

\$2.50

# PACIFIC RIM

1999

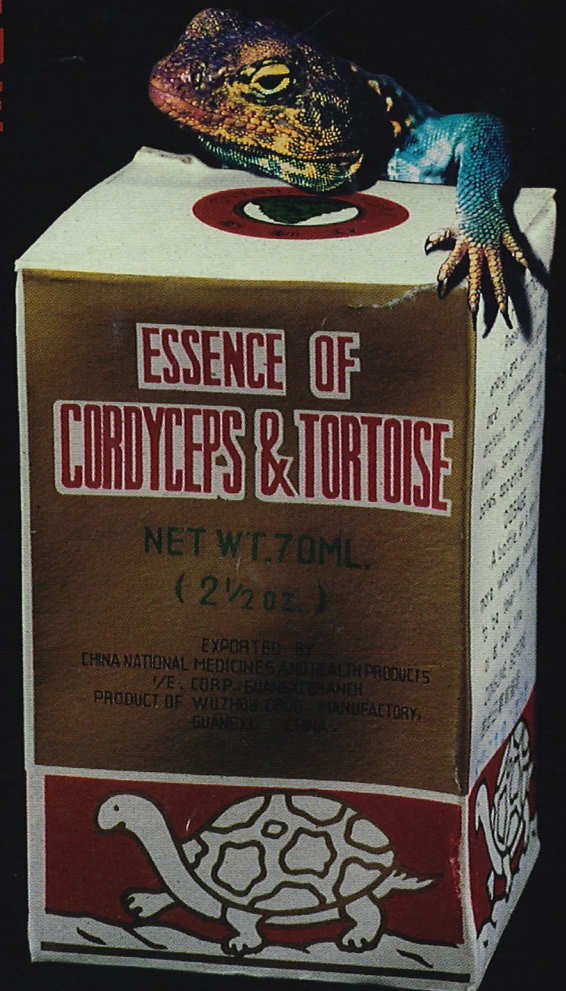
M A G A Z I N E

## THE SLITHERING TRADE

The Secret Life of  
Black Market Reptiles

## TALES OF B.C. TIMBER

From Gabriola's Posts and  
Beams to Japan's Building  
Booms and Busts



LANGARA  
COLLEGE

Hockey Night in Japan • West Coast Shipwrecks • 2000 Reasons to Party  
East Timor Revisited • The New Voice of Immersion • Kurosawa's Film Empire



# EXXTREME QUALITY

Enjoy life to the maxx - with laser eye surgery



**738-EYES**

( 7 3 8 - 3 9 3 7 )

## Exximer Quality Medical Care

"As university students we need value and quality at a price we can afford. At Exximer our questions were answered fully, we never felt rushed or pressured and our results are terrific!. Exximer was the best decision we ever made. Freedom at last."

- Maureen and Carolyn Lester (University Students) Vancouver, BC



Exximer. With You Every Step Of The Way.



FINANCING  
AVAILABLE

Laser Eye Surgery  
**\$1,999**

for both eyes  
no additional fees

\*Exximer reserves the right to change the price at any time

1308 WEST 8TH AVENUE VANCOUVER / WEBSITE: WWW.EXXIMER.COM

TEL: 604.738.3937 / TOLL FREE: 1-877-767-2020



The Lester twins treated by Dr. Hollands. (eye surgeon) 15 years experience.

EXXIMER VISION LASER CENTER



# Messages from Pacific Rim Magazine

## EDITORS

You are holding the best of our efforts. Through the trial of publishing a magazine from start to finish, we have tested ourselves as individuals and as a group. As to our success: We will let the magazine speak for us.

If one thing distinguishes the contents of this issue from previous ones, it is our balanced editorial mix.

This issue has a little something for everyone: from stories in good humour to investigative pieces; from features with local relevance to those with global significance. We have aimed for editorial content to reflect B.C.'s intricate relationship with the Pacific Rim.

We thank Elizabeth Rains for her guidance,

Michael Lee for his heart and vision, and Kevin McMillan for his charm and complete indispensability.

A good deal of communication and goodwill has gone into our magazine—and while we have had our due share of compromise the result has been a better magazine: one with high production values, stories and images that we are proud to share. As editors, we are indebted to the meticulous efforts of our art, production and advertising departments. Without them, *Pacific Rim Magazine* would be nothing but unpublished words. Thanks, and enjoy.

NATHAN RUSSELL, PENNY CHOLMONDELEY,  
RONNIE M. FUENTES, CHARLES MACURDY, EDITORS

## PUBLISHER

When I took this job, a question entered my mind. I wondered whether 25 students, fresh to the publishing game, could produce a graphically pleasing magazine that would attract readers with its content.

Now the question has been answered. The students not only produced an outstanding publication, but they exercised judgment, discipline and innovation in creating it. They took words, photos and raw ideas through a multitude of publishing tasks. They fashioned this professional-quality magazine, and they did it smiling.

And I'm all smiles at viewing their success.

I'm also smiling when I think of the instructors who guided the students through the publishing process and of the many volunteers who contributed to it. Students from the Marketing and Sales Program, the Professional Photo-Imaging Program and the Library Technician Program were indispensable and deserve a big thank-you. My appreciation goes out to Sales Manager Keith Murray, who took on probably the toughest volunteer position, overseeing the collaboration among Sales students, Publishing students and busy advertisers. Another huge thank-you goes to Publishing instructors Michael Lee, Giselle Lemay and Janet Russell for their unflagging dedication to the program and its students. Thanks also go to computer wizard Kevin McMillan, who made sure our digital files were secure, and Mel Fearman, Building Services Manager, whose staff made the whole college, including our Mac lab, secure.

There are many more people I'd like to add to this list, but that would make it as long as the masthead—and we've got the longest masthead in town. So please read through the names on page 6. You might notice someone you know. You will definitely see the names of a wonderful bunch of people who put their hearts into bringing you this magazine.

ELIZABETH RAINS, PUBLISHER

## PRESIDENT

While the students of the Publishing: Techniques and Technologies Program were preparing this issue, a special event occurred. It was the fifth birthday of Langara College. When the college became independent, five years ago on April 1, the chair of the Vancouver Community College Board presented a plaque to Langara College to mark its birth. The plaque contained this sentiment:

And when old words die out on the tongue,  
New melodies break forth from the heart;  
And where the old tracks are lost  
New country is revealed with its wonders!

The wonders of this college, including its excellence in teaching and its responsiveness to the community, have grown over the past five years. The Publishing: Techniques and Technologies Program is an example of that growth, and you have in your hand only one of the program's achievements: a magazine the college is extremely proud of. This is the 11th issue of *Pacific Rim Magazine* and the third issue created by publishing students. A job well done!

Growth and change go hand-in-hand and there have been changes in the Publishing Program. Richard Hopkins, whose dedication and insight helped the program through its first two years, retired last summer. Elizabeth Rains, formerly managing editor of *The Capilano Review*, is now the program coordinator, and two new instructors, Cindy Young and Matthew Anderson, have just started teaching in the program. Welcome to them.

And welcome to you, the reader. This *Pacific Rim Magazine* will be the last issue of the 20th century, and it points the way toward the new millennium. May you enjoy both the magazine and the century to come.

LINDA HOLMES, PRESIDENT



# 12 18 23 26 comt

## Features

### 8 Birth of a Genre

*Asian Canadian authors write their way to recognition.*  
by Sylvia Yu

### 10 Behind the Seams

*A local fashion designer is reaping the benefits of what she has sewn.*  
by Gabrielle Yumul

### 12 Loyal to Country

*A museum opens to honour Chinese Canadian veterans who fought for social acceptance.*  
by Christine Fairburn

### 14 The New Voice of Immersion

*An alternative to the French Immersion Program is opening new doors in second language education.*  
by Penny Cholmondeley

### 18 The Art of Strategy

*After more than 2,000 years, Sun-Tzu's The Art of War may be the most influential book on resolving conflicts in the business world today.*  
by Brent Evans-Campbell

### 23 Akira Kurosawa: Passing of the Emperor

*The late Japanese film director's name is obscure to some, but his movies inspired the likes of Spielberg, Scorsese and Coppola.*  
by Larry vanKampen

### 26 East Timor: Moving Towards an Uncertain Future

*A year after Suharto's resignation, the fate of East Timor still hangs in the balance.*  
by Nathan Russell

### 32 More Than Skin Deep

*Reptiles as curios, food, pets and aphrodisiacs. No wonder the black market reptile trade is third only to weapons and drugs.*  
by Ronnie M. Fuentes

### 36 B.C. Lumber Building Japan

*When the eastern U.S. market dried up for the province's forest industry, B.C.'s wood producers found a market farther east: the Far East.*  
by Michael Colombara

### 40 Of Posts and Beams

*The Island School of Building Arts teaches how to build houses using modular posts and beams and recycled materials.*  
by Lynn O'Rourke



# 32 40 46 e n t s

## 44 Hockey Night in Japan

*The NHL scores big on Japanese ice with the first-ever regular season games played outside of North America.*

by Charles Macurdy

## 46 Hosting 2000 with Style

*Party like Bill Gates with expert advice from überhostess Pat Rekert and caterer extraordinaire Lesley Stowe.*

by Stephanie M. Morris

## 50 Shipwrecks of the West Coast Trail

*Before it became popular with hikers, the Ship's Graveyard was notorious for its maritime disasters.*

by Tim French

## 54 The Story of Tea

*The Chinese have extolled its nutritional and therapeutic effects for centuries. Now, Westerners are learning how tea enhances comfort and health.*

by Elisa Fung

## 57 Three Stories of Gastronomic Proportions

*What's for lunch or dinner? Three restaurant reviews to whet your appetite.*

by Dennis Chui, Charles Macurdy and Michael Colombara

## 61 Olympic Airs

*Snowboarders Lori Glazier and Derek Heidt talk about their emotional roller-coaster ride in Nagano.*

by Meghan Reid



54



57



61



## Fact Sheets

17 Japan and China

22 Hong Kong and Thailand

31 Indonesia and the Philippines

43 Malaysia and Singapore

60 South Korea and Taiwan



## Your burglar alarm is triggered!

If there is no immediate response, what service is it providing?

PROVIDENT SECURITY's alarm response service guarantees that your burglar alarm gets the attention it deserves.

MAXIMIZE your alarm's effect with the only security patrol company dedicated to Vancouver's Westside. When your alarm sounds PROVIDENT will be there. Immediately.

Call **664-1087** for your community security solutions

**PROVIDENT SECURITY**  
Security & Event Management

# PACIFIC RIM

## M A G A Z I N E

### CONTRIBUTORS

MANAGING EDITOR	Penny Cholmondeley	PRODUCTION DIRECTOR	Michael Colombara
EXECUTIVE EDITOR	Nathan Russell	ASSOCIATE PRODUCTION DIRECTOR	Meghan Reid
SENIOR EDITOR	Ronnie M. Fuentes	PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS	Tracy-anne Chung Mark Simon
ASSOCIATE EDITOR	Charles Macurdy	FACT SHEET DESIGNERS/EDITORS	Brent Evans-Campbell Christine Fairburn Lynn O'Rourke
EDITORIAL RESEARCHER	Michael Colombara	AD TRAFFIC MANAGER	Suet-man Lee
ART DIRECTOR	Larry vanKampen	ASSISTANT AD TRAFFIC MANAGER	Elisa Fung
ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR	Matthew Searcy	SENIOR AD DESIGNERS	Stephanie M. Morris Raakhi Patel
ASSISTANT ART DIRECTORS	Roberto Bruzzese Lisa Martyn	AD COPYWRITERS	Elisa Fung Suet-man Lee Stephanie M. Morris
IMAGING AND DESIGN SPECIALIST	Rosi Petkova	AD DESIGNERS	Michael Colombara Christine Fairburn Suet-man Lee Lynn O'Rourke Rosi Petkova Meghan Reid Gabrielle Yumul
PHOTO EDITOR	Tim French		
ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR	Gabrielle Yumul		
SENIOR DESIGNERS/PRODUCTION ARTISTS	Dennis Chui Michelle Doyle Stamatina Goritsas Tim French Charles Macurdy Stephanie M. Morris Lynn O'Rourke Rosi Petkova Meghan Reid		
DESIGNERS			

#### AD SALES

Trini Chen, Derrick Chow, Yasmin Dar, Emily Dehlic, Ranjit Dhaliwal, Michael Felstein, Elisa Fung, Brandon Gardiner, Stewart Hope, Vivian Hui, Mena Iun, Jeanneth Jacome, Aman Kallu, Andrew Laurie, Faisal Manji, Tracie McLaren, Keith Murray, Lynn O'Rourke, Michelle Rasmussen, Janice Sandvik, Rob Sears, Trang Vo, Li Yang, Aouda Yen, David Yoo

#### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Naddia Beierle, Elaine Briere, Roberto Bruzzese, Rick Butler, Christine Dellosso, Gregor Duffey, James Fee, Nicole Harrison, Roger Mahler, Lisa Martyn, Brent Matsuda, Mark Mauthner, Claudia Molina, Jennie Moore, Dano Pendency, Jennifer Poohachoff, Alain Raoul, Loveen Sandhu, Paul Shoebridge, Trevor Smith, Alex Thompson, Larry vanKampen

#### ILLUSTRATORS

James Crockett, Michelle Doyle, Peter Lau, Davide Merino

#### FACT SHEET RESEARCHERS

Hazel Barnbrook, Kathy Barry, Vanessa Brown, Elizabeth Byrne, Tom Chavez, Karen Dawson, Kate Farquhar, Briana Fraser, To Fong To, Ken Laing, Alana Mascali, Janette McConville, Karen McKay, Nancy Morgan, Bev Morris, Louise Quo Vadis, Brandon Ranu, Berle Sands, Nora Schubert, Fakhri Tafreshi, Kate Van Dusen, Joanne Weyman, Charleen Wiebe

## MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

PUBLISHER Elizabeth Rains  
MANAGING PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Michael K.W. Lee  
MANAGING ART DIRECTOR Giselle Lemay  
MANAGING AD PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Janet Russell

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR Linda Holmes  
Linda Arnold  
Michael K.W. Lee  
Keith Murray  
Scott Plear  
Elizabeth Rains

AD SALES MANAGER Keith Murray  
COMPUTER AND NETWORK CONSULTANT Kevin McMillan

#### SUPPORT

Anne Calla  
Mel Fearman  
Nabil Ghani  
Jim Goard  
Catherine O'Brien-Bell  
Library and Media Services  
Information and Computing Services  
Langara College Security Staff

**PALM SPRING**  
EXECUTIVE CLUB

Rated #1 Sauna Club in N. America

11/F (Penthouse) Radisson Hotel & Suites  
8181 Cambie Road, Richmond, BC  
Tel (604) 273-8361 noon to 2:00 am daily





**COVER PHOTOS**  
courtesy of Customs Canada,  
Brent Matsuda, and Mark Mauthner

**COVER DESIGN**  
Larry vanKampen, Matthew Searcy,  
Lisa Martyn, Roberto Bruzzese,  
Rosi Petkova

PACIFIC RIM MAGAZINE is published by  
Langara College  
100 West 49th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 2Z6

Tel (604) 323-5430  
Fax (604) 323-5555  
<http://www.langara.bc.ca/prm>

© 1999 All rights remain with the  
writers, photographers, illustrators  
and designers.

Special thanks to our colleagues  
at Langara College for their  
generous aid in the production of  
this magazine.

PACIFIC RIM MAGAZINE artwork was  
designed and produced on Power  
Macintosh 7200 and 8600  
computers using Microsoft Word  
6.0, QuarkXPress Passport™ 4.0,  
Adobe Photoshop™ 4.0 and Adobe  
Illustrator 6.0® Body copy is set in  
9.5/11 pt. Caslon 224. Photographs  
were scanned on Polaroid  
SprintScan 45 and Epson ES-1200C  
scanners. PRM uses a combination  
of 60lb. and 45lb. paper stock. Film  
outputting and magazine printing  
was done by Mitchell Press in  
Vancouver. Special thanks to Xerox  
and Adobe for their donations.

ISSN 0847-4745

artschool.com

3264 Beta Ave., Burnaby, BC, Canada V5G 4K4 - Center for Digital Imaging and Sound

**CDIS**

**Recording Arts**

**Film and TV  
Special FX**

**3D Animation**

**New Media**

**Video Game  
Development**

**Web Design**

**register (604) 298 5400  
now 1 800 661 1885**

**Food  
Decomposer  
Machines**

**dh**

漢東環保科技股份有限公司

**Han-Dong  
Environmental Ltd.**

16F, No. 229, Hsin-Tai Road,  
Hsin-chung City,  
Taipei Hsien, Taiwan, R.O.C.  
Tel: 011-886-2-2762400

Free Continental Buffet Breakfast Free Local Telephone Calls

**Two Great Locations,  
One Big Saving**

**Quality Inn**

**Quality Inn & Suites Metrotown**

725 S.E. Marine Drive  
Vancouver, BC

3484 Kingsway  
Vancouver, BC

Stopover Packages  
In Room Coffee/Tea  
Free Movie Channel  
Airport Shuttle  
Home of: Zesty Café,  
Hippo's Sports Bar, Town &  
Country Bowl and the  
Grand Casino

Suites with Living Room &  
Sofa Bed  
Outdoor Swimming Pool  
(seasonal)  
Business Centre  
Home of: Jaguar's Pub and  
Steakhouse

Toll Free Reservations call  
**1-800-663-6715**  
[www.airmetro.com](http://www.airmetro.com)

Toll Free Reservations call  
**1-888-228-2111**  
[www.airmetro.com](http://www.airmetro.com)

Free Continental Buffet Breakfast Free Local Telephone Calls

Hair Dryers Data Ports/Voice Mail Free Secured Parking



by Sylvia Yu

# Birth of a genre

Before Asian Canadian writing was considered a genre unto itself, Jim Wong-Chu went over UBC's library stacks with a fine-tooth comb, looking up literary magazines dating back 10 to 20 years. His mission in 1989 was to map all of the Asian Canadian writers and their material to compile them into an anthology of Asian Canadian literature. "I was humbled to find more than 100 writers, instead of the 20 or so Asian writers I expected," says Wong-Chu. Taking the 20 best works, Wong-Chu and co-editor Bennett Lee published an anthology called *Many Mouthed Birds*. The publishing of this anthology created the phenomenon of Asian Canadian writing that exists today.

The idea for an anthology came during the heady 1960s, when Jim Wong-Chu and a group of young Asian Canadians began to explore their identities. That exploration took them back to their roots and ignited a desire to express who they were as Canadians of Asian descent. Wong-Chu, one of the founders of the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop (ACWW) and a well-respected mentor, says they are still pioneering every step of the way. When they started, they were in a desert; hardly anything reflected their culture. The library's card catalogue didn't use "Chinese Canadian literature" or "Asian Canadian literature" as subject headings. Wong-Chu's formidable task was to, in the shortest possible time, create an awareness of Asian Canadian writing.

**Jim Wong-Chu:**  
A founder of  
the Asian  
Canadian Writers'  
Workshop.



**While Asian Canadian authors produce a body of literature for their bi-cultural identity, the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop is fostering, coaching and promoting a new generation of wordsmiths.**

The anthology that is now used as a standard text in school systems took a courageous effort and risk to create. "We didn't want to have Canadian literature critics pat us on the head and say 'this is a nice effort, but it isn't literature,'" says Wong-Chu. They wanted to create something that would pass the test of the critics. They not only passed the test, they created an anthology that became a point of departure for now-established Asian Canadian writers such as S.K.Y. Lee, Larissa Lai and Wayson Choy. The collection was prestigious enough that publishers contacted these writers for future contracts. Choy went on to publish his novel *Jade Peony*, and Wong-Chu published a book of poetry called *Chinatown Ghosts*.

Publishers are now very receptive of new Asian writers, a success Wong-Chu attributes to the prestigious awards those authors received. Among the ACWW pioneers, S.K.Y. Lee, Choy and Paul Yee have received the Vancouver Book Prize. Asian Canadian writers Hiromi Goto and Kerry Sakamoto have won the Commonwealth prize, while Evelyn Lau was nominated for a Governor General's Award and Fred Wah won one with his book of poetry *Waiting for Saskatchewan*. "It's a very unusual phenomenon," says Wong-Chu, who still hasn't figured out whether these books are popular as novelties or as pieces of literature in their own right.

Today, Asian Canadian writers play a much larger role in Canadian literature than they did 30 years ago, says Ron Hatch, a professor of literature at the University of British Columbia and director of Ronsdale Press. "They need to be represented and it took a long time. It wasn't until the '60s that they began to be published," Hatch says. Asian Canadian writers are also being studied at the university level. The literature is popular because it offers a direct transcription of the Asian Canadian experience. As an example, Hatch points to the conflict between Japanese and



Chinese communities expressed in Choy's *Jade Peony*.

What began as an outlet of expression more than 20 years ago for Wong-Chu and other young Asian Canadians, has since evolved into the ACWW, a supportive network of Asian Canadian literary talent across Canada. Surprisingly, the concept of the ACWW evolved from an idea about community, rather than a focus on writing.

Wong-Chu, S.K.Y. Lee and Yee and their close group of friends met intermittently and started to examine their own history after encountering the radical ideas of visiting Asian American academics and cultural workers. They explored the idea of developing a public consciousness and understanding their cultural roots. Wong-Chu says that was the basis for how most of their endeavours came about. These friends became the founding members of the ACWW.

Wong-Chu and others helped develop an award winning English-language Chinese radio program called *Pender Guy* from 1976 to 1981 (*Guy* is phonetic for "street" in Chinese). Still others went into community-organizing and established Asian Canadian Coalitions in their search to find their voice. Through the radio and through documenting history and people, they learned a lot about history and the intricacies of the Asian Canadian community.

As for the label "Asian Canadian" and what that means: "It's ironic because we're hyphenated still in this society and a lot of people question why we want to identify ourselves," says Wong-Chu. "But if we don't take that step backwards, we can't take a step forward." Ultimately, most writers do not want to be known as hyphenated writers—they want to be known as Canadian writers. Wong-Chu believes that, at some point, this will happen. Already, things have changed a lot in the 10 to 15 years since the handful of published Asian writers were little spikes in the spectrum of Canadian writing.

The ACWW is dedicated to presenting a local cultural context in Asian Canadian literature. "A context that says we're here, this is us, we're Canadian, but this is the difference," says Wong-Chu. Asian Canadian writers bring a perspective to common life experiences, but they're still distinct perspectives. That's why the movie *Joy Luck Club* was so widely accepted and understood. The concept of the mother-daughter relationship is no different than those of Italian, Jewish or Ukrainian family situations.

About six years ago, many people sought out the ACWW, and from a dozen people, the group grew to 70 members in a year's time. The ACWW soon needed more structure and the informal writers' workshop evolved into a non-profit organization.

In 1997, the group established the Emerging Writer's Award. According to Wong-Chu, it came out of an idea "that we needed to do something tangible." The award serves as a magnet that attracts manuscripts. Even the ones that don't win help place the other manuscripts. "We needed a mechanism to collect them, and it's an incentive," says Wong-Chu.

The incentive was the catalyst for Rita Wong, who published her first poetry book, *Monkey Puzzle*, after winning the 1997 Emerging Writers' Award. For Wong, a doctorate student at Simon Fraser University, the incentive was a "good kick in the butt to send in my manuscript."

The ACWW's virtual bookstore came out of a crisis within the publishing community when the books were not selling. "We did a bit of a survey and we found that most Asians don't go looking for Asian books in bookstores. In bookstores you don't have an Asian section," says Wong-Chu. They formed the virtual bookstore as a solution to this quandary, and became their own book wholesaler.

The ACWW publishes a quarterly magazine called *Rice Paper*, which is the only Asian Canadian literary arts magazine. Throughout the year, the ACWW hosts literary readings, seminars and workshops. For two years they sponsored Go-For-Broke, a literary and performing arts festival that proved to be more of a financial burden than a showcase for Pacific Rim talent. Now, most of the readings and workshops take place in the Canada-wide Asian Heritage Month each May.

When the workshop becomes strong enough to support itself, Wong-Chu plans to take a step back and let others take over. He has other things he would like to do as well. His current book is based on his community and spectral Chinatown beings. "They may be ghosts or spirits or fictional realities," says Wong-Chu. "I want to create a whole new mythology. Without myths, legends and role models a culture cannot sustain itself." For Wong-Chu, the world of myths and tradition, that's the next level.

*The Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop can be found online at [www.asian.ca](http://www.asian.ca). Its virtual bookstore ([www.asian.ca/books](http://www.asian.ca/books)) lists over 100 titles by Asian Canadian authors. ■*

**PIONEER**  
Rainwear  
keeping  
you dry  
since 1887

THE PIONEER RUBBER COMPANY LTD.

