

Discriminatory Legislation in British Columbia 1872-1948

SOURCE: Government of British Columbia website [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/our-history/historic-places/documents/heritage/chinese-legacy/discriminatory legislation in bc 1872 1948.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/our-history/historic-places/documents/heritage/chinese-legacy/discriminatory_legislation_in_bc_1872_1948.pdf)

'Facially neutral' discrimination does not appear to be discriminatory based on its plain language meaning; rather it is one that is discriminatory in its application or effect.

Legislation	Source	Date			Area of discrimination	Details	
<i>The Qualification and Registration of Voters Act, 1871</i>	S.B.C.	1872	c.39	s.13	Provincial Franchise	Disqualified "Chinese or Indians" from voting for provincial representation.	
<i>An Act to make better provisions for the Qualification and Registration of Voters</i>	S.B.C.	1874	c.12	s.1,3	Provincial Franchise	Ibid	
<i>An Act relating to an Act to make better provision for the Qualification and Registration of Voters</i>	S.B.C.	1875	c.2	s.1,2	Provincial Franchise	Chinese and Indians person should have their name in the register of voters. An official who inserts a Chinese or Indian person's name would be fined and all names already included in the registry were ordered to be removed.	
<i>Municipality Amendment Act, 1973</i>	S.B.C.	1876	c.1	s.9	Municipal Franchise	The act amended earlier sections of an earlier municipal act, stating no Chinese or Indian person could vote in a municipal election for mayor or counselor.	
<i>Qualification and Regulation of Voters Act</i>	S.B.C.	1876	c.5	s.3	Provincial Franchise	Denied Chinese the right to run for election to the provincial legislature.	
<i>The Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1877</i>	S.B.C.	1877	c.15	s.46, Rule 33	Mining	"No Chinaman or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine subject to this Act, whereby through his ignorance, carelessness, or negligence, he might endanger the life or limb of any person employed in or about a mine."	
<i>Chinese Tax Act</i>	S.B.C.	1878	c.35	s.2	Disallowed	Tax	The Act stipulated that every Chinese person over 12 should pay a \$10 licence fee every three months.
<i>An Act to amend and consolidate the Municipal Acts</i>	S.B.C.	1881	c.16	s.104, s.110(10)		Municipal Franchise	Facially Neutral; empowered municipalities to make discriminatory bylaws.
<i>Jurors' Act, 1883</i>	S.B.C.	1883	c.15	s.5		Jury Service	Jury service was limited to those on the provincial voting list, effectively denying Asian immigrants the right serve.
<i>Chinese Regulation Act, 1884</i>	S.B.C.	1884	c.4	s.3,14, 16, 17		Licensing & Cultural Discrimination	The legislation imposed a \$10 head tax on all Chinese; it banned such Chinese customs as the exhumation of bodies for shipment back to China and the non- medical use of opium; it attempted to force Chinese to adopt a more expensive standard of living by requiring dwellings to provide a minimum number of cubic feet for every resident. The preamble states, the Chinese "habitually desecrate grave yards by the removal

