**Chinese Railway Workers**

<http://access-cht.ca/chinese-history/build-railway/gold-rush/?lang=en>

1. What were working and living conditions like for Chinese workers participating in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway?

When determining what life was like on the railway for Chinese workers, you may want to consider the following aspects:

* living conditions
* quality of life
* working conditions
* payment and compensation
* leisure time

Primary/Secondary sources:

Click on the “Chinese Workers Resources” Link on our web page

2. What was the main reason(s) Chinese immigrants came to Canada (BC in general) during the second half of the nineteenth century? Explain in a paragraph.

*The Chinese head tax was a fixed fee charged to each Chinese person entering Canada. The head tax was first levied after the Canadian parliament passed the Chinese Immigration Act of 1885 and was meant to discourage Chinese people from entering Canada after the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway.*

3. Why did the government feel they needed to charge the head tax?

4. How did Chinese immigrants already in Canada survive? (think about ways they could earn money, who might have helped them, etc.)