

*Love, Respect, and Dignity  
Embrace Our Culture of Care*



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## Enhancing Senior Care for Chinese Canadians

**Villa Cathay** is proudly home to hundreds of Chinese seniors from all over Vancouver. And we take that one word very seriously: *home*.

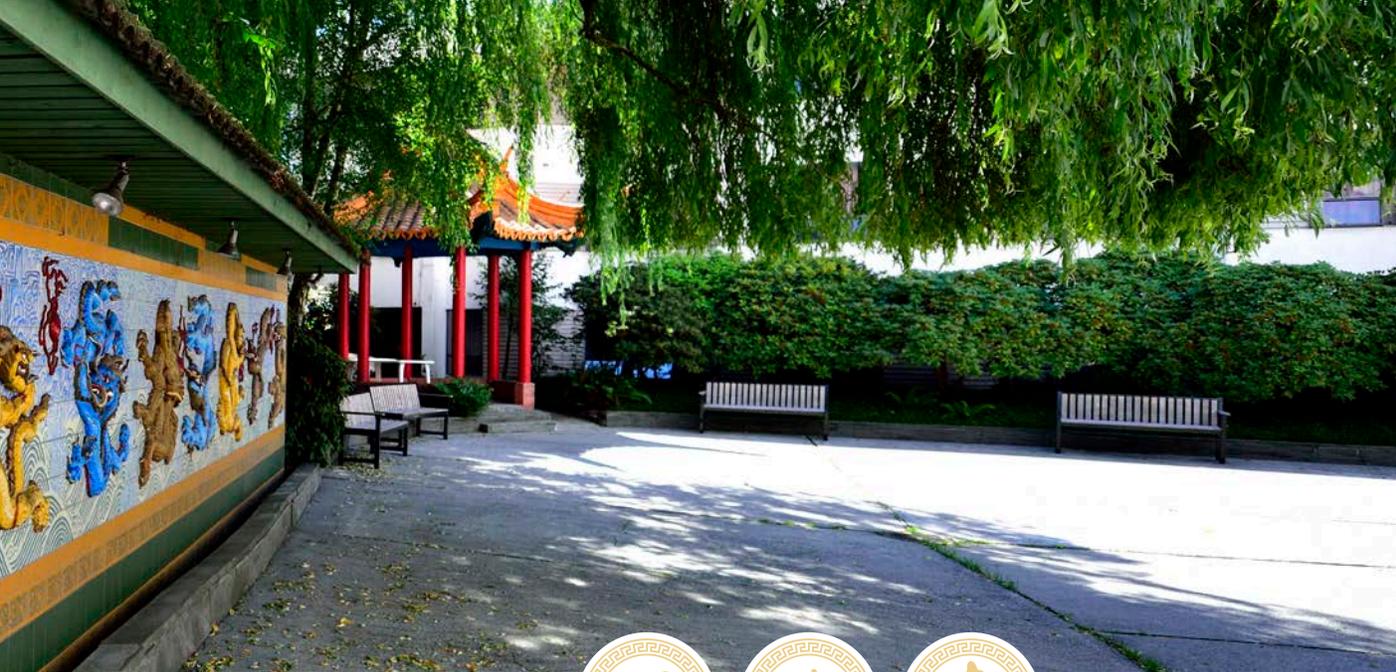
Home is so much more than four walls and a door. Home is about that feeling of safety, of comfort, of family. It means the warmth of belonging and the certainty you're exactly where you're meant to be.

Whether it's a simple heartfelt greeting, a traditional Chinese meal, or simply someone to talk to, our seniors are surrounded by love, treated with respect, and supported in living with dignity.

We want to keep providing this unmatched level of culturally focused and respectful care for generations to come.

**The kind of care you'd want your own parents to have.  
The kind of care you'd want someday.**

However ...



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## Villa Cathay Is In Jeopardy

Without immediate action, the love, respect, and dignity with which we treat our seniors will become impossible.

Villa Cathay was built on a solid foundation of not-for-profit social good, but 40 years later the building itself is showing its age. Our facilities simply can't keep up with the complex health care needs of our aging population.

Our residents share their tiny double rooms with strangers. Private washrooms are too small for seniors with wheelchairs, meaning some must use the shared facilities. Three times a day, there are long waits for the aged and slow elevator as residents make

their way to the only common dining room on the main floor.

Despite the excellent quality of care at Villa Cathay, our current building has a negative impact on the quality of life and dignity our seniors deserve and expect.

***We need to do better, much better.  
And with your help, we will.***

The solution is to re-build from the ground up, and we're asking you to join us as we raise the last \$5 million of the \$73 million needed for this project.

Our residents deserve your support.





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## The New Villa Cathay

Picture a modern ten-story tower alongside a beautiful three-story pavilion.

Each “Villa” (a care unit) will be designed around a neighbourhood concept. Each neighbourhood will be home-like and feature its own lounge, dining room, kitchen, exercise area, and family retreat room. The Villa concept will mean that residents will be more engaged with each other.

Each resident will have a private room designed to provide a comfortable transition from home. At the same time, every room will have ceiling lift capabilities and a private ensuite bathroom with a shower.

Common areas will be bright and cheerful, and staff will have the space and resources they need to engage our seniors in activities

designed to enhance their physical and psychosocial well-being.

***All of this while maintaining the culturally appropriate care that we’re known for.***

Because our residents come first in everything we do, we’ve organized the project so that they can continue to stay at Villa Cathay during construction. The first phase of the project, the tall tower, will be completed in mid-2019. Once residents move in, we’ll begin phase two of the project: the three-story pavilion.

The project will be fully completed in early 2021.

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## Culturally Relevant Care Sets Villa Cathay Apart

At Villa Cathay, we celebrate the vibrant Chinese culture of our residents and strive to create a welcoming environment that communicates the honour it is to support them through this stage of their life.