						of bodies...and generally the laws governing the whites are found to be inapplicable to Chinese, and such Chinese are inclined to habits subversive of the comfort and well-being of the community."
<i>Public Schools Amendment Act</i>	S.B.C.	1884	c.27	s.10		School trustees "Chinese and Indians shall not vote" to elect school trustees.
<i>An Act to prevent Chinese from acquiring Crown Lands</i>	S.B.C.	1884	c.2			Crown Lands Stopped Chinese from being able to buy Crown lands.
<i>An Act to prevent the Immigration of Chinese</i>	S.B.C.	1884	c.3		Disallowed	Immigration "It shall be unlawful for any Chinese to come into the Province of British Columbia"
<i>Public Schools Act</i>	S.B.C.	1885	c.25	s.19, 30		School trustees Chinese and Indians denied the ability to vote in school trustee elections.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo Water Works Company, Limited</i>	S.B.C.	1885	c.31	s.38		Hiring "It shall not be lawful for the Company, or its contractors, to employ any Chinese in or about the laying of the pipes of the said water-works, or in maintaining the same."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Esquimalt Water Works Company, 1885</i>	S.B.C.	1885	c.30	s.32		Hiring "It shall not be lawful for the Company, or its contractors to employ any Chinese in or about the laying of the pipes of the said water works, or the maintenance thereof."
<i>An Act to amend the "Municipality Act, 1881.</i>	S.B.C.	1885	c.21	s.11		Laundry licensing Facially neutral; \$75 laundry license fee every six months.
<i>An Act to amend the "Chinese Regulation Act, 1894."</i>	S.B.C.	1885	c.2			Amendment Licensing & Cultural Discrimination The amendment stipulated that convictions under the Chinese Regulation Act could not to be quashed for want of form.
<i>An Act to prevent the Immigration of Chinese</i>	S.B.C.	1885	c.13		Disallowed	Immigration The act prohibited the immigration of Chinese to B.C.
<i>An Act to Incorporate Vancouver City Incorporation Act</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.32	s.8		Municipal Franchise "No China man or Indian shall be entitled to vote at any municipal election for the election of a Mayor or Alderman."
<i>An Act respecting a Subsidy for a Railway from Victoria to North Saanich</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.16	s.4		Hiring "No Chinese shall be employed in, about, or concerning the construction, maintenance, or operation of said railway."
<i>An Act to amend the "Timber Act, 1884."</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.22	s.8		Licensing "No license shall be granted to any Chinese, and if any licensee employs any Chinese in cutting or tearing away timber or bark his license shall be void."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver Electric Light Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.25	s.27-30		Hiring Chinese not to be employed, directly or indirectly, by the company or its contractors. The Act contains for sections disenfranchising Chinese.
<i>An Act granting T.B.H. Cochrane and James Brady a Lease of a portion of the bed of Findlay Creek and Lands contiguous thereto, for Mining purposes.</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.26	s.8,11-14		Mining, Hiring, Licensing Chinese could not to transfer any land rights or titles. Chinese not to be employed, directly or indirectly, by the licensee or any contractors.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver Gas Company, and for other purposes.</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.27	s.16-19		Hiring "no Chinese, either directly or indirectly, shall be employed in or about, or concerning any work or services authorized by this Act, or required by the Company to be done or performed."

<i>An Act to Victoria and Saanich Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.29	s.19-22	Hiring	Chinese prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the Company or its contractors.
<i>An Act to amend the Act Incorporating the "New Westminster and Port Moody Telephone Company, Limited."</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.30	s.10-13	Hiring	Chinese prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the Company or its contractors.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver Street Railways Company</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.31	s.16-19	Hiring	Chinese prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the Company or its contractors.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Coquitlam Water Works Company, Limited</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.33	s.35-8	Hiring	Chinese prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the Company or its contractors.
<i>An Act to amend the "Nanaimo Water Act, 1885."</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.34	s.3-6	Hiring	No Chinese to be employed
<i>An Act to incorporate the Vancouver Water Works Company, 1886.</i>	S.B.C.	1886	c.35	s.36-9	Hiring	Chinese prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the Company or its contractors.
<i>An Act to enable certain Foreign Mining Companies to carry on business in British Columbia</i>	S.B.C.	1888	c.12	s. 7	Mining/ Business Restrictions	Chinese companies could not be registered.
<i>Constitution Act</i>	C.S.B.C.	1888	c.22	s.30	Provincial Franchise	Chinese denied the right to run for election to the provincial legislature
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act</i>	C.S.B.C.	1888	c.84	s.79, Rule 34	Mining	"No Chinaman or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine subject to this Act, whereby through his ignorance, carelessness, or negligence, he might endanger the life or limb of any person employed in or about a mine."
<i>An Act to prevent the desecration of Grave-yards.</i>	R.S.B.C.	1888	c.54		Cultural Discrimination	Facially Neutral ; similar language was found in the Chinese Regulation Act, 1884; deceased remains could not be exhumed without the permission of Coroner.
<i>An Act to incorporate the New Westminster Electric Light and Motor Power Company</i>	S.B.C.	1890	c.50	s.27-31	Hiring	Chinese prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the Company or its contractors.
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act</i>	S.B.C.	1890	c.33		Mining	Act was amended to add "no Chinaman."
<i>Pharmacy Act, 1891</i>	S.B.C.	1891	c.33		Pharmacy	Facially neutral ; passed pursuant to the Pharmacy Act, 1891, s.15 of the Pharmacy By-Law limited those who could be registered as a certified pharmacist's apprentice to those entitled to be placed on the voters' list under the Provincial Elections Act. (Pharmacy by-law s.15 could not be located)
<i>Public Schools Act, 1891</i>	S.B.C.	1891	c.40	s.19, 40	School trustees	The right to vote and run for school trustees was limited to those on the provincial voting list.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the British Columbia Dyking and Improvement Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1891	c.48	s.58-61	Hiring	Chinese not to be employed directly or indirectly by the company or its contractors.

