

HUA FOUNDATION FACT SHEET

Updated: November 17, 2013



THE PROBLEMS & STATISTICS

- Chinese-Canadians are the largest non-White ethnic group in Canada. In the Greater Vancouver Regional District and Greater Toronto Area, the ethnic Chinese make up 21% and 11% of the regional population, respectively (Stats Canada, 2006).
- There is a major lack of representation from ethnic minorities among the groups and individuals involved with the environmental movement in Canada and North America (Earth Day Canada, 2012).
- The lack of engagement and investment in ethnocultural communities has been identified as a growing barrier for effective, systemic and large-scale change. (HR Council of Canada 2008)
- While interest in environmental issues among this community is high, the ethnic Chinese, is arguably one of the least engaged groups (Gallop, 2012)
- While there is work being done separately in cultural heritage and in environmental issues, there are few organizations that bring together these two worlds that have powerful synergistic potential.
- "[Recruiting visible minorities is a clear imperative for the nonprofit sector: they are a vital source of talent but are underutilized]. Language, culturally insensitive processes and approaches, lack of investment, and oversight of cultural nuances are some of the top barriers to involvement." (HR Council of Canada, 2008)
- Most often, ethnocultural communities are involved at the end of a strategy (implementation stage), creating cursory engagement, rather than consulted at the beginning and throughout the process. (HR Council of Canada 2008)

FOOD SECURITY FACTS

- Food systems represent one of the biggest sources of greenhouse gas emissions in our daily lives, accounting for 21% of an individual's total carbon footprint (Brighter Planet, 2010)
- While local government and food security organizations have identified that culturally relevant food is critical in supporting local agriculture systems, "language and cultural barriers enforce a 'business as usual' approach, which favours existing supply connections and reinforces the system's segregation of cultural groups" (Hild 2009)
- "Community food systems are more resilient when its members have access to the type of food they consider appropriate." (Vancouver Food Policy Council, Nov. 2010)

About hua foundation

Hua Foundation is a youth-driven non-profit based in Vancouver, Canada dedicated to bringing together the worlds of cultural heritage and social change with an environmental lens. Our mission is to create and support community-based solutions that honour our individual histories and collective heritage to strengthen our community's capacity for social change.

