

BC ALPHA WORK REPORT (JULY 2016 – JUNE 2017)

11 & 12 July 2016 On OMNI TV, Thekla represented Canada ALPHA to talk about the development of the compensation claims regarding the Chinese forced laborers against Mitsubishi Corporation. The so-call “settlement agreement” put forth by Mitsubishi was heavily criticized by Canada ALPHA as it was against the wish of most of the plaintiffs.

25 July 2016 Canada ALPHA issued a [media release](#) to announce the strong support of overseas Chinese for the Chinese laborers who had victimized by Mitsubishi during WWII. Nine surviving Chinese labourers, who were abducted to Japan during WWII, believe that the so-called "Settlement Agreement" recently put forth by Mitsubishi Materials (hereafter "Mitsubishi") completely lacks sincerity, and obfuscates Mitsubishi's role in enslaving and abusing them. Since Mitsubishi's so-called "apology" being extremely insincere, these survivors have refused to accept Mitsubishi's so-called "settlement" and the 100,000 yuan per person offered "as a contribution to Sino-Japanese friendship" by Mitsubishi. The steely resolve of these nine survivors has won the applause of Chinese both at home and abroad.

Nine hundred thousand yuan raised were distributed to the nine survivors in mid-July. Canada ALPHA, together with various organizations in mainland China, North America, and Hong Kong, had raised 900,000 yuan in short order, and distributed the entirety of the funds to these nine elderly survivors. This is to affirm the survivors' noble character in pursuing historical justice and defending the dignity of the Chinese people through their continuing demands for reparations from Mitsubishi, now through litigation in Chinese courts. These survivors are determined not to perpetuate hatred between China and Japan, but to recover their personal dignity in a legally meaningful way. Their actions transcend personal interests and have become symbolically significant as defending the dignity of the Chinese people. Please view [海内外华人成功筹款支持三菱受害劳工继续诉讼 2016年7月25日 https://youtu.be/L-7mBjlh5Tk](https://youtu.be/L-7mBjlh5Tk)

25 July 2016 Meeting with Pat Parungao & Ishbel Newstead regarding the School Outreach Program. Both of them agreed to do the presentations at schools upon request by BC ALPHA.

26 July 2016 Agreement has been made with Brenda Ball regarding the development of the CW Module as according to the new curriculum of the Social Studies of BC. This CW Module will be based on the Prezi and Script developed by BC ALPHA.

15 August 2016 On the 71st Anniversary of the End of WWII in Asia, Thekla representing BC ALPHA was interviewed by News Program of OMNI to comment about the political trend in Japan regarding their possible way in dealing with the legacy of

WWII. Please view [日本戰敗投降 71 周年看日本政局前景 OMNI2016 年 8 月 15 日](https://youtu.be/OWA557txux4)
<https://youtu.be/OWA557txux4>

15 August 2016 Thekla representing BC ALPHA was interviewed by News Program of FM96.1 to speak on the lessons learned from the WWII in Asia history and to update the audience about the development of the compensation claims against Mitsubishi by the Chinese forced laborers.

1 September 2016 Donation Appeal was sent out to solicit donations to support the work of BC ALPHA.

6 October 2016 Meeting with sponsoring teachers to confirm that Prince of Wales Secondary School would host the 2016/17 International Human Rights Day Student Symposium to be held on January 12 & 13, 2017.

20 October 2016 Thekla & Joseph represented BC ALPHA to visit the site of AMA Museum (Museum for “comfort women”) and the sponsoring agency, Taiwan Women’s Rescue Association in Taipei. The AMA Museum would be officially open in December 2016. Their CEO and researcher expressed their appreciation for ALPAHA’s work and would like to incorporate some of the works developed by BC ALPAH in their museum.





21 October 2016 Information table was set up at the [BC Social Studies Teachers' Association Provincial Conference](#) at Vancouver Technical Secondary School to promote the newly developed Prezis on the different presentation topics for classroom use. Martha, Sylvester and Theresa represented BC ALPHA to man the table.

