Victoria* of the age of *26* years arrived or landed at *Victoria* on the *26* day of *December* 1912 by *CHICAGO MARU*.

The declaration in this case is C.I. No. *5125*

Dated at *VICTORIA, B.C.* on *DEC. 26 1912*

G. Miller
CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



NUMBER 14794 C.I. 36

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

OTTAWA, *April 11, 1919*

Wo Lem whose photograph is hereto attached, claims to be *Wo Lem* who arrived at *Vancouver* on the *28* day of *June, 1898* who was registered at *Ottawa* under No. *26487* and to whom No. *21183* was issued.

This certificate is given in exchange for above mentioned and while it is not an admission, that the party to whom it is issued, was ever legally admitted into Canada, it may, unless cancelled upon presentation, be used when registering out under C.I.9.

W. J. Blaker
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 27405


C.I. 45

This is to certify that *(MISS) EMILIA LEE,* whose photograph is attached hereto, has registered as required by Section 18 of the Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Dated at *Vancouver, B.C.,* this *30th* day of *June, 1924.*

W. J. Blaker
Controller of Chinese Immigration.

This certificate does not establish legal status in Canada.



NUMBER 02839 C.I. 30

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

NG SAU YUE whose photograph is attached hereto arrived or landed at *Vancouver, B.C.* on the *5th* day of *January, 1921* ex *Empress of Russia* and upon the representations made has been admitted as exempt from head tax under the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act.

The above mentioned party claims to be a native of *San Cheung* in the District of *Yoi Shui* of the age of *30* years. The declaration in this case is C.I. No. *3590E*

Dated at *Vancouver, B.C.* on *January 10th 1921*

W. J. Blaker
CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



C.I. 38 NUMBER 02049

DOMINION OF CANADA
IMMIGRATION BRANCH - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR


THIS CERTIFIES THAT

OTTAWA, *October 18 1912*

Mak Bing whose photograph is hereto attached, claims to be *Mak Bing* who arrived at *Victoria* on the *30th* day of *March, 1900* who was registered at *Ottawa* under No. *18080* and to whom No. *2652* was issued.

It is claimed that certificate was lost or destroyed and while this certificate is not an admission that the party to whom it is issued, was ever legally admitted into Canada, it may, unless cancelled upon presentation, be used when registering out under C.I.9.

E. Blaker
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION.



DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION
CHINESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 16412


C.I. 45

This is to certify that *QUAN JEW LOUIE,* whose photograph is attached hereto, has registered as required by Section 18 of the Chinese Immigration Act, Chapter 38, 13-14 George V.

Dated at *Vancouver, B.C.,* this *11th* day of *June, 1924.*

W. J. Blaker
Controller of Chinese Immigration.

This certificate does not establish legal status in Canada.



June Chow | ARCHIVIST

[www.linkedin.com/in/
june-chow-chinesecanadianarchivist](http://www.linkedin.com/in/june-chow-chinesecanadianarchivist)