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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Chinese Concern Group on CCP's Human Rights Violations Expresses Concerns over Possible Infiltration of Chinese Communist Party in Chinese Canadian Museum

The Canadian Chinese Concern Group on CCP's Human Rights Violations (hereafter referred to as the 'Concern Group') has issued a press release expressing its dissatisfaction and questioning whether the Chinese-Canadian Museum has been infiltrated by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

After years of preparation, the Chinese Canadian Museum has recently officially opened its door to the public. The museum's launch took the form of an opening ceremony that saw a section of East Pender Street in Vancouver's Chinatown closed for the event and hundreds of guests attending the opening ceremony seated on the road outside the museum, a day before Canada Day.

Event attendees included federal ministers, current and former provincial premiers, the mayor of Vancouver, and various local government officials. During the opening remarks, the emcee introduced elected officials in attendance, as well as community figures, and museum donors. However, to the surprise of many attendees, Member of Parliament Jenny Kwan, who represents the constituency where the Chinese Canadian Museum is located, was not introduced by the emcee. Furthermore, she was not invited on stage when other MPs were invited to unveil a commemorative plaque from the federal government marking 100 years of the Chinese Immigration Act of 1923.

In response to the cold treatment of MP Jenny Kwan at the Chinese Canadian Museum's opening ceremony, the Concern Group expressed its dissatisfaction and raised concerns in a news release, questioning whether this is another instance of the Chinese Communist Party targeting a political figure who dares to criticize human rights issues in China through Chinese Canadian community organizations.

Jenny Kwan was first elected to public office in 1993. Since then, Kwan has been the only Chinese Canadian politician to serve at all three levels of government. When she was elected to the city council, she became the youngest city councillor in the history of Vancouver, a record that remains unbroken to this day. In 1996, Kwan was elected as a provincial member of legislature, becoming one of the first two Chinese Canadian members in the British Columbia legislature, alongside Ida Chong. Kwan made history by delivering her first speech in Cantonese and English in the provincial legislature. In 1998, she became the first Chinese person to enter the provincial cabinet as a minister. In 2015, Kwan was elected as a Member of Parliament, and in 2021, she was elected as the caucus chair of the New Democratic Party, becoming the first Chinese Canadian to hold a federal party leadership position. Kwan was also the first Chinese

Canadian Member of Parliament to directly question the Prime Minister in the House of Commons and to receive a response. From the complete absence of voting and citizenship rights for Chinese Canadians, to having a Chinese Canadian MP directly question the Prime Minister in Parliament, this is a milestone in Chinese Canadian political participation. Currently, the Provincial Legislative Building hosts an exhibition titled "100 Years of Women and the Vote," where Jenny Kwan is one of twenty featured women. One would expect an elected official who has repeatedly broken barriers and established important milestones for Chinese Canadian civic participation would be honoured and recognized by a museum celebrating the achievements of the Chinese Canadian community. Instead, this individual with a long and distinguished career in public service was seemingly given the cold shoulder at a museum in the very riding she was elected to represent. In contrast, Wilson Miao, the newly elected Member of Parliament for Richmond, was assigned a seat in the middle of the front row and invited on stage for the unveiling of the federal government plaque.

Concern Group spokesperson, Thekla Lit expressed concerns over the treatment of Jenny Kwan during this significant historical moment for the Chinese Canadian community. Lit emphasized that the Chinese Canadian Museum, with its expressed commitment to “honour the history, contributions, and heritage of Chinese Canadians, while elevating the voices of Chinese Canadians and engaging with voices and communities across this country,” failed to recognize Kwan's contributions and the historic trails she blazed as a Chinese Canadian politician. Instead, she was shunned in front of hundreds of dignitaries and community members. This is particularly disturbing in the current climate where many Canadians are highly concerned about Chinese government infiltration and interference in domestic elections. The public, witnessing this treatment of Jenny Kwan by the Chinese Canadian Museum, cannot help but wonder whether the museum's incongruent actions were a result of foreign infiltration.

Thekla Lit noted, “In terms of seating arrangements, Senator Yuen, who has been suspected of echoing CCP party lines and received criticisms for misusing the Chinese Exclusion Act to oppose the establishment of the Foreign Agents Registration Act, was assigned a seat in the front row center and introduced by the emcee at the museum. By contrast, Jenny Kwan, the Member of Parliament representing Chinatown, who has been serving Chinatown in various capacities for the past 30 years, was not given a designated seat, was not introduced, and was not invited on stage with other MPs for the unveiling of the federal government plaque. If this was not an oversight on the part of the museum, then this drastic diversion from usual protocols raises concerns about whether members of the senior governance of the Chinese Canadian Museum, which is supported by public funding, are actively colluding with the CCP, or if there is direct CCP intervention, to target a politician who is critical of human rights abuses committed by the CCP. Has this event been used to send the message that those who propagate support for the CCP will receive front and centre recognition in the community, while those who raise criticisms of the CCP's human rights abuses, and the erosion of Hong Kong's democracy, will be sidelined?”

Another spokesperson for the Concern Group, Victor Ho, is calling on the provincial government to investigate the matter, stating that this event was an ugly case of serious political interference which infringes upon the dignity of Canada's elected officials. He states, “The Chinese Canadian Museum was initiated by the provincial New Democratic Party government, which invested

nearly 50 million dollars of taxpayers' money into the project, and some members of its board were appointed by the provincial government. The provincial government has a responsibility to ensure that the museum does not become a tool for CCP interference and propaganda.”

