

Participants of the Sien Lok Historical Scan Session were asked to respond to this question:

What are some key events & accomplishments of Sien Lok in the last 40+ years? (Key events of particular significance are highlighted. High points = yellow. Low Points = blue)

Date	Late 1960's (67-69)	Early 1970's (70-74)	Late 1970's (75-79)	1980's (80-89)	Early 1990's (90-94)	Late 1990's (95-99)	Early 2000 (00-02)	Reflections		
Key events & Accomplishments of Sien Lok	(1967)1 <sup>st</sup> Chinese Float in the Calgary Stampede – Railway Theme  (1968) 2002 Board members can remember waving at the crowds while sitting on the Stampede float.  (68) 12 foot high Buddha float with kids sitting on the arms.	(Chinese New Year Feb 69) bought 600 sets of dishes from China (69) 1 <sup>st</sup> SL CNY banquet at Alsan club on 5 Ave –6 st. 250 tix sold out in 10 days. (69) setting the tables at Alsan club (69->now) SL has excellent connections in the Caucasian community starting with the 1 <sup>st</sup> SL banquet (69) making own centrepieces – more cooperation then. (69) David HoLem – Kisser -countdown (69)wanted to have a Chinese couple at every table to show how to use chopsticks (69) CNY banquet oversold	(70's) Stringing necklaces for New Years Dinner  Lots of volunteers at the initial banquets  (72) Chinese New Year Banquet – Year of the Rat. Female guests received a rat ring and male guests received a tie clip.  (73) worst Chinese New Year held by SL at the Jubilee - logistics	(mid- 70's) Chinese New Year Banquet - 3 wok kitchen at the Westin with cooks from Silver Dragon  (75) Chinese New Year Banquet – guests received SL medallions from HK & China at 30 cents each  \$40 K 80-person dragon -barn burnt down	(82) Groundwork done for the park  Set up Sein Lok Scholarships (80's) Mount Royal college (80's) SAIT (02) University of Calgary (02) Bridge Foundation	(early 90's ) Gary Mar is a SL director and legal council for SL  (94) Had no idea how much we had in the bank for over 4 years  (94) invited to join to be secretary  (90 til now) Rejuvenation – new generation of SL directors	(99) Turn over of the board to make room for fresh faces and brings new energy to the board.  (99) SL board starts succession planning and involving younger generations in SL  (98-99) Development of new Sien Lok Logo	(00) CNY – Year of the Dragon – placemats  (Feb 01) Chinese New Year – Year of the Snake  (01) paper snakes wrapped around the columns  (01) 20+ volunteers recruited to help  (01) Polaroids were take of guests with large stuffed snakes wrapped around them and guests were treated to 2 types of centre pieces (beanie baby snake & snake statuettes)  (01) Kevin Wong won 2 prizes – ATB sponsored 24k gold statue	(Feb 02) CNY – year of the Horse (02) hand stamping tiny red horse confetti (02) Tangstyle sponsored the Chinese fashion show (02) 25 volunteers recruited to help (02) many many compliments and general consensus that this was the best event ever (02) William Mah sells 15 tables (02) Cori Louis-Smith buys a Mercedes at dinner (02) photobooth for guests to take pix with stick horses (02) Ray unable to make it due to his accident but Loretta wins the ATB sponsored jade horse statue	All Chinese community should be represented by benevolent society  SL is true benevolence  Dinners – no subsidy -true volunteers  Very strong politically  Tangible end results – park, sculptures, banquets  Uncooperation between organisations in Chinatown  Personal gain vs. social conscience  Inability to unite Chinese community  SL prepared to resign & elect new brd re: UCCA - SL as a member of UCCA
	(Nov 17 1968) Registration of The Sien Lok Society of Calgary name by Ray, Joanne, Annie, Henry	(July 69) Forward thinkers – SL Board of Directors (all male) threw bridal shower for female secretary (Joanne Woo)	(70's) Achieved goal of "preserving Chinatown". (70's)Only "geographically defined" Chinatown in Canada. Calgary's Chinatown has been written into a City-bylaw.	(74) 1 <sup>st</sup> ever Miss Chinatown Pageant organised by SL	(80's – 90's) original SL directors move on in life	(91) Fashion show "model" at Golden Nugget at SL event. –Primitive/Jerry/Ken Wan	(99) Unveiling of SL park – In search of gold mountain and lions (99)Opening of North SL park  (99) Application for Millennium Project grant – SL park expansion	(01) Rare joint venture with another Chinatown Org (Wing Kei) (01) SL writes cheque to Wing Kei Nursing home for \$10,000  (02) Developed SL website	Urban renewal threatens Chinatown	

