



Greetings from the Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to all those participating in the explorASIAN Festival presented by the Vancouver Asian Heritage Month Society. On behalf of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, I would like to thank the Vancouver Asian Heritage Month Society for your valuable contribution to Canadian society.

I am proud to live in a country that embraces diversity and champions the values of democracy, freedom, human rights and the rule of law. Every year, the explorASIAN Festival helps to enrich that diversity by giving Canadians the opportunity to share and appreciate the various traditions of our families, friends and neighbours. Prime Minister Harper once said that 'Pluralism is the principle that binds our diverse peoples together.' Canada is a great pluralistic success story, but it is contributions like these that help make that story even greater.

As Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, I am keenly aware of the many contributions that Asian Canadians have made to Canadian society. The Asian community has long enriched Canadian society with skills, knowledge and talent, and your efforts continue to contribute to the social, economic and political fabric of our country. For this, we owe you our recognition and gratitude.

Thank you, and best wishes for a wonderful festival.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Kenney".

The Honourable Jason Kenney, PC, MP
Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism

