

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **CCP suspected of manipulating the political ecology of Chinese Canadians through Lunar New Year celebration events**

During the Lunar New Year festivities that took place in Vancouver's Chinatown earlier, the organizers had invited the Chinese Consul-General as the keynote guest, while singling out and omitted to invite Member of Parliament Jenny Kwan and Vancouver mayor Kennedy Stewart.

The Concerned Group (Chinese-Canadian Concerned Group on the Chinese Communist Party's Human Rights Violation) considers it highly inappropriate for those groups to invite and feature a foreign state's official representative - giving her a prominent role to dot the dragon's eyes and giving a speech sending out Beijing's message - in a Canadian community event whereas giving cold shoulders to elected representatives of our own who had expressed criticisms toward the Chinese government.

According to media reports, the Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver and the Canadian Association of Guangdong Community Associations-jointly organized "Dragon and Lion Wishing a Propitious New Year and Welcoming the Golden Tiger, Strengthening Chinatown and Celebrating the New Spring Festival" activities that took place outside Vancouver's Chinese Cultural Centre, in the Dr. Sun Yat-Sun Square. Members from three levels of government were invited as guests to the traditional dragon and lion dances, with the Chinese Consul General Tong Xiaoling dotting the eyes of the dragon – a solemn ceremony signifying the giving of life to the dragon.

Guests of the festivities included: Vancouver Chinese Consul General Tong Xiaoling, Principal Consultant (Western Canada) for the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office Catherine Yuen, Richmond-Central MP Wilson Miao, Vancouver-Granville MP Taleeb Noormohamed, Stevenston-Richmond East MP Parm Bains, BC Minister of State for Trade George Chow, Mayor of Richmond Malcolm Brodie, Richmond North Centre MLA Teresa Wat, Vancouver-Langara MLA Michael Lee, Vancouver City Counsellor Pete Fry and Burnaby City Counsellor James Wong.

The Concerned Group has learned that Vancouver East MP Jenny Kwan and the Mayor of Vancouver Kennedy Stewart were not invited to the January 30 community celebration event.

As Chinatown falls under the electoral district of Jenny Kwan and she is the longest serving Chinese-Canadian politician, a celebration of Lunar New Year in Vancouver's Chinatown excluding Jenny Kwan and Vancouver's current mayor Kennedy Stewart makes no sense. The

Concerned Group feels that the only plausible reason is that Jenny Kwan had, in Parliament, brought up the Hong Kong situation as well as voting in support of the motion naming China's Uyghur persecution as genocide, and Kennedy Stewart had, because of the incarceration of the "two Michaels", refused to meet with officials from the People's Republic of China and had earlier indicated the wish to establish friendship city status with Kaohsiung (Taiwan), which was met with criticism from the Vancouver Chinese Consul General Tong Xiaoling.

The exclusion of these two elected representatives from a major festivity of Vancouver's Chinese community is something the Concerned Group considers highly irregular. It might involve collusion between Chinese community leaders and forces outside Canada, making use of inviting elected representatives to community events to imply their acceptance by the vast Chinese community, thus in aiding China's efforts to project its influence on Canada's democratically elected political leaders. If this turns out to be true, this would be a case of foreign intervention in Canadian politics and warrants thorough investigation by Canadian Security Intelligence Service. If there were really diplomatic staffs involved in working with community leaders to target political figures in an attempt to influence Canadian politics, such staffs should be expelled from Canada.

There has been previous incident of democratically elected political figure being targeted because of their concerns over China's human rights abuses. Former MLA Richard Lee had been boycotted by Vancouver's Chinese consulate –some community associations were told if there was any community event involving Richard Lee, the Chinese Consulate would decline to send any representative to attend. At the time, Richard Lee was the Deputy Speaker of the provincial legislature. He lost the re-election in the 2017 provincial election after this boycott.

Just as there is a need for lobbyist to register, the Concerned Group feels that the aforementioned incident underscores the importance of Canada to set up a register for individuals representing foreign governments. That will allow politicians, the public and the media know who, within our own communities, are representing the interest of foreign governments. Such would alert our community and media groups, so that our community organizations would not be easily "hijacked" by such individuals representing foreign governments to aid Chinese Communist propaganda, and invitations to our community events will not be exploited to selectively reward or punish our democratically elected representatives whom the Chinese Consulate likes or dislikes.

