

**For Immediate Release**

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**Celebrities Join CCNC-SJ in Calling out Against Anti-Asian Racism on International Day of Friendship**

July 29/2020/Toronto / Marking the International Day of Friendship on July 30, over forty influencers and prominent Canadians are joining the Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice (CCNS-SJ) in calling out anti-Asian racism while Canada is opening up during the global pandemic.

The list includes figure skater Patrick Chan, actors Jean Yoon, Chelsea Clark, Russell Yuen, poet and novelist Joy Kogawa, and many other personalities, together with civic, political and business leaders such as Leo DelZotto, Olivia Chow, City Councillors Kristyn Wong-Tam and Mike Layton, MP Jean Yip, as well as Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti. They are donning a face mask and spreading the message to #StopTheSpreadOfRacism through social media. Through this campaign, CCNC-SJ is also asking the public to share ideas on handling racist attacks and to tell their stories.

“Many Chinese Canadians were brought to tears watching the T&T supermarket clerk attempting to fend off racist attacks by repeatedly stating “I am Canadian”. Many of us are very anxious about the increased risks of racist attacks against Chinese and other Chinese-looking Canadians as our country is opening up,” said Amy Go, President, Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice.

The International Day of Friendship was [proclaimed](#) in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities. By asking celebrities to wear a mask with a message on this day, CCNC-SJ hopes to spread the message of solidarity, mutual understanding, and reconciliation among all Canadians, while working to combat systemic racism at all levels of society.

“We hope to reach tens of thousands of online users through these prominent Canadians to start a dialogue around Asian Canadian identity, belonging, and anti-racism”, said Dr. Joseph Yu-Kai Wong, Director of CCNC-SJ.

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#FaceRace #StopTheSpreadOfRacism

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