



ROCKY RAILWAY HIGH 落磯鐵路華工高(回归)

A Brief History:

Between 1881 and 1884, 15, 000 Chinese railway workers from Guandong Province were employed to build the Canadian Pacific Railway. In three years one third of these workers died.

When the CPR was completed, the Federal Government imposed The Chinese Head Tax, a \$50 tax imposed on every person of Chinese background entering the Country, no other groups were forced to pay this fee.

In 1900 the Head Tax was increased to \$100, and to \$500 in 1903, the equivalent of two years wages for Chinese workers at the time.

Despite these impossible restrictions, Chinese immigrants continued to come to Canada. On July 1,1923 the Chinese Immigration Act was passed, excluding all but a few Chinese immigrants from entering Canada. Less than 50 Chinese were allowed to come to Canada between the Acts passing and its repeal in 1947.

For more information please visit:

www.rockyrailwayhigh.com

<http://rockyrailwayhigh.blog.com>

About the Project:

The Rocky Railway High (closure) is an Interactive art project that will symbolically bring the 5,000 workers back to their homeland in the Guangdong province of China for a permanent burial (a very important custom in Chinese culture).

A total of 5,000+ pieces of artwork and writing (representing the workers who perished during construction of the railway) on paper resembling the shape of tents used by the workers will be collected from the public for exhibition in British Columbia and buried at a permanent location in Guangdong.

Please colour in the shape below, feel free to also write, or draw expressing your thoughts about the railway workers, head tax and exclusion act. All submissions will be archived online permanently.

Please submit all completed forms to:

by email: submit@rockyrailwayhigh.com

by mail: 5863 Leslie Street, Suite 348
North York, Ontario, M2H 1J8

Your Name: _____ Your City: _____ Your Province: _____

School / Institution / Group / Organization / Company _____

