

## 挫折磨礪「當代白求恩」

在中國，白求恩是一個家喻戶曉的名字，這位二戰期間到中國救死扶傷並獻出自己生命的醫生，八十年來一直是中國人心中的英雄，以至於每當提到加拿大，中國人都會聯想到白求恩。如今，一位加拿大的華裔醫生，再次將白求恩的無私和仁愛精神發揚光大，受到中加兩國醫療界和病患的廣泛讚譽。他就是蒙特利爾皇家維多利亞醫院心臟外科醫生岑穎幹。

### 艱辛童年 煉就堅毅性格

岑穎幹出生於非洲國家馬達加斯加一個華裔家庭。上世紀70年代初，馬達加斯加從法屬殖民地獨立出來，學校教育語言由法語改為本地的馬達加斯加語。像所有傳統華人一樣，岑穎幹父母非常重視子女教育。他們認為，與其讓孩子們從頭學習馬達加斯加語，不如讓他們學習自己真正的母語--漢語，於是將上小學的岑穎幹和哥哥送到澳門托遠房親戚照顧。

年幼的岑穎幹乍然遠離父母，從頭學習生疏語言，適應陌生環境，艱辛程度可想而知。父母在馬達加斯加，省吃儉用將辛苦賺的錢全部用於供養在海外就學的四個子女。岑穎幹與父母一別就是8年，直到80年代初，一家人移民到加拿大才得以團聚。進入青春期的岑穎幹，再次迎來巨大人生挑戰：重建與父母親情的同時，又要再次適應一個全新的環境，以及從頭學習第三門語言——英語，因為父母沒有讓他入讀完全用法語教學的魁省公立學校，而是將他送進一所私立中學。



岑穎幹醫生  
Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim

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岑穎幹付出雙倍努力苦攻英文，終以優異成績被麥吉爾大學醫學院錄取。在麥吉爾獲得醫學碩士學位（MD）之後，他又前往哈佛大學醫學院附屬兒童醫院做研究員，1998年回到麥吉爾大學健康中心擔任心胸外科主刀醫師。如今的岑穎幹，不但以豐富的論文著作享譽醫學界，更因精湛的手術水準和對病患者的仁愛而廣受讚譽。

回首早年經歷，岑穎幹用“倖存”二字形容。正是這樣艱辛的經歷，煉就他的堅毅品格，為他的事業成功打下基礎。雖然在人生早期階段歷經挫折磨礪，但岑穎幹沒有絲毫哀怨。他理解並感恩父母當年為了他和兄姊受到良好教育做出的巨大犧牲。這種自我犧牲精神也在他多年堅持為中國偏遠地區病患者進行慈善診治的行動中得到傳承和體現。

### 無私奉獻 獲譽“當代白求恩”

2010年一個偶然機會，岑穎幹通過一位華裔病患者結識了一位來自中國大陸的華人醫生，後者得知他有心為中國的心臟病患者貢獻一己力量時，幫他聯繫了北京大學協和醫院。首次中國行，通過與北京醫學界的交流，岑穎幹發現北京已擁有非常優越的醫療條件和技術，醫生水準也非常高，雖然與他們的學術交流很有益，但這裡並非最需要他的地方，於是他轉赴偏遠和醫療條件落後的貴州省。

當年秋季，岑穎幹在貴陽醫學院附屬醫院為一位患嚴重心臟病的大學生做了一台高難度手術，病人甦醒後說：“我感覺白求恩回來了，救了我的命”。此事被媒體報導後，“當代白

求恩”的讚譽不脛而走。自此岑穎幹每年都利用個人休假訪問中國3至4次，到貴州、安徽、甘肅等偏遠地區義診，至今他已在40個不同城市完成了125宗心胸外科手術，不但分文不取，還將先進的醫療技術和理念傳授給中國醫務人員，被患者和當地醫務人員視為再世白求恩。受到岑穎幹的感染，他的一些加拿大同事以及一些北京、上海的同行也紛紛加盟“白求恩行動”，到偏遠地區開展義診。