For the dealer in your area

**Phone: (604) 517-1195**

**Fax: (604) 517-1196**

Pacific Rim  
9



**W a l i a**  
Insurance Agencies Ltd.

Joginder S. Ahluwalia

Pager No. 450-2010

email [joginder@hotmail.com](mailto:joginder@hotmail.com)

Head Office

9379-120th Street  
Delta, BC V4C 6R9  
Tel 588-6141  
Fax 588-6957

#904-7380 King George  
Highway  
Surrey, BC V3W 5A5  
Tel 599-9293  
Fax 543-6181

2-12830 96th Avenue  
Surrey, BC V3V 6A8  
Tel 588-7188  
Fax 581-6613

**Autoplan**

House · Life · Mortgage · Travel





# Behind the Seams

Fashion designer Yumi Eto marries traditional couture and modern manufacturing to take her collection to the next level.

by Gabrielle Yumul

As architects of style and trend, fashion designers set the standards for posh culture and high society. For the few who have achieved success beyond basement bargain stores, there is heavy pressure and criticism. Vancouver-based designer Yumi Eto, owner of E.T.O. Clothes Ltd., has recently become one of the newest players in the fashion industry.

Eto's company has signed an exclusive and lucrative deal with the established New York retailer Barneys. Her collection will be in good company, sharing the floor with Yoji Yamamoto and Comme des Garçons. While success is not new for Eto—she has been sought by Madonna's wardrobe stylist, performer Diahann Carroll and Canada's upscale Holt Renfrew—things are now looking up for her. Her move to the fourth floor of Barneys is a definite honour, due to the floor's devotion to elite merchandise.

At 30, Eto has brought a wealth of diversity, education and experience to the collections. Her beginnings as a hair and wig stylist helped her develop an eye for balance, silhouette and proportion. And her stint as a costume restorer for museums and private collections fueled her fascination for the needle arts. Eto graduated in 1989 from Vancouver's own Helen Lefeaux School of Fashion Design and spent the following five years apprenticing with the European couturière Madame Lefeaux. Now, Eto has a reputation as an exquisite designer, one whose fine arts and technical background define her place in the fashion world. She views her products as unique; her designs reflect how living in Vancouver has let her feel comfortably removed from an industry known for its excesses. "We are determined to remain out of the fashion loop, and continue our commitment to the creation of a product



distinct in its innovation, elegance and workmanship," explains Eto.

She approaches fashion more as an artist than a designer. Her shapes are generally simple in form, but her ornate fittings give her pieces courtly sophistication and meticulous appearance. Working with silk gazar, silk noil, silk organza, wool faille and wool crêpe, she sews across the surface of her fabrics to add texture.

For other pieces, she uses a cutwork technique to add pattern. Petal skirts and dresses are made from double-layered organza sewn to create the look of flower petals. Her signature petal work took two years to master. Prices begin at \$950 for trousers, with more elaborate dresses costing up to \$6,000. Her collection appeals to women who share an appreciation for innovative and elegant design, superior craftsmanship and luxurious fabrics.

To contact E.T.O. Clothes Ltd., phone (604) 689-8320. ■



photos courtesy of Yumi Eto; design by Lisa Martyn



CONTINUING STUDIES

## International Communication

### English Language Institute

Since 1969, we have provided high quality English language training for individuals and groups. Our variety of full-time offerings include a 12-week Intensive English program as well as short courses for conversational, academic or professional purposes. Call (604) 822-1550 or view [www.eli.cstudies.ubc.ca](http://www.eli.cstudies.ubc.ca)

### Language Programs and Services

*French, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Arabic, Punjabi, Greek, Swedish and Russian*

From beginner to advanced levels, our programs are taught by outstanding second language professionals and include part-time evening and daytime conversational courses, language and culture courses, Spring and Summer immersion programs on campus, and language immersion abroad.

Call (604) 822-0800 or view [www.languages.cstudies.ubc.ca](http://www.languages.cstudies.ubc.ca)

### Centre for Intercultural Communication

Make the most of your time and resources by providing the knowledge and skills needed to communicate and work effectively in multicultural and international environments. Offerings include briefings for international assignments, customized training and the UBC Certificate in Intercultural Studies.

Call (604) 822-1437 or view [cic.cstudies.ubc.ca](http://cic.cstudies.ubc.ca)

Pacific Rim  
II

## Harold T. Hope Investment Services Ltd.

### Specialists in

#### RRSP Registered Retirement Savings Plans

Save for your retirement today. An RRSP plan is a tax deductible investment which provides an accumulated tax-free income until the funds are withdrawn.

#### RESP Registered Education Savings Plan

A savings plan that allows for accumulation and growth of tax-sheltered contributions for your child's or grandchild's education. There are no tax deductions available with this plan, but you can withdraw original contributions at any time without penalty.

#### RRIF Registered Retirement Income Fund

Before you turn 70, and your RRSP matures, a RRIF provides a tax shelter plan without incurring tax on the transfer. It allows for the continuation of tax-free growth and provides regular income during the retirement years.

Reach for the Sky!

The Royal Bank Building  
816-675 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC V6B 1N2  
Phone: 682-6681 Fax: 682-4098  
Toll-Free (BC only) 1-800-563-4673



# Loyal to

**When Chinese Canadian veterans came home from World War II, they had fought for Canada despite its legacy of prejudice towards them. Now, veterans of Pacific Unit 280 have built a monument to the battles Chinese Canadians fought abroad—and at home.**

by Christine Fairburn

Pacific Rim  
12



On Nov. 7, 1998, the Chinese Canadian Military Museum held its opening ceremony. Two hundred people of all nationalities gathered to commemorate the museum's inauguration and honour the Chinese Canadian men and women who served in Canada's armed forces. Located in Chinatown's Chinese Cultural Centre, the new exhibit is the first of its kind in Canada. The new museum, its daily operation and its annual displays are under the administration of Saintfield Wong, director of the already-existing Museum and Archives at the Chinese Cultural Centre. The construction of the exhibit itself enlisted David Cunningham of the Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia. For the most part, however, the military museum is the project of Chinese Canadian veterans—the members of Pacific Unit 280 in particular.

Howe Lee, president of the new military museum, retired from the Army in 1987 and is one of the members of Pacific Unit 280. "We first talked about it three years ago," says Lee. "There was some resistance and difficulty in pulling the unit together after 50 years apart. It was not until the new year that a few of us got together to discuss the beginnings of a military museum specifically for Chinese Canadians. We wanted to start this project in order to educate future generations and to remember those who made a contribution to Canadian history." The Military Museum Society's motto is "Loyal to Country." "In war we all served together, so shoulder to shoulder we'll work on this project," says Bing Wong, a fellow member of Pacific Unit 280, and a prime mover in organizing and promoting the military museum.

Pacific Unit 280 was initiated in 1947, when Chinese veterans from Vancouver returned from World War II and wished to stay affiliated. Two national veterans groups exist in Canada: the Royal Canadian Legion and the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans of Canada. About 70 men applied to the Royal Canadian Legion for a branch, but were rejected. Some veterans felt the rejection had a lot to do with the discrimination many non-Caucasians received at the time. The men then applied to the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans of Canada and were given the charter to form a unit, known today as Pacific Unit 280.

The military museum represents another branch in the history of Chinese Canadians—a history with roots that reach back into the mid-1800s. Chinese immigration to Vancouver started during the late 1850s, when many young, single men came from China to join the gold rush along the Fraser River. The B.C. government discouraged the immigrants from the outset, and in 1872 the British Columbia Qualification of Voters Act was passed, disqualifying Chinese and other minorities from voting. Regardless, the next wave of immigration came in the 1880s, during the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. At this time Vancouver became home to many Chinese residents, and Chinatown began to establish itself. Upon completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885, however, anti-Chinese sentiment surged, leading to the federal government-levied head tax of \$50 that same year. By 1903 the head tax had been raised to \$500.

top: Harry Ho and  
Victor Louie in Meerut,  
India 1946.

bottom right: Chinese  
Canadian veterans  
returned from war  
with extraordinary  
stories to tell.



# Country

B.C.'s policy of racism continued well into this century. Even in the early 1940s and several years into the Second World War, the armed forces rejected Chinese men as volunteers. Yet at the time, progressive Chinese community groups encouraged the men to continue volunteering, hoping that persistence might change discriminatory policies. Chinatown community leaders like Roy Mah, founding publisher of the *Chinatown News*, argued that if Chinese men fought for Canada, upon their return they could demand citizenship and the right to vote. There was reason to believe this would work; two decades earlier, after World War I, a dozen Chinese Canadian veterans had won the vote.

Canadian reluctance to accept Chinese Canadian volunteers eventually succumbed under pressure from England, and a need for troops finally led to the active recruitment of Chinese Canadians. Eastern Canada became the first to enlist new minority recruits, with the western provinces being the last to respond. Within the armed forces, acceptance of the Asian soldiers also went by degrees. The Air Force was the first to open up recruitment to Chinese Canadians, followed by the Navy and finally the Army.

However, as the museum's displays show, Chinese Canadian troops, once admitted, fulfilled a vital purpose for the Allies. One group became part of a suicide mission, code-named Operation Oblivion. Twelve Chinese Canadians and one British officer were trained in the Okanagan's Goose Bay and later in Australia for the secret military operation. They parachuted into Southeast Asia behind enemy lines with little hope for survival. To everyone's surprise, all of the men returned. Four were awarded medals. Later missions included larger numbers of Chinese Canadians. Over 250 Chinese Canadians joined Japanese Canadian and French Canadian

personnel to become Force 136, Special Operation Executive (SOE), a group of secret agents for military intelligence working in India.

The Chinese Canadian Military Museum features only a few of the extraordinary stories Chinese Canadian servicemen have to tell about their experiences during the war. Some accounts, like that of Sergeant Roy Chan, are decidedly exotic. A Chinese Canadian from Victoria, Chan was sent to Borneo where he lived with native head-hunters and learned how to use deadly blowpipes to fight off the attacking Japanese. He became one of Operation Oblivion's decorated commandos.

Altogether, over 600 Chinese Canadians served in the Army, Navy and Air Force during World War II. The role these veterans had in improving the status of B.C.'s Chinese Canadian community is a prominent one. Once the war was over, they formed groups to lobby Ottawa to recognize their status as legitimate Canadian citizens. In 1945, Chinese Canadian veterans were granted the vote, but it took another four years before British Columbia conceded and gave all Chinese Canadians the right to vote.

The Chinese Canadian Military Museum is the newest in a handful of tributes that honour B.C.'s Chinese Canadian veterans and the sacrifices they made, and Lee has been on board for several of them. Before his role as the museum society's president he was an important influence in the 1988 renaming of Goose Bay to Commando Bay in memory of the troops of Operation Oblivion.

*The Chinese Canadian Military Museum's exhibits have been donated by the veterans and their families, and new pieces are displayed annually. Housed in the Chinese Cultural Centre, the military museum is located in Vancouver's Chinatown at 555 Columbia St. For more information phone 687-0282. ■*





# The New Voice of Immersion

**How one Vancouver school is expanding the scope of second language education.**

by Penny Cholmondeley

Something special is tacked up alongside the paper-bag puppets and construction-paper flowers that decorate the walls of Dr. Annie B. Jamieson School. Created with crayons and felt markers, beautifully illustrated poetry is on display. In many ways it is like the art found in other Vancouver elementary schools. Yet there is a difference. On a number of the Jamieson school projects, Chinese characters sit side by side with English text. They both recite the same poem, perhaps about the beauty of a tree or the sky.

These poems reflect a hybrid of cultures, like Jamieson itself. Jamieson's Mandarin Immersion Program is opening new doors in second language education by offering an alternative to French immersion. Designed for non-Mandarin speaking students, the program represents Vancouver's expanding connection to the Pacific Rim. The official language of Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia and the People's Republic of China, Mandarin is also spoken by many Vancouverites. School principal John Barton believes students benefit from exposure to such an important language (Mandarin is spoken by more people in the world than any other language). At Jamieson, students learn to speak Mandarin, and to read and write Pinyin and Chinese characters. According to Barton, who oversees the program, this unique opportunity exists because of the perseverance of dedicated parents and teachers.

"Out of parent discussions, we realized there were a lot of people who liked the idea of children acquiring a second language through an immersion program," says Barton. "But they weren't necessarily wanting French." Based on a French immersion model, the program divides instruction time equally between English and Mandarin. In order to reassure parents that their child's progress in English will not be jeopardized, the school is careful to only admit children with strong English skills.

Barton believes this cautious approach is the wisest one. This attentiveness gives teachers flexibility when adapting and fine-tuning the program. New students also have more time to acclimatize to a language that has a very different structure and organization from the English language. Just learning the unfamiliar tones of the Mandarin language can be a tricky process for beginners.

Barton is candid with the parents and children he meets during the application process. The program is not for everyone, he tells them. He also explains that the program will not necessarily make students fluent in Mandarin. Instead, the focus is on developing communication skills and enriching the child's personal growth. Learning a second language can give the students a competitive advantage later in life, whether in educational pursuits or in their careers. They achieve an extra skill and the ability to communicate with a broader range of people. He believes these elements entice parents to enroll their children in the program.

Despite strong support and interest from parents and teachers, the program has experienced problems. The Vancouver School Board approved the program on the condition that there would be no additional cost to the board. "Quite honestly, the program has been run out of Jamieson without a lot of school board support," Barton says, shaking his head. "Part of my job is to get the school board to take over ownership of the program, to try and get more resources and support, and get them to look at it as any other immersion program."

Finding resources and support has proven difficult. While French immersion programs enjoy translations of up-to-date teaching resources, the same is not true for Mandarin immersion. According to Barton, the appropriate supplies and resources just do not exist in many cases. He credits the Mandarin immersion teachers with finding solutions that over-



唱歌 - sing

打冰球 - play hockey

滑雪 - ski

拉小提琴 - play violin

踢足球 - play soccer

"I was surprised to find that quite often it's the child's choice to come into the program."

Flora Chen, teacher

g ㄅ k  
h ㄆ j  
q ㄊ x  
zh ㄓ ch



come this major obstacle. "Our teachers have had to do a lot of digging. Just identifying and acquiring suppliers and resources has been a major job. They've done it, but it's taken a lot of extra work," he says.

Trying to describe the students' reactions to the program, Barton beams as he talks about each grade. He repeatedly refers to them as a "really nice group" or "a lovely bunch of kids." Some grades have bonded and adapted more quickly than others, but Barton doesn't feel this reflects on student success. He would like to see an official mechanism created by B.C.'s Ministry of Education that will enable Jamieson teachers to monitor the progress immersion students make in their Mandarin studies. At present, the province can only evaluate Jamieson's Mandarin immersion students for their work in the regular curriculum. However, Barton insists that when he compares students in the immersion program with those in the regular program at Jamieson, he finds the Mandarin immersion students do "every bit as well."

Teacher Flora Chen has been with the program since it began in 1994. Before moving to Vancouver to teach at Jamieson elementary, Chen was the Mandarin subject leader in a heritage language program in Toronto. There she served as a bridge between teachers and the community in a

program designed for children already familiar with Mandarin. At Jamieson, however, her classes are much different. While some of her students have grandparents or relatives who speak Mandarin, others have had no exposure to the language prior to entering the program. She appreciates the different philosophy at the heart of the Jamieson program. Unlike a heritage program, which mainly serves children of Mandarin-speaking families, it attracts students who might otherwise never have an opportunity to learn Mandarin. Chen enjoys the enthusiasm she sees in her students. When the lunch bell rings and the children file out into the hallways, they can be heard chatting in English and Mandarin with the kind of ease and playfulness only children possess.

"I was surprised to find that quite often it's the child's choice to come into the program," she says, adding that consultation with the parents beforehand is essential to ensure student success. Children adapt at different rates, and contact with parents is crucial to ensure that students don't fall behind.

Both Chen and Barton agree that integrating the immersion students with the rest of the school's population is very important. They emphasize to the children that they are not just Mandarin immersion students—they are also Jamieson Elementary students. This approach has the



## Victoria IHR Photo & Studio



- Photo Lab Services
- Portraits
- Prints to Slides
- Black and White
- Copy of Old Photos
- Passport and Citizenship Photos



5467 Victoria Drive • Vancouver, BC • V5P 3V9

Tel: (604) 325-3325

Pacific Rim  
16



*Because you're too busy living today  
to worry about managing your investments for tomorrow.*

### Introducing professional investment management for your RRSP.

One of the biggest challenges in saving for the future is making the most of your hard-earned RRSP investments. A **Scotia® Destination™** account is a new *professional portfolio management service* for your RRSP that takes the worry out of building your retirement nest egg to its highest potential.

First, we carefully analyze your investment objectives, then we help you choose the **Scotia Destination** account with the mix of mutual funds

that best fits your expected date of retirement.

After that, our professional portfolio managers take care of the rest, monitoring and adjusting the mix of mutual fund investments in your RRSP as the years go by to *maximize* its growth while *lowering risk*.

The cost for this professional service? Only \$25 a year.

Talk to a Scotiabank Personal Investment Manager about a **Scotia Destination** account *today*.



**Scotiabank™**

© Registered trademark of  
The Bank of Nova Scotia.

™ Trademark of  
The Bank of Nova Scotia.

same flavour as the program, which also promotes integration by teaching the immersion students about more than just the mechanics of the Mandarin language. Students also learn about the cultures that speak Mandarin. "You can't separate language from culture," Barton stresses. "You just can't."

Likewise, school events often revolve around different cultural holidays and celebrations, exposing Jamieson's regular program students to other cultures. Barton cites the Grade Four math class as an example of integration in the classroom. "The Grade Four teacher doesn't have her home class, she'll have a third of the Mandarin [immersion] kids, a third of the regular kids and a third of the ESL kids. We're always trying to engineer opportunities to mix the children."

For Chen, integration is a means to apply developing language skills. Since the immersion students generally come from homes where no one speaks Mandarin, any opportunity to practice is invaluable. "Teaching them is quite easy, but for the students, because they don't have the natural environment, the school has to provide them with an environment. Being out of the community is very difficult."

As a result, the school created a buddy reading program. Mandarin immersion students meet once a week with the school's Mandarin-speaking ESL students. "It's like an exchange of sorts, since that's the only interaction they have with someone who speaks the language, aside from myself and the other teachers," explains Chen.

This kind of interaction and creative problem-solving has proven successful. The students' friendships with Mandarin-speaking ESL students and their handling of the more subtle elements of the language, such as poetry or humour, suggest that the classroom experiences extend out into the real world. The language skills that children exchange with each other on the playground are as valuable as those they learn in the classroom.

For Barton, one particular example of the program's success has remained firmly entrenched in his memory. A Mandarin-speaking visitor had come to the school and met with two of the children after class. Barton overheard them speaking in the hallway, and what he heard both shocked and pleased him. The girls were not only talking and responding to the visitor in Mandarin, they were exchanging a joke. Barton laughs as he recalls the incident.

"I think it's great that these kids were feeling comfortable enough to make a joke," he says with a broad smile. "You don't make a joke, you don't get a joke, until you understand the language." ■



# JAPAN

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Visa:** Not required for Canadian tourists for visits up to 90 days; required for visits involving employment or paid activities.

**Health Precautions:** Hepatitis A vaccination is the minimum requirement. For longer stays, vaccination for Japanese encephalitis is recommended; in rural areas, typhoid and malaria vaccinations.

**Tipping:** Tips are not given or expected (large hotels and restaurants may just add 10-15% to your bill).

**Currency and Exchange:** Yen; ¥79.87 = C\$1 (16 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** Most Japanese observe a combination of the Shinto and Buddhist religions. A small percentage practice Christianity.

**Airlines:** Canadian Airlines: 1-800-426-7000; Japan Airlines: direct daily to Tokyo; Air Canada: (604) 688-5515, flights daily to Osaka. Flying time to Tokyo 9.5 to 10 hours

**Transportation:** Subway system is easier to use than the trains. Bullet train connects to all major cities. Avoid driving; highways have few signs in English. Taxis are expensive.

**Climate:** Subtropical in the South; cooler in the North. Japan has four distinct seasons with autumn, beginning in late September, being the best time to visit. Spring is another popular travel time, but weather can be unstable.

**Languages:** Japanese is the official language. English is taught in secondary schools and often used in business.

**Time Difference:** PST + 17 hours

**Major Centres:** Tokyo (capital), Yokohama, Osaka, Nagoya, Sapporo, Kobe and Kyoto

**Population:** Est. 125 million (1999)

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Jan. 15	Adult's Day
Feb. 11	National Foundation Day
Mar. 21 (var.)	Vernal Equinox Day
Apr. 29	Green Day
May 3	Constitution Memorial Day
May 4	People's Holiday
May 5	Children's Day
July 20	Ocean Day (new holiday)
Sept. 15	Respect for the Aged Day
Sept. 23 (var.)	Autumnal Equinox Day
Oct. 10	Health and Sports Day
Nov. 3	Culture Day
Nov. 23	Labour-Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 23	Emperor's Birthday

### Canadian Representatives:

**Canadian Embassy**  
3-8 Akasaka, 7-Chome, Minato-ku  
Tokyo 107, Japan  
tel: (81-3) 3408-2101  
fax: (81-3) 5412-6303

### Japanese Representatives:

**Japanese Embassy**  
255 Sussex Dr.  
Ottawa, Ont. K1N 9E6  
tel: (613) 241-8541  
fax: (613) 241-7415

### Business Organizations:

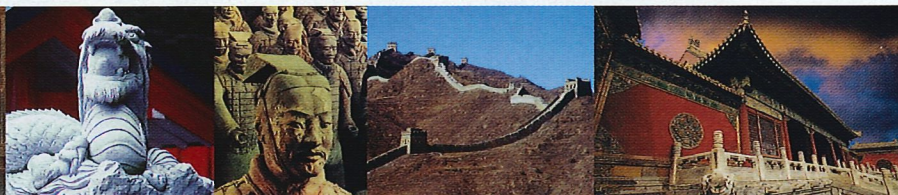
**Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry**  
3-2-2, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo, Japan  
tel: (81-3) 3283-7851  
fax: (81-3) 3211-4859

**Canadian Banks:** Tokyo: Bank of Montreal, Scotiabank, CIBC, National Bank, Royal Bank, Royal Trust (operates through Royal Bank), Toronto-Dominion Bank; Osaka: Scotiabank

**Notes:** Greetings: a bow from the waist, though Japanese expect to shake hands with a foreigner (i.e. Westerner). Bow at least as low and as long as your counterpart. Exchange of business cards usually takes place during greetings. Remove shoes before entering a private home, Japanese-style inn, temple or restaurant. In polite conversation, the suffix *san* is added to the surname in place of Mr., Mrs. or Miss (e.g. Suzuki-san). For other travel hints consult any of the following web sites: Lonely Planet, [www.lonelyplanet.com/dest/nea/jap.htm](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/dest/nea/jap.htm); Japan Travel Updates, [www.jnto.go.jp](http://www.jnto.go.jp); Guide to Japan, [www.japan-guide.com](http://www.japan-guide.com)



Japan photos by Alex Thompson



China photos by Rick Butler and Naddia Beierle

# CHINA

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Visa:** All visitors require an entry visa; passport must be valid 6 months after visa expiry date; apply at Chinese Consulate; download visa application from Chinese Embassy website: [www.buildlink.com/embassy/visa-e.htm](http://www.buildlink.com/embassy/visa-e.htm), [ftp.buildlink.com/pub/embassy/v-form3.doc](http://ftp.buildlink.com/pub/embassy/v-form3.doc)

**Health Precautions:** Malaria and typhoid risk in rural areas; cholera risk away from usual tourist itineraries; dengue fever present in parts of southern China; immunization for typhoid, tetanus, hepatitis A and B recommended; drink boiled or bottled water, avoid uncooked or partially cooked food, including salads.

**Tipping:** Officially prohibited, but customs are changing.

**Currency and Exchange:** Renminbi; Rmb5.56 = C\$1 (17 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** Officially atheist but Confucianism, Buddhism, Taoism, Islam and Christianity are practiced.

**Airlines:** Vancouver to Beijing: Canadian Airlines, daily except Fri. (14 hours); Vancouver to Beijing then Shanghai: Air China, Mon. (12 hours); Hong Kong: Cathay Pacific, with connections to China, daily via Dragonair (12 hours).

**Distance from Airport:** Capital International Airport to Beijing, 30 km; Hongqiao Airport to Shanghai, 12 km.

**Transportation:** Taxis are cheap and available in most cities; buses are inexpensive; rental cars in major cities (but not at airports); public transport includes rail (MTR, KCR), rapid transit (LRT), riverboats and coastal ferries.

