

Crossing the Bridge Mackay Built:

150 years of Canada in East Asia and East Asia in Canada

International Symposium June 24, 2022



Sponsor: Canadian Mackay Committee

Co- Organizers: Knox College Centre for Asian-Canadian Theology and Ministry and York Centre for Asian Research

Venue: Knox College, University of Toronto + virtual component

George Leslie Mackay (1844–1901) began Canadian engagement with Asia when he founded the Canada Presbyterian mission in north Formosa on 9 March 1872. Mackay's missionary career and contributions to Taiwan have long been celebrated. After 150 years we want to widen the focus to what has happened in the 150 years of Canadian engagement with Asia which Mackay started.

We welcome papers, panels, or creative presentations sharing stories of Canadians in East Asia and people from East Asian in Canada. This is not limited to missionaries or public figures. Recognizing the wide social distribution of these memoirs outside of the academic gaze, we welcome non-academic talks, and community stories. The unique role played by non-political exchange in Taiwan-Canada relations is also a welcome topic. We are in discussion with the Royal Ontario Museum to arrange a private viewing of selected artifacts from the unexhibited Mackay collection.

Call for Papers

Presentations from scholars, students, non-academics and communities are welcome. Proposals may be from any perspective, including anthropology, cultural studies, history, literature and drama, missiology, museum studies, politics or theology. We welcome varied formats, including papers, panels, roundtables and video art/screenwork presentations.

The symposium will have both in person participation, and virtual presentations. In the worst scenario, the whole symposium will be held virtually. The event will be open to the public.

Papers may be written in English or Chinese, but oral presentations must use English.

The **deadline** for abstract submission is Friday, **18 February 2022** at <https://laps.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=1326959>.

Questions can be directed to ycar@yorku.ca or michaelpayas@gmail.com

*“Dr. Mackay himself is never done speaking of Canada, and his preachers the same, they know of my having been in Canada, and when I am in their chapels, they keep speaking about it. I have when in chapels purposely pointed with my cane to it on a map of the world, asking what country is this – when all of them cried at once **Canada Canada Kai bok-su e kok** (Pastor Mackay’s native land). They may forget other names but never Canada.”*