Earlier, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) revealed to Jenny Kwan that she is a long-term target for Chinese interference in Canadian politics and elections. Victor Ho stated that last year, Jenny Kwan and the then-mayor Kennedy Stewart were not invited to participate in the Lunar New Year celebrations in Chinatown. The Concern Group also issued a statement at the time criticizing the CCP for using community organizations to target the two individuals. Earlier this year, media reports based on classified information from CSIS indicated that both political figures were targeted by CCP interference. The principal organizer of last year's Lunar New Year celebration, William Ma, the executive president of the Federation of Guangdong Community Organisations, is one of the directors of the Chinese Canadian Museum. Another board member of the museum is Ding Guo, known for frequently expressing views in Chinese-language media that align with CCP propaganda.

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Spokespersons:

Thekla Lit

Victor Ho

Chinese Canadian Concern Group on the Chinese Communist Party's Human Rights Violations

2023年7月10日

新聞發佈

**加拿大華人關注中共違反人權小組發表聲明：
關注組質疑華裔博物館是否已被中共滲透**

籌備經年的華裔歷史博物館日前隆重開幕。開幕典禮在加拿大國慶前一日盛大舉行，溫哥華唐人街片打東街的行車路被封閉，數百名參與開幕禮的嘉賓都坐在博物館門外的行車路上。

當日出席嘉賓包括聯邦部長、卑詩現任及前任省長和多位廳長、溫哥華市長及一眾三級政府議員。大會司儀在開場時介紹政治、社區人物，以及慷慨捐獻給博物館的善長。然而，令很多在場人士驚訝的是，代表華裔博物館身處選區的國會議員關慧貞，當時未得到大會介紹，而當國會議員獲邀上台為聯邦牌匾揭幕時，關慧貞也沒被邀請上台。

就華裔博物館這樣冷待關慧貞，加拿大華人關注中共違反人權小組(下稱關注組)發出新聞稿表達不滿，並且質疑：這是否另一次中共利用華人社區組織針對一位敢於批評人權問題的加拿大政治人物。

自 1993 年首次當選以來，關慧貞是唯一曾經服務三級議會的華裔議員。當年獲選入溫哥華市議會時，她是溫市史上最年輕的市議員，這項紀錄保持至今未打破。關慧貞在 1996 年當選省議員，和張杏芳 (Ida Chong) 是卑詩省首兩位華裔獲選晉身省議會。關慧貞更首次以廣東話在省議會發言，開創本省歷史紀錄。在 1998 年，關慧貞成為首位華人進入卑詩省長內閣出任廳長。2015 年關慧貞獲選為國會議員，2021 年她更獲選為新聯邦新民主黨的黨團主席，是加國史上第一位擔任聯邦政黨領導職位的華人。關慧貞也是第一位華裔國會議員在國會向總理提出質詢並且獲得總理回答。由華人沒有投票及參政權利，到有華裔議員能夠在國會直接向總理提出質詢，這是華人參政的里程碑。目前在卑詩省議會大樓內有《女性從政 100 年》的展覽，在 20 位獲表揚的女性當中，關慧貞是其中一人。

然而，這位理應得到華裔博物館表彰的政治人物，卻在如此重要的典禮上遭到冷待，就連列治文新任國會議員繆宗晏 (Wilson Miao) 也獲安排坐在前排中間，且上台為聯邦政府紀念排華法 100 周年的牌匾揭幕。

關注組發言人列國遠表示，以「加拿大華人經歷的見證……為現在和未來的世代帶來啟發……提升加拿大華人的聲音」為使命的華裔博物館，不單沒有表揚關慧貞的貢獻和她作為華裔參政所開拓的歷史，反在這項加拿大有關華人社群歷史的重要活動中，在數百政要及社區人士面前處處冷待，實在令人不安。她認為，特別在大部分加拿大人都非常關注北京被指滲透及干預加拿大選舉的情勢下，華裔博物館如此對待關慧貞議員，就難免使公眾心生懷疑：卑詩省的華裔博物館是否已遭外國滲透？

列國遠說：「在座位編排上，一直被質疑為中共說項，及被批評濫用排華法來反對設立外國代理人登記法的參議員胡元豹，由華裔博物館安排在最前排中間位置；而連續 30 年為社區服務及代表華埠選區的國會議員關慧貞卻不獲安排特定座位，更沒有得到大會介紹、沒有跟其他國會議員那樣獲邀上台為加拿大政府牌匾揭幕，這是一種極度失禮的安排。如果不是粗心大意，就不得不令人懷疑，究竟這個由公帑資助的華裔博物館管理層，是否有人主動配合外國政治勢力，又或者背後由中共直接干預針對敢於批評北京人權紀錄的國會議員。從而向加拿大公眾宣示，凡為中共說項的可予表揚，凡是敢於批評中共人權紀錄和香港一國兩制被破壞的議員，則會處處受到有形無形的抵制？」

關注組另一發言人何良懋要求省政府亟需盡快作出調查，指今次事件的政治影響十分惡劣，更侵犯了聯邦國會議員的尊嚴。他說：「華裔博物館是省新民主黨政府倡議建造的，卑詩省政府投入近 5 千萬元納稅人金錢，部份董事會成員由省府委任。省政府有重大責任確保博物館不變成任何外國干預目標，更不能淪為附和中共的宣傳工具。」

加拿大安全情報局早前向關慧貞透露，她是中共干預加拿大政治的長期目標。何良懋表示，去年華埠慶祝農曆新年儀式沒有邀請關慧貞和當時的市長甘迺迪參與，關注組也有發表聲明批評中共利用社區團體來針對兩人。今年年初媒體報道安全情報局機密資料時，指

出這兩位政治人物同屬中共干預下所針對的目標。去年農曆新年慶祝活動的主要籌辦者、加拿大廣東社團總會執行會長馬威廉，目前是華裔博物館其中一位董事。博物館另一董事，是在華文媒體經常發表評論附和中共外宣的丁果。

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新聞稿發言人:

列國遠

何良懋

加拿大華人關注中共違反人權小組