<i>An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo Electric Tramway Company, Limited.</i> S.B.C.	1891	c.69	s.20-3	Hiring	"This Act is passed upon the express understanding that no Chinese shall be employed in or about or concerning any works or services authorized by this Act, or required by the Company to be done or preformed. In the event of any Chinese been employed by the company, the company shall be liable, upon the summary conviction before any two Justices of the Peace...to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese employed..."	
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Amendment Act, 1894.</i>	S.B.C.	1894	c.5	s.2	Mining	Expands the power of inspector in C.S.B.C. 1888, c.84 (<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act</i>) .
<i>An Act respecting the Cariboo Hydraulic Mining Company (Limited Liability)</i>	S.B.C.	1894	c.3	s.2	Hiring	"...will not employ a Chinese or Japanese person..."
<i>An Act respecting eh Horsefly Hydraulic Mining Company, (Limited Liability)</i>	S.B.C.	1894	c.19	s.2	Hiring	"...will not employ a Chinese or Japanese person..."
<i>Licences Act Amendment Act, 1894.</i>	S.B.C.	1894	c.29	s.5	Liquor licensing	"No licence for the sale of wines or liquors by retail shall, after the passage of this act, be given or transferred to any person of the Chinese race in any portion of the Province."
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Amendment Act, 1895.</i>	S.B.C.	1895	c.38		Mining	Facially neutral
<i>Legal Professions Act, 1895</i>	S.B.C.	1895	c.29	s.37	Legal profession	Facially neutral ; enrolment as a student-at-law and articulated law clerk were limited to those on the voters list under the Provincial Elections Act: Rule 39 of the Law Society of British Columbia, passed pursuant to the Legal Professions Act S.B.C. 1895, c.29, s.37
<i>Provincial Voters' Act Amendment Act, 1895</i>	S.B.C.	1895	c.20	s.2	Provincial Franchise	No Chinese, Japanese, or Indian to vote. In 1895, legislation is amended for the first time to include Japanese people along with Chinese and Indian people as banned from voting.
<i>An Act to further amend the "New Westminster Act, 1888."</i>	S.B.C.	1895	c.65	s.3	Municipal Franchise	"No Chinaman, Japanese, or Indian shall be entitled to vote at any municipal election for the election of a Mayor or Alderman."
<i>An Act to amend the "Burrard Inlet Railway and Ferry Company Incorporation Act, 1891.</i>	S.B.C.	1895	c.59	s.3-6	Hiring	Chinese and Japanese prohibited from being employed.
<i>An Act respecting Lightning Creek Gold Gravels and Drainage Company (Limited Liability)</i>	S.B.C.	1896	c.56	s.4	Hiring	Chinese and Japanese prohibited from being employed.
<i>An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to Electors and Elections in Municipalities</i>	S.B.C.	1896	c.38	s.7,36	Municipal Voting	Chinese, Japanese and Indians disqualified from voting in Municipal elections.
<i>Municipal Clauses Act, 1896.</i>	S.B.C.	1896	c.37	s.14-18	Municipal Franchise	The right to hold the office Mayor, Aldermen, Municipality Council was limited to those on the provincial voting list.

<i>The Antler Creek Mining Company's Act, 1896.</i>	S.B.C.	1896	c.51	s.6		Hiring	Chinese or Japanese persons prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the company or its contractors.
<i>An Act respecting the consolidation of the claims and water-rights of the "The Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited (Foreign)."</i>	S.B.C.	1896	c.6	s.3		Hiring	Chinese or Japanese persons prohibited from being employed directly or indirectly by the company or its contractors.
<i>Alien Labour Act, 1897</i>	S.B.C.	1897	c.1		Assent reserved	Hiring	The bill banned the hiring of Chinese and Japanese workers by companies created by private bills.
<i>Inspection of Metalliferous Mines Act, 1897</i>	S.B.C.	1897	c.27	s.12 & 14		Mining	Prohibited the employment of Chinese and Japanese underground in mines and operating machinery for raising or lowering men.
<i>Companies Act</i>	S.B.C.	1897	c.2	s.145		Foreign Companies	Prohibited any Chinese company from doing business in British Columbia; "Nothing contained in this Part of this Act shall authorise the registration of any Chinese company or association."
<i>Public Schools Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1897	c.170	s.19		School Trustee	Denied Chinese the right to run for or vote for School Trustees.
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1897	c.138	s.82, Rule 34		Mining	No China man or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine subject to this act, whereby through his ignorance, carelessness, or negligence he might endanger the life or limb of any person employed in or about a mine..."
<i>Inspection of Metalliferous Mines Act.</i>	R.S.B.C.	1897	c.134	s.12		Mining	Prohibits employment of Chinese and Japanese underground.
<i>Labour Regulations Act, 1898. (An Act relating to the employment of Chinese or Japanese persons on Works carried on under Franchise granted by Private Acts)</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.28		Disallowed	Hiring	"... no Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in connection with or in relation to any of the works, rights, trade, business, occupation, or property given, granted, confirmed, authorised, or affected by the Act."
<i>An Act to confirm an agreement between Her Majesty, in right of Her Province of British Columbia, and Frank Owen and William John Stokes, and to incorporate the Cariboo- Omineca Chartered Company</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.10	s.30		Hiring	Chinese or Japanese persons not to be employed directly or indirectly by the company or its contractors...."under a penalty of five dollars per day, for each and every Chinese and Japanese person employed in contravention of this section..."
<i>British Columbia Public Works Loan Act (1897) Amendment Act, 1898.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.30	s.7	Disallowed	Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed or permitted to work in the construction or operation of any undertaking hereby subsidised, under a penalty of five dollars per day, for each and every Chinese and Japanese person employed in contravention of this section..."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Alice Arm Railway</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.46	s.21		Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Arrowhead and Kootenay Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.47	s.29		Hiring	ibid.