Whether it's sharing a scrumptious meal of lotus root soup and steamed minced pork or connecting over a game of Mahjong, we will continue to bring residents together to participate in activities that are familiar to them.

Before moving to Villa Cathay, some Chinese seniors experienced care that wasn't focused on their heritage. Even harder for them is the fact that many Chinese seniors don't speak or understand English. These fragile seniors can become withdrawn and depressed.

*When they are given the chance to experience care at Villa Cathay, everything changes.*

*"I was only 110 pounds when I was transferred to Villa Cathay two years ago. I simply could not adjust to the Western cuisine that was served at my last care home. With time and the delicious menu at Villa Cathay, my weight and health steadily recovered. My weight is now a fighting 150 pounds as a result of the wonderful care that I have received at Villa Cathay. I am so fortunate and happy at Villa Cathay. This is my HOME."* KEVIN CHENG, RESIDENT

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## A Red Cup as a Symbol of Respect

DR. ROBERT LOH, FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CHAIR

### *A simple object showed me everything I needed to know about Villa Cathay.*

I was visiting the home to take some photographs when I saw a staff member dash down the hall during afternoon tea. She returned shortly after, clutching a red cup in her hands.

My curiosity was piqued—why the rush to retrieve this cup? I watched as she filled it with tea, handing it carefully to an aged non-verbal resident.

***The transformation was instant.*** The woman's eyes had been vacant just a moment

before. But as the cup touched her hands, she seemed to awaken. A brilliant grin broke out across her face.

“Why does she love that cup so much?” I asked the staff member afterwards. She shrugged. I would later learn it was the caregiver herself who had gifted the cup to the lonely resident.

These small daily acts of affection, care and generosity are what set Villa Cathay apart. They're what make me proud to be the Fundraising Committee Chair as we undertake this capital endeavour.

*“I've worked at Villa Cathay for more than a decade now. I feel proud to be a part of this team. All of us have found a passion in our work. We truly care about our residents, and we're dedicated to making them feel like this is their home. I know each of their names.”*

JOVY WONG, CARE TEAM

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SIDNEY NG, FAMILY MEMBER



## Home Is Where the Heart Is

Whether we're in our current dated building or our new home, we will always go out of our way to ensure the comfort of our residents.

While so many seniors are forced apart from the people they love when they enter into a care surrounding, Villa Cathay makes a special effort to preserve those connections. And there's no better example than Mr. and Mrs. Li, who have been residents since 2014.

Arrangements were made when they

arrived at Villa Cathay so they could continue sharing a room, just like they were used to in their own home. The inseparable duo wake up beside each other each morning, walk to breakfast as a pair (exchanging compliments along the way!), and spend their days contentedly as a couple. They are truly two peas in a pod—and it's this kind of flexibility and care that is such an important part of what Villa Cathay offers.





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## An Exciting Vision

LISA DONOVAN, CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I am thrilled to be part of the Board of Directors during this significant yet challenging time as we strive to enhance senior care for generations to come.



I first stepped into Villa Cathay in the late '70s and it was amazing even at that time. But now we are faced with out-dated equipment,

restrictions in floor space, and small, slow elevators.

*I'm excited when I think about how much potential there is to transform Villa Cathay into a spacious and comfortable home for our loved ones.*

With your help, we will be able to increase the number of care beds by 50% for seniors in our community. We will build spacious single rooms that provide privacy and the opportunity for personalization. *And each of these rooms will be wheelchair accessible.*

We will create neighbourhoods on each floor. Each neighbourhood will have a large common area that will give seniors more opportunities for social connections, keeping their minds and hearts engaged in their community.

And a dining room on each resident floor will mean no more long waits for the elevator just to have a meal!

*Our new home will be a wonderful place, and I can't wait for you to see it.*





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*“Every single volunteer and staff member at Villa Cathay has the same attitude—we care about our residents. If we can make the physical building as good as the care it’s going to be amazing.”* DR. ROBERT LOH,

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CHAIR

## Our Plans

Villa Cathay is fortunate to own the site at 970 Union Street in Vancouver, and we’ve been successfully operating our care home for more than 40 years. With a highly committed and dedicated Board of Directors, now is the time for a bold vision.

Soon to become the largest residential care community in Vancouver, the new Villa Cathay will be home to 224 seniors. In addition, our modernized “green” home not only complies with all licensing standards, but also meets the LEED Gold requirements.

The total investment for this project is \$73 million. In addition to our own capital reserve contribution, we’ve secured both a construction loan and a future operating agreement with Vancouver Coastal Health that will cover mortgage payments.

Now, Villa Cathay needs to raise just \$5 million more from our community to cover the final project costs. That \$5 million is exactly what’s needed to turn the new Villa Cathay into a home where quality senior care is never compromised.

Because Villa Cathay is a charitable organization, there are many ways to partner with us on this project. There are opportunities to recognize yourself, your family, a loved one or your organization within the new Villa Cathay Care Home.

***Join us today, and be a part of this amazing charitable gift to the Chinese seniors in our community.***

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## Invest in Our Community

**Our residents call Villa Cathay their home—and with your help, we'll build a structure that reinforces that message at every turn.**

Your tax-receiptable gift is an investment in providing dignified, loving, and respectful culturally-focused care to the seniors who have gifted us so much of their wisdom, time, and love.

It's a chance to say “thank you” to those who have given us so much. Please consider a generous gift to Villa Cathay today.

### **Villa Cathay Care Home**

970 Union Street

Vancouver, BC V6A 3V1 Canada

604-254-5621

[info@villacathay.ca](mailto:info@villacathay.ca)

Charitable Registration: 11928 5971 RR0001

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