



A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DAVID EBY

As Premier of British Columbia, I am honoured to extend greetings to all attending the *Hearts of Freedom: Stories of Southeast Asian Refugees*.

This exhibition celebrates the remarkable resilience and perseverance of the Southeast Asian refugee community. Their journey to seek safety and security in our province is both awe-inspiring and heartbreaking, as many had to leave everything behind — family and friends, as well as belongings. Most British Columbians will never face the immense hardships and challenges overcome by the Southeast Asian refugees, making their stories all the more impactful. This exhibition recognizes their contributions to the multicultural fabric of BC, while also serving as a reminder of our shared responsibility to ensure that newcomers to our province feel welcomed and supported. It is a valuable opportunity to reflect on the role we can all play in protecting people's right to safety and security.

I commend the Pacific Canada Heritage Centre – Museum of Migration Society and its partners for bringing this exhibition to various locations throughout BC and for their commitment to engaging citizens in these important conversations. Our province is home to such a diverse and vibrant community, and I hope that this exhibition will inspire us all to continue working toward a more just and equitable society.

Please accept my best wishes for a meaningful and memorable experience.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Eby".

HONOURABLE DAVID EBY, K.C.
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA