

May 14, 2025



I am the President of the Oregon Chinese Coalition and had the privilege of knowing and working with Christine over the past five years. My first impression of her came from the long list of titles in her email signature - a clear reflection of how active, dedicated, and passionate she was about community service. When she eventually narrowed that list to a single title—Executive Director of APICCO - I knew she was stepping into a larger role, one where her leadership would shine even brighter.

From the very beginning, OCC stood firmly behind Christine and the events she organized. Along the way, we shared many agreements - and, naturally, a few disagreements - but her ever-present smile always had a way of bringing us back together. Behind that warm smile was someone who truly listened, who took action, and who cared deeply about building unity. It was no surprise that OCC became one of her strongest supporters. For the past three APICCO galas, we proudly hosted two tables—one always reserved for youth from our community, a testament to Christine's commitment to uplifting the next generation.

Christine's passing is a profound loss to our community - one we may never fully overcome. But her legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched. I hope her example inspires more Asian Americans to step forward, to lead, and to serve - as community leaders, elected officials, and legislators. That would be the most fitting tribute we could offer to honor Christine's life and her unwavering dedication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hongcheng Zhao".

Hongcheng Zhao
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