**Climate:** Northeast: hot dry summers, bitterly cold winters; north and central: high rainfall, hot summers, cold winters; southeast: high rainfall, semi-tropical summers, cool winters.

**Languages:** Mandarin (official), Shanghaiese, Cantonese, Fukienese, Hakka and other minority languages are spoken; English sometimes spoken by those having contact with foreigners.

**Time Difference:** PST + 16 hours

**Major Centres:** Beijing (capital); Guangzhou (Canton), Shanghai, Tianjin and Shenyang

**Population:** Est. 1.2 billion

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Feb. 19-21 (var.)	Chinese New Year
May 1	Labour Day
Oct. 1	National Day

### Canadian Representative:

**Canadian Embassy**  
19 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Chaoyang District  
Beijing, PRC 100600  
tel: (86-10) 6-532-3536  
fax: (86-10) 6-532-4311  
[www.canada.org.hk/english/index.html](http://www.canada.org.hk/english/index.html)

### Chinese Representatives:

**People's Republic of China Consulate General**  
3380 Granville St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3K3  
tel: (604) 734-7492  
fax: (604) 734-0154

### Business Organizations:

**Canada-China Business Council**  
18, CITIC Bldg.  
19 Jianguomenwai St.  
Beijing 100004, P.R.C.  
tel: (86-10) 6-512-6120 or 500-2255,  
ext. 1820/21/22  
fax: (86-10) 6-512-6125

**Canada-China Business Council**  
2600-515 West Hastings St.  
SFU at Harbour Centre  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5K3  
tel: (604) 291-5190  
fax: (604) 291-5039

**Canadian Banks:** Bank of Montreal, Scotiabank (Beijing and Guangzhou), Royal Bank (Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou), National Bank of Canada (Shanghai), Hong Kong bank of Canada

**Notes:** Family names come first. Address as Mr., Mrs. or Ms. and display sincerity and respect on meeting business people. Handshakes are now common, followed by ceremonial exchange of business cards (best with Chinese on reverse). Use discretion when taking photos. Do not photograph military sites. Ask permission before photographing a person. Designated hotels, restaurants and stores accept Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Diners cards.







# The Art of Strategy

by Brent Evans-Campbell

Written over 2,000 years ago, Sun-Tzu's *The Art of War* is as potent a tool today as ever.

Napoleon read it. Rommel studied it in North Africa. Lee Iacocca read it. Taipans in Hong Kong have been applying its strategies for centuries. *The Art of War*, written over 2,000 years ago by a mysterious Chinese warrior-philosopher named Sunzi or Sun-Tzu, is arguably the most prestigious and influential text on strategy in the world today. It is vigorously studied around the world by politicians, executives, military leaders and strategists.

In Japan, which went from feudal culture to corporate culture virtually overnight, students of *The Art of War* have applied these ancient strategies to modern politics. The astounding degree of success with which the Japanese invaded and conquered world markets is a testimony to Sun-Tzu's classic dictum, "To win without fighting is best."

*The Art of War* is an analysis of the anatomy of organizations in conflict. It applies to conflict in general, on virtually every level from interpersonal to international. The aim of this manual is to promote invincibility, attain victory without battle, and to develop incontestable strength through comprehension of the physics, politics and psychology of conflict. This oldest

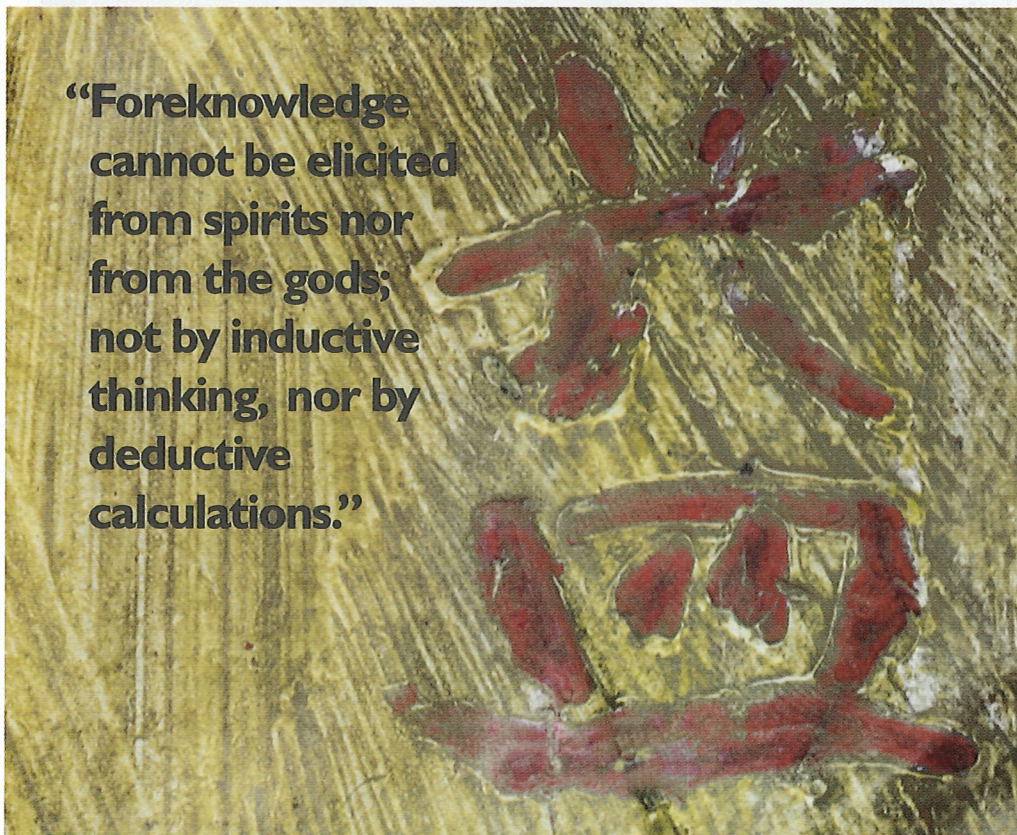
of manuals for success is steeped in the spiritual tradition of Taoism, from which much of the psychology, science and technology in East Asia originated.

Throughout history in China, Taoism has been a moderating force in the ever-changing currents of human thought and action. In politics as well, Taoism has allied with both rulers and ruled and has helped kingdoms rise and fall, according to the needs of the time. It is from this source that Sun-Tzu

gained the insight into human nature that makes this a profoundly reliable manual. *The Art of War* not only prepares one for war, but also for peace. It is a means for understanding the subtleties of conflict and resolution.

According to an ancient Chinese parable, a lord once asked his physician—whose two brothers were also healers—which of the three was the most skilled. The physician, renowned for his expertise and ability in healing throughout China, replied, "My eldest brother sees the spirit of sickness and

**"Foreknowledge cannot be elicited from spirits nor from the gods; not by inductive thinking, nor by deductive calculations."**



removes it before it takes shape, so his name does not get out of the house. My elder brother cures sickness when it is still extremely minute, so his name does not get out of the neighbourhood. As for me, I puncture veins, prescribe potions and massage skin, so my name gets out and is heard among the lords."

This small anecdote captures beautifully the essential philosophy behind *The Art of War*: "To overcome others' armies without fighting is the best of all



skills." There may be a world of difference between the healing and martial arts, but there are important parallels here. The story tells us the less needed the better. Likewise, both arts involve some strategy in remedying the disharmony, and in both cases an understanding of the problem is key to the solution. As demonstrated in the story of the healers, the most efficient use of information and strategy is to make

little, is unmistakably Taoist in its root. The *Tao Te Ching* applies the same strategy to society that Sun-Tzu applied to warriors: "Plan for what is difficult while it is still easy; do what is great while it is still small." If possible, avoid war. War is destructive and often counter-productive, even for the victors; it is only to be used as a last resort. However, as Sun-Tzu observed, war is a matter of life and death and must be

**"Just as water  
has no shape,  
so in warfare  
there are no  
fixed rules or  
regulations."**

taken seriously. If one must prepare for war, (in this usage war can mean any struggle between two opposing forces, e.g. sports, business) Sun-Tzu's principles can be helpful.

When looking at business through a framework designed originally for war, it's easy to continue the analogy. Parallels emerge upon closer scrutiny between the rise of the Japanese economy at the expense of the U.S. economy, and Sun-Tzu's principle of avoiding war if possible. Of all the studies relating military strategies to business practices, the most outstanding example is Japan's strategic advance on the world market in many product areas. The best way to observe the strategies of Sun-Tzu in the business world is to look to the Japanese. Japan has made more translations of *The Art of War* than any other country. The Japanese have also had access to it since 700 AD, whereas the earliest western translation was a French version in the late 1700s. There was no English edition until 1905.

conflict unnecessary. Just as the eldest brother was unknown because of this high skill, and the middle brother hardly known because of this acumen, Sun-Tzu acknowledged that in ancient times skilled warriors won while victory was still easy, so their victories were not known for their cunning or bravery. This strategy, where one may win without fighting, or accomplish much by doing

"In the conduct of war one must not rely on the enemy's failure to come, but on one's readiness to engage him; one must not rely on the enemy's failure to attack, but on one's ability to mount an invincible defense." The need of the military to be combat-ready in peacetime is easily understood. This concept can be applied to a business orientation as well, serving to motivate the company



to improve its performance and seize every opportunity for growth. Then, instead of being limited by competition and environment, the limits to growth would be its own resources and capabilities.

Whether organization or army, no one can be completely invincible; there must be weak spots somewhere. "If the enemy prepares to the front, his rear will be weak; if he defends his rear, his front will be weak; if he tries to prepare for everywhere, he will be weak everywhere." The challenge for the smaller company is to concentrate its entire strength against the weak spot in the larger force where victory can be gained. As long as it develops a unique expertise, and caters to specific markets, even a small company can establish a presence in any competitive environment. This is what is now commonly known as niching in business. "Therefore those who are skilled in warfare will always bring the enemy to where they want to fight and are not brought there by the enemy."

The Japanese are well known for their strategic choice of battlegrounds in their quest for economic growth. They choose markets that are largely ignored by western corporate giants where they can penetrate easily and are given little competition, but enough to keep them improving and innovating until they are unmatched. When the Japanese first went into markets like East Asia and Eastern Europe, their products were known to be cheap and of inferior quality. Since they were given so much time to imitate and improve, their market share began to grow. They began to improvise, continued to innovate, and are now on the cutting edge, inventing the standard as they push new frontiers. Today, Japanese products are known for their quality and reliability. The ability to choose the battleground and apply the principle of relative superiority at the point of contact are two contributing factors to their success.

"The enlightened ruler is able to achieve victories that surpass others because of foreknowledge. Foreknowledge cannot be elicited from spirits nor from the gods; not by inductive thinking, nor by deductive calculations. It can only be obtained from men who have knowledge of the enemy's situation." When it comes to planning for war, there is no margin for error. One must be as certain as possible; lives hang in the balance. Although business intelligence only spells life and death for a company, there is obviously

a need to know what your competition is up to. Although some critics decry business espionage, there are many ethical methods of gathering information and using the information for business strategy development (surveys, industry studies, market studies).

"Just as water has no shape, so in warfare there are no fixed rules or regulations." There are no fixed rules of conduct; the ultimate authority to decide a course of action rests at the helm. Again we look to the Japanese for an example of flexibility. In the '80s when China wanted big, cheap, efficient cars, North American manufacturers were reluctant, but the Japanese were willing to do backward engineering and now have a foothold in that market. In Eastern Europe as well, Japanese automakers were willing to make right-hand-drive cars when the Big Three would not. Another market gained.

"Invincibility in defense depends on one's own efforts, while the opportunity of victory depends on the enemy. It follows that those skilled in warfare can make themselves invincible but cannot cause the enemy to be vulnerable." The importance of understanding the rationale behind attacking in open combat cannot be overestimated. Even with an invincible defense, you can only ensure that you will not lose; you cannot ensure victory. At best, it can be a stalemate. Or worse, it can lead to isolation and "self-choking," and victory is only achieved when the enemy's forces or territory are captured. Those smaller companies with more specialized equipment have developed aggressive niching strategies that attack the weak spot in the market to establish a viable presence. What is paramount is the development of strategies that achieve a relative superiority at the point of contact.

The parallels between war and business can be fascinating to draw and very helpful in strategy implementation. It is important to note the differences as well, so the ethical boundaries are drawn accordingly. For example, many extreme situations arise in war that don't in business, and, therefore, don't merit a commensurate response (e.g. espionage and media control). One may question the necessity of having a war mentality in order to have a successful business. Even the idea of a "just war" may seem too strong a metaphor for some. Nonetheless, applied with a conscious, humane intent, the book is a pattern for analysis that can be super-imposed on any dynamic where forces of varying strengths meet and struggle for supremacy. This is the art of strategy. ■





# HONG KONG

## Travel Information

**Visa:** Not required for stays up to 3 months; required for work or permanent residence; valid passport and onward or return ticket required.

**Health Precautions:** Immunizations not needed; hepatitis A and B, tetanus and influenza vaccinations recommended during winter.

**Tipping:** 10% service charge added in most restaurants (additional 10% tip often expected); small tips for bellhops, porters, taxi drivers.

**Currency Exchange:** Hong Kong dollar; HK\$5.17 = C\$1 (12 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism

**Airlines:** Canadian Airlines and Cathay Pacific offer direct daily flights from Vancouver to Hong Kong; Air Canada flights leave Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.; Chek Lap Kok Int. Airport is 45 min. from Central Hong Kong.

**Transportation:** Excellent bus service, ferries, rail and rapid transit; taxis plentiful and cheap.

**Climate:** Subtropical; Jan. to Mar. chilly; Apr. to June warm; July to Sept. hot and humid; Oct. to Dec. sunny and warm.

**Languages:** Chinese and English; Cantonese most widely used, Mandarin use increasing. English used in hotels, shops; most public signs in Chinese and English.

**Time Difference:** PST + 16 hours

**Major Centres:** Hong Kong Island, New Territories, Kowloon; principal business district is Victoria (or Central) on Hong Kong Island.

**Population:** Est. 6.6 million

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Feb. 16-19 (var.)	Chinese New Year
Apr. 2	Good Friday
Apr. 5 (var.)	Ching Ming Festival
Apr. 5	Easter Monday
May 1	Labour Day
June 18	Dragon Boat Festival
July 1	SAR Establishment Day
Sept. 25	Mid-Autumn Festival
Oct. 1-2 (var.)	National Day
Oct. 18 (var.)	Chung Yeung Festival
Dec. 22	Winter Solstice
Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Dec. 27	Public Holiday

## Canadian Representative:

**Canadian Consulate**  
13th fl., Tower One, Exchange Sq.  
8 Connaught Place, Hong Kong  
GPO Box 11142 Hong Kong  
tel: (852) 2810-4321  
fax: (852) 2810-6736

**Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Int'l Trade**  
Lester B. Pearson Bldg.  
125 Sussex Dr. Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0G2  
tel: (613) 944-4000 fax: (613) 952-3904  
toll free: 1-800-267-8376

## Canadian Chamber of Commerce

1602, Sin Hau Bank Bldg.  
2-8, Wellington St. Central, Hong Kong  
Mailing Address: GPO Box 1587 or  
10106 Hong Kong  
tel: (852) 2526-3207  
fax: (852) 2845-1654

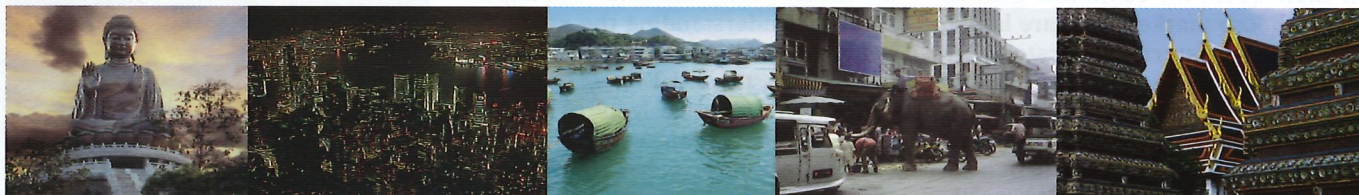
## Hong Kong Representatives:

**Hong Kong Trade Development Council**  
39th fl., Office Tower Convention Plaza  
1 Harbour Rd. Wanchai, Hong Kong  
tel: (852-2) 584-4333  
fax: (852-2) 824-0249

**Hong Kong Trade Development Council**  
904A-938 Howe St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1N9  
tel: (604) 685-0883  
fax: (604) 331-4418

**Canadian Banks:** Bank of Montreal, Scotiabank, CIBC, Hong Kong Bank of Canada, National Bank of Canada, Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto-Dominion Bank

**Notes:** Address people using Mr., Mrs. or Ms. with family name. Handshakes are common when being introduced or leaving a meeting. Business cards are essential (present with both hands) printed with Chinese on reverse. When first meeting with business people, present small gifts (don't give clocks and avoid blue or white wrapping paper). Accept and reciprocate lunch or dinner invitations; business is often conducted at restaurants or private clubs. Avoid embarrassment. Electrical outlets are 200v, 50 cycle AC.



Hong Kong photos by Rick Butler

Thailand photos by Jennie Moore and Paul Shoebridge

# THAILAND

## Travel Information

**Visa:** Not required for tourist visits less than 1 month (onward or return ticket required); business travellers require a 90-day non-tourist visa regardless of length of stay.

**Health Precautions:** Typhoid, polio, tetanus, meningitis and Japanese B encephalitis recommended for adults. Malaria and TB risk. Check with doctor before travel.

**Tipping:** 10-15% hotel and restaurant service charge; tip 10% for good service and no service charge stated; hotel and airport porters 5 baht per bag (10 baht min.); if taxi fares negotiated, no tip.

**Currency Exchange:** baht; 25.4 baht = C\$1 (15 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** 95% Buddhism, 4% Islam, 1% others

**Airlines:** Canadian Airlines: daily flights Vancouver-Hong Kong-Bangkok; Cathay Pacific: daily flights Vancouver-Hong Kong-Bangkok; Malaysia Airlines: Vancouver to Bangkok via Kuala Lumpur (overnight stop) Wed., Fri.

**Transportation:** Car rental widely available, international driver's license required; taxis abound, rates are cheap within Bangkok (metered) or negotiable; bus service extensive and cheap.

**Climate:** June to Oct. rainy and hot; Nov. to Feb. cool and dry; Mar. to May hot and dry

**Languages:** Thai (official); Chinese; English is widely spoken in major centres and at most tourist resorts.

**Time Difference:** PST + 15 hours

**Major Centres:** Bangkok (capital), Chiang Mai, Khon-kaen, Nakhon Ratchas, Songkhla, Nanthaburi, Udon Thani

**Population:** Est. 61 million

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Feb. 1	Magha Puja
Apr. 6	Chakri Day
Apr. 13-15	Songkran (Water) Festival
May 1	Labour Day
May 5	Coronation Day
May 7	Royal Ploughing Ceremony
May/June (var.)	Visakha Puja (Full Moon Day)
July (var.)	Asalha Puja (Full Moon Day)
July 28	Buddhist Lent
Aug. 12	Queen's Birthday
Oct. 23	King Chulalongkorn Day
Dec. 5	King's Birthday
Dec. 10	Constitution Day
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve

## Canadian Representative:

**Canadian Embassy**  
Abdulrahim Place, 15th fl., 990 Rama IV Bangrak  
Bangkok 10500, Thailand  
tel: (66-2) 636-0540  
fax: (66-2) 636-0566, 67, 68

## Thai Representatives:

**Royal Thai Embassy**  
180 Island Park Dr.  
Ottawa, Ont. K1Y 0A2  
tel: (613) 722-4444  
fax: (613) 722-6624

## Consulate General of Thailand

1040 Burrard St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2R9  
tel: (604) 687-1143  
fax: (604) 687-4434  
www.info@thaicongenvancouver.org

## Business Organizations:

**Thai Chamber of Commerce**  
150 Rajchabopit Rd.  
Bangkok 10200 Thailand  
tel: (66-2) 225-0086  
fax: (66-2) 225-3372

## Thai-Canadian Chamber of Commerce

19th fl., CP Tower  
313 Silom Rd.  
Bangkok 10500, Thailand  
Tel: (66-2) 231-0891  
Fax: (66-2) 231-0893

**Canadian Banks:** Hong Kong Bank of Canada, Bank of Nova Scotia

**Notes:** Do not touch anyone on the head; do not point your feet at anyone; always remove footwear when entering a temple; always show respect for Buddha (don't climb on statues) and the Thai royal family. Thais do not normally shake hands with each other but press their hands together in a prayer-like gesture called *wai*; meals are considered an important part of Thai business; if invited, reciprocate. Electricity 220v 50Hz AC; some 2-pronged rounded plugs, adaptors supplied in hotels.



# AKIRA KURO SAWA

## PASSING OF THE EMPEROR

The death of Japan's master filmmaker

### ***A stranger with no name enters a town***

thrown into chaos by two warring families. He pits the violent families against each other and no one survives. Sound like Sergio Leone's *A Fistful of Dollars*? Actually, Akira Kurosawa did it first with Toshiro Mifune as the solo samurai in *Yojimbo*.

*The Magnificent Seven* tells the story of a town in trouble that hires seven gunmen to protect it from bandits. Yet six years earlier, in 1954, the same story had already been told in Kurosawa's masterpiece, *The Seven Samurai*.

For the last 50 years, Kurosawa has

inspired talented North American directors. Steven Spielberg, Martin Scorsese, Francis Ford Coppola and George Lucas emulated his work and cite him as one of the greatest directors in the history of film. A man who described himself as "short tempered and obstinate," Kurosawa was an amazing narrator, an artisan of the human condition. Throw in several Academy Awards and numerous film festival awards, and you have one of the most significant legacies in the history of film.

On Sept. 6, 1998, the legacy ended when the renowned Japanese director died at the age of 88. Kurosawa, the





The original movie poster for *Ran*.

"Sensei of Cinema," also dubbed "the Emperor" by the media, had an immense impact on western cinema. In a CNN interview, Martin Scorsese said: "His influence on filmmakers throughout the entire world is so profound as to be almost incomparable." Kurosawa's technical proficiency and poetic translations of traditional Japanese theatre into epic form brought Japanese film to the rest of the world. As an all-genre director, Kurosawa was comfortable in many milieus. At the same time, his unique visual style and inventive use of telephoto lenses and cinemascope framing broadened cinema's development. He educated western audiences and brought appreciation to the aesthetic of stylized acting.

Kurosawa began his directing career while Japan was at war in the Pacific. However, he did not hesitate to use North American and European literature as the basis for many of his films. Shakespeare, Gorky, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky and American crime novels became important sources of inspiration for his legendary tales. *Macbeth* became *Throne of Blood*, while *King Lear* was the story behind his classic, *Ran*. Powerfully choreographed and technically stunning battle scenes make *Ran* one of the most striking adaptations of Shakespeare's play to date—a potent commentary on the senselessness of war and the human lust for power.

Kurosawa has also credited American cinema, in addition to literature, as having influenced his style. American directors John Ford and Frank Capra were among his favourites. He adapted an American film convention, film noir, for his films *Yojimbo* and *High and Low*.

While Kurosawa was well received in the West, he faced criticism from the Japanese media for his use of foreign literature. The fact that he used many Japanese sources for his films was largely overlooked. Of course, his reputation as a perfectionist who always went over budget did not help his cause. By the late 1960s Kurosawa was at an impasse. Unable to find work as a director any longer, his depression culminated in a failed suicide attempt in 1971.

Luckily, the intervention of Lucas and Spielberg gave Kurosawa another chance to work. Their intervention helped the Japanese legend obtain financing from American companies in the 1980s, enabling him to release his later films. Critics appreciate how important Kurosawa's ongoing exchange with America was for western cinema. "Kurosawa exemplifies what I find most interesting in the movies," says University of British Columbia film professor John Newton. "I like the fact that Sergei Eisenstein and John Ford influenced Kurosawa—that he was interested in Shakespeare and Western dramatic structures. In the '60s and '70s, some 'ever so-serious' critics knitted their brows and held this against him. 'Not Japanese enough!' Using this criterion, John Ford was probably 'not American enough.'"

Lucas and Coppola convinced 20th Century Fox to buy the international distribution rights for Kurosawa's 1980 award winner, *Kagemusha*, making it the first Japanese film released worldwide by an American company. Steven Spielberg later joined this group of supporters to help Warner Bros. fund the 1990 film, *Dreams*. Lucas's special effects company, Industrial Light and Magic, helped Kurosawa create the film's stunning visuals.

