

# THE WCR LEARNING COMMUNITY

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Cindy Lee holds a crab at T&T Supermarket.  
Photo by Bill Keay, *The Vancouver Sun*

## **From housewife to queen: Cindy Lee sells T&T\* Supermarkets for \$225 Million**

Adapted from *The Vancouver Sun* and  
[T&T Supermarket](#) company website

Level 2

Cindy Lee came to Vancouver from Taiwan in 1972. She just wanted to have a simple life. Lee shopped in Chinatown in the rain and with her three children. Shopping in Chinatown was not convenient (con-**vee**-nyint). There were no shopping carts. There was no parking and there were no washrooms.



A shopping cart

Lee saw an opportunity (a chance or a need). In 1993, Lee opened her first T&T Supermarket in Metrotown, Burnaby. Today T&T is the largest Asian grocery store chain in Canada. There are 17 stores in British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario. T&T carries over 15,000 food items from Asia. Lee is a success story. In July 2009, Loblaws, Canada's largest food distributor (seller), bought all 17 T&T Supermarkets.

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