岑穎幹的善舉被中加媒體報導後，多倫多的“加拿大白求恩醫學發展協會”（BMDAC）通過電郵聯繫他，邀請他加入該協會。這個非營利組織成立的宗旨是發揚白求恩大夫的奉獻和敬業精神，通過國際交流研究和慈善義診等活動，為人類的健康福祉做貢獻。該協會每年都組織數批醫生前往中國進行交流和醫療支援。岑穎幹欣然加入該組織，積極參加該協會的中國慈善義診活動，並擔任了協會副會長。同時岑穎幹也繼續以個人身份應邀去一些偏遠地區義務治病救人。

### 仁心無界 傳遞感恩與信任

岑穎幹施救的患者大多來自貧困家庭，連到省會城市看病對他們而言都是遙不可及的奢望，而縣城的醫療條件非常有限，所以很多病患無法得到合適的救治。岑穎幹的仁心義舉，給這些病患和他們的家庭帶來希望，九年來有不少感人的故事。但在被問到印象最深的手術病例時，岑穎幹卻講了這樣一個故事。

某次一位病患者屬於高危的主動脈夾層症，若不進行手術

的話隨時會身亡，但這種複雜手術風險也非常大，患者有很大可能在手術中就此長眠不醒。岑穎幹抵達時得知該患者已在醫院撐了五天，作為醫者他覺得無論如何也該盡力一搏。

手術前岑穎幹請護士告知病患家屬手術的高風險，並徵詢家屬意見。護士很快就返回，說家屬完全理解，沒有意見。岑穎幹驚訝於家屬竟對素未謀面的他有如此高度的信任。手術很成功，岑穎幹從死神手裡把這位患者搶救了回來。第二天臨行時他照例去探望病人，在病房見到了病人的妻子。按照在加拿大的習慣，岑穎幹向患者妻子表達了真摯的謝意，感謝她給自己極大信任，讓自己有機會為她丈夫做手術。患者妻子異常震驚，她無法理解醫生為何要感謝自己，在她看來明明應該是她和家人感謝醫生的救命之恩啊。

病患家屬的反應令岑穎幹感觸頗深，同時也令他深思加中兩國醫療服務理念上的差異。他更想到，他個人的能力和精力有限，如果能幫助提高中國偏遠地區醫療隊伍的水準和改善當地醫療條件，可以讓更多病患者得到救治。所謂授人以魚不如授之以漁，因此岑穎幹除了每次前往中國傾力向當地醫務人員傳授知識技術的同時，也時刻尋找更多機會幫助他們提高水準和更新當地醫院的設備。

### 授人以魚 更授之以漁

2016年，蒙特利爾一個華人社區組織負責人通過麥吉爾大學健康中心基金會找到岑穎幹，表示希望對他的慈善義舉給予支持。岑穎幹告訴對方：“我每年最多能去中國四、五趟，這

些年盡我所能也僅幫助到一百多名病患者，但如果你們能夠幫我擴大我在中國所從事的慈善工作的影響範圍，就能讓更多病患者受益。”在他的建議下，該華人社區組織籌措基金，用以資助中國貴州等地的醫生來麥吉爾大學進修學習。一年後，項目非常成功，該組織負責人告訴岑穎幹，他們準備籌集兩百萬加幣基金，將這個項目長期開展下去。2018年，又有一名香港的匿名捐助者捐贈了10萬加幣，用以支持岑穎幹在中國所開展的慈善義診活動。

岑穎幹很欣慰華人社區對自己慈善事業的支持，他亦非常感恩9年來一直在他身旁及背後支持他的人們，包括他的病患者、同事、朋友以及家人。他妻子也是馬達加斯加華裔，與他有相似的背景，所以非常理解和支持他到中國開展的慈善義診活動，儘管這意味著她必須獨自承擔更多家庭責任。其實這何嘗不是一種正能量的相互影響與傳遞作用呢？希望未來有更多人受到岑穎幹的感染，令這種無私的大愛一直傳遞下去！



岑穎幹醫生攝於白求恩像  
Dr. Shum-Tim at Statue of Norman Bethune



岑穎幹醫生和妻子崔妙愛  
Dr. Shum-Tim and wife Mrs. Veronique Chu



在中國義診  
Free medical clinic with local surgeon in China



手術後病人向岑醫生致謝  
Words of appreciation given by a patient operated by Dr. Shum-Tim



前中國大使羅照輝在蒙特利爾探望岑醫生  
Ex-Ambassador (羅照輝) paid a personal visit to Contemporary Norman Bethune (Dr. Shum-Tim) in Montreal



