

In the Shadow of Gold Mountain

NFB.CA

After Screening the Video

(please answer these questions on a separate page: about 3-5 sentences for each. Give reasons/evidence/examples for your responses.)

1. Why did the owners of the Canadian Pacific Railway hire so many Chinese men to help build the railway?
2. What do you think it was like for Chinese women who could not join their husbands in Canada when the Chinese Immigration Act was passed in 1923?
3. How did the Chinese Immigration Act affect young Chinese Canadian men, particularly during the 1920s and 1930s?
4. What would you have done if you were told that you couldn't enter university, use a public pool or join certain clubs because of your background?
5. Why did Chinese Canadians tend to live near each other in different cities in Canada--areas known as Chinatown?
6. The film includes negative comments from several politicians in the late 19th and early 20th centuries about Chinese workers. Would you expect politicians today to make comments like this?
7. Do you think it was a good idea for some Chinese Canadians to volunteer to fight for their country in the Second World War, even though many were sons of men who had paid a head tax to enter Canada?
8. One of the techniques that the Chinese Canadian National Council (CCNC) has used to gain momentum for people seeking redress for the head tax is rallies at Parliament Hill in Ottawa where people gather with placards to protest. Can you think of other ideas that would draw the attention of Canadians to their campaign?
9. Can you think of other groups of Canadian immigrants who suffer as a result of stereotyping today? What lessons can we learn from the treatment Chinese immigrants received?

the documentary can be viewed anytime at:

bit.ly/nfbgoldmountain