While many Japanese critics busied themselves underestimating the value of his work, western cinema reaped the benefits of Kurosawa's brilliance. Countless American films and directors look to him as a direct influence on their technical and artistic development. The Sensei of Cinema's ability to manipulate his audience's emotions rivaled his technical skills in creating visually powerful moments on film. "The final confrontation in the mud would draw me back to the screen no matter what I was doing," muses Newton, describing one of his favourite cinematic moments from *The Seven Samurai*, which he discovered while working as a projectionist in the 1960s. "The telephoto shots, the horses, the change in tempo with the firing of arrows . . . I was hooked. I still am."

Kurosawa's impact on American cinema stemmed from his use of common humanistic themes. His samurai epics, for instance, inspired numerous American westerns, including the spaghetti western, one of the more dubious offshoots of his artistic merit. Leone virtually plagiarized the humorous *Yojimbo* when he made the sombre *A Fistful of Dollars*. The story is suspiciously analogous—and many of its shot compositions are near-identical. *The Magnificent Seven*, starring Steve

**Prestige was not the prime motive for his work ...**



McQueen and Yul Brynner, was a reworking of *The Seven Samurai*—one which Kurosawa disapproved of. He felt the gunfighters failed to mirror the nobility of the samurai; they were no better than the outlaws they fought. The universality of his cinematic themes is hard to ignore: surprising adaptations of *The Seven Samurai* include the science-fiction movie *Battle Beyond the Stars* and the recent Disney animated film *A Bug's Life*.

Japan on the filmmaking map, winning the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film in 1952. *The Seven Samurai* won a Silver Lion at the 1954 Venice Film Festival, and in 1975 Kurosawa's direction of *Dersu Uzala* brought him another Oscar. *Kagemusha* took the Palme d'Or at the Cannes. Five years later he returned to the prestigious French film festival with *Ran* and won a special achievement award. *Ran*, Kurosawa's personal favourite, was

named Best Picture of the Year by America's National Society of Film Critics. In 1990, Kurosawa received an honorary Oscar for Lifetime Achievement. But prestige was not the prime motive for his work; what mattered were the stories and the underlying truths of the human condition.

Kurosawa's English translator, Audie Bock, once took the aged director to a

small cinema to see *No Regrets for Our Youth*, a documentary on the director's life. When the crowd saw him, they went crazy. Bock was worried, but Kurosawa stood his ground and happily answered questions while she translated. Afterwards he told Bock, with a big smile, "That's the people I make my films for, not those poseurs at the [Paris] Cinematheque."

The powerful words and images that Kurosawa gave to the world earned him international acclaim. He was an ambassador of film who brought the West to Japan, and Japan to the West. Kurosawa's contribution to cinema will be remembered as long as there are people making films and telling stories with imagination and understanding. ■

...what mattered were the stories and the underlying truths of the human condition.

Even fans of *Star Wars* can thank Kurosawa for the inspiration he gave George Lucas. The comical C-3PO and R2-D2 were styled after a pair of bickering soldiers in Kurosawa's *The Hidden Fortress*. Throw in a princess in hiding and you have the beginnings of Lucas's epic. "It is hard not to laugh when your students suddenly realize in the middle of the movie that Kurosawa's *Hidden Fortress* may have contributed more than its share to a 'seminal' American epic," says Newton.

Overall, Kurosawa ranks in the upper echelons of the film elite. The international acclaim he garnered testifies to that. *Rashomon*, his 1950 breakthrough film, gained international attention and put

## Awards

*Rashomon* (1950) won the **Golden Lion** at the 1951 Venice Film Festival, and an **Academy Award** for best foreign film in 1952, a first for Japanese film.

*The Seven Samurai* (1954) won a **Silver Lion** at the 1954 Venice festival.

Kurosawa's direction of the Russian-financed film *Dersu Uzala* (1975) brought him another **Oscar**, and the **Grand Prix** at the Moscow Film Festival in 1975.

*Kagemusha* (1980) was a winner of the **Palme d'Or** at Cannes.

*Ran* (1985) was his favourite film. It won a **special achievement award** at Cannes and America's National Society of Film Critics named it **Best Picture of the Year**.

In 1990 he was given an honorary **Oscar for Lifetime Achievement**.

## International Business Program

This two-year, full-time diploma program prepares students for a rich career in International Business and Trade.

The curriculum blends core knowledge with strategies of International Business plus paid internship terms.

Tie your future to a global economy—join our program and take on the world.

For further information contact:

Gordon McFarlane  
604-323-5939  
gmcfarlane@langara.bc.ca



LANGARA  
COLLEGE

100 West 49th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 2Z6  
Website: <http://www.langara.bc.ca>



# EAST TIMOR

**Moving towards an uncertain future**

**In the year since Indonesian president Suharto's resignation, hope for a free East Timor has soared. But inside the troubled territory violence has escalated ...**

by Nathan Russell

top right:  
Children in East  
Timor's capital city,  
Dili, wave the illegal  
"V" symbol for  
resistance.





photos by Alain Racoul; design by Michelle Doyle

Back in Lisbon, the fascists were in trouble. In 1974, revolution toppled Portugal's old guard and turned over some new ways of thinking—and colonialism wasn't one of them. Portugal had controlled the tiny island of East Timor and its people for 400 years. When it hastily abandoned the tiny island in 1975, the East Timorese faced a new set of circumstances—circumstances media critic Noam Chomsky would later refer to as “the worst slaughter since the Holocaust, relative to population.”

On Nov. 28, 1975, the East Timorese declared their independence under the popular Fretilin party. But, despite 400 years of subjugation, their independence would be tragically brief. Nine days later—on Dec. 7, 1975—an Indonesian invasion force, 40,000 strong, overwhelmed the fledgling state and swiftly began the violent task of East Timor's annexation. In the 23 years since, an illegal regime of murder, resettlement, arrest, torture, rape and forced birth control has wracked East Timorese society. Ten separate UN resolutions have decried the occupation. Meanwhile, Amnesty International has conservatively placed the death toll at over 200,000—one third of the nation's pre-invasion population.

East Timor first spurred interest as a political issue when Indonesian troops killed 271 people in front of the eyes of world media. The 1991 Santa Cruz massacre, during which western journalists were beaten, drew attention to the occupation of East Timor and the atrocious habits of the Indonesian military.

What's news today is the possibility that East Timor is on the road to independence. Amazingly, a quarter-century of violence has not killed the people's hope. In fact, for the duration of the occupation, hope has been East Timor's strongest weapon—a weapon that has infuriated the Indonesian military in its efforts to squelch the small guerrilla army and its broad network of civilian supporters. After dramatic changes in Indonesia's political arena over the past year and a U-turn in the country's policy regarding the territory, the prospect of a free East Timor has become a possibility.



In May 1998, the resignation of Indonesian president Suharto brought an abrupt end to his three decades of rule by nepotism, graft and oppression. For the people of East Timor, hopes soared with the evidence that Jakarta's imperialist leanings were shifting.

More recently, on Jan. 27, 1999, Suharto's successor, president B.J. Habibie, surprised the world, announcing that Indonesia would consider granting East Timor independence should the East Timorese reject an offer of wide-ranging autonomy. Two weeks later, Habibie restated his desire to see East Timor free by Jan. 1, 2000, and released Xanana Gusmao, leader of the East Timorese resistance (CNRT), from his Jakarta prison into a more comfortable house arrest.

Even greater hopes ensued in mid-March. At UN-sponsored tripartite talks in New York, Indonesia agreed to a UN-conducted plebiscite that would determine the will of the East Timorese. This was the first sign of progress in talks between Indonesia, East Timor's *de facto* ruling power, and Portugal, the UN-recognized authority in East Timor.

The indicators of independence have raised high hopes, both in East Timor and around the world. Indonesia intends to offer the East Timorese a chance to accept or reject an offer of broad-ranging autonomy by way of a UN-controlled plebiscite, perhaps in July. Acceptance would give control of the territory's finances, defense and foreign affairs to Indonesia, giving East Timor control over its own internal government; a vote for independence, which is more likely in a fair plebiscite, would be the first step to nationhood.

One year ago, no one could have predicted this would be happening. Consequently, plans for a free East Timor are skeletal. David Webster is a doctoral student at the University of British Columbia and an authority on Indonesian history and current affairs. Although it would take several years for the East Timorese—in a country so desolated by the Indonesian occupation—to establish and staff a political structure strong enough to stand on its own, Webster believes it could happen given the chance. "Many East Timorese are in exile and active around the world, raising global awareness," says Webster. "But they are also learning the political skills they hope to bring back to East Timor once they are allowed to rebuild it."

By most accounts around 20,000 East Timorese live in exile around the world—with the largest groups in Australia and Portugal. Indonesia has claimed that a plebiscite would consult them. With the population in East Timor poorly educated and generally without means, these emigrated East Timorese could

provide much needed training and expertise should an independent East Timor emerge. In April, 250 East Timorese academics, politicians and professionals met in Melbourne, Australia, for a five-day conference to discuss the logistics of nation-building and develop a blueprint for an independent East Timor. According to East Timorese resistance advocate and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Jose Ramos Horta, independence would require a three to five-year transition period.

Envisioning around 1,000 to 2,000 UN personnel, Horta predicts that during a transition period the UN would

provide most of the support. Economically, a sovereign East Timor would be hard-off. But while analysts have predicted that it would cost \$120 million US to keep the country afloat, much of the international community has come forward with offers of aid and assistance. When Portugal presented East Timor's case to the members of the EU in late March, it left with assurance that "significant" monetary support would be given. Meanwhile pro-independence supporters claim East Timor could, in due time, become self-sufficient. Suggested industries for an independent East Timor's development have included coffee, oil, tourism and marble, of which the region has a fine supply.

However, the stress of change is showing, and talk of independence is fueling apprehension as well as hope. Violence and tension continue to cause chaos in the territory, and human rights observers claim it has gotten worse since the Jan. 27 announcement. When the secretary-general of Indonesia's human rights commission, Clementino dos Reis Amaral, visited East Timor at the end


of March, he reported the situation to be "worse than ever before." And now interested observers are measuring their hope and wondering how far Indonesia's air of reform will carry East Timor and its people.

Whatever the future holds, those who know Indonesia's past are leery. Webster doesn't like the phrase: "History repeats itself." But he predicted months ago that "the people to look out for are the people who control the military." Regardless of the Indonesian government's professed intentions, the military on the ground in East Timor controls the situation. Indonesia is a diverse nation comprised of patchwork islands that has traditionally relied on military might and violence to enforce its interest. Suharto himself came to power in 1965 riding a tide of student protests and civil unrest under the old Sukarno regime. When his cleansing wave of CIA-assisted, anti-communist killings broke, it left behind 500,000 dead people.



photos by Elaine Briere





So far, Habibie's provisional government has received international praise for its efforts. He has inherited a country in ruins: 20 per cent of the children in Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, are malnourished; 80 million of Indonesia's people live in poverty. While any successor to the notorious Suharto would have little trouble appearing reformist, Madeleine Albright, U.S. secretary of state, on a visit to Jakarta in early March commended Habibie for the country's "blooming" democracy. Indeed, Indonesia has relaxed under Habibie: long-time political prisoners have been released, and fair and open elections—unprecedented in Indonesian history—have been slated for June 7 of this year. But the environment for change varies, the task of reform being difficult in a country where the military commands significant political authority under the constitution. While Habibie and his ministers represent Indonesia to the world and undertake policy shifts under their spotlight in Jakarta, the Indonesian military (known as ABRI) and its generals work their intrigues somewhere in the wings.

Groups like Amnesty International welcome Indonesia's progress, but criticize the military for its subversion of the peace process in East Timor. Random shootings of civilians are weekly, if not daily, occurrences. The difference with the violence now is that the perpetrators have shifted their tactics. Whereas the violence of '75 and '76 was carried out in tanks, warplanes and machine-gun fire, the violence today is less overt. With the world eyeing Habibie's reformist government, ABRI has become more canny.

In October 1998, ABRI began assembling pro-integration militias: ragtag mobs of civilians whose purpose includes policing rural villages and communities and intimidating critics of Indonesia's presence. Through bribery and intimidation, ABRI recruits vulnerable East Timorese from rural areas, turning them into *integrasi*—proponents of integration with Indonesia armed with machetes, clubs and the odd firearm. The militias, supplied and directed by the Indonesian military, have caused scores of deaths in past months. They target supporters of independence and their families, and the fear of them has sent thousands of East Timorese fleeing their rural communities for the relative safety of larger cities like Dili, the capital of East Timor.

While Indonesian foreign affairs minister Ali Alatas and Indonesian chief military commander General Wiranto have declared the militias are receiving no support from the government, evidence weighs against this claim. A pro-integration militia armed with sticks and knives could conceivably have originated in East Timor, but the chances are they could not have afforded high-tech computer terrorists without foreign aid. In late January, computer hackers from Japan, the Netherlands, Canada and Australia launched an attack on the Ireland-based Internet server that houses East Timor's domain name.

Meanwhile, other sources—including authorities as divergent as human rights advocates, independent journalists, militia leaders themselves and U.S. assistant secretary of state for Asia and the Pacific Stanley O. Roth—find claims of non-interference untenable. The majority of observers recognize that ABRI, or a rogue contingent of ABRI, is funding the militias and undermining the prospects for peace by creating an atmosphere of violence and tension.

Maggie Helwig is the coordinator of Canadian Action for Indonesia and East Timor (CAFIET), a human rights group that gathers information on human rights abuse in the region and encourages Canadians to take political action at home. Humanitarians in the West have produced hundreds of reports since the occupation chronicling East Timor's struggle over the years. For over 10 years Helwig has worked for the rights of

How it was:  
a view of traditional  
farmland, now rare  
after Indonesia's policy  
of forced migration.

opposite page:  
an image of pre-  
invasion life. Note the  
traditional markings on  
the mother's hands.



people in East Timor, and there is a fundamental, underlying hope in her work. But she is worried by the oppressive reality of Indonesia's military involvement in the territory and comments on their recent methods.

"It is public knowledge that the Indonesian military is arming and encouraging paramilitary groups in East Timor," says Helwig. "It's clearly a deliberate attempt to create a level of civil disorder that could prevent any real possibility of peaceful independence."

And civil disorder—or war—is exactly what the Indonesian authorities have warned would happen should their troops be withdrawn. Time and again, Indonesia has justified its large military presence with the claim that East Timorese society is divided against itself: with integration supporters on one side and independence proponents on the other. This said, Indonesia has been conspicuously opposed to allowing the UN a permanent presence.

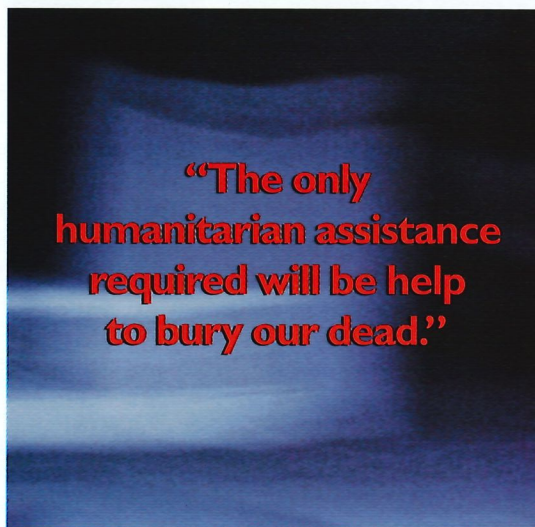
Horta, who won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1996 for his activism, believes 95 per cent of East Timorese desire independence from Indonesia. He equates the Indonesian claim that a troop withdrawal would risk civil war, with the claim that Jews would have killed each other if "Hitler had not slaughtered them first." Resistance leader Gusmao points out that the militias never existed until October of last year, when ABRI created them. But they certainly exist now.

ABRI's goal of inciting the guerrilla forces into violent reaction has proven difficult. In their efforts to prove their commitment to the UN process, the armed wing of the East Timorese resistance movement, Falintil, obeyed Gusmao's appeals for pacifism in the face of the brutalities committed by the militias. During the ceasefire which Gusmao brokered in February, Falintil,

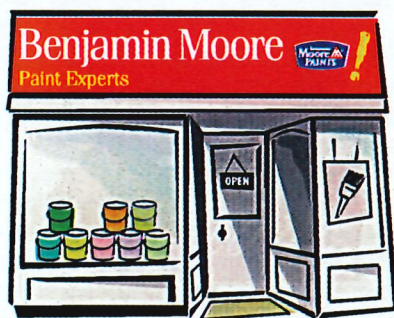
consisting of between 500 and 1,000 men and women, avoided conflict with the 10,000 militiamen and 20,000 ABRI troops that continued to attack civilians. Peaceful demonstrations were suspended, and through press releases and meetings with the media and world governments, Gusmao sought a UN police force for East Timor. By the end of March, however, the resistance fighters' patience was deteriorating, and Gusmao warned that, should the situation persist, "the only humanitarian assistance required will be help to bury our dead."

On April 5, Gusmao gave in. He grimly allowed the resistance forces to resume fighting in defense of themselves. The Indonesian-backed

squads were on an ambitious campaign of death—a grenade attack on a church full of refugees killed dozens. As the international community winced at the sting of Gusmao's call to arms, a 23-year-old struggle resumed. Now, while East Timor moves somewhere into the future, it is unclear the struggle for a free East Timor will even reach the UN ballot boxes. ■



## Watch For what's in Store!



Call 1-800-663-5929

for the nearest  
expert to you



## What Every Investor Should Know About GREAT PACIFIC MANAGEMENT And Its Related Companies

If recent events in the market leave you uncomfortable and needing to re-establish confidence in your investment strategy, the following should be of interest:

- We have 34 uninterrupted years of serving our clients
- Over \$3 billion in Assets Under Administration
- Retained Earnings in excess of \$6 million
- Over 100,000 investors place their trust in us
- Over 30 offices in B.C., Alberta, Ontario and Yukon
- 300 plus licensed professional representatives

Services provided by Great Pacific's related companies include:

- A selection of over 1000 mutual funds
- Financial planning
- RRSP planning
- RRIF planning
- Life and disability insurance
- Group plan administration
- Mortgage financing
- Tax reduction and deferral strategies

For investment strategies that re-establish your confidence in today's volatile market, or for a free brochure, call the professionals at Great Pacific Management in Vancouver at 1-800-665-2030. Representative inquiries welcome.



Great Pacific Management Co.  
4th Floor, 1125 Howe Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2K8  
Fax: (604) 669-1979

MEMBER CIPF



# INDONESIA

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Visa:** Business and student visas required, but not for stays less than 60 days. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months.

**Health Precautions:** Cholera, dengue fever, hepatitis A, Japanese B encephalitis, malaria (regional), schistosomiasis, tuberculosis and typhoid fever may occur.

**Tipping:** 11% government tax and a 10-15% service charge are added to hotel and restaurant bills. However, tipping is normal. Taxi drivers are not tipped, except in Jakarta and Surabaya.

**Currency and Exchange:** Rupiah (IDR); R5710= C\$1 (14 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** 87% Islam, 6% Protestant, 3% Catholic, 2% Hindu, 1% Buddhist, 1% others

**Airlines:** Cathay Pacific Canada [www.cathaypacific.com](http://www.cathaypacific.com), 1-800-268-6868; Singapore Airlines: [www2.singaporeair.com](http://www2.singaporeair.com), (604) 689-1223; Japan Airlines 1-800-525-3663

**Distance from Airport:** Soekarno-Hatta International Airport is 30 km from Jakarta.

**Transportation:** Taxi: negotiate the fair. Train: the island of Java and part of Sumatra have railway service. Tickets should be purchased through a travel agent. Air: easiest way to move between cities and islands of Indonesia.

**Climate:** Equatorial; best time to travel is during the dry season (May to Sept.); rainy season is from Oct. to Apr. Year-round temperatures range from 20°C to 30°C.

**Languages:** Bahasa Indonesia with the Javanese dialect widely spoken. English is the most common second language.

**Time Difference:** PST + 15 to 17 hours

**Major Centres:** Jakarta (capital), Surabaya, Medan, Bandung.

**Population:** Est. 216.1 million (1999)

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Jan. 19-20	Idul Fitri
Mar. 28	Idul Adha
Apr. 2	Good Friday
Apr. 5	Easter/Hari Paskah
Apr. 17	Muharram
Apr. 17	Hari Raya Nyepi
May 1	Waisak
May 13	Ascension Day
June 26	Mohammed's Birthday
Aug. 17	Independence Day
Dec. 25	Christmas Day

### Canadian Representative:

**Canadian Embassy**  
5th fl., Wisma Metropolitan  
Jalan Jenderal Sudirman  
Jakarta 12920, Indonesia  
tel: (62-21) 525-0709  
fax: (62-21) 571-2251  
Mailing Address: PO Box 8324/JKS.MP  
Jakarta 12084, Indonesia

### Indonesian Representatives:

**Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia**  
55 Parkdale Ave.  
Ottawa, Ont. K1Y 1E5  
tel: (613) 724-1100  
fax: (613) 724-1105/724-4959

### Consulate General of Indonesia

1630 Alberni St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1A6  
tel: (604) 682-8855  
fax: (604) 662-8396

### Business Organizations:

**Ind. Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)**  
Chandra Bldg., 3rd-5th fl.  
Jalan M. H. Thamrin 20  
Jakarta 10350, Indonesia  
tel: (62-21) 324-0000  
fax: (62-21) 315-0241

**Canadian Banks:** Hong Kong Bank of Canada, Toronto Dominion Bank, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), Bank of Nova Scotia, Bank of Montreal

**Notes:** Don't use your left hand to give or receive anything or use your index finger to point at or summon anyone; never touch a person's head or cross your legs so that your foot points at someone. Business Customs: best time for an initial business trip is Sept. to June to avoid school holidays and vacation time. Websites: newspaper and magazine links in Indonesia, [www.indoseek.co.id/news.html](http://www.indoseek.co.id/news.html); World Trade Organization, [wto.org](http://wto.org); Statistics Indonesia, [www.bps.go.id](http://www.bps.go.id).



Indonesia photos by Claudia Molina



Philippines photos by Christine Dellosso

# PHILIPPINES

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Visa:** Not required for visits up to 21 days; temporary visas for visits of up to 59 days. Canadian passport that is valid for 6 months upon arrival and tickets to leave the country are needed.

**Health Precautions:** No vaccinations required to enter from Canada.

**Tipping:** Expected for many services, as in North America. Generally, 10% is added to the total of the bill. When in doubt, do as you do at home.

**Currency and Exchange:** Philippine peso; P25.45 = C\$1.00 (14 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** 83% Roman Catholic, 9% Protestant, 5% Muslim, 3% Buddhist

**Airlines:** Canadian Airlines flight schedule via the web at <http://timetable.cdnaair.ca/egi-bin/fs/fs>; Cathay Pacific Airlines flight planner via the web at [www.cathaypacific.com/egi/schedule.pl](http://www.cathaypacific.com/egi/schedule.pl).

**Transportation:** Getting around Manila: taxis, Light-Rail Transit (LRT), limousines, cars for hire and rental cars; outside Manila: rental cars, train and air.

**Climate:** Tropical climate with two seasons: rainy from June to Nov. and dry between Dec. and May.

**Languages:** Most Filipinos are bilingual, speaking English and Tagalog. A small percentage also speak Spanish.

**Time Difference:** PST + 16 hours

**Major Centres:** Manila (capital city), Quezon City, Cebu (major cities)

**Population:** Est. 70 million (1999)

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Mar. or Apr. (var.)	Easter
Apr. 9	Bataan Day
May 1	Labour Day
June 12	Independence Day
Last sun. of Aug.	National Heroes Day
Nov. 1	All Saints Day
Nov. 30	Bonifacio Day
Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Dec. 30	Rizal Day

### Canadian Representatives:

**Canadian Embassy of the Philippines**  
9th & 11th fl., Allied Bank Centre  
6754 Ayala Ave., Makati City Republic of Philippines  
Mailing Address: PO Box 2168  
Makati Central Post Office, Makati 1261, Republic of Philippines

### Philippine Representatives:

**Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines**  
606-130 Albert St., Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5G4  
tel: (613) 233-1121  
fax: (613) 233-4165  
email: [ottawape@istar.ca](mailto:ottawape@istar.ca)

### Philippine Consulate General

310-470 Granville St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1V5  
tel: (604) 685-7645  
fax: (604) 685-9945

### Business Organizations:

**Philippine Canada Trade Council**  
700 - 686 West Broadway  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1G1  
tel: (604) 874-0204  
fax: (604) 874-0820

### ASEAN-Canada Business Council

501-350 Sparks St.  
Ottawa, Ont. K1R 7S8  
tel: (613) 238-4000  
fax: (613) 238-7643

**Canadian Banks:** Bank of Nova Scotia and Hong Kong Bank of Canada, Manila.

**Notes:** English is commonly used in business and government. Meet both men and women with a handshake. Private business and government offices open 8am to 5pm Mon. to Fri. Banks are open 9am to 3pm Mon. to Fri. Philippine travel information at [www.sino.net/asean/philippn.htm](http://www.sino.net/asean/philippn.htm).