<i>An Act to Incorporate "The British Columbia Great Gold Gravels Dredge-Mining Corporation.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.48	s.17	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Canadian Yukon Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.50	s.39	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to authorise the Cowichan Lumber Company, Limited, to construct a dam and works on the Cowichan River, in the Quamichan District, and also to construct a Tramway to connect the said dam and works and with a point at or near the mouth of the Cowichan River.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.51	s.10	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Downie Creek Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.52	s.35	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the East Kootenay Valley Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.53	s.20	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Kitimaat Railway Company, Limited.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.54	s.25	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Kootenay & North-West Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.55	s.49	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Mountain Tramway and Electric Company</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.56	s.27	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Nanaimo Electric Light, Power and Heating Company, Limited.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.57	s.11	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.58	s.39	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Portland and Stickine Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.59	s.43	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the "Red Mountain Tunnel Company, Limited."</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.60	s.34	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Revelstoke and Cassiar Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.61	s.44	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Skeena River and Eastern Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.62	s.23	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Skeena River Railway, Colonization and Exploration Company</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.63	s.12	Hiring	ibid.

<i>An Act to Incorporate the "South-East Kootenay Railway Company."</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.64	s.24		Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Tramway Incorporation Act</i>	S.B.C.	1898	c.44	s.7	Disallowed	Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to amend the "Coal Mines Regulation Act."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.46	s.1-2	Disallowed	Mining	The Act amended the Coal Mines Regulation Act to add "Japanese" to the list of people banned from working in coal mines below ground.
<i>Midway-Penticton Railway Subsidy Act, 1899.</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.44	s.6	Disallowed	Railway	"No Chinese or Japanese person shall be employed or permitted to work in the construction or operation of any railway subsidised under this Act..."
<i>An Act to incorporate the "Ashcroft Water, Electric and Improvement Company."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.78	s.35		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in the construction of the undertaking or the working of the same, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each and every Chinese and Japanese person employed in contravention of this section..."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Atlin Short Line Railway and Navigation Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.79	s.15		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in the construction of the undertaking or the working of the railway."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Atlin Southern Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.80	s.38		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in the construction of the undertaking or the working of the railway."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the "Big Bend Transportation Company, Limited."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.81	s. 39		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in the construction of the undertaking hereby authorised, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each and every Chinese and Japanese person employed in contravention of this section..."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Kamloops and Atlin Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.83	s.18		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in the construction of the undertaking or the working of the railway."
<i>An Act to Amend the Kitimaat Railway Act</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.84	s.7		Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to amend the "Kootenay and North-West Railway Company's Act, 1898."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.85	s.5		Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to amend the "North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Ac, 1898."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.86	s.5		Hiring	ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Pine Creek Flume Company, Limited.</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.87	s.31		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in the construction of the undertaking, or the working of the same, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each and every Chinese or Japanese person employed in contravention of this section..."
<i>An Act Incorporate the "South Kootenay Railway Company."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.88	s.22		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese persons shall be employed in the construction of the undertaking or the working of the railway."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the "Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Company."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.89	s.37		Hiring	ibid.

