

Biography



Dr. Henry Yu (he/him)

Department of History, UBC and Principal, St. John's College, University of British Columbia

As a history professor, Dr. Yu's research and teaching has been built around collaborations with local community organizations, civic institutions such as museums, and multiple levels of government. He is passionate about helping British Columbians and Canadians undo the cultural and historical legacies of colonialism and to be inspired by the often hidden and untold stories of those who struggled against racism and made Canadian society more inclusive and just. Between 2009-2012, he was the Co-Chair of the City of [Vancouver's project Dialogues between First Nations, Urban Aboriginal, and Immigrant Communities](#).

In 2015, Dr. Yu was appointed as the Co-Chair for the Province of British Columbia's Legacy Initiatives Advisory Council implementing legacy projects following the province's apology in May 2014 for BC's historic anti-Chinese legislation. He also served on the Advisory Group for the City of Vancouver's apology consultation process for Historical Discrimination Against People of Chinese Descent (HDC) from 2016-2017 that resulted in the City of Vancouver's formal apology for its historical discrimination against its Chinese Canadian residents on April 22, 2018. He is one of the Founding Directors of PCHC-MoM; the Chinese Canadian Historical Society of BC in 2004; the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation; and the Chinese Canadian Museum of BC. Dr. Yu was the Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the 2007 Anniversaries of Change marking the 100th anniversary of the anti-Asian riots of 1907; Co-Chair of the Province of BC's Legacy Initiatives Advisory Committee following the bi-partisan apology for historical anti-Chinese discrimination in 2014; the Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee of the National Forum on Anti-Asian Racism convened at UBC in June 2021 and the Co-Lead for the Centre for Asian Canadian Research Engagement (ACRE) at UBC.

On campus he has served multiple roles in advancing anti-racism, including the President's Advisory Committee on Equity and Diversity; the Strategic Implementation Committee for Equity and Diversity; and the IBPOC Connections Advisory at UBC. Prof. Yu received his BA in Honours History from UBC and an MA and PhD in History from Princeton University. He was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 and the Province of BC's Multicultural Award in 2015 in recognition of his research and community leadership.

***This document is available in alternate formats upon request.**