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BACKGROUND

Vancouver Agreement Supports Economic Development Projects in Chinatown

The Vancouver Agreement is an urban economic development agreement supported by the federal and provincial governments, the City of Vancouver, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority and the Vancouver Police department. The Chinatown lighting project, one of several recent economic development projects in Chinatown funded under the Vancouver Agreement, will create a brighter and more welcoming streetscape – making Chinatown at night more attractive for visitors and businesses alike.

The following is a list of capital projects funded by Vancouver Agreement partners to assist in the revitalization of Chinatown and support renewed economic activity.

Chinatown Millennium Gate

Funded by VA partners, private donors and the community through fundraising activities, the traditional Chinese City Gate is already under construction with completion anticipated later this spring. The gate over Pender Street at Taylor will mark the entrance to Chinatown.

Shanghai Alley

A replica of a 2,200-year old Western Han Dynasty bell was installed in summer 2001 in the birthplace of Chinatown. The project also includes beautification of the walkway and nine history-telling panels that will be unveiled soon.

Chinatown Memorial Square

The city and community partners have funded a public work of art commemorating the role of Chinese Canadians in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and World Wars I and II. The art will be installed at the “Keefer Triangle” at the intersection of Keefer Street and Columbia Street this summer.

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Courtyard Upgrade

Funded under the City of Vancouver Capital Plan, the courtyard between Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden and the Chinese Cultural Centre will be improved to make it more functional for cultural events. Other initiatives will develop more community programs on-site to create more positive activities to revitalize this part of Chinatown. Construction is scheduled for completion by this summer.