# LEARN TO USE VIRTUAL REALITY (VR) TO: DESIGN A COMMUNITY GARDEN IN CHINATOWN and create a shared future for the neighbourhoood together!



# WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

We'll meet once every 2 weeks to:

- Talk about a future of Chinatown that works for locals
- Learn how to use virtual reality to create new visions for different parts of Chinatown
- Work together to redesign and add to a community garden in Chinatown

### WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN?

- Meet and connect with others from the community who care about Chinatown and its future
- Learn the history of Chinatown from other members of the community and share your own memories and stories
- Learn new skills to use Virtual Reality (VR) to co-design community spaces
- Be part of a team that designs a part of the community garden in Chinatown!
- Become part of a community group that can work together in the future to support locals and solve issues of concern in the area

## ARE YOU INTERESTED?

If you have access to a computer or smartphone, please visit this link to answer a few questions about yourself: [https://tinyurl.com/9azsubhf]

If you do not have access to a computer or smartphone, please call this number and leave your name and phone number for a call-back: +1 (647) 498-3571

**HOW MUCH WILL YOU BE PAID?** You will be paid \$20/hour

#### HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU NEED TO COMMIT?

Join at least six out of ten interactive sessions from January 2022 to June 2022. Each session is 2.5 hours long



#### **MORE INFO:**

A group of Chinatown community organizations and X University<sup>\*</sup> Toronto researchers are working together to bring the local community together to come up with new visions for the future for Chinatown – and we would love for you to join us! This project will promote community resilience, reduce stress and stigma, and support the affected groups in Chinatown during COVID-19 pandemic recovery as well as ongoing displacement by using VR co-creation and architectural design.

#### WHO CAN JOIN?

If you:

- Consider yourself a member of the Chinatown community and/or someone who cares about Chinatown and its future
- Are 18 years old or above
- Live, stay, work or study in the Greater Toronto Area
- Can speak at least one of four languages: Cantonese, English, Mandarin or Vietnamese
- Can commit to participating in a minimum of six out of ten 2.5 hour sessions over six months
- Can join as an individual cannot be representing an institution or organization

#### **INVESTIGATORS:**

This project is led by Prof. Linda Zhang, X University<sup>\*</sup> PARA Lab (Periphery Architecture and Research in Affect Lab) and collaborators from PROTECH (Pandemic Rapid-response Optimization To Enhance Community-resilience and Health):

- Dr. Josephine P. Wong, Ph.D. Professor, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing, X University\*, PROTECH
- Dr. Kenneth P. Fung, MD Psychiatrist and Clinical Director, Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network, Associate Professor, University of Toronto, PROTECH
- Dr. Alan Tai-Wai Li, MD Physician, PROTECH
- Dr. Mandana Vahabi, RN, Ph.D. Professor, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing, X University\*, PROTECH

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND ORGANIZATIONS:**

- Danny Anckle & Beryl Tsang, Cecil Community Centre
- Nadine Villasin Feldman & Sarah Tumaliuan, Myseum of Toronto
- Veronica Ing, Asian Queer Alliance Toronto (AQUA)
- Amy Wang, An-Qi Shen, Bryn Rieger, Chiyi Tam, Christie Carrière, Dany Ko, Enna Kim and Jiaqing Wilson-Yang

#### **FUNDING SOURCE:**

This project is supported in part by funding from the Government of Canada's New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) through the tri-agency (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) as well as X University<sup>\*</sup>.

# New Frontiers in Research Fund Fonds Nouvelles frontières en recherche Government of Canada du Canada

#### **ABOUT THE RESEARCH:**

If you would like to find out more about the research including study findings or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact:

Name: Prof. Linda Zhang Email: linda.zhang@ryerson.ca Phone: (416) 979-5000 ext. 556922 This study was reviewed and approved by the X University Ethics Board (REB 2021-288). If you have questions regarding your rights as a participant in this study, you may contact the X University Research Ethics Board for information at 416-979-5000 Ext. 4791; or via email: rebchair@ryerson.ca

This study has also been reviewed and approved by PARA Lab, PROTECH, Cecil Community Centre and Myseum of Toronto.

\*The university formerly known as "Ryerson University" is currently undergoing a renaming process following the recommendations of the Standing Strong (Mash Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force. For more information please visit: <a href="https://www.ryerson.ca/standing-strong-task-force">https://www.ryerson.ca/standing-strong-task-force</a>