

## **BC ALPHA WORK REPORT (JULY 2014 – JUNE 2015)**

**17-18 July 2014** Assisting CCTV for making documentary in commemoration of the 77th anniversary of the Rape of Nanking in San Francisco which was later aired in December 2014.

**18 July 2014** Introducing BC ALPHA's newly developed School Outreach Program to executive members of GA and some members of APTSJW (Alliance for Preserving the Truth of Sino-Japanese War) in San Francisco.

**28 July & 9 August 2014** Special meetings were held to discuss about the Mission and future direction for BC ALPHA.

**14 August 2014** **Statement issued by Canada ALPHA in support of International Memorial Day for the “comfort women”.** Canada ALPHA wrote this letter in support of the Halmonis who are still with us in the struggle for justice today, those we have lost through these years, and the hundreds of thousands who did not survive the nightmare of sexual slavery. Sadly, we write this letter as the current rightwing Japanese government reinterprets Article 9. To read the full statement, visit [http://www.alpha-canada.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Support-letter-to-Korean-Council-14Aug2014\\_NS.pdf](http://www.alpha-canada.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Support-letter-to-Korean-Council-14Aug2014_NS.pdf).

**17 August 2014** **Test-run of presentation on Rescuers and the Rape of Nanking** to be attended by some teachers, a few students and BC ALPHA members.

**24 October 2014** Information table was set up at the [BC Social Studies Teachers' Association Provincial Conference](#) at Vancouver Technical Secondary School to promote the newly launched School Outreach Program. Workshop introducing the Prezis on the different presentation topics was also offered at the conference.

**November 2014** **Donation Appeal** was sent out to solicit donations to support the work of BC ALPHA.

**15-16 November 2014** Representatives including Thekla, Joseph, Paul and Cathy attended the biennial conference of GA at San Francisco. The education works especially the newly developed Prezis on the 4 topics, namely The "Comfort Women" - Japanese Military Sexual Slavery during WWII", Rescuers and Global Citizenship in the Rape of Nanking, Biochemical Warfare and Human Experimentation, and Canadian Hong Kong Veterans and Allied POWs - Wounds and Closure were introduced to other members of GA.

**3 4 & 5 December 2013** The 6th [International Human Rights Day Symposium: Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific 1931-1945](#) was held at Guildford Park Secondary in

Surrey and Vancouver Technical Secondary respectively. This is the first time that we expanded the Symposium to Surrey School District. The symposium were sponsored by both the Vancouver and Surrey School Board.

The symposium was organized to help students better understand and reflect on issues of human rights violations during the Asia-Pacific War (1931- 1945) and to make connections to present day local and global issues. Videos of the symposium are available at the following YouTube links:-

- 2014 IHRDSS Workshop on Canadian HK Veterans by Stacey & Naylor  
<https://youtu.be/brbCIR-E4JQ>
- 2014 IHRDSS Workshop on "Comfort Women" by Heather Evans  
<https://youtu.be/zwWcPmLv41c>
- 2014 IHRDSS Special Remarks by Satoko Norimatsu  
<https://youtu.be/sZ11-my9VDw>
- Surrey high school hosts human rights Symposium 2014 (re-edited & uploaded in Apr 2015)  
<http://youtu.be/cVIQV2FKy9A>
- In commemoration of Asian Holocaust victims at 2014 IHRDSS (Guildford Park Secondary)  
<http://youtu.be/ySBPchs41mM>
- Guildford Park School Principal's Welcome Remark at 2014 IHRDSS  
<http://youtu.be/WTXJiDL0gbU>
- Augusta Lokhurst's Speech at 2014 IHRDSS  
<https://youtu.be/1DSKmKR5HXw>
- Selma van Halder's Speech at 2014 IHRDSS  
<http://youtu.be/yoLbvklzmmg>

Media report is available at <http://www.alpha-canada.org/alpha-news/surrey-high-school-hosts-human-rights-symposium>.

Teachers of Social Studies 11, History 12, Law 12 & Social Justice 12 registered to bring their students to attend the Symposium. **A total of 972 students and 41 teachers from 28 secondary schools of 10 school districts participated in the Symposium with 15 presenters/speaker and 11 volunteers.**

**March 2015** An article on *Human in Human Rights Education - Learning from Survivors of WWII in Asia* was published in the BCTF Social Justice Newsletter Winter/Spring 2015 issue. It introduces the School Outreach program and the Classroom Presentation materials developed by BC ALPHA.

**School Outreach Program:** Heather Evans as Education Director continued to make presentations on topics of the Asian Holocaust. For details, refer to BC ALPHA School Outreach Program Executive Summary 2015 prepared by Heather Evans.

**Website & Social Media:** Our website [www.alpha-canada.org](http://www.alpha-canada.org) has been constructively used to promote our events and issued statements and constantly updated with most [current news](#) related to the Asian Holocaust (Thanks to Sylvester Kong, our General Secretary and a new volunteer, Mao Xiang). Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Canada.alpha> is also actively used to post related news and events.

**Videos Updates:** Besides the 2014 IHRDSS videos, here is the list for the uploaded videos onto our [YouTube Channel](#) completed during the past year (Thanks to Martha Wong, our Hon Treasurer):-

- Classroom presentation on Biochemical Warfare & Human Experimentation  
<https://youtu.be/PFR9lwDVEuE>
- Testimony of Peter van der Veen  
[http://youtu.be/7205Vz\\_KAyM](http://youtu.be/7205Vz_KAyM)

There are videos taken, pending for editing:-

- 3 more Classroom presentations by Heather Evans
- Interview with Prof. Shue Tuck Wong (Witness of WWII in Malaya)

***Prepared by Thekla Lit, President of BC ALPHA  
For AGM on June 27, 2015***