# More Than Skin




After weapons and drugs, the  
brings in the black market's big  
Indonesian Komodo dragons and  
simple pets, reptiles fill a range



A cayman alligator in the  
wild. Some crocodilian  
species sell for \$15,000 US  
in the illegal reptile trade.  
inset: A keychain made  
from a cayman's head.






# Deep

by Ronnie M. Fuentes

gal trade and importation of exotic animals  
st bucks. But why are people buying  
Madagascar tortoises? From suits to soups to  
wants. But not all of them are legal.

**T**he alligator struggles to break free. But seven mighty blows to the back of its head abruptly end its futile attempts. Out cold, it receives another, but less brutal, *coup de grace*: a seven-centimetre incision on the spot where the deadly blows landed. Now slowly bleeding, it is left lying in a gutter. After more than one-and-a-half hours, the metre-long creature is dead. Its skin will be sold to make handbags for the fashion industry in Europe and North America. Clifford Warwick, a trustee of the Reptile Protection Trust, has watched several animals die this way. According to Warwick, alligators are simply skinned alive on a busy day in alligator farms, and survive like that for hours before dying. Documentary footage from Asian reptile farms also shows snakes and lizards being tortured for their prized skin. With meat hooks piercing their heads, they are disemboweled before their skins are pulled off. Dealers believe that the practice of skinning reptiles alive makes the skin more supple.





Aside from making fashion statements, reptiles also make popular ingredients for exotic dishes, traditional medicines and aphrodisiacs. There is an old Chinese belief that snake blood mixed with an alcoholic drink is an effective potion that increases sexual prowess.

In Vancouver's Chinatown, fish vendors sell live soft-shelled turtles in bowls and chop them into pieces for soup. Christine Schramm of the Rainforest Reptile Refuge Society in Surrey, B.C., keeps a soft-shelled turtle that was rescued from the chopping block. Although she recognizes that different cultures eat different kinds of animals, the treatment of these wild animals seems particularly cruel. "They are slaughtered," she says. "They are chopped up alive."

The ever-increasing demand for reptiles as food is just one of the many factors that contribute to the growth of the reptile trade. The pet industry also plays a role in this increase as demand for rare species has driven prices upward, increasing the temptation to smuggle reptiles. "The illegal importation of or trade in exotic animals is third to weapons and drugs," says Schramm. "It brings in millions of dollars every year, not only from the hides but also from the live animals for the pet industry." For example, a Komodo dragon sells for \$30,000 US on the black market while a Chinese alligator costs \$15,000 US. Even the Philippines' Gray's monitor, a species that can be exported with a permit, commands a black market price of \$8,000 US. These prices are way too high, even for a three-metre-long pet that can bite your face off.

Yet collectors are still buying. "I don't know what it is about reptiles," continues Schramm. "Some eight or nine-year-old kids who come in here say, 'Wow, cool! Look at this! I'm gonna get one of these!' I don't know what the attraction is for them, but I think it's our culture here in Canada and in the U.S. that we have to possess things. We have to control—it's a control thing. It's cool to have something captive in a cage."

But to Fabian Dawson, editorial consultant of the *Southeast Asia Post*, who wrote an article on the Asian reptile racket, it's all about the allure of the exotic. "Who wants to have a snake at home? But then there are hundreds and hundreds of people around the world who seem to think that it's good. Man is such a collector himself. The more *rad* a thing is, the more he wants to go out and get it."

Media and the entertainment industry are also partly to blame for the accelerated reptile trade, thanks to movies like *Jurassic Park*, *The Lost World* and *Godzilla*. These movies depict reptiles as aggressive, violent creatures, capable of destroying, maiming or killing. No ordinary, passive household pet can bite its prey, thrash it left and right, and swallow it whole. That's why these modern-day dinosaurs are popular.

In fact, these animals are so cool that the U.S., the dominant player in the reptile trade, imported 1.8 million live reptiles worth \$7 million US and exported 9.7 million valued at more than \$13.2 million US in 1997. This is only the legal stuff. The bulk of the trade is illicit, and millions of dollars worth of live reptiles are smuggled every year.

A case in point was the arrest of possibly the world's biggest illegal reptile dealer and two of his cohorts in Mexico in September 1998. Authorities from Mexico, Canada and the U.S. found in their possession the following species: an Indonesian Komodo dragon, a rare New Zealand tuatara, exotic Madagascar tortoises, Chinese alligators, Southeast Asian false gavials and Philippine monitor lizards. Authorities are investigating how these creatures left their original habitats and landed in Mexico.

Legal or illegal, the reptile trade has raised conservation fears. "We need to step up research and take action to address fears that the trade is impacting some of the world's wild reptile populations," says Craig Hoover of TRAFFIC North America. In his report, *The U.S. Role in the International Live Reptile Trade: Amazon Tree Boas to*





**Environment Canada's Wildlife Enforcement Section helps regulate the international and interprovincial trade of endangered species.**

*Zululand Dwarf Chameleons*, he recommends several actions to help ensure that the booming trade is conducted in a manner that is beneficial to the world's wild reptile populations. These include reviewing legislation and assessing effectiveness of implementation and enforcement for identified hot spots like Indonesia and Madagascar, where native reptile faunas continue to be threatened by trade. The recommendations also call for improvements in the implementation of CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which regulates international trade in animals and plants, and pursues trade bans. Yet animal rights lobbyists believe these recommendations aren't enough to deter illegal traders. They clamour for stiffer penalties in a trade where the risk of being caught is relatively low—some even go so far as to suggest

that authorities imprison offenders and throw away the key. Other reptile advocates propose that animals with scales and skin be provided the same dignity and respect afforded to those with fur or feathers.

However, no amount of lobbying and recommending is likely to impact the reptile trade as long as illegal animal dealers continue to disrespect borders. And two recent smuggling incidents since the big bust in Mexico serve as alarming reminders of this fact. The first case involved a Canadian and a Dutchman flying in from Thailand. Both were arrested in Chiang Kai-shek Airport trying to smuggle 303 endangered chameleons into Taiwan. In the second case, authorities found 1,000 cobras on their way out of Jakarta headed for Japan. Both cases happened within a span of less than two months. The black market reptile trade is truly alive and slithering. ■

**P**iers Leroux is a nature lover: As a kid in Ontario, he would go camping with his father, also a nature lover. In the summer, Leroux would catch garter snakes, let them have babies, and release them afterwards. Then he went on to bigger things. "We bought a boa, and within a couple of years, we—between my two brothers and me—probably had 15 to 20 snakes. It went from there."

Indeed, it has gone from there. He has been breeding reptiles for more than 15 years. He breeds mainly boas, pythons and anacondas, and many of his animals are worth around \$10,000 Cdn. He modestly admits he's not a big buyer or seller. Being a herpetologist, a *herper* as some people in this field are called, is just a hobby. According to Leroux, 95 per cent of reptile traders are reputable. What's more, most legitimate dealers have no reason to break the law. "It's more profitable to do it legally," he says. "Because the animals come in healthier, you can demand a higher price. For a \$35 permit and maybe three months of paperwork, you can bring a hundred animals. You're always going to get the odd guys who are smuggling Komodo dragons and whatever. But on average, if you get a legal captive-born animal, you don't want to deal with smuggled animals."

As for the pitfalls of dealing in illegal reptiles, Leroux says: "If you know they were



## Co-operative Education & Internship Programs

### Looking for trained, capable and energetic help?

**Hire** a Langara Business or  
Computing Co-op Student.

### Let them put their skills and education to work for you.

**Increase** productivity, start  
a new project, or work on a  
special assignment.

**Cost-effective** team players  
with a solid foundation in  
their field.

**Shape** the business professionals  
of tomorrow by hiring our co-op  
students today.

### Langara has Co-op programs in:

Accounting

Applied Computer Science  
and Technology

Business Finance &  
Investment Management

Computer Information  
Systems

International Business

Marketing & Sales

Real Estate Studies

For information contact us today!

Tel: (604) 323-5503

Fax: (604) 323-5955

[www.langara.bc.ca/coop](http://www.langara.bc.ca/coop)



LANGARA  
COLLEGE

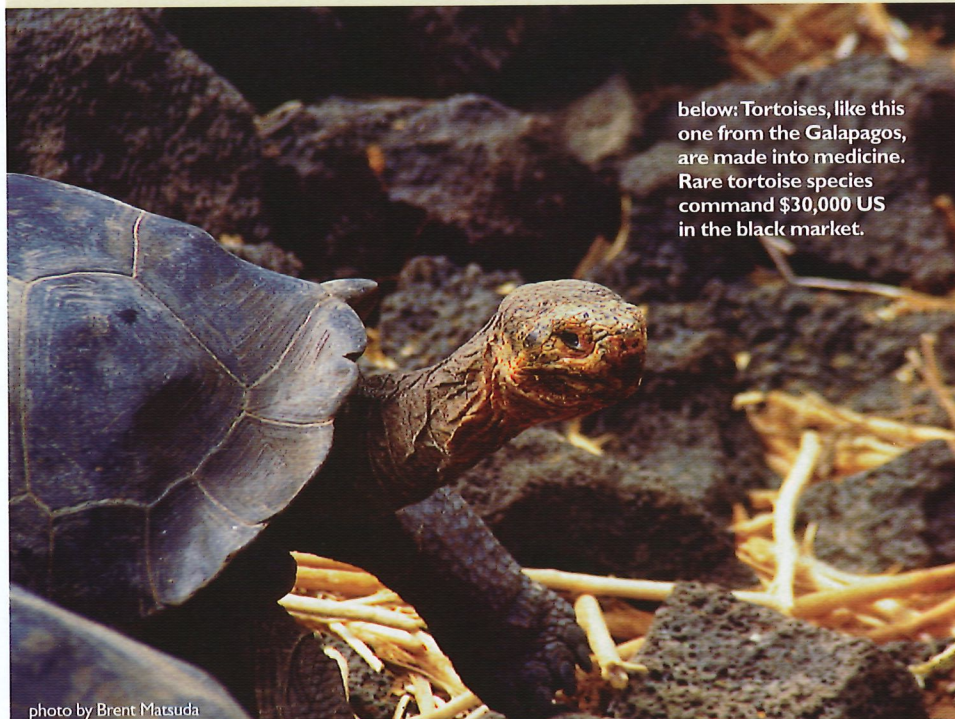


photo by Brent Matsuda

below: Tortoises, like this  
one from the Galapagos,  
are made into medicine.  
Rare tortoise species  
command \$30,000 US  
in the black market.

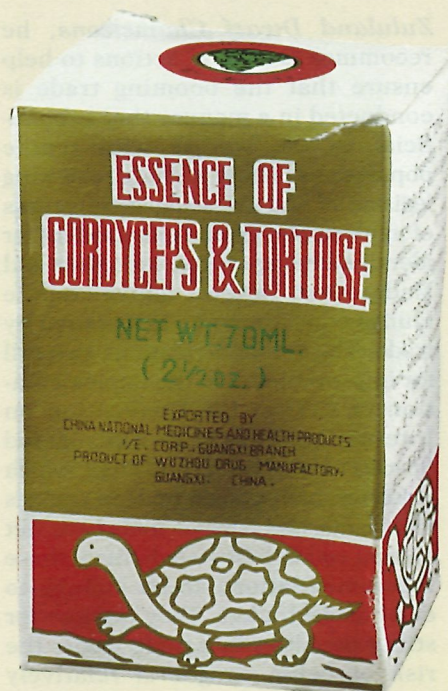
smuggled, you are as responsible as the person  
who smuggled them. If I said, 'Hey, look at these  
tortoises. They're illegal. I just got them from  
Sri Lanka. Here, go ahead.' And then you tried  
to sell them and you got caught, you're going  
to go to jail or at least get fined. I'm going to  
jail and get fined. It goes all the way down the  
line. So it's not worth anybody's time to  
smuggle—not to me, anyway."

Leroux also contends that those who  
operate legally through captive breeding make  
it harder for the black marketers. A good  
example of how captive breeding makes  
smuggling less profitable is the case of the  
bearded dragon. Australia, its country of  
origin, had a no-export rule on this reptile for  
years except to zoos. Twenty years ago, it  
fetched a price of \$500,000. Because it was  
easy to breed, every herper was breeding it.  
Now anyone can get bearded dragon babies  
for \$15, thanks to captive breeding. Its low  
price deters dealers from smuggling the  
reptile out of Australia. Another example is  
the ball python. There are so many being bred  
in North America today that almost nobody  
exports them anymore.


Not all reptiles are as lucky as the bearded  
dragon or the ball python. The illegal trade still  
continues for some species. Leroux laments,  
"It's wrong. It should stop. There are still  
enough people buying these animals. That's  
unfortunately always going to be the  
way—even if people are aware of it. If there's a  
good deal on an animal, people will take it. Or  
if there's something that's hard to get, and this  
guy has it, there are a lot of people who won't  
question where an animal came from."

However, Leroux believes that we will see

less and less smuggling as the years go by  
because of the availability of permits and  
licenses, improved shipping and the growing  
demand for healthier animals. But until then,  
Leroux advises us to buy captive. "No matter  
what you think of any of these exotic-animal  
people, every time you see an animal—a  
frog, a lizard, a turtle, a snake—in a store that  
has been captive-born, it's one less animal that  
has been taken out of the wild." Captive  
breeders breed reptiles; illegal reptile traders  
breed contempt.







# B.C. Lumber Building Japan

**As the Japanese and British Columbian economies falter and surge, the B.C. lumber industry plays a paramount role.**

by Michael Colombara

**A**lmost everyone who has lived in British Columbia during recent years has heard about the struggles of the lumber industry. This provokes the question: "How have things degenerated so much?" Theories about mismanagement, government tampering and NAFTA abound, and all are probably partially correct. For the past two-and-a-half decades, the Japanese economy and the B.C. lumber industry have been linked and it is no coincidence that they have slumped at the same time.

In the early 1970s, the B.C. forest industry began looking for a new market for its wood. Its market in the eastern United States was starting to dry up and it needed to find an alternative. Meanwhile, the Japanese government faced a problem. It did not think the Japanese lumber industry and its traditional building methods would be able to meet the needs of an expanding population. This mutual need set the stage for a beneficial partnership between British Columbian wood producers and Japanese home builders.

**Although changing philosophies was important, the main problem to overcome was the different building method used for the traditional Japanese house.**

Although the Japanese market looked attractive, there were many hurdles to overcome. The first was adjusting to the differences in Japanese business philosophy which revolves around extensive quality testing, discussion by committee and building relationships. As a result, decisions were never made on the spot, but usually involved lots

of discussion and many visits. Although changing philosophies was important, the main problem was the different building method used for the traditional Japanese house. The traditional Japanese house is a complex structure that requires a master carpenter on site at all times during construction. Green posts and beams are fastened together using detailed wooden joints. The carpenter must account for the shrinkage and twisting of the green wood as it dries over the course of building. This method is extremely time consuming and a carpenter can only build a few houses each year. In North America, on the other hand, houses are made using the platform frame construction (PFC) method. In this system, dimen-



## B C. Lumber

### Building Japan continued



Pacific Rim  
38

sion lumber (2x4, 2x8, etc.) forms the frame, while plywood forms the walls, roof and floors. The PFC method is fast, simple and strong, and most of the wood is pre-cut before getting to the building site.

Given the differences between building methods and the pressures of housing demands in Japan, the B.C. lumber industry recognized the potential of the PFC method in the Japanese market. So in 1973, the Council of Forest Industries (COFI), along with provincial and federal governments, began a market development program in Japan. The goal of this program was to introduce the PFC construction method to Japan and to emphasize the advantages of Canadian lumber. In 1974, in order to have a more direct contact with the market, COFI established an office in Tokyo. With the help of the federal government, four North American-style townhouses were constructed on the grounds of the Canadian Embassy. Since they were built on Canadian soil, they didn't need to meet Japanese building codes. The event was well publicized and many tours were given during construction, including visits from government officials as well as builders and contractors. Shortly thereafter, Japan approved a new PFC building code.

Throughout the rest of the decade, a great deal of promotion was done to raise Japan's PFC awareness: both sides undertook many trade missions, Canadian schools added training courses to accommodate members of the

Japanese building industry, and builders constructed about a hundred demonstration houses. At last, the effort started to pay off, and in 1980, 13,000 PFC houses were built. This translated into over \$200 million in lumber sales.

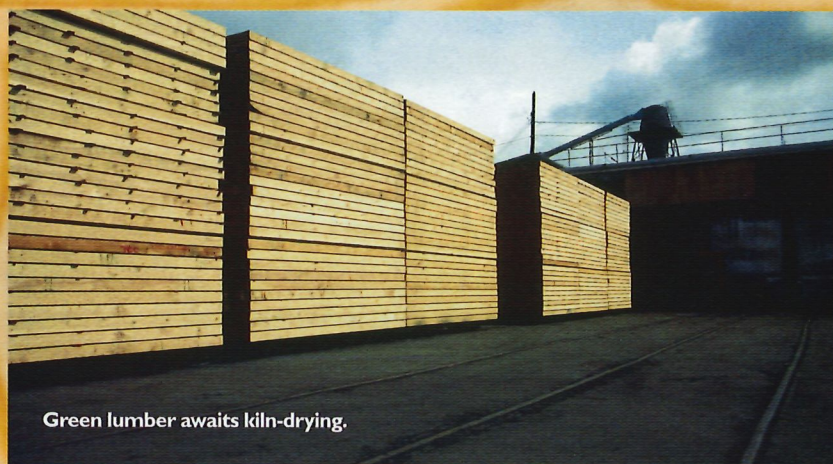
At the same time, the focus of the Japanese building industry shifted. Japanese builders decided the green lumber they were using was not reliable enough, since it had a tendency to twist, split and shrink as it dried. In Japan, builders are responsible for their product for 20 years or more, and if any flaws develop, they must return to correct them. As they could avoid a lot

of these flaws by using kiln-dried wood, builders began to insist on dry wood. This did not bode well for the B.C. coastal forest industry whose hemlock and cedar trees are very green and difficult to dry. Once again, the B.C. lumber industry was forced to change its strategy.

**The PFC method is fast, simple and strong, and most of the wood is pre-cut before getting to the building site.**

It was at this point that two changes occurred in the B.C. industry that still hold true today. First, the B.C. interior mills entered the Japanese market. Lumber made primarily of spruce, pine and fir trees is naturally very dry, sometimes not requiring drying at all. It is also lightweight and strong, and it does

Helicopter logging at Meagre Creek near Pemberton, B.C.



Green lumber awaits kiln-drying.

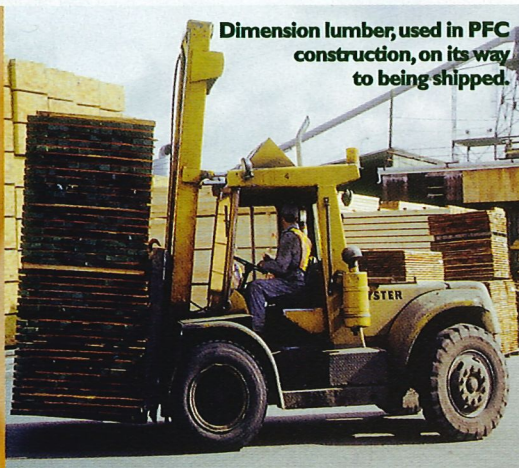


not split when nailed, making it ideal for the PFC method. The second change was that coastal mills, seeing that the market was now almost lost to them, shifted their production methods to focus on lumber for the traditional post and beam market. They made large investments in equipment and training to supply this market efficiently.

Today, coastal mills are experiencing major difficulties. Due to rising stumpage fees, labour costs and a new forest practices code, Canada's coastal industry has the highest lumber costs in the world. With competition from the U.S. and an increased effort by Japan to develop its own domestic lumber industry, the Japanese market for the coastal mills is waning.

The situation is much more positive for interior mills. The number of PFC houses has seen a fairly steady increase. The strength and stability of the PFC design had been proven during the Kobe earthquake. In some areas, whole neighbourhoods were flattened leaving only some PFC houses standing. In 1996, there were almost 94,000 units built. This total dipped a little in 1997, but overall housing starts were lower as well.

Japan's economic downturn, while it has hurt the lumber industry, has not been entirely bad for B.C. In fact, it has actually helped the industry maintain its market dominance. In the past, builders ordered large quantities on a quarterly basis. Recently, however, they have been switching to just-in-time ordering. In the just-in-time system, builders order what they need and it



Dimension lumber, used in PFC construction, on its way to being shipped.

arrives right when they need it. Wood can leave an interior mill and arrive by ship in Japan 12 days later, which is faster than any other source, save Japanese domestic production.

For the moment, Japan and B.C. have a mutually beneficial relationship. The lumber industry in B.C. currently supports some 290,000 jobs directly and indirectly and the B.C. exports

to Japan are worth more than \$2 billion. With lumber that has been exported to Japan from B.C. being cheaper than Japan's domesti-

cally produced lumber and through the use of PFC housing, Japan has managed to keep up with its increasing housing needs. Both sides hope that together they will enjoy a prosperous future so long as those needs continue to be met. ■

**The lumber industry in B.C. currently supports some 290,000 jobs.**



In the background, a wood chipper disposes of unwanted lumber.

# Langara Means Business

## How?

Consider these program options:

- Accounting
- Business, Finance & Investment Management
- Commerce Transfer
- Computer Information Systems
- International Business
- Marketing and Sales
- Real Estate Studies
- Small Business Development

**Plus** Co-op Education options so you can earn while you learn!

## Langara College

maintains its tradition of excellence by preparing Canadian and International students for careers in enterprise.

## Is Langara in your future?

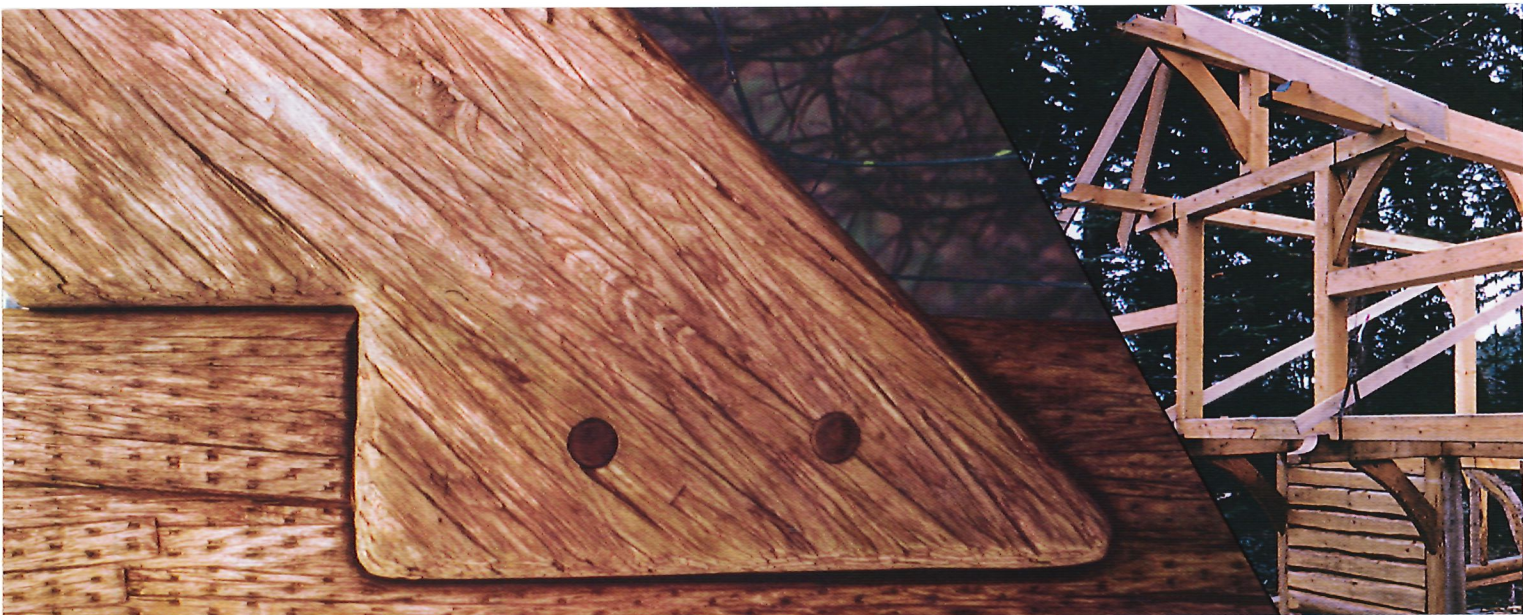
contact:

Antonella Alves  
Business Administration Department  
Tel: 604-323-5848  
business@langara.bc.ca



**LANGARA  
COLLEGE**





# OF POSTS

**T**he buzz of chainsaws in the bush, the bang of hammers on chisels, the smell of fresh cut cedar and the camaraderie of men and women fill the air in a Gabriola Island neighbourhood. These are the sights, smells and sounds found year-round at the Island School of Building Arts. The school's construction site is visible from the rural mailbox on the corner. Neighbours and curious visitors can watch the progress of student projects as they rise up amongst the trees that surround the site. A nearby beach provides an opportunity for students to discover secret treasures; logs washed up on shore become potential building materials.