<i>"Liquor Licences Act, 1899."</i>	S.B.C.	1899	c.39	s.22-23,36	Disallowed	Liquor Licensing	"No licence under this Act shall be issued or transferred to any person of the Indian, Chinese or Japanese."
<i>Labour Regulation Act, 1900.</i>	S.B.C.	1900	c.14		Disallowed	Hiring	Any immigrant to BC must be able to pass a proficiency test for any European language
<i>British Columbia Immigration Act, 1900</i>	S.B.C.	1900	c.11	s.3	Disallowed	Immigration	The act was designed to eliminate Asian immigration by barring entry for immigrants who could not complete a 'European language test.'
<i>Vancouver Incorporation Act.</i>	S.B.C.	1900	c.54	s.7		Municipal Franchise	"No Chinaman, Japanese, or Indian shall be entitled to vote at any municipal election for the election of a Mayor or Alderman."
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.36	s.2		Mining	Any immigrant to BC must be able to pass a proficiency test for any European language
<i>An Act to amend the "Arrowhead and Kootenay Railway Company Act, 1898.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.65	s.2		Hiring	"No aliens shall be employed on the railway during the construction unless it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant Governor in Council that the work cannot be proceeded with without the employment of such aliens."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Coast-Kootenay Railway Company, Limited</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.69	s.27		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Amend the "Columbia and Western Railway Company Act, 1896."</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.70	s.2		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Comox and Cape Scott Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.71	s.21		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Crawford Bay Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.72	s.21		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Crow's Nest Southern Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.73	s.23		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Imperial Pacific Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.77	s.24		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Kamloops and Atlin Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.78	s.22		Hiring	"No aliens shall be employed on the [Kootenay Central Railway] railway during the construction unless it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant Governor in Council that the work cannot be proceeded with without the employment of such aliens."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Kootenay Central Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.79	s.20		Hiring	"No aliens shall be employed on the [Kootenay Central Railway] railway during the construction unless it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant Governor in Council that the work cannot be proceeded with without the employment of such aliens."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Midway and Vernon Railway Company</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.81	s.23		Hiring	Ibid.

<i>An Act to Incorporate the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.83	s.32		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver and Grand Forks Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.84	s.22		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Victoria Terminal Railway and Ferry Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.85	s.25		Hiring	Ibid.
<i>An Act empowering the Corporation of the City of the Victoria to lease the Market Building Premises and otherwise carry into effect the "Victoria Terminal Railway By-Law, 1900."</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.86	s.26		Hiring	"No Chinese or Japanese person shall be employed in any of the works or undertakings hereby agreed to be carried out by the Company...."
<i>An Act to Incorporate the Yale- Northern Railway Company.</i>	S.B.C.	1901	c.87	s.24		Hiring	"No aliens shall be employed on the [Yale-Northern] railway during the construction unless it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant Governor in Council that the work cannot be proceeded with without the employment of such aliens."
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Act, 1902."</i>	S.B.C.	1902	c.48	s.2, Rule 34	Disallowed	Mining	"No Chinaman, Japanese or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine subject to this act...."
<i>Labour Regulation Act, 1902.</i>	S.B.C.	1902	c.38	s.4	Disallowed	Hiring	The law required any worker employed by a company covered by a private act be able to read a language of Europe.
<i>British Columbia Immigration Act, 1902</i>	S.B.C.	1902	c.34	s.4, s.6	Disallowed	Immigration	This Act added to the 'European language test.' Now an immigrant could be required to fill out an application 'in the characters of some language of Europe' as well as 'read any test submitted to him' by any officer appointed under the Act.
<i>Railway Act Amendment Act, 1902</i>	S.B.C.	1902	c.57				Facially neutral
<i>Licences Act Amendment Act (1900)</i>	S.B.C.	1902	c.40	s.2			"No licence under this Act shall be issued or transferred to any person of the Indian race, or to any person who is not on the list of voters for the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia."
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Act, 1903.</i>	S.B.C.	1903	c.17	s.2, Rule 34	Disallowed		"No Chinaman or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine subject to this Act, whereby through his ignorance carelessness or negligence he might endanger the life or limb of any person employed in or about a mine."
<i>Labour Regulation Act, 1903.</i>	S.B.C.	1903	c.14		Disallowed		Law required workers employed by a company covered by a private act be able to read a language of Europe.
<i>British Columbia Immigration Act, 1903</i>	S.B.C.	1903	c.12	s.4	Disallowed		The law required any immigrant to B.C. to fill in an application in a "language of European."
<i>British Columbia Immigration Act, 1904</i>	S.B.C.	1903-	c.26	s.3	Disallowed		European language test; the law prohibited the immigration of