	(Nov 68) 1 <sup>st</sup> Sien Lok board meeting	(69) Saved Chinatown ~ Beat Cityhall -> this is the founding purpose of SL	(70's) Sien Lok threatened by take over. Doug Tim's  (early 70's) Sien Lok got hammered. "Power Struggle" from outside influences. "Identity Seeking".	Kobee Yee fasion show	(Late 80's) SI park is threatened by seniors -this give SL a renewed purpose  (90's) Seniors vs. SL park	(93) decorating. Set up at Cultural Centre	(98-01) Selina volunteers to sing at our CNY  (99-now) Jerry & Sharon are on the CNY committee	(May 01) Jerry Chong, Sharon To, Cori Louis-Smith joined as director	(May 02) SL historical Scan	-only Canadian born professionals -younger generation
	(68) Reverend Wen – stop the East/West Penetrator  (68/69) Rod Sykes was NOT a supporter and tried to get rid of Chinatown during his reign  (68-69) Can't fight cityhall	(Apr 69) National Conference – only time that all the Chinatowns got together for all of North America. It was funded by The Federal gov.  (69) Lloyd Axworthy – Jade Palace  (69) Persons flown in on the Gov. if SL would host the conference  (69) Persons from all over North America	(70's) animosity towards Sien Lok. -Didn't speak, read or write Chinese -not true representation  (73/74) UCCA vs SL -Chinatown's initial bid for one voice	(late 78) concept of Sien Lok park concept of greenspace -original Cardinal Coach lines (pictures of site available) Hugh Louis was President at the time -SL park kickoff  (79-82) Preserving green space is the main focus at this time. This begins a quieter period for Sien Lok - hibernating	(89) Jerry Chong designed evening wear for Miss Chinatown	(90 til now) rejuvenation – SL park 2 expansion  (94) involvement of own ethnic groups arts ( Hon Sun Chieu)	(95-97) Sien Lok sponsor Scout troop 229 for Dragon Boat Festival  (95) Sien Lok Scout Troop 283 started -SL negotiated with Chinese United  (95) Church for a space for Scouts to meet (99) SL Scout Troop 283 retired	(01) Wall of Names Millennium Project  (01) creating a massive red veil for the unveiling of the Wall of Names		Lots of volunteers at initial banquets  Locations include Westin, Jubilee, Pallisser, Regency, 2x at Cultural Centre  Smallest banquet was 250 guests  Chinese necklaces – medallions  Volunteering at banquets – social aspects
	Ralph Klien – CFCN – Free Tix	(69) Introduced Chinese banquets as fundraisers – SL held the 1 <sup>st</sup> in Chinatown	(70) Began the annual Picnics at Sien Lok Park – Handing out chips and hot dogs at Sien Lok Picnics	Kept it as Annual event at Banquet		(94-97) invite involvement with the UC Chinese Students society	(99) 1 <sup>st</sup> ever From Hong Kong to Broadway Concert Gala partnership with CPO  (99) Jerry Chong was invited by Debra Wong to help organise the gala	(Aug 01) Sharon To helped co-ordinate the BBQ joint event with Club 88 at James' Maxim's house.		Problem same across Canada for all Chinatowns  Saved Chinatown  Vancouver annoyed that Calgary (SL) got spot light
	(68 to present) SL covered in the Calgary Society columns	(69) SL featured in Time Magazine -huge popularity	(70's) Honorary directors since 1970's – see newsletter	(76) stopped because of feminist movement			(97) Revive the SL newsletter which had lapsed off & on since 1969	(Oct 00) Casino nite – playing cards until the wee hours of the morning (00) Cori Louis-Smith volunteered at the casino		Ron con  Gerard Pelletier
	(68-75) Saving Chinatowns .	(69) 1 <sup>st</sup> dim sum in Calgary. Food was flown in from Vancouver.	(70's) Jerry Chong remembers his Father's involvement with Sien Lok and other Chinatown organisations	(mid 70's til now) Sein Lok Seniors Visitation  Visiting Asian Seniors but unable to speak Chinese  Stuffing Fruit baskets for Seniors visitations		(94) Sien Lok sponsors Scout Troop 229	(96 til now) Have a good relationship with Mainland China gov	(00) Reach out to main stream to be involved with Chinese community. To show diversity. Eg. Royal Bank		Parkland negotiation between the City & Seniors & SL

	(68 til now) Accomplishment – bridging gap between Chinese & Caucasian community	(69) Hostesses wore Cheng Sahn	(Nov 72) Joanne & Wayne move and as a result felt a void from being away from Sien Lok	(79) 1 <sup>st</sup> to host a Casino as a fundraiser at the Palliser  Casinos held 79, 80, 81, 99, 00, 02 at various locations such as summit, Palliser, Cash			(99) visiting Seniors with SL members	(01) Sien Lok Vision Statement		Caucasian community always come to SL for Chinese involvement
	(68 til now) SI throws successful fundraisers (never lost any money except for the 00 Gala)	Jack Hamilton from Calgary Herald – daily mention of SL	(aft 73) Expansion of Centre Street Bridge	(78) Peacock float			(97) Renewed the SL social club which lapsed off and on since the mid 80's)			Dragon float – Joanne Grand stand show – dragon float Won best float numerous times
							(97) SL membership at approx 200			2 yr old – Ed Sullivan – multicultural show
										Sense of family and volunteerism Dir kids were main volunteers
										1 <sup>st</sup> meeting at church & knowing what was going to happen
<b>Organization or Agency impacting SL or vice versa</b>	Set an example to the Chinese community to bridge the Caucasian community	Chinese consulate	SL impacted politicians and the Caucasian community	UCCA – Neg	Seniors – Neg & pos	CCCSA – many directors come from them				
<b>Individuals impacting SL or vice versa</b>	Ralph Klien as Reporter, Calgary's Mayor and	Minister Gary Mar	James Maxim	Ron Con	Gerard Pelltier	Calgary Mayor Al Duerr				Jack Fern – Jade Garden
<b>Sien Lok's roles</b>	Preserve & promote Chinese Culture & food	Building a sense of community & accomplishment	Supporting volunteerism. Focusing on family fun & happy longterm committed volunteers	SL has created an identity on its own which is respected by mainstream society	Caucasian community always comes to SL for Chinese involvement	SL was originally created to preserve Chinatown...now that is accomplished, we need a new purpose	Fundraising for a purpose. One of the only organisations with a charitable tax number.	SL is non-political and non-religious	The purpose behind the CNY banquets – it is an opportunity to be with other Chinese & to share Chinese customs	
<b>World Context</b>	Only ethnic group identified with a geographic community – immigration policy	Chinese image and profile was raised in the public conscious								