A SENIOR'S STORY:
REDISCOVERING MY VALUE IN THE CCNCTO COMMUNITY

With funding from
Ontario

In China, I used to be an **intellectual** and a **professional**. After coming to Canada, the **barrier** of language and culture made it difficult for me to integrate into the society.

I was in an **unfamiliar environment**, where I understood **so little**. I felt that I was unable to use my **talents**, **knowledge**, **experiences** and **skills** in Canadian society.

Zongzi wrapping
organizer and leader

"I taught young Chinese Canadians, who had no traditional cultural knowledge about this practice"

What I gained:
Communication and organization skills

It's my **hope** for my children to find **their place** in Canadian society. I finally understood my place by taking **leadership** in CCNCTO.

I would **inspire my children** to take on leadership duties in their own **community**. We are proud of our achievements and the good example we have set for our children by being **leaders in the community**.

Zongzi cultural activity
organizer and leader

"I considered people's different skill sets and language, choosing a suitable activity."

What I gained:
Planning skills

Reflection: I learned from this activity and can improve for the next workshop!

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What we learned at CCNCTO:

- Canada's history of the Chinese head tax
  - The **hardships** endured, but also their **spirit and courage** to **fight against discrimination**
- History and knowledge of Indigenous peoples: Deepening my **understanding of this land**

- The importance of **solidarity**
  - Challenging previously held beliefs to be **stronger allies**

Within the **CCNCTO community**, I have not only **gained knowledge**, but **contributed my own experience and skills**.

I feel **energized** and like a **truly indispensible** member of the community.

Leading an activity **sounds like a lot of work**. But, it starts with the **small things**.

- Bring some people you know!
- Facilitate a conversation!
- Contribute to an activity you're interested in!

If you **have an idea**, or **notice something** that needs doing, **speak up!**

You might be the next **community leader** at CCNCTO!