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Professor Stephen J. Toope
President and Vice-Chancellor

It is my sincere pleasure to send greetings to everyone involved with the 2009 explorASIAN Festival.

Since 1996, the Vancouver Asian Heritage Month Society's explorASIAN Festival has featured hundreds of emerging and established actors, artists, dancers, filmmakers, musicians, performers, poets and writers. The explorASIAN Festival is Canada's second oldest Asian Heritage Month festival, and is well known for inviting the entire Lower Mainland to join in celebrating Asian heritage in our province.

UBC is committed to strong support for internationalization and global citizenship. Further to these goals we recognize the value of the explorASIAN Festival as a way to better appreciate and celebrate the culturally diversity of our greater community. By doing so, we work together to create a more civil society and a better future for all.

On behalf of the entire community of the University of British Columbia, I warmly applaud the Society's staff and its many volunteers who are dedicated to the success of this wonderful annual event. I sincerely hope you enjoy the many events planned for Asian Heritage Month 2009.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Toope
President and Vice-Chancellor
The University of British Columbia