		4					any person who could not 'write out at dictation, in the characters of some language of Europe, and sign in the presence of the officer, a passage of fifty words in length, in a European language directed by the officer.'
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Act, 1904.</i>	S.B.C.	1903-4	c.39	s.2			"The words 'Chinaman' and 'Chinese' shall include any person or persons of the Chinese blood or race, whether born within the limits of the Chinese Empire and its Dependencies or not, and shall not be affected by naturalisation."
<i>Provincial Elections Act</i>	S.B.C.	1903-4	c.17	s.6			"No Chinaman, Japanese, or Indian shall have his name placed on the Register of Voters for any Electoral District, or be entitled to vote at any election."
<i>Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Act, 1905</i>	S.B.C.	1905	c.36	s.2, Rule 34	Disallowed		"No Chinaman or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine subject to this Act, whereby through his ignorance carelessness or negligence he might endanger the life or limb of any person employed in or about a mine."
<i>Labour Regulation Act, 1905</i>	S.B.C.	1905	c.30	s.4	Disallowed		European language test
<i>British Columbia Immigration Act, 1905</i>	S.B.C.	1905	c.28	s.3	Disallowed		European language test; the law required any immigrant to B.C. to write out a 50-word dictation in a European language.
<i>Public Schools Act, 1905</i>	S.B.C.	1905	c.44	s.25, s.32			Denied Chinese the right to run for or vote for School Trustees.
<i>Municipal Clauses Act</i>	S.B.C.	1906	c.32	s.14-19			Denied Chinese the right to hold the office of Mayor, Aldermen, Municipality Council.
<i>British Columbia Immigration Act, 1907</i>	S.B.C.	1907	c.21A	s.4, s.6	Assent Reserved		This act imposed a European language test. There is confusion on status of this bill. The bill was not given assent by B.C.'s Lieutenant-Governor. Some secondary sources identify S.B.C. 1907, c.21A as 'Disallowed' (Dyzenhaus p.36). The Legislature's Library research was inconclusive; "The Lieutenant -Governor withheld assent to "An Act to Restrict Immigration in British Colombia" until the Governor-General gave assent. Status not included in yearly statute volume. It is unclear whether the federal government also disallowed it."
<i>Provincial Elections Act Amendment Act, 1907</i>	S.B.C.	1907	c.16	s.3			The Assembly amended the Provincial Elections Act to exclude "Hindus" from voting.
<i>Cariboo Gold Mining Company's Act, 1907</i>	S.B.C.	1907	ch.50	Schedule B.			"...will not employ a Chinese, Hindu or Japanese person in or about or on the property demised, or any part thereof, or on the work in connection therewith..."
<i>British Columbia Immigration Act, 1908</i>	S.B.C.	1908	c.23	s.4, s.6	Disallowed		European language test.
<i>Municipal Elections Act</i>	S.B.C.	1908	c.14	s.13(l)			Chinese, Japanese, "other Asiatics," and Indians are disqualified from voting at any municipal election.

<i>Municipal Clauses Act Amendment Act, 1908</i>	S.B.C.	1908	c.36	s.26-7		This amendment disenfranchised "Chinese, Japanese, other Asiatics or Indians" from participating in municipal governance.
<i>Crow's Nest and Northern Railway Company's Act</i>	S.B.C.	1908	c.58	s.23		"...No aliens shall be employed on the railway during construction unless it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant Governor in Council that work cannot be proceeded with without the employment of such aliens."
<i>Land Act Amendment Act, 1909</i>	S.B.C.	1909	c.28	s.7		Facially neutral ; restrictive licenses to those persons on the voting's list.
<i>Liquor Act, 1910</i>	S.B.C.	1910	c.30	s.26		Applicants for liquor Licenses must be "an adult male of Caucasian race..."
<i>Coal-mines Regulations Act</i>	S.B.C.	1911	c.33	s.87, Rule 42		"No Chinaman or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or ..."
<i>Coal-mines Regulations Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1911	c.160	s.91, Rule 42		ibid.
<i>Metalliferous Mines Inspection Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1911	c.164	s.15 s.31, Rule 13 & 15		Chinese and Japanese barred from working underground or operating hoisting machine.
<i>Municipal Elections Act.</i>	R.S.B.C.	1911	c.71	s.4		"No Chinaman, Japanese, or Indian shall be entitled to vote at any municipal election for the election of a Mayor, Reeve, Alderman, or Councillor."
<i>Public Schools Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1911	c.206	s .31 & 38		Asians and First Nations people were denied the right to vote in elections for school trustees.
<i>Liquor Licence Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1911	c.142	s.25		Applicants for liquor licenses must be "an adult male of Caucasian race..."
<i>Municipal Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1911	c.170	s.354		"Not being Chinese, Japanese, other Asiatic, or Indians"
<i>Lands Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1911	c.129	S.108(2)		Licenses were restricted to persons on the voters' list, from which Asians were excluded.
<i>Forest Act</i>	S.B.C.	1912	c.17	s.31(b)		Licenses were restricted to persons on the voters' list, from which Asians were excluded.
<i>Water Act</i>	S.B.C.	1914	c.81	s.187(l)		Chinese, Japanese, or other Asiatics, and First Nations were barred from voting in elections of trustees for an improvement district.
<i>Municipal Act</i>	S.B.C.	1914	c.52	s.16-19		Facially neutral ; the act denied Asians the right to run in election for municipal government.
<i>Pool-rooms Act Amendment Act</i>	S.B.C.	1915	c.50		Assent Reserved (Possibly disallowed)	The amendment required that pool-rooms licenses could only be granted to someone who could acquire a licence under the Liquor Licence Act. The Act passed third reading but the Lieutenant-Governor reserved assent as the legislation would likely interfere with international relations and federal interests.

