

Peace & Reconciliation Study Tour for B.C. Teachers (2008)

INFORMATION PACKAGE

Organizer



B.C. Association for Learning & Preserving the History of WWII in Asia

Supporters

- BC Social Studies Teachers Association
- Vancouver School Board
- Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association, Human Rights Committee
- Canada Asia Pacific Resource Network
- Culture Regeneration Research Society

Background to the Peace & Reconciliation Study Tour

To support the Social Studies Curriculum, the BC Ministry of Education published the Social Studies teachers' guide *Human Rights in the Asia Pacific 1931-1945: Social Responsibility and Global Citizenship* in 2001. The French version of the resource is also available for French immersion schools. It is to support the prescribed learning outcomes for Social Studies Grade 11, History 12 and Law 12. Its objective is to develop students' appreciation of Canada as part of a much larger humanity and their sense of global fraternity and responsibility. This is an excellent class tool for peace and justice education and for fighting against racism. It is the world's first teachers' guide using humanity issues in the history of the Asia-Pacific War to teach human rights and global citizenship.

As a partner in the development of the B.C. learning resource, ALPHA has taken the initiative to offer continual support to teachers in the effective and creative use of this education tool. We can help arrange speakers, survivors and eyewitnesses for classes, and make available on loan to teachers reference and video materials and also traveling exhibits on humanity issues of this tragic history. In line with this spirit, the annual Peace & Reconciliation Study Tour has been conducted since 2004. For highlights and album of the past Study Tours, please go to <http://www.alpha-canada.org/StudyTour/report.htm>.

Objectives of the Study Tour

- To enhance teachers' knowledge and understanding of the cultural and historical background of China and Korea during the Asia-Pacific War.
- To facilitate teachers' personal brush with this chapter of history through meeting survivors, visiting museums and historical sites.
- To facilitate teachers' reflection on the legacy of the Asia-Pacific War and how it impacts on peace through meeting with historians and teachers in China and Korea as well as scholars and lawyers supporting survivors' quest for justice.

- To facilitate teachers' sharing of their experience in the teaching of social responsibility and global citizenship, including developing ideas and teaching methods in using the learning resources "*Human Rights in the Asia Pacific 1931-1945: Social Responsibility and Global Citizenship*"

DETAILS OF THE STUDY TOUR

Key cities to be visited (subject to confirmation)

- Shanghai, China (arrival city)
- Nanjing, China
- Harbin, China
- Seoul, Korea (departure city)

Tour period

- July 3 – July 17, 2008 inclusive of departure and returning dates
- Mandatory sessions start on evening of July 4 (Friday): All participants are required to check-in at the arranged hotel in Shanghai and assemble for orientation at 6:00 pm on July 4.
- Last day of tour (July 17, Thursday): Those who return Canada immediately will be taken to the airport in Seoul and the study tour will be considered dispersed.
- The arrival and ending dates of the Tour need to be strictly observed. For participants who may like to self arrange a side tour before and/or after the Study Tour, they need to work around these dates.
- **Please note that attendance at all sessions from July 4 - 16 is mandatory unless otherwise specified.**
- **Participants are expected to keep journals during the tour and share with the group**

Outline of activities of the study tour

- Meeting survivors of military sexual slavery (the so-called "comfort women"), forced labour, chemical & biological warfare and Nanking Massacre
- Meeting historians and researchers on humanity issues of the Asia-Pacific War
- Sharing with educators on the teaching of this chapter of history.
- Meeting lawyers and scholars supporting the redress of victims.
- Visiting museums and historical sites related to humanity issues of the Asia-Pacific War.
- Reflection and sharing sessions.
- Sightseeing and to know more about the people and culture of China and Korea.

Costs

- ALPHA will offer substantial subsidy for selected BC educators covering all basic expenses in China and Korea during the study tour, including flights between cities, hotel (3-star) accommodation (double occupancy), major meals per day, scheduled site visits and related transportation.
- Selected participants are responsible for their own airfare from Canada to China and from Korea back to Canada, visitor visa's fee, international airport taxes as well as their personal medical and accident insurance covering the period of the study tour. This insurance is a mandatory requirement and the insured value is a personal decision of the participants.
- Selected participants are responsible for their own personal expenses and substitution costs, if any.

The subsidy funds are raised by B.C. ALPHA with contributions from the community.

APPLICATION DETAILS

- All BC registered teachers teaching social studies, history, law and other related subjects of humanities in high schools are eligible to apply.
- Application form can also be download on line at <http://www.alpha-canada.org/StudyTour/>
- Application can be submitted by email or fax.
 - Email: bcalpha@alpha-canada.org
 - Fax: 604-439-7738
- **THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS MARCH 1, 2008**
- Applicants need to be interviewed in person, over the phone or via internet.
- Successful applicants will be notified on or before April 5, 2008.
- Selected teachers will be required to participate in preparatory works before the Study Tour. There will be 3 pre-tour preparatory sessions prior to departure, scheduled as follows:
 - **Saturday April 26, 2008** **2 – 6 pm**
 - **Saturday May 17, 2008** **2 – 6 pm**
 - **Saturday June 7, 2008** **2 – 6 pm**

After the study tour, selected teachers are expected to:

- Actively use the teachers' guide "*Human Rights in the Asia Pacific 1931-1945: Social Responsibility and Global Citizenship*" in the courses for which it was designed, and make good use of the supporting resources offered by ALPHA.
- Create and integrate contents of the teachers' guide "*Human Rights in the Asia Pacific 1931-1945: Social Responsibility and Global Citizenship*" into other grades and courses whenever appropriate.
- Provide feedback and make recommendation to ALPHA for better use of this learning resource by other teachers. With prior arrangement, 1 to 2 representatives of ALPHA or

other teachers may attend classes conducted by the participant as observers and/or as resource persons.

- Prepare and make presentation at public report-back sessions organized by ALPHA.
- Make individual or group presentations at teachers' conferences to report-back on the tour and to share resources and experience in the teaching of this chapter of history.

Applicants should ensure that they are both physically and emotionally suitable for the demanding itinerary and group activities.

The Social Studies teachers' guide "***Human Rights in the Asia Pacific 1931-1945: Social Responsibility and Global Citizenship***" in both English and French versions were distributed to all BC secondary schools by the Ministry of Education in 2001 and 2003 respectively.

This guide is available for purchase online from the Government Publication Services.

Go to: <http://www.publications.gov.bc.ca>

Then click on icon "General Public Go Shopping"

Then type "Human Rights in the Asia Pacific" and click on "Search"

Then click on the resource title

Then click on "Add to shopping cart"

And then follow the instructions for purchasing.

You may also download a PDF copy from: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/resdocs/hrasiapacific.htm>

Website supporting this learning resource: <http://www.alpha-canada.org/learn/intro.htm>