

2018年12月31日

Dear Rev. Lin,

Once again I must thank the TCCCNA for a most generous Christmas gift!

Here in Canada I share the disappointment you feel over the results of the election and referenda in November. I suppose one can say a people get the government they deserve, but the overwhelming conservative trend is not something people in Taiwan deserve. Especially the foolish results of these referenda. We need to keep working for Taiwan.

This winter the Canadian Mackay Committee (well, me doing most of their work) will begin our campaign for a joint Taiwan-Canada stamp issue to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Canada's engagement in Asia - with the arrival of George Leslie Mackay in Tamsui on March 9, 1872. We hope to have a number of special activities in Canada.

I continue to work on the widening problem of Canadian companies and schools labelling Taiwan as "Taiwan, Province of China". Fortunately a Taiwanese student friend of mine protesting his college using this name on his admission letter provides an opportunity for action, perhaps leading to a complaint to the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal for discrimination on the basis of national origin. So we are sending out his first protest letter to the school presently.

I attach my annual epistle for your edification (enjoyment?) .

Peng-an. M

## *Michael's Annual Epistle 2018*

Doctors dieticians dentist chiropractor naturopath ... these make frequent appearances on my calendar this year. I really did turn 70 and my body knows it. I bitch to God a lot more (it seems to work as well as the traditional in Jesus name amen approach), take more naps, and go to bed earlier. But along with all the decrepitude I can be thankful for a happy and active year, good friends and these highlights:



In April I spent a week in Japan with my godson Nick who went snowboarding in Hakuba, and used his mobile phone to guide us around. We did hanami with Tokyo friend Takahashi-san. Saw clouds of blossoms in Matsumoto. Saw Toshogu and Kegon Falls in Nikko. Then I spent two weeks in Taiwan visiting all my 6 godsons and 11 grandchildren. I also had a productive visit with Taiwan's Foreign Minister discussing Canada-Taiwan relations and the importance of George Leslie Mackay in our relationship.

In May and June I organized a protest against Air Canada labelling Taiwan as "Province of China". I retired as President (11 years) of the Taiwanese Human Rights Association of Canada to do other things. Like watching the World Cup, doing my stamps, taking visitors to Oxford County, celebrating sister Karen's birthday with 2 concerts in Elora, attending a Hitch (maternal family) reunion in London, and in August a week with Karen's at a cottage. I celebrated my 70<sup>th</sup> seeing "Hound of the Baskervilles" at the Shaw Festival in Niagara.

In September I spent days looking for a new home for our church, Taiwanese United, where I am the worship committee. Then got walking exercise working for Lily Cheng's campaign, the first Taiwanese to run for Toronto city council. She lost, and I lost 3 pounds. Both of us are thankful.



I began Japanese class in September, which is challenging but fun and gives hope I am not yet demented. I finally got working on plans to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada's engagement in Asia, which began with (who else) Mackay arriving in Tamsui on March 9, 1872. I will keep Christmas taking the two Daniels to the TSO Messiah (with Dan Stainton scholarship recipient Andrew Haji as tenor) and with Karen in Kitchener. And that's it for this year. *Merry Christmas! M*

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