4 November 2016 Co-signed with Global Alliance for Preserving the History of WWII in Asia and other GA member organizations, Canada ALPHA issued a letter to Premier Li Keqiang of People's Republic of China to intervene the order made by the Foreign Affairs Office to remove the Peace Statue symbolizing the "comfort women" from the

Shanghai Normal University. The order was later lifted and the Peace Statue stays accordingly.



11 November 2016 Sylvester, Martha and Andrew represented BC ALPHA to participate and lay a wreath in the “Let Peace Be Their Memorial” event held on Remembrance Day at Seaforth Peace Park to commemorate the “comfort women” and other victims of the Asian Holocaust. Other participants included MP, Vancouver Park Board members, elementary students and Syrian refugees.



19 November 2016 Thekla and Joseph represented BC ALPHA to speak at a seminar organized by the Institute of Cultural Studies on the Homefront during the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression of the Southwest University in Chongqing. The seminar was for the professors, researchers, post-graduate students. The theme was on why and how the Asian Holocaust Education should be launched and conducted.



20 November 2016 Thekla and Joseph represented BC ALPHA to visit and meet with survivors and their support group members of the indiscriminate bombing of Chongqing by Imperial Japanese forces. They shared the development of their lawsuit against the Japanese government in Tokyo and would like to seek more support from all possible sources. On behalf of BC ALPHA, Thekla donated RMB1,000 to show our symbolic support and solidarity.

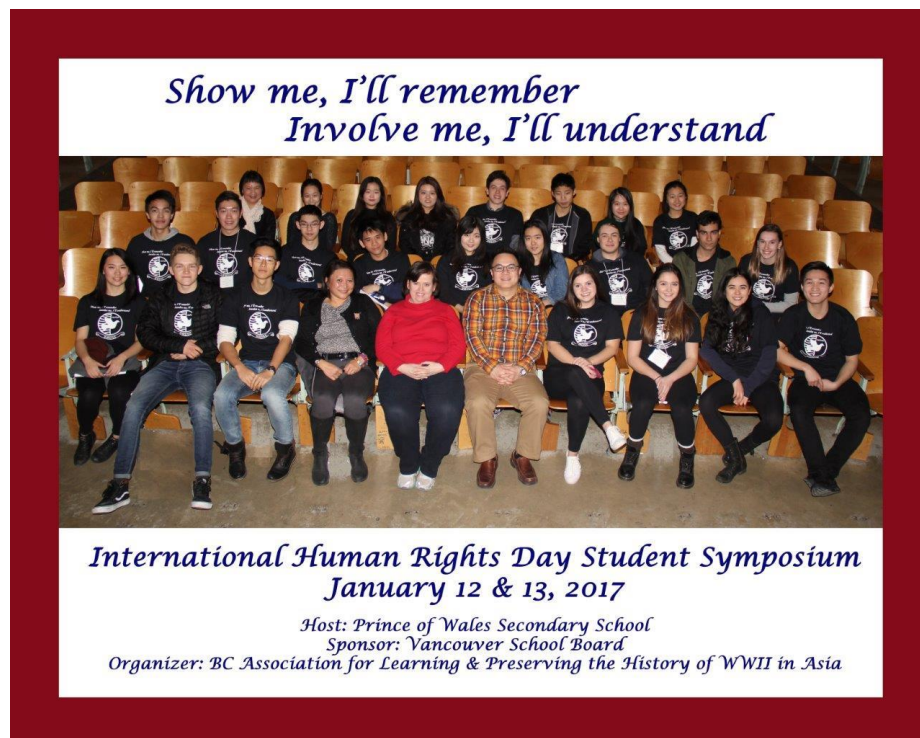


23 December 2016 Meeting with sponsoring teachers of Prince of Wales Secondary to have a detailed planning of the 8th **International Human Rights Day Symposium: Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific 1931-1945 (IHRDSS)**.