In January 1998, 11 students, ranging from interested beginners to experienced carpenters, attended the Island School of Building Arts to learn the art and craft of modular post and beam construction. Their project was the assembly of a 1,000 sq. foot red cedar frame home. During the fall '97 course, students laid out and cut most of the mortise and tenon joinery for the upright posts and horizontal beams. The new students still had a lot to do, including joinery work, building a temporary foundation and assembling all the pieces of the frame.

The winter '98 students learned the building's grid design and reviewed the function of the various types of joinery during the first two days. James Mitchell, the Island School of Building Arts owner and teacher, demonstrated the operation of all the power tools and thoroughly explained the safety rules. On the third day, after early morning stretches and coffee, students headed down to the site and began sorting out the stored timbers and working with the materials and tools. One week later, the bottom beams, the posts and most of the sill beams were in place.

The joinery for the top sill beam was finished in the fall '97 course, but compensation for a miscut joint made this beam a challenge for the winter '98 students. "It wasn't

fitting right and we knew something was wrong with it. We discussed and debated how to solve the problem." In an attempt to make it fit, the beam was cut. Unfortunately, it was now too short. "We should have waited for James's go-ahead, but we were eager to show we had learned something," admitted some of the students.

The first lesson of carpentry was learned once again; measure twice, cut once. The problem: a misfit and no more timber to work with. The solution: cut down a 30-foot fir tree from Mitchell's property and mill it in the bush using chainsaws. "It took 10 of us to haul it out of there, but it fits perfectly," said Roger Berrett, speaking proudly of the building's top supporting beam.

Mitchell avoids using expensive industrial tools that are inaccessible to the average owner-builder. His students







top left: Post and beam joins use dowels not nails.

centre: A modular hammer bent frame built using natural materials and affordable tools.

top right: A home in progress at the Island School of Building Arts.

bottom right: Post with tenon.

# AND BEAMS

by Lynn O'Rourke

Pacific Rim  
41



photos and design by Lisa Marryn

assembled the 1,000 sq. foot home using hammers, sharp chisels, chainsaws, circular saws, planers, sanders, drills, tape measures and sharpened pencils. All joinery work is done using templates and these basic tools. Each cut piece fits snugly into the other and is held in place by handmade wood pegs. "It fits together like a great big Meccano set," says Mitchell, using his favourite metaphor. The wood-pegged joinery creates a functional, impressive and sturdy post and beam home. This modular system allows the house to be disassembled piece by piece and then relocated, expanded or redesigned.

A question in the minds of many students is: "Could I build this house

by myself?" Mitchell believes it is possible. With the right tools and instruction, anyone can build a beautiful home. "It does help to have strong neighbours when it comes to lifting the timbers into place," he adds. During the two-week to two-month courses, students also learn the school's philosophy of debt-free housing. "It is possible for people to build their own homes and not have to go into debt, to use their own sweat-equity, natural and recycled materials that look good and will stand the test of time," says Mitchell in his book, *The Art and Craft of Modular Post and Beam Construction*. A thousand dollars will buy the first timbers and you can begin to build.

If the materials are stored in a dry place and the cut ends are sealed, you can work at your own pace for years. Your budget, ingenuity and personal preference, as well as building codes, help to determine the materials for the walls. "I had been conditioned to believe that real building materials came from building stores. . . . I had never imagined the variety of natural materials available and the ways they could be used for building," says Mitchell, also an advocate of alternative building methods. He encourages students to discover what is available around them when planning their structures. Straw bale, adobe, brick, rammed earth, log, stressskin panels or studs, plywood and insulation are possible wall systems for post and beam frames.

Mitchell has been building houses of one kind or another for over 20 years, and if you include the wood, sand, snow and straw forts he built as a child, he has been developing his skills and style throughout his life. Mitchell's 4,000 sq. foot home, office, workshop and studio is a testament to what is possible with modular post and beam



**With the right tools and instruction, anyone can build a beautiful home.**



# Universal Social Programs Define Canada

According to the U.N., education as well as pensions, medicare and unemployment insurance, are what make Canada the best place in the world to live!

Unfortunately, Paul Martin and the Liberal government want to make us more like our neighbours to the south.

Since 1993, the average student debt load has increased to \$25,000 after graduation.

Now the Liberal government has introduced an "unjust, punitive, harmful and unnecessary" student bankruptcy law.

Privatisation of student loans means no more six-month interest-free period at graduation while students look for jobs and twice the interest rate that large corporations pay.

Tell Paul Martin and your M.P. that the Liberal's education policies hurt Canada.

We need to restore the \$5 billion that has been cut from education and get private banks out of the business of student loans.

For more information contact S.U.C.K.E.D.I.N. Students, Union members and other Canadians concerned about Kripping Education Debt In our Nation.



What Canada is all about:

**Bank profit**

[www.interchange.ubc.ca/SuckedIn/](http://www.interchange.ubc.ca/SuckedIn/)



construction. He pre-built the structural components of his house three years before buying the land on Gabriola Island, and assembled the frame within four months on a permanent foundation. The cozy bedroom on the top level of the house was built, deconstructed and rebuilt three times prior to arriving at its present location. "I could easily take this apart in a day. It's like a big jigsaw puzzle," says Mitchell proudly. He also integrated various recycled and salvaged materials into his home: The windows came from a bank in Vancouver, the hardwood floors were rescued from a gymnasium and the sleek kitchen counters were salvaged from a movie set.

At the Island School of Building Arts, students dressed in dusty jeans, tool belts and cedar-shaving covered shirts learn the basics of post and beam construction. They witness the beauty and functionality of recycled building materials, and feel the satisfaction of watching a home grow up before them. The course format permits students to learn at their own pace, and the small class size ensures that everyone gets personal instruction. Mitchell's passion for building, his years of teaching experience and his easygoing, confident and relaxed nature create an open and fun learning environment. *The Island School of Building Arts offers a wide variety of building projects and course schedules. You can find more photographs of the building projects and information about the school and James Mitchell on the worldwide web at [www.bldart.com](http://www.bldart.com). To contact the Island School of Building Arts directly, phone (250) 247-8922, fax (250) 247-8923 or email [bldart@island.net](mailto:bldart@island.net).* ■



## Canadian Investment Consultants (888) Inc.

Call us to find out how mutual funds  
can be part of your financial plan

We also provide :

- Retirement planning and mutual funds
- Investment strategies using mutual funds
- Segregated funds
- Tax planning
- Immigration Trusts
- Financial Plans for Non-Resident Canadians working abroad

Andrew W.S. Donald, President

Tel (604) 436-3556 Fax (604) 436-3506  
203-4211 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 1Z6  
[andy@cic888.com](mailto:andy@cic888.com)

Sponsored in part by



**Templeton**  
First in Global Investing



# MALAYSIA

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Visa:** Not required for visits less than 3 months.

**Health Precautions:** No immunization required. Consult with health care professionals to determine immunizations necessary. Drink only boiled, purified or bottled water. Avoid ice cubes and unpasteurized dairy products.

**Tipping:** Unnecessary unless service is excellent.

**Currency and Exchange:** Malaysian dollar (ringgit); M\$2.55 = C\$1.00 (17 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** Islam, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Confucianism, Taoism, tribal religions

**Airlines:** Canadian Airlines/Malaysian Airlines: 1-800-552-9264; Singapore Airlines: (604) 689-1730; Cathay Pacific Airlines: (604) 606-8888

**Distance from Airport:** Kuala Lumpur International Airport to Kuala Lumpur 50 km

**Transportation:** Car rental widely available, International Driver's License needed (driving on the left); good, inexpensive taxi service in major towns; good air and rail services.

**Climate:** Tropical; uniformly high temperatures; 22° to 33°C year-round. Rain throughout the year.

**Languages:** Malay, English, Chinese dialects, tribal languages

**Time Difference:** PST + 16 hours

**Major Centres:** Kuala Lumpur (capital), George Town (Pinang), Kuching, Kota Kinabalu (Sabah), Ipoh

**Population:** Est. 22.71 million (1999)

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Jan. 19-20 (var.)	Hari Raya Puasa
Feb. 1	Federal Territory Day
Feb. 16-17 (var.)	Chinese New Year
Mar. 28 (var.)	Hari Raya Haji
Apr. 2 (var.)	Good Friday
Apr. 17 (var.)	Maal Hijrah
May 1	Labour Day
May 29 (var.)	Vesak Day
June 5 (var.)	King's Birthday
June 26 (var.)	Mohammed's Birthday
Aug. 31	National Day
Nov. 8 (var.)	Deepavali Festival
Dec. 25	Christmas Day

## Canadian Representative:

**Canadian High Commission**  
PO Box 10990, 7th fl., Plaza MBF  
172 Jalan Ampang  
50732 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
tel: 011-60-3-261-2000  
fax: 011-60-3-261-3428

## Malaysian Representatives:

**Malaysian High Commission**  
60 Boteler St.  
Ottawa, Ont. K1N 8Y7  
tel: (613) 241-5182  
fax: (613) 241-5214

## Tourism Malaysia

830 Burrard St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1X9

tel: (604) 689-8899  
fax: (604) 689-8804  
www.tourism.gov.my

## Malaysian Consulate General

1900 - 925 W. Georgia St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3L2  
tel: (604) 685-9550  
fax: (604) 685-9520

## Business Organizations:

**Enterprise Malaysia Canada**  
700-1111 West Hastings St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6E 2J3  
tel: (604) 661-5728  
fax: (604) 661-5770

**Canadian Banks:** Bank of Nova Scotia, Hong Kong Bank of Canada, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC)

**Notes:** Handshakes (light palm touch) are common between men. Do not shake hands with opposite sex unless they initiate it. Exchange business cards after being introduced. Impolite to cross your legs at the knee, to point with one finger or a foot or to extend the hand palm-up. Pointing is done using a loosely closed fist with thumb perched on top as a pointer. Remove shoes before entering home. Avoid critical, boisterous or aggressive behaviour and public displays of affection. Address Malay men as *Encik*, Malay women as *Puan* (married) or *Cik* (unmarried). Non-Malays should be addressed as Mr., Mrs., etc. Always focus your attention on the highest-ranking individual in a meeting.



Malaysia photos courtesy of Tourism Malaysia

Singapore photos courtesy of the Singapore Consulate

# SINGAPORE

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Visa:** Commonwealth and U.S. valid passport holders permitted to enter without a visa for stay of up to 14 days.

**Health Precautions:** Vaccinations unnecessary unless entering from area infected with yellow fever. Inoculations advised if travelling in wilder park areas due to slight risk of exposure to dengue fever, hepatitis A, typhoid fever and malaria. Tap water is safe.

**Tipping:** Tipping is officially discouraged.

**Currency and Exchange:** Singapore dollar; S\$1.14 = C\$1 (16 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** Taoism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism

**Airlines:** Cathay Pacific, Singapore Airlines  
www.singaporeair.com

**Transportation:** Bus network and MRT subway are cheap and simple to use. Taxis plentiful. Car rentals; drive on the left.

**Climate:** Hot, abundant rainfall and humid year-round. Equatorial and tropical with no pronounced rainy or dry seasons. Temp. 24° to 30°C.

**Languages:** Malay, Chinese, Tamil, English

**Time Difference:** PST + 16 hours

**Major Centres:** Singapore City (capital), Changi (airport), Jurong (port)

**Population:** Est. 3.5 million

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Jan. 19	Hari Raya Puasa
Feb. 16-17	Chinese New Year
Mar. 28	Hari Raya Haji
Apr. 2	Good Friday
May 1	Labour Day
May 29	Vesak Day
Aug. 9	National Day
Nov. 7	Deepavali
Dec. 25	Christmas Day

## Canadian Representatives:

**Canadian High Commission**  
80 Anson Road, 14th fl., IBM Towers  
Singapore 079907  
Mailing Address: PO Box 845, Robinson Road  
Singapore 901645

## Singapore Representatives:

**Consulate General of the Republic of Singapore**  
1305-999 Hastings St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2W2  
tel: (604) 669-5115  
fax: (604) 669-5153

**Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Int'l Trade**  
Singapore Desk, Southeast Asia Division  
Lester B. Pearson Building, 125 Sussex Drive  
Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0G2  
tel: (613) 996-5824  
fax: (613) 944-1604  
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

## Business Organizations:

**Canada-ASEAN Centre**  
40 Bukit Pasoh Road,  
Singapore 089854  
Republic of Singapore  
tel: 011-65-325-2300

## Trade Development Board

230 Victoria St., 07-00 Bugis Junction Office Tower  
Singapore 188024,  
Republic of Singapore  
tel: 011-65-337-6629  
www.tdb.gov.sg.

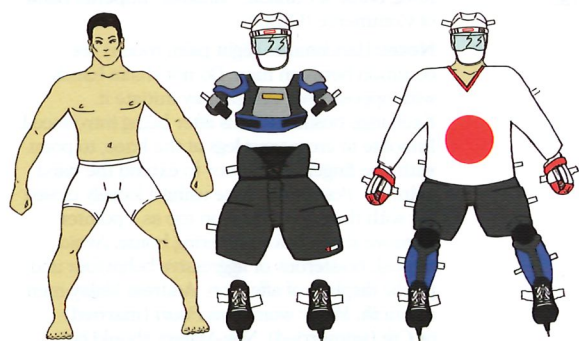
**Canadian Banks:** Bank of Montreal, Bank of Nova Scotia, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), Hong Kong Bank of Canada, National Bank of Canada (Asia) Ltd., Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto-Dominion Bank.

**Notes:** Drug-dealing is a capital offense. Those convicted are subject to severe penalties/death sentence. Unauthorized gambling is illegal. Smoking restricted to few public areas. Heavy fines for littering, smoking in a restaurant, not flushing a public toilet, eating/drinking on the subway, jaywalking and spitting. Chewing gum is against the law. A handshake is the most common form of greeting. Wait for Singaporean to initiate. Address Malays by their given names, preceded by Mr., Mrs. or Miss. Avoid touching people of the opposite sex, with the exception of handshakes. Respect the elderly and people with status. Guide for travellers and general information: www.singapore-ca.com/gn-f-gen.htm





# Hockey Night in Japan



**The coolest game on earth is getting a warm welcome in the Land of the Rising Sun.**

by Charles Macurdy  
with research by Michael Colombara

**W**ith the millennium imminent, many of us will pause to reflect upon our pasts and futures. The National Hockey League is no different. And now, as hockey fans glue themselves to the playoffs, the NHL contemplates its future overseas. To do so, it must look all the way back to the start of the season.

Oct. 11, 1998. The San Jose Sharks and the Calgary Flames prepare to fly back from Japan after playing their first two 98/99 regular season games in Tokyo. This marks the second consecutive year that two National Hockey League teams have played their first two games in Tokyo's Yoyogi arena, continuing the NHL enterprise known as GAME ONE. Last season, the Vancouver Canucks and the Anaheim Mighty Ducks opened the season with a two-game series in Tokyo, the first-ever NHL regular season games played outside of North America. And the timing was perfect. Hockey is currently enjoying widespread popularity the world over, including in Japan.







**top:**The Canucks' Donald Brashear arm wrestles a sumo wrestler.  
**bottom:**Trevor Linden makes time for a young fan.  
**bottom left:** A collision at the net during GAME ONE.

GAME ONE introduced the Japanese fans to NHL players and hockey like never before, setting the stage for the Nagano Winter Olympic Games in February. There has never been a better time for the NHL to broaden its audience by breaking into the lucrative Japanese market. League commissioner Gary Bettman, remarking on Japanese enthusiasm for NHL hockey and NHL players, qualified the trip as an opportunity to bring the game to more people throughout the Pacific Rim.

GAME ONE 1997 was a resounding success. According to Frank Nakano, director of international marketing for the NHL, "The fans were very enthusiastic. They knew the game and cheered at the right times." The league put on a festival known as Fanfest, similar to the one that accompanies all-star games in North America. Game tickets sold out in three hours, and before leaving, both former head coaches Tom Renney and Pierre Page expressed their delight with the experience.

Superstar players such as Pavel Bure, Teemu Selanne, Mark Messier and Trevor Linden were particular fan favourites, making several public appearances during their stay, signing autographs and even conducting inline hockey clinics. To the fans' delight, all four major stars scored goals in the series. Senior vice-president of hockey operations for the NHL at the time, Brian Burke, even raved that: "This was a great trip. Not a good trip, not an OK trip—a great trip."

**Anything to do with Gretzky and Kariya was a big seller. The Japanese are knowledgeable hockey fans with specific player and team allegiances.**

However, GAME ONE merely wet the appetite of Japanese fans. The attraction at these Olympic Games was the first-ever appearance of NHL players in Olympic competition. In its opening week, the NHL Japan shop accommodated approximately 1,000 people per day, 60 per cent of which were Japanese nationals. Japanese fans were described by shop staff as "knowledgeable hockey fans with specific player and team allegiances." Following the Team USA vs. Team Belarus game, an estimated 500 fans waited outside the tiny shop for well over an hour. The rest of the week, the shop consistently drew 150-fan-long lines. Anything to do with Wayne Gretzky or Mighty Ducks captain Paul Kariya was a big seller; for instance, a numbered replica jersey went for 14,800 yen—about \$125 US. The best-selling national team jersey was easily Team Canada. The superstar-heavy team featured such favourites as Eric Lindros, Brendan Shanahan and Wayne Gretzky. Sadly though, the most popular player of both the Mighty Ducks and Team Canada, Paul Kariya, never played in either GAME ONE (unsigned at the time) or in the Olympics (unwell after a bad concussion).

It was at Nagano that NHL commissioner Gary Bettman announced the continuation of GAME ONE. Bettman seized the opportunity of Olympic hockey-mania to set the scene for the Sharks and Flames in October. The two teams would play in Tokyo's Yoyogi arena, the same converted swim centre used by the Vancouver Canucks and the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim last season.

The drama of Olympic Men's Hockey continued to the end. Favourites Team Canada and Team USA both went home without medals; Team Russia yielded the gold to underdog Team Czech Republic. Even after a childish display by members of Team USA (certain athletes trashed their quarters after being eliminated from the medal round), the Olympic Games scored another international success for the NHL. Currently, NHL games are scheduled for international broadcast in Africa, Asia and throughout Europe.

As for the Sharks and the Flames, both games resulted in ties. Although successful, the event did not enjoy the level of corporate support hoped for—presumably due to the economic downturn. Will the League continue GAME ONE in future seasons? Yes, according to Nakano, but not until the 2000/2001 season, and nothing is yet confirmed. Hockey expert and author Anthony R. Mastantuoni said he feels that the NHL "may look towards Europe in the future." It makes sense, since the majority of the international broadcasts are scheduled across Europe, Europeans making up about a third of NHL players and European teams having taken all but one Olympic gold medal in men's hockey since 1956. Nakano confirms the league's interest in Europe.

However, this is not to the exclusion of Japan. Certain issues have arisen concerning the extent of traveling involved. For example, the San Jose Sharks, scheduled to play three days after their return, had to ask for more time off. The league agreed, but had to add extra games into their schedule later in the season. After all was said and done, the Sharks ended up with the longest uninterrupted road trip in NHL history. Situations like that can virtually ruin a team's season. As such, the National Hockey League needs to do some fine-tuning of the enterprise. Fortunately, it has a year to do it. ■



# Hosting

by Stephanie M. Morris

*There is no time to waste; the clock is ticking. The year 2000 is the year of grand fêtes, and the buzz on how to toast in this extraordinary New Year's Eve has already begun.*

Plan your party like the pros, and when this New Year's Eve rolls around, your party just might be the party of the century.

There are some convincing reasons for you to don your party hat. Back at work on Jan. 2, 2000, co-workers will ask: "What did you do?" As your assistant gushes with lavish details, you won't have to ho-hum reply: "I watched Dick Clark." Celebrating 2000 in style will guarantee you a final farewell to all, if the world does indeed end, and what better way for you to say *adieu* than surrounded by a circle of 100 friends.

You don't need to invent a party idea that could take all year to plan. Expert event planners provide innovative ideas from simple inspirations, extravagant themes, space usage and food presentation, to accommodating lingering guests. They also detail common pitfalls that could land you in the proverbial host or hostess pothole.

So how do you ensure that your party will be a smashing success?

Grab something that inspires you. That's exactly what über-hostess Pat Rekert does. Her company, In Any Event, designs and produces extraordinary parties for

corporate and private clients. The grandest fête Rekert is famous for is Bill and Melinda Gates's wedding reception. What began as a cocktail party for 200, turned into a sit-down dinner for 500. To accommodate guests, they added a temporary solarium to their rented heritage house for the cocktail reception. They also built a cliff-side tent measuring 900 sq. m for the dinner, and replaced its semi-permanent sides with French doors. Rekert took inspiration from the elegant, soft pink Oceana rose, and decorated the tent interior to complement the heritage house. She accentuated the look by designing antique gold rod-iron candelabras for each table and intertwining their stems with the Oceana roses. Throughout the house, roses by the thousands cascaded over doorways, flowed around pillars and appeared in elegant arrangements.

A collection can also become an inspiration for a party and be transformed into a lavish theme. For another client's wedding rehearsal dinner, Rekert merged the bride's love of flowers with the groom's oriental teapot collection. She began by planning a rehearsal dinner for 50 at the Seattle Asian Art Museum, and then set the tables with an Asian flair, featuring Chinese dishware, chopsticks and menus made of shredded Chinese newspaper. Guests drank steaming Chinese tea from individual *Yi-xing* teapots, and rare orchids graced table centrepieces and appeared in traditional bamboo arrangements.

For another corporate client, Rekert

photos by Jennifer Pochachaff; illustrations by Davide Merino; design by Lynn O'Rourke





# 2000 with Style

again used a collection as inspiration, designing theme tables to represent each of her client's passions. The James Bond table had dice, martini glasses and spy-like paraphernalia, while a parachute draped the flight table and model planes were used as centrepieces. Her client's collection of Lichtensteins inspired a table with a pop art motif, featuring reproductions as placemats, coloured tablecloths, napkins and votive candles.

Yet a simple theme does not always mean simple planning. Organizing an adult pajama party for a favourite client, Rekert turned a straightforward idea into a deluxe event. A Hugh Hefner impersonator greeted guests arriving in their PJs, and splashes heard from the indoor pool came from guests competing in synchronized swimming performances—clothing was optional. A celebrity lookalike worked the crowd as Marilyn Monroe, then Liza Minelli, then Cher. When planning your party, you would do well to follow Rekert's approach. Take your idea and expand on it: brainstorm.

Once you have your concept, plan your food to reflect your theme. Lesley Stowe of Lesley Stowe Fine Foods, caterer extraordinaire, takes themes into consideration when presenting her decadent dishes. Even when providing a simple cheese plate from her store, Stowe sends the exotic *fromage* on balsam cheese wheels. But that is as basic as she gets. For a *Phantom of the Opera* theme party, Stowe added dry ice to the dessert table to create a mysterious,

misty effect. This Halloween she turned three delicious desserts into scary creatures with sweet raspberry coulis for blood. More conventional, yet equally effective, Stowe also creates dinners with regional flare. Lemons garnish Tuscan meals that she serves on platters or in rustic baskets.

Stowe suggests looking around the house: be resourceful. A treasure of intriguing containers might turn up in unusual places. Try the basement. For that matter, why not have your party down there? It is possible. Rekert tackled B.C. Place for the prime minister's cultural evening during APEC, transforming the impersonal stadium into a pleasurable dining environment for world leaders. Concrete hallways were draped and carpeted, and spot-lit tables dotted the halls, adorned with fragrant bouquets of exotic flowers. A football field became an intimate, yet futuristic, dining room with white flooring, *Spandex* chair covers, and asymmetrical tenting. Coloured lighting changed the mood according to the entertainment. If Rekert can alter a stadium on a budget, think of what you can do to your basement.