岑醫生的中國心臟科團隊  
The Cardiac team members who accompanied and supported Dr. Shum-Tim mission in China



手術中的岑穎幹醫生  
Close-up view of Dr. Shum-Tim during an open-heart surgery in China



與當地醫生討論病案  
Dr. Shum-Tim discussed many cases with local medical team prior to surgery



岑醫生接受「當代白求恩」榮譽  
Dr. Shum-Tim received appreciation flag from family members after successful operation on patient



岑醫生的一位心臟手術病人  
One of the pediatric patients after open-heart surgery



華人社區及一位病患者支持岑穎幹醫生的慈善行為以及為麥吉爾大學健康中心當代白求恩獎學金募集善款  
Chinese community and a patient supported Dr. Shum-Tim's humanitarian mission and fundraising for Contemporary Norman Bethune fellowship at McGill University Health Center



在複雜的心臟手術後，病人向岑醫生致謝  
Words of appreciation given to Dr. Shum-Tim after complex heart surgery

## Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim

*In China, Dr. Bethune is a household name. During World War II, he went to China and saved many lives, sacrificing his own life in the end. For 80 years, he has been a hero in the hearts of Chinese people. Whenever Canada is mentioned, Chinese people associate it with Dr. Bethune. Today, a Canadian Chinese doctor carries on Dr. Bethune's legacy of selflessness and charity, and is widely praised by the medical community and patients in China and Canada. His name is Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim, a heart surgeon at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal.*

Dominique was born in a Chinese family in Madagascar, an African country. In the early 1970s, Madagascar became independent from the French colonies, and the school's educational language was changed from French to native Malagasy. Like many traditional Chinese people, Dominique's parents attached great importance to their children's education. They believed that instead of letting their children learn Malagasy from the start, it was better for them to learn their true mother tongue, Chinese. Accordingly, they took Dominique and his brother out of elementary school and sent them to live with distant relatives in Macau.

Separated from his parents all of a sudden, the young Dominique had to learn the local language and adapted to a new and strange environment. This was a difficult and challenging time for him. In Madagascar, his parents spent all their hard-earned money on their four

children who were studying abroad. Dominique and his parents were apart for eight years. It was not until the early 1980s that the family was reunited in Canada. Entering adolescence, Dominique once again faced difficult challenges: rebuilding his relationship with his parents, adjusting to a new environment, and learning a third language from scratch - English, because his parents enrolled him in a private English high school, not a Quebec French public school.

Dominique doubled his efforts studying English, and was accepted by the School of Medicine at McGill University with excellent results. After he got his medical degree (MD) from McGill University, he worked as a clinical research fellow at the Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. In 1998, he returned to McGill University Health Centre as a surgeon in cardiothoracic surgery. Today, Dominique is not only well-known for his medical research papers and lectures, but also widely praised for surgical expertise and his love for patients.

Looking back on his early years, Dominique used the word "survival" to describe it. It was this difficult experience that refined his persevering character and laid the foundation for his career success. Although he encountered many obstacles in the early stages of his life, Dominique did not complain. He recognized and was grateful for the great sacrifices his parents made to secure a good education for him and his siblings. This spirit of self-sacrifice has also been passed down and reflected in his many years of charitable work with patients in remote areas of China.

In 2010, by chance, Dominique met a doctor from Mainland China through a Chinese Canadian patient. When the Chinese doctor knew

that Dominique wanted to contribute his expertise to the field of heart disease in China, the Chinese doctor connected him with Peking Union Medical College. During this first visit to China, Dominique, through exchanges with the medical community in Beijing, learned that Beijing had good medical technologies and equipment, with highly qualified doctors. Although academic exchanges with them were beneficial, this was not the place where he was most needed. He moved to Guizhou province, a remote and poor area where medical conditions were underdeveloped.