10 January 2017 Rehearsal with MCs and Student Presenters for the Backgrounder Session at the IHRDSS.

11 January 2017 Meeting and set-up for the IHRDSS with all student helpers at Prince of Wales Secondary.

12 & 13 January 2017 The 8th **International Human Rights Day Symposium: Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific 1931-1945** was held at Prince of Wales Secondary School. The symposium were sponsored by the Vancouver 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. Around **800** students and teachers from **19** secondary schools of **8** school districts participated in the Symposium with **16** presenters/speakers and **11** volunteers. This year a total of **10** workshops were offered including **2 workshops conducted in French** and **1 new workshop** entitled “Hiroshima, Nagasaki and beyond — Human Rights Violation within the Japanese Border”. Feedbacks from the students are very encouraging. **91% rated the overall value of the Symposium “Good” and better. 64.1% rated as “Excellent” or “Very Good”**.







27 January 2017 Thekla & Joseph representing BC ALPHA to attend the Film Screening & Discussion: “The Last Tear,” a documentary about “Comfort Women” in Asia and Korea. The event was organized by Centre for Korean Research of UBC.

6 March 2017 Co-signed with Global Alliance for Preserving the History of WWII in Asia and other GA member organizations, Canada ALPHA issued a letter to the Dean of the Supreme People 's Court of the People' s Republic of China asking him to urge the Beijing No. 1 Intermediate People 's Court to hear the compensation claim lawsuit against the Mitsubishi Corporation filed by Attorney Kang Jian on behalf of a group of Chinese Forced laborers.





26 May 2017 Thekla representing BC ALPHA was interviewed by OMNI News Program to talk about the Iris Chang Memorial Museum newly established in Huai'an of Jiangxi and the legacy of Iris Chang's work and spirit. Please view [丁果、列国远谈张纯如纪念馆 2017年5月26日BC https://youtu.be/fFwLaWM-xbA](https://youtu.be/fFwLaWM-xbA).

22 June 2017 Thekla & Joseph were invited by Prof. Yue-Him Tam, Past President of Global Alliance for Preserving the History of WWII in Asia and History Professor of Macalester College to have a meeting with him and his research assistant in his College in Minneapolis to discuss about the possible cooperation on the development of a web-based data bank related to the history of WWII in Asia.

-@@@-

School Outreach Program:

Ishbel Newstead did a total of 7 workshops for 5 teachers in 3 schools in February & May. The presentations included 3 on Nanking, 3 on Hong Kong Veterans & POW and 1 on "Comfort Women". Feedbacks received from teachers are all very positive.

"Comfort Women" & Violence Against Women in War & Peace - Mini Unit for New Draft 10 -12 BC Curriculum:

Brenda Ball, Director of Brockton School, Ms. Ball has been an educator and curriculum developer for over 20 years, in both public and independent schools, and both locally and

overseas. She has been working on the development of this new module to fit the new 10-12 BC Social Studies Curriculum for BC ALPHA and a draft has been submitted. After reviewed by the Education Committee of BC ALPHA, the draft will be reviewed by representative(s) of BC Social Studies Teachers' Association (BCSSTA) before it is finalized. It is planned to be launched on 20 October 2017 at the BCSSTA Provincial Conference.

Website & Social Media:

Our website 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 and Tim). Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Canada.alpha> is also actively used to post related news and events.

Videos: For uploaded videos, visit our YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CanadaALPHA/featured>. Below are some newly uploaded videos:-

- 二戰期間被擄華工向日本企業追究責任 問題仍未徹底解決 - OMNI 2016 年 6 月 6 日 <https://youtu.be/ZeljOWJwXbQ>
- 丁果列國遠談三菱勞工協議的虛偽 - 2016 年 7 月 11 日 BC <https://youtu.be/FEzSWO-elE>
- 丁果列國遠談三菱勞工官司 - 2016 年 7 月 12 日 BC <https://youtu.be/ti8XLOoKVoc>
- 海内外华人成功筹款支持三菱受害劳工继续诉讼 2016 年 7 月 25 日 <https://youtu.be/L-7mBjlh5Tk>
- 日本戰敗投降 71 周年看日本政局前景 OMNI2016 年 8 月 15 日 <https://youtu.be/OWA557txux4>
- 丁果、列国远谈张纯如纪念馆 2017 年 5 月 26 日 BC <https://youtu.be/fFwLaWM-xbA>

*Prepared by Thekla Lit, President of BC ALPHA
For AGM on July 20, 2017*