



IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUGUST 23, 2011

LOST YEARS DOCUMENTARY MINI-SERIES A WINNER WITH CBC TV AUDIENCE

EDMONTON - The first episode of *Lost Years: A People's Struggle for Justice*, which aired on CBC TV in Alberta and Saskatchewan this weekend, proved to be a hit with television viewers.

The second episode is scheduled for this Saturday, August 27th, again airing in the 7 PM Prime-time slot.

The documentary mini-series covers 150 years of Chinese Canadian history, and was filmed across Canada, China, the United States, New Zealand, and Australia. The mini-series was produced by Kenda Gee and Tom Radford in association with CBC TV Alberta and CBC Saskatchewan.

Steve Glassman, Executive Producer for CBC TV Alberta was pleased with the early viewership numbers. "In our Calgary market, we doubled our typical viewership audience, and beat out our competitor's flagship news affairs program. CBC TV is proud to be part of this international production."

Final numbers for the weekend will be available in approximately two weeks. The response from viewers in Alberta to *Lost Years* was tremendous, according to co-producer Kenda Gee.

"In the 3-day period leading up to the Episode 1 broadcast, our website received 4,000 hits per day. Even after the episode aired, we continued to receive a steady stream of email and comments, posted online. Some of them even included requests to purchase the DVD version even though Episode 2 has not even been broadcast, there has been a lot of excitement," said Gee.

"Other enquiries came from outside of Alberta and Saskatchewan, asking when Lost Years would be broadcast in their region, or asking if they could host screenings in their city. The reaction has been overwhelming."

Gee says one special request came from Vernon, British Columbia, where the organizers promised 900 people would attend the screenings in their Old Towne Cinema which seats 450 people. Vernon is the birthplace of Larry Kwong, the first Chinese Canadian hockey player who tried to break into the National Hockey League in the 1940s, but faced racism. Kwong was featured in Episode 1.

The subjects in Episode 2 of *Lost Years* will include Normie Kwong, former Lieutenant-Governor and Canadian sports icon, and follow the turbulent history of Chinese Canadians, from the 1950s to present day, including the redress campaign started in Canada to the apology announced in Ottawa in 2006.

For further information, contact:

Wei Wong, Associate Producer

780-935-6259 (Cell)

780-22-44-88-6 (Lost Years Productions Inc.)

office@lostyears.ca / production@lostyears.ca

www.lostyears.ca

www.twitter.com/lostyearspro

www.youtube.com/lostyearstube

www.facebook.com/lostyearsface