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## 華社農曆新年賀歲活動 中共疑操控加國華人政治生態

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就早前溫哥華華埠舉辦的社區慶祝農曆新年活動中，主辦單位邀請中國駐溫哥華總領事佟曉玲作為主禮嘉賓，卻沒邀請該選區國會議員關慧貞，以及溫哥華市長甘迺迪（Kennedy Stewart）參與其事，「加拿大華人關注中共違反人權小組」（下稱關注組）發出聲明，認為主辦單位如此安排極不適當，排除或忽視了相關民意代表，反而突出外國政府代表角色——由中共駐溫哥華總領事為龍點睛、代表北京發言。而在這項加拿大社區節慶活動中，遭主辦單位剔除的加國相關民意代表，都曾經公開批評過中國政府。

根據媒體報道，溫哥華中華會館與加拿大廣東社團總會在1月30日聯合主辦「龍獅賀歲迎金虎，華埠振興慶新春」，活動在華埠中華文化中心中山廣場舉行。三級政要應邀出席觀看傳統舞龍舞獅表演，中領館總領事佟曉玲為龍點睛。

是次出席嘉賓包括：中國駐溫總領事佟曉玲、香港經貿處加西首席專員袁黃潔玲、列治文中區國會議員繆宗晏(Wilson Miao)、溫哥華格蘭護選區(Vancouver Granville)國會議員樂泰立(Taleb Noormohamed)、史蒂夫斯頓-列治文東區(Steveston-Richmond East)國會議員白恩斯(Parm Bains)、卑詩貿易省務廳長周炯華、列治文市長馬保定(Malcolm Brodie)、列治文北中區省議員屈潔冰、溫哥華-蘭加拉區(Vancouver-Langara)省議員李耀華、溫哥華市議員費必得(Pete Fry)、本拿比市議員王白進(James Wang)等三級政府的代表。

關注組得悉並且查證，是次慶祝農曆新年的社區活動，並沒有邀請溫哥華東區國會議員關慧貞和現任溫哥華市長甘迺迪參與。

溫市華埠位於關慧貞選區範圍，而她更是加拿大從政最長的華裔國會議員，華埠慶祝農曆新年的社區活動，不邀請關慧貞和溫哥華現任市長甘迺迪出席是完全說不通的。關注組認為，唯一可見的理由是關慧貞在國會提出香港議題和投票支持新疆種族滅絕動議，而甘迺迪年前說過因為兩個被中國囚禁的米高之事而拒絕與中國官員見面。溫哥華市長早前表示，希望與台灣高雄建立友誼城市關係，遭到中國駐溫總領事佟曉玲批評。

這兩位在職政治人物不獲邀請參與溫市華人社區重要節慶活動，關注組認為極不尋常，更可能涉及華人社區領袖與外國勢力的勾結，利用邀請政治人物參與社區活動的方式，來暗示對方受廣大華人接納，進而協助中共影響加拿大民選政治領袖。如果是這樣的話，就構成外國勢力干預加拿大政治的行為，加拿大安全情報局(CSIS)理應就此展開調查。假如真的有外交人員牽涉其中，又證實串謀僑社領袖針對本國政治人物試圖影響加拿大政治，加拿大政府必須將其驅逐出境。

民選議員因為關注中國人權而遭針對，從前曾經發生，據悉前省議員李燦明曾經被中國駐溫哥華領事館抵制，當時一些社區團體被告知若有李燦明出席的活動，領事館就不派代表

出席該等活動。當時李燦明是卑詩省議會的副議長，他受到抵制後，於 2017 年省選競選連任失敗。

就正如國內說客需要登記一樣，關注組認為，上述事件足令國民認識到加拿大設立外國代理人登記制度的重要，好讓政治人物、公眾和媒體都知道在我們的社區裏面，哪些人是外國政府代理人，使社區和媒體能夠警惕，不致被外國的政治代理人「騎劫」僑社，協助中共做大外宣，以及利用邀請或不邀請參與社區活動來「酬謝」或「懲罰」那些中領事館喜歡或不喜歡的民選公職人員。

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