If there is one element in planning a party that Rekert always turns to, it is lighting. Effective lighting makes it possible to alter spaces like the Gates's dinner tent, the Asian Art Museum or

## Champagne, of course!

For the deep-pocketed:  
Cuvée Dom Pérignon 1966

**\$650**

For the garden theme:  
Perrier Jouët 1989

**\$100**

For each guest to pop  
their own at midnight:  
Henkell Trocken 3-pack

**\$11.95**





**IHR****CIGAR****Tel: (604) 322-9888****Pager (604) 268-3505**

## Famous Brand Name Cigars for Less

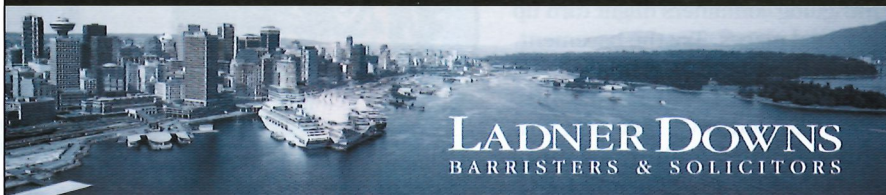
Genuine Fine Cuban Cigars • Premium International Cigars • Monthly Specials on Fine Cigars, Pipes and Smoking Accessories • Mail Order Discount Centre • Mobile Cigar & Cigar-Girl Services • Event Planning • Charity & Event Sponsors • Wholesale, Commercial & Retail • Worldwide Delivery • Foreign Agent/Dealer Opportunities



### Guildford Motors Inc.

13820 - 104th Avenue, Surrey, BC V3T 1W9  
Tel: (604) 584-1311 • Fax: (604) 584-8212  
e-mail: gmi@vwaudi.com • website: www.vwaudi.com

A tradition of excellence



Since 1911, Ladner Downs has been a leading Vancouver business law firm representing local, national, and international clients. We have the experience and legal service excellence that has expanded our business to include clients in Asian industry and commerce. At Ladner Downs we are international players with the home court advantage.

1200 Waterfront Centre  
200 Burrard Street  
PO Box 48600  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada V7X 1T2

T 604 687-5744  
F 604 687-1415  
ldmaster@ladner-downs.com  
www.ladner-downs.com



### New Year's Eve Gift Suggestions

If you are the guest, here are some great gift ideas for the host or hostess:

**Dust off that lava lamp and add it to their collection.**

Put together a goody basket full of "The Best of the Century" paraphernalia.

**Book your host a massage appointment at your favorite spa.**

B.C. Place. "Lighting is my friend," Rekert says smiling. "Lighting forces guests to focus on what I want them to see." It also lets you hide that stain on the carpet or highlight your collection of multicoloured lava lamps. "It does not matter what I do," she continues, "if the lighting is not creatively designed, it makes or breaks everything else I have done."

As candles burn down and the sun comes up, what do you do with lingering guests? One has commandeered your bed, another the sofa, another the faux fur rug and others dance merrily as if it were still midnight. Plan ahead for a potential sleepover. Have blankets, towels and extra toothbrushes on hand. As dawn approaches, you and your remaining guests will be hungry, so have a basket of baked goods ready to go, and java and cups in line. Don't forget your favourite hangover remedies. Consideration for all of your guests' needs will grant you supreme host status.

Before you run off to plan your shindig, consider the common mistakes people



make. Stowe says people usually get the food right, but not the presentation. Rekert agrees. She notices that hosts often obsess over specifics and forget the big picture, the whole presentation. So what does she do? She becomes the guest. "I walk it [the party] over and over again." She examines everything, beginning with where guests will drive in, how they will move through the reception and what they will see. Viewing your prospective party from your guests' vantage points could show that you need some essential household items like extra hangers. It could also highlight things you might not want guests to see—like your high-school yearbook. Your party mantra is "plan then preview."

Now is the time to begin planning your New Year's Eve party. Rekert began researching and consulting for three millennium parties back in June 1998, and she already has fireworks under contract. Keep in mind that not all caterers or staff want to work New Year's Eve and some entertainment will not travel for fear of the millennium bug. And in case you recently won the lottery, Celine Dion and Jerry Seinfeld are not available. Invite your guests early, since they just might be planning their own parties. Even if your boss has already arranged a bash, don't lose that party momentum. Plan early and turn your soiree into a deluxe summer barbecue. Remember, you have all those boring numbered years (2002, 2003, etc.) to sit at home and watch TV. Besides, it is still 1999 and your party could still be ranked as "The Party of The Century." The only concern is, will there be enough champagne? ■

## 2000 Cranberry Port Jell-O

Recipe: Stephanie M. Morris

### You will need:

- 250 ml of port
- 500 ml boiling water
- 250 ml cranberry juice
- 2 pkgs of cranberry Jell-O

Pour boiling water over both packages of Jell-O powder in a bowl. Mix until dissolved. Add port and cranberry juice. Stir and set according to Jell-O mix directions. Be creative with moulds: float theme-oriented objects in the jelly or cut out shapes after jelly has set.



## Treasure Gold & Jewellery Ltd.

WHOLESALE - Italian 14K & 18K GOLD

• Rings • Earrings • Bracelets • Chains

Room 1202, Chung Wo Commercial Centre  
Shanghai Street, Jordan, Hong Kong

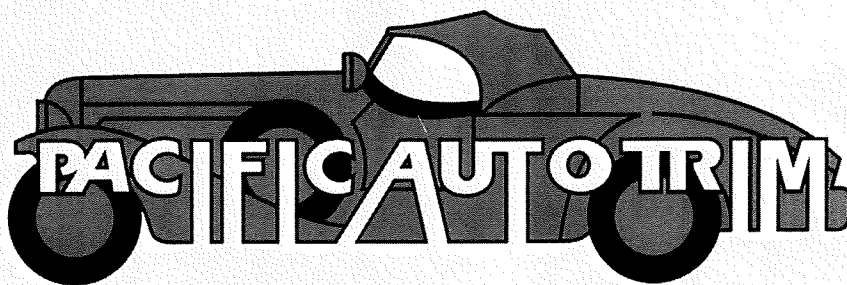
Tel: (852) 2376 1212

Fax: (852) 2317 6699

E-mail: treasuregold@ctimail.com

Pacific Rim  
49

# PACIFIC AUTO TRIM



*Specializing in Convertible Tops,  
Sun Roofs  
and  
Custom Auto Upholstery*

2168 Yukon Street • Vancouver, B.C. • V5Y 3P1

Telephone: (604) 876-1780 • Fax: (604) 875-0330



# SHIPWRECKS

## of the West Coast Trail

by Tim French

It was the spring of 1943, and a 15-year-old boy took his first summer job at the Pachena Point lighthouse on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Little did he know he would become a witness to one of the area's last major shipwrecks on record. On April 30, 1943, the Russian transport *Uzbekistan* lay wrecked on Darling Creek. Due to a gale and poor visibility, she had lost her position, and the strong northern current forced her ashore. Luckily, the 50 crew members survived. But not all of the ships that have floundered on the shores of the West Coast Trail can claim the same.

Richard Wells was that 15-year-old boy. Fifty-six years later he still remembers the day the *Uzbekistan* wrecked, and the ship's boiler and other machinery are still visible. Today, Wells is the author of *A Guide to Shipwrecks Along the West Coast Trail*, one of the most referred-to guidebooks on West Coast Trail shipwrecks. Although designed for hikers, his guide is also popular with anyone interested in the history of these shipwrecks. The West Coast Trail runs





from Port San Juan, near Renfrew, to Cape Beale. Approximately 80 vessels were wrecked along the trail between 1854 and 1977.

The earliest recorded shipwreck along the trail is the *Brig William*. She was wrecked on Jan. 1, 1854, and went ashore eight km east of Pachena Point. Her captain and cook drowned, but the remaining 14 crew members made it ashore. The coastal native people housed them and later took them to Sooke by canoe. Many other unfortunate ships would share the same fate as the *Brig William*.

Although Wells has retired from researching and writing about the West Coast Trail, his life-long interest in its wrecks has not diminished. His last time out to Pachena Point was in 1988 when he traveled to the site of the shipwreck *Valencia* with the son of one of the survivors. The *Valencia* went down on Jan. 22, 1906, when she overran her position in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The reasons, as with so many other shipwrecks, were high tide, thick weather and poor navigation. "We flew out there by helicopter," says Wells, recalling his visit to the site. "This fellow was thrilled to visit the spot his dad told him about. He came all the way up from San Francisco to see it."

The West Coast Trail was originally used simply to hang telegraph line. As a result of the *Valencia* disaster, however, there was a two-year attempt to upgrade the trail to a full-scale road. But maintenance of the trail was abandoned in the mid-1950s. The telephone had made telegraph lines obsolete, and the need to rescue hapless ships along the trail had diminished.

Jacques Marc, exploration director for the Underwater Archaeological Society of B.C. (UASBC), says the shipwreck of the *Valencia* is the most notable in the history of the West Coast Trail. The ship ran into trouble eight km east of Pachena Point while en route from San Francisco to Seattle and Victoria. It was forced against a wall of shear rock and huge waves pounded it to pieces. Tragically, 136 lives were lost. Marc comments, "There's not even a kiosk to mark the loss at the spot where it happened along the trail." Having explored the submerged remnants of the *Valencia*, he

recalls how the bow of the ship sticks up from the sandy ocean bed.

Like the *Valencia*, the remains of the *Michigan* can still be seen today. The steam schooner ran ashore on Jan. 20, 1893, 1.6 km east of Pachena Point. Miraculously, only one person died of exposure while seeking refuge along the old telegraph trail.

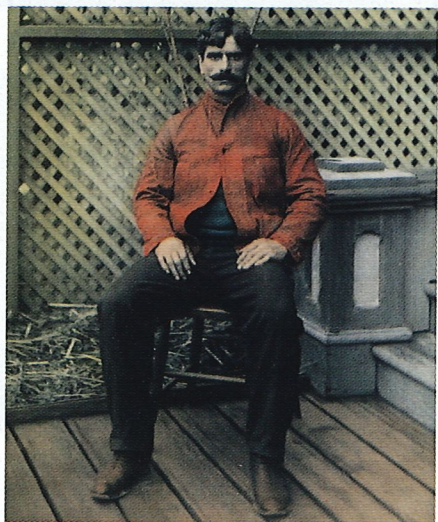
From a historic viewpoint, the three-masted ship *Becherdass-Ambiadass* also makes an interesting wreck. On July 26, 1879, the ship was lost in fog and struck shore at full sail. Native people reported the mishap to people in Cape Beale, and a local schooner rescued the crew a day later. There were no lives lost in this shipwreck and very little of the vessel remains today. However, the location of Pachena Point, one of the most dangerous points along the West Coast Trail, and the extent of damage to the ship make the wreck unique. Yet Pachena Point has not always been known by its present name. After the wreck of *Becherdass-Ambiadass*, the point was named

Beghadoss Point, a title derived from the ship's Parsee name. Only in 1909, when the light station was built, did the point receive its current name, Pachena Point. According to Marc, the most recent shipwreck is the *3Js*, a fishing boat that crashed in 1996. All of its crew survived.

David Stone, executive director of UASBC, refers to the waters of the West Coast Trail as a "Ship's Graveyard," echoing the nickname used by those familiar with the area.

The most dangerous points along the trail are Pachena and Carmanah Points. In the early days bad weather, navigational errors and a shortage of lighthouses all contributed to shipwrecks and the loss of life. During World War II, lighthouses turned off their beacons to discourage Japanese attacks. Unfortunately, their darkness endangered passing ships that relied on guidance when navigating the coastal waters. In addition, the strong north-setting current becomes more extreme in stormy weather. A ship that does not turn east into the Strait of Juan de Fuca will be swept north into a wall of rock.

**The West Coast Trail once served as a lifeline for mariners. Bad weather, navigational errors and a shortage of lighthouses contributed to shipwrecks.**



**opposite: The Valencia in happier times.**

**inset: One of the Valencia's lifeboats after the shipwreck.**

**top: Crew of the Valencia before the shipwreck.**

**middle: The Valencia in port.**

**bottom: Fireman Joe Cigalos, one of the survivors of the Valencia shipwreck.**



# St. George's School

Boarding and Day  
School for Boys

A leading university  
preparatory school with  
recognized **Advance  
Placement** program to  
major North American  
universities

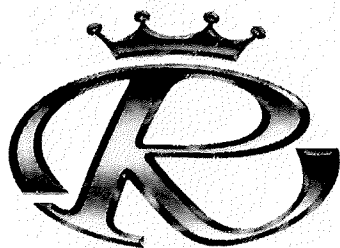
The **Cambridge  
Comparability Study**  
placed St. George's first  
world wide

4175 West 29th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6S 1V6  
Tel. 604-224-1304  
Fax. 604-221-3616  
www.stgeorges.bc.ca



Excellence  
in Education  
Since 1931

Pacific Rim  
52

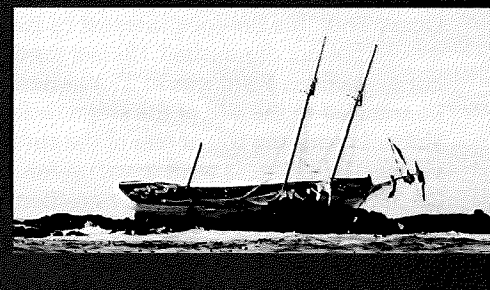
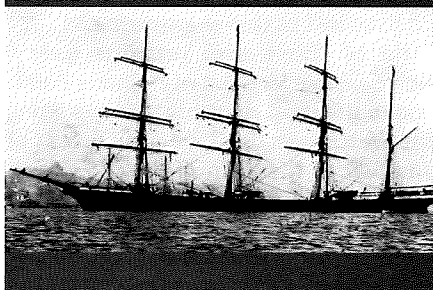


## REGENCY AUTO GROUP

TOYOTA LEXUS  
NISSAN INFINITI  
HONDA MAZDA  
CHRYSLER JEEP  
PLYMOUTH PONTIAC  
BUICK CADILLAC

**SAM KARMALI**  
Fleet and Lease Consultant

401 Kingsway at 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5T 3K1  
Office: 879-8411 Fax: 879-1016  
Pager: 650-7810  
http://www.regencyauto.com



In the last few decades, satellite navigation and improved search and rescue methods have reduced the danger of shipwrecks. The Canadian Coast Guard now has a major radar installation on Mt. Ozart which serves as a navigational aid to ships equipped with radar. From its elevation, watchers can see as far as 160 km out to sea.

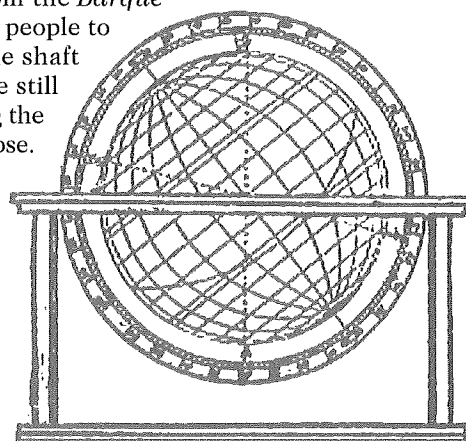
For those interested in visiting the wrecks, Marc offers some information regarding diving with the UASBC. First, you need your basic diving certification. The UASBC pairs newcomers with more experienced divers. Marc cautions that a new diver may be a little disappointed at first since most wrecks are mainly smashed metal and disintegrating wood. Until you gain experience and understand what you are looking at, it may seem like there is little to see. Stone reminds visitors that it is illegal to remove any item from a ship that has been wrecked for more than two years.

The West Coast Trail once served as a lifeline for shipwrecked mariners and rescuers. One of Marc's pet peeves is the lack of attention given to interpreting the history of shipwrecks along the trail. "You can look out over the bluff from the trail and see the anchor from the *Barque Skagait*," says Marc, who encourages people to visit the area. "The boiler, part of the shaft and the propeller of the *Michigan* are still lying on the reef. Many hikers go along the trail without knowing its original purpose. For many, it is simply an endurance test!" Those who piloted the lost ships of the West Coast Trail knew the test wasn't that simple. ■

**top: The Uzbekistan, sunk. Today, only her boiler is visible.**

**bottom left: The Janet Cowan in better days.**

**bottom right: The Soquel, about 10 years after being wrecked.**



For more information contact  
the Vancouver Maritime Museum  
at 257-8300.



A Globe and Mail  
subscription is payable  
monthly, billed to your  
credit card or  
direct from your  
chequing account.



A Monday-through-Saturday Globe and Mail subscription delivers Canada's best daily information package of national, international and business news; political and government developments; background, commentary and analysis; national culture and social affairs.

And Report on Business Magazine: it's Canada's best-read business monthly and your authoritative source.

For more information  
call our Vancouver Circulation Office at:

**604-687-4436**  
[www.theglobeandmail.com](http://www.theglobeandmail.com)

**THE GLOBE AND MAIL**  
CANADA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER • FOUNDED 1844

**Read Up**



# The Story of Tea

by Elisa Fung

*Precious plants grown on heavenly mountains,  
their dew moistening the passing clouds;  
I take a bath and powder my body,  
when the bright moon is reflected on the jade-like river  
and the breeze is sweeping through.  
It is not the new make-up that is attractive,  
it is my kind-heartedness that counts.  
Don't laugh at me now I am trying to write a short poem,  
appreciate the nice tea as you would a beauty.*

*A poem by Su Dong Po of Song Dynasty (960-1279)*

It was our family tradition that early morning on the first day of the Lunar New Year children would present to parents and grandparents a cup of tea with a piece of red date and a piece of candied lotus seed inside. The children would wish them good health and fortune for the year ahead. In return, they would receive their first red packet of lucky money for the New Year.

Similarly, it was customary for teahouses in China and the Far East to serve gold ingot (*yuanbao*) tea to customers during the first three days of the Lunar New Year. Fresh olives and kumquats were added to the tea. It has been told that after a sip, one's pocket would be filled with gold ingots all year round.

How these customs originated and when tea was first discovered are old legends. There is no recorded history of when tea was first prepared. The oldest legend of the first brew dates back 5,000 years. It tells of Emperor Shen Noong, the Divine Healer, who discovered that drinking boiled water prevented illness. One breezy day, leaves snapped from the branches of a wild camellia tree and dropped into a pot of boiling water being prepared for the Emperor. The fragrant aroma arising from the pot tempted Shen Noong to taste the concoction. He liked it and ordered his subjects to begin planting camellia trees. Thus, tea began its journey into households around the world.

## The Tea Tree

The botanical name for the tea tree is *Camellia Sinensis*. It is a beautiful shrub with leathery green and shiny serrated leaves. If left to grow naturally, it blooms with flowers consisting of between six and nine pure white petals that surround an infusion of yellow stamens. The *Camellia*

似佳人  
作小詩  
君勿笑  
從來佳茗  
賜好不是  
骨油首  
白新戲  
風吹破  
武陵春  
要知玉  
雪心  
粉未勻  
明月來  
投玉川  
子清

蘇東坡詩句

above: Su Dong Po's poem  
in Chinese calligraphy



## The Qualities of Tea

For thousands of years, herbal teas have been thought to possess special healing powers in addition to their pleasing taste. Herbal teas are still brewed and used as home remedies for common ailments. Here are a few traditional recipes based on some age-old beliefs of the properties of herbs:

**For colds or flu:** angelica, anise, borage, catnip, chamomile, lemon balm, rose, rosemary.

**For aiding digestion:** angelica, anise, cinnamon, fennel, lemon balm, lemon verbena, mint, oregano, rosemary, sage, sweet cicely.

**For headaches:** lavender, marjoram, mint, rosemary, valerian, wintergreen.

**For vitality:** basil, lavender, mint.

**For insomnia and other sleep disorders:** anise, catnip, chamomile, hops, lemon verbena, valerian.

**For stress and tension:** catnip, chamomile, lavender, lemon balm, mint, valerian.

To brew herbal tea, place the herbal ingredients in the teapot and pour boiling water over top. Make sure the herbs are submerged; then cover the teapot and let steep. While the tea is hot, pour it through a strainer into the teacup. Add sugar if desired.

After brewing your herbal tea, remember to leave a cup aside. When taking your evening bath, pour the extra tea into warm bath water to relieve tension in those aching muscles.

**For an aromatic bath:** make a brew of lavender, lemon balm, lemon verbena, mint, rose, rosemary and scented geranium.

**For a soothing bath:** use catnip, chamomile, hops, lemon balm, linden flowers, marjoram, rose, rosemary, thyme, valerian or wintergreen.

**For a stimulating bath:** use basil, calendula, fennel, lavender, marjoram, mint, rosemary, sage or thyme.

Tea is good for your health, quenches your thirst and relaxes your body. Some even claim that herbs and flowers have their own personality: basil represents hatred; lavender means devotion; anise heralds change; dandelion indicates prophecy or foretelling; rose symbolizes love, passion and purity; angelica amplifies inspiration; chamomile expresses wisdom and patience.

by Raakhi Patel

*Sinensis* is a hardy plant that grows best at higher altitudes, in warmer climates, with slightly acidic sedimentary soil and heavy rainfall year-round. Growing wild, these trees can grow to 15 m or more. But for ease of harvest, trees are cut back every few years. Constant pruning assures an explosion of young flushes of two leaves and a bud.

*Cha Jing*, the tea bible written by Lu Yu, the famous Chinese tea master, states that tea trees can range from a half-metre to 3.5 m in height. The book also reports that tea grown in the wild is of the best quality. Legend has it that monkeys were trained to pluck flushes from wild tea trees in China's Yunnan Province for the Emperor and his court. The brand *Imperial Monkey-Picked Tea* is still used for some expensive tea today.

However, the majority of pickers are women. Harvesting is largely done by hand, which requires both skill and dexterity, and care is taken to pick only the flushes and not the stalk. An experienced picker can gather up to 45 kg of leaves in one day. A bush becomes ready for its first harvest in its third year. Hair-like fibres (*bai hao*) on the underside of the leaves, along with its attractive green colour, indicate the tea bush is ready for picking. A well-tended tea bush can produce for 50 years—some are even reputed to be centuries old.

## Classification of Tea

All traditional Chinese tea is produced from *Camellia Sinensis*. Slight differences in processing methods result in the tea varieties. Tea can be classified by the colour of the brew (green; red, white, yellow and black), by its degree of fermentation, by the seasons it is picked, by the species of tea trees or by the place the trees are grown. Most commonly, tea is differentiated as green, oolong, black and white.

Green tea is not fermented. The leaves are either lightly pan-fried and tossed in a wok-like metal pan for half an hour or more, or steamed after plucking to prevent oxidation.

Oolong tea is semi-fermented. The leaves are withered in the shade for about five hours. They are then pan-fried for 10 minutes, then rolled and twisted. Twisted leaves give a brew more flavour than flat leaves. The leaves can be oxidized as well. Oxidation determines the colour, flavour and body of the tea. The leaves are then refried for three hours, ending the oxidation process.

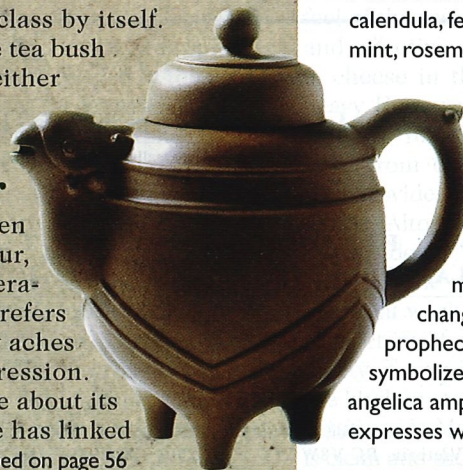
Black tea is fermented. The leaves are withered up to 20 hours, then rolled, sifted and spread out on a clean surface for two hours to oxidize. Next, they are dried in hot-air machines and sorted by size. This sorting process determines the grade of the tea.

White tea is unique and forms a class by itself. Produced from mature buds of a rare tea bush found only in Fujian, China, it is neither oxidized nor rolled.