<i>Factories Act Amendment Act, 1919</i>	S.B.C.	1919	c.27		Laundry	The Act was amended to stipulate that no one - other than a watchman or heat/steam maintenance worker - could work in a laundry except between the hours of 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.. Royal Assent March 29, 1919. Historian Patricia Roy called this "an oblique method of limiting Chinese laundries." (Source: Patricia Roy, <i>The Oriental Question</i> , p. 101.)
<i>Municipal Act Amendment Act, 1919</i>	S.B.C.	1919	c.63		Women/Girls Protection	Prohibiting the employment of white women or girls in Chinese businesses; "No person shall in any municipality employ in any capacity any white woman or girl or permit any white woman or girl to reside or lodge in or to work in or...to frequent any restaurant, laundry, or place of business or amusement owned, kept, or managed by any Chinese person.
<i>Provincial Elections Act</i>	S.B.C.	1920	c.27		Provincial Franchise	"Disqualified from voting...every Chinaman, Japanese, Hindu or Indian."
<i>Water Act, 1914, Amendment Act, 1920</i>	S.B.C.	1920	c.102		Improvement Trustees	"No Chinese, Japanese, or other Asiatics or Indians and no person who is not a British subject shall have his or her name placed on the list of voters for any improvement district, nor shall any person be allowed to vote at any such election in this province."
<i>Oriental Orders in Council Validation Act. (Resolution, 15 April 1902, Reproduced in the schedule to Oriental Orders-in-Council Validation Act)</i>	S.B.C.	1921, First Session	c.49	Disallowed	Hiring	The act included restricting Oriental employment in connection with any government contracts, leases, and concessions.
<i>Public Schools Act</i>	S.B.C.	1922	c.64		School trustees	Facially neutral ; the right to vote and run for school trustees was limited to those eligible to vote and run in municipal elections.
<i>Factories Act Amendment Act, 1922</i>	S.B.C.	1922	c.25		Laundry	Facially neutral ; discrimination similar to the Factories Act Amendment Act, 1919.
<i>Women's and Girls' Protection Act</i>	S.B.C.	1923	c.76		Women/Girls Protection	The act removed all reference to Chinese employers, leaving to the discretion of police officials whether white women were allowed to work in restaurants and laundries.
<i>Forest Act</i>	S.B.C.	1923	c.17		Hand-loggers' licenses	Licenses were only granted to persons on the voters' list, from which Asians were excluded.
<i>Hours of Work Act, 1923</i>	S.B.C.				Work hours	Facially neutral ; the law limited work to eight hours a day on job sites like mines and construction. Historian Patricia Roy said part of the idea was to lessen the appeal of hiring Asian workers who would work longer hours. (Source: Patricia Roy, <i>The Oriental Question</i> , pg. 97.
<i>Coal-mines Regulations Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1924	c.171		Mining	"No Chinaman or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine whereby through his ignorance carelessness, or negligence he may endanger the life or limb of any person employed in or about a mine."

