

**Event: Victoria Canada China Friendship Association  
Dinner Meeting  
Sunday, January 27, 2019**

**Location:** Purple Garden Restaurant, 1551 Cedar Hill Cross Road

**Topic: Stories of Living in Yunnan and Studying 'Gua'**

**Speaker:** Dr. Kendrick Marr, Curator of Botany, Royal B.C. Museum

I will talk about experiences that I had while studying the ethnobotany of some Asian melons. Ethnobotany is the study of how people use plants. My wife and I lived in a remote part of Yunnan close to the border with Laos, at the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (Chinese Academy of Sciences). I did some genetic studies on these crops, learned about the consequences of domestication from their wild ancestors and some traditional stories that are associated with them.



Ken Marr is the curator of Botany at the Royal B.C. Museum since 2001. Born in Boulder, Colorado, his father is a plant ecologist and the founder of the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research. His mother is also a biologist. He has a BA from the University of Colorado (1981); MSc from the University of Hawaii (1989); PhD from UBC (1995) and a post-doc in Yunnan Province, China – 2.5 years 1997-1999. He first went to China in 1980, visited Guangzhou for 3 days and decided to take Mandarin class during his last year at the University of Colorado. He attended 2.5 years of Mandarin class while doing his MSc at the University of Hawaii. He gave a presentation at an international meeting in Kunming in 1988. He has one wife (pediatric nurse), and one daughter (20 years, UVIC student). His three favourite colours: white (as in snow), green (as in trees), blue (as in winter sky).

**Location:**

Purple Garden Restaurant is located at 1551 Cedar Hill Cross Road.

Please arrive at 5:45pm. **Buffet Dinner** starts at 6pm. The presentation begins at 7pm.

\$22 for members, \$30 for non-members. No senior discount. Cash or cheque only please.

**RSVP:** by Saturday, Wednesday January 23, 2019.

Please email Jennifer Calder at: [jepcalder@gmail.com](mailto:jepcalder@gmail.com) or Carol Charlebois at: [charlebois721@gmail.com](mailto:charlebois721@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you there!