

## Early Chinese-Canadians

BIG QUESTION: If Chinese labourers played such a big part in building the CPR, why do we know so little about their history?

Read “The Chinese in Western Canada” handout and answer the following questions:

a) The early Chinese came to Canada to find gold. Why did they stay after the

B.C. gold rushes had died down? \_\_\_\_\_

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b) Why did so few of the Chinese railway workers go back to china after it was

built? \_\_\_\_\_

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c) What other jobs did the Chinese find in western Canada? (name at least two

or three) \_\_\_\_\_

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d) Why did so many Chinese people live in British Columbia? \_\_\_\_\_

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e) Why were there so few Chinese families in Canada until recent times? \_\_\_\_\_

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f) What was the Chinese Head Tax? Why did the government make the Chinese pay this? \_\_\_\_\_

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g) When did the Canadian government apologize for the Chinese Head Tax? \_\_\_\_\_

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h) Why do you think that people resented the Chinese in our early history? \_\_\_\_\_

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i) What kinds of businesses did Chinese residents start in Winnipeg?\_\_\_\_\_

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j) Many Chinese-Canadians were not allowed to vote until after the second world war. Why?\_\_\_\_\_

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k) Answer the BIG QUESTION: If Chinese labourers played such a big part in building the CPR, why do we know so little about their history?\_\_\_\_\_

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**BONUS:**

Look up one or more of the people listed below and explain their significance in Canadian history.

Olivia Chow

Norman Kwong

Adrienne Clarkson

Dorothy Choy

Inky Mark