<i>Provincial Elections Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1924	c.76		Provincial Elections	"Every Chinaman, Japanese, Hindu, or Indian" was "disqualified" from voting in Provincial elections.
<i>Municipal Elections Act</i>	S.B.C.	1924	c.75		Municipal Franchise	"No Chinese, Japanese, or other Asiatics or Indians shall be entitled to vote in any municipal election or the election of a Mayor Reeve, Alderman, or Councillor."
<i>Public Schools Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1924	c.226		School Trustees	"Chinese, Japanese, and Indians shall not be entitled to vote at any school meetings."
<i>Water Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1924	c. 271		Improvement Trustees	"No Chinese, Japanese, or any Asiatic or Indian and no person who is not a British subject shall have his or her name placed upon any list of votes for any improvement district, nor shall any such person be allowed to vote at any election of an improvement district."
<i>Factories Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1924	c.84		Laundry	Facially neutral; discrimination similar to the Factories Act Amendment Act, 1919 & Factories Act Amendment Act, 1922.
<i>Male Minimum Wage Act</i>	S.B.C.	1925	c.32		Wages	Facially neutral; historians say that act was designed to make the hiring of Asians workers less appealing. (Source: The Oriental Question, pg. 98.)
<i>Trade Licence Board Act</i>	S.B.C.	1928	c.49		Licensing	Facially neutral
<i>Municipal Elections Act Amendment Act, 1931</i>	S.B.C.	1931	C.20		Municipal Franchise	Facially neutral
<i>Coal-mines Regulations Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1936	c.188		Mining	"No Chinaman or person unable to speak English shall be appointed to or shall occupy any position of trust or responsibility in or about a mine whereby through his ignorance carelessness, or negligence he may endanger the life or limb of any person employed in or about a mine."
<i>Provincial Elections Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1936	C.84		Provincial Franchise	"Every Chinaman, Japanese, Hindu, or Indian" was "disqualified" from voting in Provincial elections unless they have served in the armed forces or fought in the Great War.
<i>Municipal Elections Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1936	C.83		Municipal Franchise	No Chinese, Japanese, or other Asiatic or Indian shall be entitled to vote at any municipal elections for the election of a Mayor, Reeve, Alderman, or Councillor." They were also barred from running as a candidate.
<i>Public Schools Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1936	C.253		School Trustees	Chinese, Japanese, 'Hindues' and First Nations people were denied the right to vote in elections for school trustees.
<i>Provincial Elections Act</i>	S.B.C.	1939	c.16		Provincial Franchise	"The following persons shall be disqualified from voting at any election, and shall not make application to have their names inserted in any list of voters: - (a.) Every Chinese, Japanese, Hindu, or Indian..."
<i>Provincial Elections Act Amendment Act, 1947</i>	S.B.C.	1947	c.28	s.14	Provincial Franchise	This Act gave the franchise to all except the Japanese and 'Indians,' but took it from the Doukhobors, the Hutterites, and the Mennonites, unless they had been in the Armed Forces. The same statute also barred from suffrage every person who

						did not have 'an adequate knowledge of either the English or French language.' This may have affected many Chinese persons.
<i>Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act</i>	S.B.C.	1948	c.55	s.15(5)	Mining	Required knowledge of English for blasting certificate
<i>Provincial Elections Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1948	c.106	s.3(3)F, s.4	Provincial Franchise	Imposed language restrictions for voting; Japanese and Indians remained disqualified from provincial elections.
<i>Municipal Elections Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1948	c.105	s.4	Municipal Franchise	Chinese, Japanese, and Indians disqualified from voting in Municipal elections
<i>Public Schools Act</i>	R.S.B.C.	1948	c.297	s.92(4)	School Trustees	"Chinese, Japanese, and Indians shall not be entitled to vote at any school meetings."
<i>Public School Act</i>	S.B.C.	1948	c.80	s.31	School Trustees	Removed 'Hindus' from the list but continued to disqualify 'Chinese, Japanese and Indians.'
Franchisement Acts						
Not a comprehensive list						
<i>Provincial Elections Act Amendment Act, 1947</i>	S.B.C.	1947	c.28	s.14		This Act gave the franchise to all except the Japanese and 'Indians,' but took it from the Doukhobors, the Hutterites, and the Mennonites, unless they had been in the Armed Forces. The same statute also barred from suffrage every person who did not have 'an adequate knowledge of either the English or French language.' This may have affected many Chinese persons.
<i>Land Registry Act</i>	S.B.C.	1947	c.47	s.4		Canadian citizenship recognized as qualification in addition to being a British subject. Source http://www.elections.bc.ca/index.php/resource-centre/electoral-history-of-bc/
<i>Provincial Elections Act, 1949</i>	S.B.C.	1949	c.19			Japanese, First Nations and Women receive the right to vote.
<i>Statute Law Amendment Act, 1968</i>	S.B.C.	1968	c.53	s.29	Women/Girls Protection	Repeals <i>Women's and Girls' Protection Act</i>