## Tea's Medicinal Power

For centuries, the Chinese have been drinking tea for its aroma and flavour, as well as for its nutritional and therapeutic properties. Lu Yu's *Cha Jing* refers to tea as a cure for headaches, body aches and pains, constipation and depression. Researchers today are studying more about its healing effects. Impressive evidence has linked

continued on page 56



仙山靈草  
漫行雲沈  
遍香肌





THE  
SECRET GARDEN  
TEA COMPANY  
*— where tea is an experience!*

5559 West Boulevard  
Vancouver, BC  
V6M 3W6  
(604) 261-3070

## WHERE TEA IS AN EXPERIENCE!

*Soothing music - Scents of tea and fresh baked pastry - Inspiring decor*

We serve **ELEGANT HIGH TEA**  
*Vancouver's distinctive destination for High Tea*

For reservations call (604) 261-3070

We sell **SPECIALTY TEA**  
*of superior quality at modest prices*

More than 40 different Black Teas and  
Fruit & Herbal Tisanes in 80 gram packages

# V C R PRINT

**VCR PRINT COMPANY LTD.**

SUITE A - 1650 POWELL STREET, VANCOUVER, BC V5L 1H4  
TELEPHONE: (604) 255-2323 FAX: (604) 255-1607  
email: vcrprin@ibm.net

## FULL SERVICE PRINTING COMPANY

*Getting It Right On Paper*

## Segregated Foreign Index Funds

Call us today for an information package on the benefits of  
investing in segregated foreign index funds.

**Jeffrey P. Chin, CFP, RFP (604) 436-0088**



210-5000 Kingsway  
Burnaby, BC,  
V5H 2E4



A complete description of the key features of the individual variable insurance contract is contained in the information folder. Subject to death and maturity guarantee, any part of the premium or other amount that is allocated to a segregated fund is invested at the risk of the owner and may increase or decrease in value according to fluctuation in the market value of the assets of the segregated fund.

Money Concepts Group Capital Corp. and N.F.M.S. Insurance Agency Inc



**www.worldwideaccommodation.com**

Operated locally by Landlord and Tenant Services

- WE FIND YOU PLACES TO RENT
- LANDLORDS: Market your Properties Internationally

ACCOMMODATION  
REFERRAL PROGRAM

Enquire about our service options. Fee ranges from \$40 to \$250

**ROGERS @ Home.**

VANCOUVER · #125-1111 Melville St., Vancouver, BC V6E 3V6 Tel (604) 682-1990 Fax (604) 684-7093  
VICTORIA · 1608 Quadra St., Victoria, BC V8W 2L4 Tel (250) 388-6980 Fax (250) 388-6993

continued from page 55

tea, especially green tea, to longevity and cancer protection.

In his *Green Tea Book*, Lester A. Mischer writes that green tea's antioxidative qualities led cancer researchers to investigate the possibility that green tea might prevent the body from developing cancer. An enzyme in the liver called P450 can cause cancer by producing carcinogens from certain ingested and inhaled substances. The antioxidative properties of green tea extract have been shown to inhibit P450. Dr. Smith of Rutgers University details a list of ways green tea extract undermines cancer: It prevents DNA strand breaks, inhibits cell proliferation, decreases carcinogen contact with cells, blocks cancer initiation and slows

cancer progression. Moreover, green tea appears to have special qualities that ease the adverse effects of conventional cancer treatments such as chemotherapy and radiation.

Researchers have also investigated tea's life-extending properties by studying the lives of some 3,380 Japanese women who



practice *chanoyu*, the Japanese tea ceremony. The study compared their mortality rate to that of other Japanese women. The results indicate the possibility that polyphenols in green tea are a protective factor against premature death. Polyphenols stimulate the immune system and reduce the risk of many illnesses.

The increasing awareness of tea's healing properties and its growing popularity has affected the tea trading establishments in Vancouver. Ten Lee Hong Enterprises Vancouver Ltd. on Main Street, in Chinatown, has been trading tea in Vancouver for over 12 years. It has retail shops all over the Lower Mainland, in Toronto and across North America. Ten Lee Hong specializes in importing high-grade teas from Taiwan and Mainland China, then distributes them to different parts of Canada and the U.S. According to its store supervisor, business in Vancouver has been growing since its inception. Although still largely Asian, the clientele is growing rapidly with customers from the western community. For enjoyment and health, Vancouverites are turning to tea. ■



From Chinese Noodles To West Coast Fare:

# Three Stories of Gastronomic Proportions



## A Culinary Monsoon

by Charles Macurdy

As you walk into Vancouver's Monsoon restaurant, the first thing that strikes you is the colour of the walls. They are in turn turquoise and terracotta, a vibrant and welcoming combination. The space is fairly small and narrow, with tables all along one wall and a bar with seating along the other. Thematically, the restaurant has opted for a simple, straightforward decor. A few tropical plants and some bare brick on the wall give it a certain roughness that translates into an underlying casual atmosphere. Soft jazz-funk music played in the background punctuates the experience.

The sign above the entrance reads "Monsoon: East West Brasserie." If this seems ambiguous, then look at the menu. It is an innovative blend of eastern themes with the contemporary West Coast bistro style. Most of the menu is either based on, but not limited to, East Indian or Japanese ideas. As such, while maintaining the basic French approach to food that dominates Western cuisine, Monsoon is able to explore and blend numerous themes.

On the advice of my server, I order the almond and raisin panir kofta with masala sauce, naan and an India Pale Ale. The kofta are balls made from panir, an East Indian cheese, and stuffed with almonds and raisins. They arrive in a thick cream masala sauce, which is a yellow curry. Naan is an Indian pan bread used here for dipping. The meal, although awkward to eat, is thoroughly enjoyable. I find the food complements the decor and general feel of the restaurant: inventive, simple and effective. Keep in mind that this is cheese in thick cream and is quite heavy. However, the India Pale Ale, a Nova Scotian microbrew, helps keep the meal from overwhelming the belly. It also provides a sense of balance on the palate. Altogether, the meal costs \$15, tip included.

As for the staff, there are only four bodies at work, all of whom appear very competent, if a bit quirky. Although the ability of service staff is easily evaluated, the kitchen staff requires more concrete scrutiny. At Monsoon, the open kitchen is clean and the food is good.

**Monsoon is at the corner of Main and Broadway, at the beginning of the burgeoning new Main Street strip, lined with coffee-houses and cafes. It is open from 5 p.m. until "late."**

photos by Loveen Sandhu; design by Matthew Searcy





# A West Coast Feast

by Michael Colombara

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the city, there's a place near English Bay that offers diners the opportunity to experience the West Coast native flavour in a tranquil native longhouse setting, a place where the walls are adorned by a striking selection of native art and where pan flute music fills the air. It's called the Liliget Feast House.

Inside, the restaurant's unique layout immediately strikes my guest and me. Most of the dining area is raised and a wooden path lined with loose stones divides it. At first glance, it appears that we will be sitting on the floor, as the tables appear to be only half a metre high. However, upon closer inspection, we find an opening for our legs below the tables. The wooden tabletops are cleverly hinged to allow us to easily step into the hollow below.

The word *liliget* means "the place the people come to feast." With a name like that, it had better provide a lot of choice on its menu—and Liliget delivers. There are familiar dishes such as halibut and salmon, and less common choices such as rabbit, venison and caribou. Most entrées

are priced at the \$18 range, with a couple as high as \$29.

Our meal starts with a basket of warm native flat bread called bannock. We order salads made from organic greens and delicately flavoured with a raspberry vinaigrette. The healthy-sized salads are served in simple hardwood bowls. For the main course, my guest orders grilled halibut while I have smoked Alaskan cod. The plates are artfully presented with wild rice and grilled vegetables. We both feel the chef has done well, bringing out the flavour of the fish to its fullest.

The wine list is a bit sparse, but we select a bottle of Inniskillin Chardonnay that is a nice addition to the meal. Although we are a bit full after the generous portions, we decide to have dessert and coffee. My guest's blueberry turnover is as delicious as my unique parfait concocted from soapberries and raspberries. All in all, our bill comes to about \$100 before tip.

Liliget provides a stimulating dining experience that is a little bit different from a typical night out. It provides a lot of choice on the menu and good-sized portions of very delectable food.

Liliget Feast House is at 1724 Davie St. and is open seven days a week from 5 to 10 p.m.



# Handmade Noodles, Anyone?

by Dennis Chui

My partner and I enter the Sha-lin Noodle House on Broadway near Cambie at the peak of lunchtime. It specializes in fresh authentic hand-pulled noodles of the northern Chinese variety. The restaurant is packed with the typical business-lunch crowd. The decor is sparse, modest and functional with about 16 tables arranged in three rows. In two minutes, a spot opens and the attendant leads us to our table with a view of the windowed kitchen area where two

fly out fast, landing right into the boiling water. After cooking the noodles, the chef takes them to the kitchen's rear area where they presumably do all the stir-frying.

A few minutes later, our food arrives. The stewed noodles swim in a clear, hot broth, topped with slices of beef with crunchy tendon bits and marbled fat. It



burly chefs pound their hands into hunks of white dough. My mouth waters and my stomach burns with hunger as I watch them pull, stretch, fold and cut noodles.

We order two lunch specials: stewed soup noodles with beef and bean sprouts (\$4.95) and fried cutting noodles with meat and vegetables (\$6.95), choosing pork as the meat. There are plenty of soup-noodle variations on the menu, with cryptic names like dragging noodles, pushing noodles, hela noodles, cutting noodles and so on. However, they vary only in thickness and length. There are also different toppings to choose from, such as beef, pork, chicken, lamb, seafood, vegetables, tripe and beef tendon.

For the stewed noodles, the chef takes a big lump of noodle dough and stretches it into long ropes, folds it over and stretches it out again. He repeats the process several times until an array of long fresh noodles is produced. A simple yet elegant example of culinary ingenuity, I must say.

The technique for making the fried cutting noodles is different. This time, the chef takes a firmer watermelon-sized lump of noodle dough and carves out slices of thick flat noodles using a tool that looks like a curved metal spatula. Slices

comes with a little dish of bean sprouts, pickled Chinese radish and Chinese parsley that complements the noodles well. The noodles themselves are a godsend. The firmness, freshness, flavour and gradations in thickness of handmade noodles make them superior to the typical prefab noodles found in other restaurants.

The fried cutting noodles are just as good. They come with little pork chunks, bean sprouts and broccoli. The noodles are thick, firm and delicious. The whole dish has a slight spicy kick that I love. It's like an ultra-fresh version of the *Chow Fun* that you get in Cantonese restaurants.

Several minutes later, we sit back and remark at how they've got an efficient operation here. The service is fast and prompt, even during the lunch-hour rush. Our bill comes to about \$14, which is quite reasonable for this calibre of food. Adventurous eaters with bigger appetites can still get lunch or dinner for two for under \$20.

The combination of hot noodles on rainy days should be bottled and sold. I swear it cures all forms of physical or emotional pain. This is the kind of place I won't mind going to for both lunch and dinner on the same day. ■

Sha-lin Noodle House is open for lunch daily and dinner every day except Tuesday.



## SOUTH KOREA

### Travel Information

**Visa:** Required for visits involving employment; tourist visa needed for over 6 months, apply for long-term visa within 90 days; valid passport for 6 months beyond stay.

**Health Precautions:** Vaccinations not required but advisable, especially if travelling through or from areas infected with cholera or yellow fever; hepatitis A, Japanese encephalitis, tuberculosis and typhoid fever prevalent; drink bottled or boiled water.

**Tipping:** Not customary; however, 10% service charge added at tourist hotels; tip at international hotels; tip taxi drivers if extra service or assistance with luggage is provided.

**Currency Exchange:** Won;  
811.7 won = C\$1 (17 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** Christianity, Buddhism, Confucianism, Ch'ondogyo

**Airlines:** Vancouver to Seoul: Korean Air, daily except Wed. and Thurs.; Air Canada, Mon., Wed. and Sat.

**Transportation:** Medium and deluxe taxis; rural taxis negotiate fare; city express and local buses; modern subway system; extensive rail network; major cities connected by express buses; many domestic flights.

**Climate:** Four distinct seasons: hot, humid summers with seasonal monsoons; cold, dry winters with some snow; sunny, crisp and pleasant spring and autumn.



South Korea photos by Paul Shoebridge and Nicole Harrison

Taiwan photos by Gregor Duffey

## TAIWAN

### Travel Information

**Visa:** Not required for stays less than 14 days, starting midnight of arrival day, provided holder has valid passport, no criminal record and a confirmed return ticket. Visas extendible to a max. of 60 days, some to 180 days. Single entry visitor visa fee C\$60. Defined arrival points.

**Health Precautions:** No vaccinations required, but recommended for hepatitis A and B, polio, typhoid (if staying more than 3 wks. or visiting rural areas), tetanus, diphtheria, Japanese B encephalitis (if visiting rural areas). AIDS test required for stays over 3 months (if results positive, must leave); drink boiled or purified water.

**Tipping:** NT (New Taiwan) \$50 per piece of luggage; all other tipping optional; 10% service charge added to room rates and meals.

**Currency Exchange:** New Taiwan \$;  
NT\$21.85 = C\$1 (16 Apr. 1999)

**Religions:** 43% Buddhist, 34% Taoist, 8% I-Kuan Taoist, 6% Christian

**Airlines:** Vancouver to Taipei: direct flights 6 days a week on Canadian and Mandarin Airlines.

**Transportation:** Frequent buses; taxis have controlled rates; have destination written in Chinese as most drivers do not speak English; public railway, rental cars with chauffeurs; 4 international seaports, domestic air service.

**Climate:** Subtropical in the North; tropical in the South; high rainfall; summers long with high

**Languages:** Korean; some maps, signs in English.

**Time Difference:** PST + 17 hours

**Major Centres:** Seoul (capital), Pusan (principal port), Taegu (urban and industrial centre), Inchon

**Population:** Est. 46 million (1998)

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1-3	New Year's Day
Feb. 15-17	Lunar New Year
Mar. 1	Independence Day
Mar. 10	Labour Day
Early Apr.	Hansik Day
Apr. 5	Arbor Day
May 5	Children's Day
May 22	Buddha's Birthday
June 6	Memorial Day
June 15	Farmer's Day
July 17	Constitution Day
Aug. 15	Liberation Day
Sept. 23-25	Chin-sok (Thanksgiving)
Oct. 3	National Foundation Day
Oct. 9	Hangul Day
Dec. 25	Christmas Day

### Canadian Representatives:

#### Canadian Embassy

10 Fl., Kolon Bldg., 45 Mugyo-dong, Chung-ku, Seoul, 100-170 Republic of Korea  
tel: (82-2) 753-2605  
fax: (82-2) 755-0686

#### Foreign Affairs, Korea Desk

East Asia Dev. Division, Lester B. Pearson Bldg., 125 Sussex Dr. Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0G2  
tel: (613) 996-2807  
fax: (613) 943-8167

humidity; winters short and mild. Typhoons are frequent between July and Sept.; monsoons visit the northeast in winter (Oct. and Mar.) then move south in summer.

**Languages:** Mandarin (official language); Taiwanese; Southern Fukienese and Hakka dialects spoken; English and Japanese also widely taught and spoken.

**Time Difference:** PST+16 hours

**Major Centres:** Taipei (capital), Kaohsiung, Taichung, Tainan

**Population:** Est. 21.74 million

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Jan. 27-30	Chinese Lunar New Year
Feb. 16-19	Youth Day
Apr. 4	Children's Day
Apr. 5	Tomb-sweeping Day
June 18	Dragon Boat Festival
Sept. 24	Mid-autumn Festival
Sept. 28	Birthday of Confucius
Oct. 10	Double Tenth Nat'l Day
Oct. 25	Taiwan Retrocession Day
Nov. 12	Sun Yat-Sen's Birthday
Dec. 25	Constitution Day

### Canadian Representatives:

#### Canadian Trade Office in Taipei

365 Fu Hsing North Road, 13th fl. Taipei 10483, Taiwan  
tel: (886-2) 547-9462  
fax: (886-2) 712-7244

### Korean Representatives:

#### Consulate General of the Republic of Korea

1600-1090 W. Georgia St. Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3V7  
tel: (604) 681-9581  
fax: (604) 681-4864

### Business Organizations:

#### Canada-Korea Business Association

c/o MMG, 100-951 16th St. West Vancouver, B.C. V7V 3S4  
tel: (604) 926-2056  
fax: (604) 926-4115

#### Korea Trade Centre

1710-1 Bentall Centre 505, Burrard St. Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1M6  
tel: (604) 683-1820  
fax: (604) 387-6249

#### Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry

145, 4-ka, Namdaemun-no, Chung-ku, CPOB25 Seoul 100-743, Republic of Korea  
tel: (82-2) 757-0757  
fax: (82-2) 757-9475

**Notes:** Business cards with Korean on reverse are essential. Present and receive with both hands and read before putting away. Use both hands for handshake; use title and surname to address Koreans. It is polite to decline a first dinner invitation and impolite to compliment women in public or brag about family. Express thanks elaborately. Learn to accept "maybe" as an answer; remove shoes when entering homes or rooms with tatami mats; electricity, 120 and 220v AC.

### B.C. Trade Representative Office

Taipei WTC Exhibition Hall  
7th fl., no. 5, sec. 5, Hsin-Yi Road, Taipei, Taiwan  
tel: (886-2) 722-0805  
fax: (886-2) 723-9364  
mailing address: PO Box 109-857, Taipei, Taiwan

### Taipei Economic and Cultural Office

2008 Cathedral Place, 925 W. Georgia St. Vancouver, B.C., V6C 3L2  
tel: (604) 689-4111  
fax: 1-604-689-0101

### Canadian Banks:

Bank of Montreal, Bank of Nova Scotia, CIBC, Hong Kong Bank of Canada, National Bank of Canada, Royal Bank of Canada

**Notes:** Always use titles and family names rather than given names. Family surname precedes both the given name and formal title. The most senior person leads a business discussion. The only appropriate physical contact is handshaking. Business cards are important (have one side printed in Chinese). Present and receive them with both hands and read them before putting them away. Remove your shoes if invited to a home and bring a wrapped gift (preferably from Canada). Don't wrap the gift in white; use both hands to present it. Don't open a gift in front of the giver. "Yes" indicates understanding but not necessarily agreement.



# Olympic Airs

By Meghan Reid

*Fresh powder, fans and the thrill of competition.*

*For some Canadian snowboarders,*

*Nagano was about the sport, not the scandal.*

photo of the Blackcomb Halfpipe by Danu Pendygrasse; inset photo by Trevor Smith; design by Meghan Reid



After eight years of snowboarding, Lori Glazier could hardly believe her ears: she had one day to pack before being whisked away to the 1998 Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. After qualifying at Calgary Olympic Park, this exciting news was a welcome release. Glazier and her fellow National Team members had anxiously awaited the delayed announcement telling them Canada had won four seats in the Women's Halfpipe competition. Chosen to represent Canada in the first Olympics to include snowboarding, Glazier saw a dream unfolding before her.

As fans, family and friends gathered at the Calgary Airport for the official send-off, the realization that she was actually going to the Olympics finally hit Glazier. "To be able to go represent your country can be the biggest thing to deal with," she says. Thoughts wrestled through her mind. She wanted to do handsprings, but she also felt overwhelming pressure. The long flight carrying her from the coast mountains of B.C. to Mt. Fuji in Japan gave her time to prepare herself for the unpredictable days to come.

Fellow Whistler local and Canadian National teammate Derek Heidt also qualified to compete in the Men's Halfpipe alongside Glazier. Heidt, as a Burton Snowboards Pro Team member, had traveled to Japan many times before. He sees the Olympics as just another competition among many. "It's not like bob-sledding, where the Olympics is the only competition. We have other contests that carry more importance for the sport." Yet Heidt believes the Olympics are unique from other competitions because of their massive size and the variety of competitors who take part.

Derek Heidt says support from young fans stayed strong in Japan.





For Glazier, walking around the track in the opening ceremonies with competitors from different events and countries was the pinnacle of the games. "The experience of being in the Olympics was unforgettable and irreplaceable," she says. Glazier took advantage of the opportunity to support fellow Canadian athletes. She was in the crowd with Ross Rebagliati when speed skater Catriona LeMay-Doan won the gold medal in the 500 m competition. From the Canadian Athletes room, she watched Olympic hockey with all-stars Wayne Gretzky and Rob Zamuner. Glazier and her teammates couldn't help sharing their enthusiasm with the people of Nagano.

And the excitement was mutual. In the traditional Japanese code of hospitality, athletes didn't lay a finger on any luggage from Canada to Japan. Japanese hosts greeted competitors with numerous gifts (kimonos, handmade crafts and food) upon arrival at their hotel rooms. They supplied the snowboarders with translators and transportation to events. Glazier describes the Japanese as "incredible, friendly and happy to go out of their way for Canadians who are always welcome."

When athletes traveled to Olympic venues, Japanese women crowded the doorways of hotels and restricted areas hoping for a chance to shake a hand or touch the athletes. Glazier recalls coaxing two shy young girls to pose with her for a picture. "They were so stoked. There was such respect for athletes there, it was crazy!" Thousands of people watched the halfpipe competitions. As competitors rode the chairlift up to the position of descent, fans screamed their names. Foreign voices rang out to Glazier: "Wori! Wori!" "They couldn't say my name properly," she says, laughing. This support so far from home inspired the riders.

Yet competing in the event was an overwhelming experience for Glazier. The halfpipe was in excellent condition, but she couldn't feel her knees while she was riding. Tears were frequent and "Tears Lori," as Glazier describes herself, sought refuge from the eyes watching her. In the end, she placed 18th out of 27 female snowboarders in the competition. Since Glazier usually places in the top ten at international competitions, she describes her Olympic placement as disappointing. However, she remembers her Nagano experience as fun, in spite of all the stress.



This stress was caused, in part, by the scandal that broke out when Canadian snowboarder Ross Rebagliati tested positive for traces of marijuana. Although the International Olympic Committee allowed Rebagliati to keep his gold medal, all snowboarders felt the repercussions of the incident. During the resulting media frenzy, Canadian snowboarders reported back to their rooms for accreditation and security checks, and their rooms were searched by police and dogs.

Heidt agrees that the Rebagliati scandal dampened the spirits of Canadian snowboarders. The teams adopted a low profile to avoid media questions, and jackets and hats bearing Canadian emblems were no longer worn. The Canadian Olympic Snowboard Team left Japan before the closing ceremonies, disappointed they were asked not to participate. Told their presence would disturb other athletes, they felt wrongfully excluded from the ceremonies. Nevertheless, Heidt says support from their young fans stayed strong. "The kids don't mind, but the parents probably care about the whole Ross thing."

Despite the negative publicity, snowboarding remains as popular with the Japanese as ever. Young Japanese snow-

boarders currently favour the Burton Snowboards Pro Team, which has a strong presence in Japan year-round. During the off-season, they execute demos at indoor ski resorts and ride on halfpipes made of concrete covered with *Astroturf*. Indoor ski resorts and competitions are common in Japan, and the trend is spreading throughout the international snowboarding community. But if you travel to Japan to snowboard, stay on the runs. Heidt's advice is to fight the temptation to make fresh tracks in untouched powder between the sparsely patterned trees. "The Japanese believe spirits live in the trees and will get mad if they are disturbed." Hence, tree-riding is banned at Japanese resorts. Heidt speaks from experience. If you are caught in the trees, expect to get yelled at over a megaphone for the whole mountain to hear: "Get back on the run!"

Many Japanese snowboarders make their way to Canada to experience Whistler's world-famous powder firsthand. And since Vancouver and Whistler recently won the Canadian bid to pursue the 2010 Winter Olympics, Glazier and Heidt may get the opportunity to return the hospitality extended to them in Nagano. ■



# Asia Pacific International

## Graduate School of Management

registered under the Private Post Secondary Education Act of B.C. invites applications for the EXECUTIVE MBA and DBA Programs

---

## MBA and DBA In International Management

### THE MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OFFERS:

- a fully accredited degree
- transfer credits for those who have a CMA, CGA or CA designation
- outstanding internationally experienced faculty
- monthly weekend classes (Saturday & Sunday) in Vancouver

### THE DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM OFFERS:

- a unique experiential Program offered in conjunction with our San Francisco campus, which will give you the opportunity to acquire the sought-after **Doctor of Business Administration in International Management**. This degree is approved by the California Department of Consumer Affairs as well as the Bureau for Private Post-Secondary and Vocational Education.

### Locations:

- Shanghai • Macau • Hong Kong • Taipei • Taichung • Kaohsiung • Auckland
- Singapore • San Francisco • Vancouver



For an information package please contact:

**ASIA PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**

Level A 100, Marine Building, 355 Burrard St., Vancouver BC, Canada V6C 2G6

Tel: (604) 688-3115

Fax: (604) 688-0252

E-Mail: [Info@apiu.edu](mailto:Info@apiu.edu)

Find us on the web at: [www.apii.edu](http://www.apii.edu)



THE NEW JAGUAR S-TYPE

THE BLENDING *of* ART *and* MACHINE



MCL Motor Cars 1730 Burrard Street, Vancouver 738-5577

[www.jaguar.com](http://www.jaguar.com)