In autumn of that year, Dominique carried out a difficult surgical operation on a college student with severe heart disease at the Affiliated Hospital of Guiyang Medical College. After the patient awoke, he said: "I feel that Dr. Bethune has returned and saved my life." After the matter was reported by the media, his reputation as "Contemporary Norman Bethune" grew. Since then, Dominique has used his personal vacation to visit China three to four times a year, and has visited the remote areas of Guizhou, Anhui, Gansu and other places. He has completed 125 open-heart surgeries free of charge in 40 different cities. He worked as a volunteer, and also imparted his knowledge of advanced medical concepts and technology to Chinese medical personnel. He became known by patients and local medical staff as the "Contemporary Norman Bethune". Inspired by Dominique, some of his Canadian colleagues and Beijing and Shanghai counterparts have joined the "Dr. Bethune Movement" to offer free clinics in the remote areas of China.

After Dominique's humanitarian mission was reported by Chinese and Canadian media, Toronto's Bethune Medical Development Association

of Canada (BMDAC) invited him to join the association. The purpose of this non-profit organization is to promote the dedication and professionalism of Dr. Bethune, and contribute to the health and well-being of mankind through international exchanges of research and free medical clinics. The association organized numerous groups of specialists twice per year to China for exchanges and medical support. Dominique joined the organization, actively participated in the association's free clinics in China, and served as the vice president of the association. At the same time, Dominique also continued on his own to visit remote areas in China to treat patients in need.

Most patients treated by Dominique were from poor families. It was an impossible dream for them to go to the provincial capitals. The medical environment in the countryside was severely limited, so these patients couldn't get proper treatment. Dominique's humanitarian mission brought hope and relief to these patients and their families. There were many touching stories in the past nine years. However, when asked about which medical case made the most impression on him, Dominique told the following story:

One case involved a patient in need of a life-threatening aortic dissection. If the patient did not have this operation, death would occur at any time. But the risk of this complicated operation was also very large, and the patient could likely die from it. When Dominique arrived, he learned that the patient had already been in the hospital for five days. As a medical practitioner, he felt that no matter what happened, he had to try his best to save this patient's life.

Before the operation, Dominique asked the nurse to inform the

patient's family of the high risk of surgery. The nurse returned quickly and said that the family members understood completely and had no problem with proceeding with the operation. Dominique was surprised that this family trusted him so much, even though they had never met. The operation was successful, and Dominique rescued the patient from near death. Before he left the next day, he went to visit the patient as usual, and he saw the patient's wife in the ward. According to Canadian custom, Dominique expressed sincere gratitude to the patient's wife, thanking her for trusting him and giving him the opportunity to perform surgery on her husband. The patient's wife was shocked. She couldn't understand why the doctor was thanking her. In her opinion, she and her family were the ones that needed to thank the doctor.

The reaction of the patient's family members moved Dominique. He began to ponder the difference in the concept of medical service between Canada and China. He concluded that his personal ability and energy were limited. If he could help improve the level of medical teams in remote areas of China and improve local medical conditions, more patients could be treated. "Teaching how to fish" is better than "giving the fish". Therefore, in addition to going to China to transfer scientific knowledge and know-how to local medical staff, Dominique began looking for more opportunities to help them improve their standards and update the equipment of local hospitals.

In 2016, the head of a Chinese community organization in Montreal found Dominique through McGill University Health Centre Foundation and expressed her wish to support his charitable work. Dominique told her, "I go to China four or five times a year, and I can

only help about 100 patients. But if you help me expand the impact of my humanitarian mission in China, many more patients can benefit." Following his suggestion, the Chinese community organization raised money to fund a doctor from underdeveloped areas such as Guizhou and other places to study at McGill University. A year later, the project was successful. The head of the organization told Dominique that they were preparing to raise two million Canadian dollars to carry out the project long term, sponsoring a Chinese cardiac surgeon to be trained as a fellow at McGill University every year. In 2018, another anonymous donor from Hong Kong donated 100,000 Canadian dollars to support Dominique's humanitarian mission in China.

Dominique was happy and gratified with the outcome. He is grateful to the Chinese community for their continued support of his philanthropy, especially the people who have encouraged and supported him, including his patients, friends, colleagues and family members, for the past nine years. His wife is also a Chinese from Madagascar, with a similar background to him, so she understands and supports his charitable work in China, although it means she has to bear more family responsibilities alone. This kind of positive energy and dedication to making the world better is what the Chinese Canadian Legend Award stands for. Hopefully more people will be inspired by Dr. Dominique Shum-Tim, so that this selfless love will continue into the future!