National Association of Japanese Canadians

2016 AGM/Conference

Future Directions Workshop – Sunday, September 11, 2016

Priority Action Items

**Group 1**

Education:

* Nationwide compulsory curriculum which tells the story of internment and Redress in the context of what it means to be Canadian today (i.e. islamaphobia, social policies)
* Be inclusive to the other cultural groups (i.e. Chinese Canadians, Doukabours, South Asians and especially First Nations)
* Standing Committee: education lobby group or education committee who are connected to the education system working nationally
* NAJC support curriculum building through funding
* Create a resource base online and train local educators

Immigrants:

* Ensure one director is a new immigrant so that the voice is at the table
* Recommend immediately that there be one advisor from new immigrants at the NEB and local chapters

Community Development:

* Continue providing funds to local chapters
* Sharing ideas at the AGM – there should be time to share ideas at the beginning

**Group 2**

Education:

* NAJC advocate to the Ministry of Education in each province to have JC history included in the Canadian history curriculum
* Pursue partnership/mentorship from Densho to develop accessible, relevant teacher resources – work with Nikkei National Museum education (NNM)
* Encourage smaller JC chapters to utilize NNM education resources
* NAJC grab and go: ready to use educational package (in English+French+Japanese)
* National contest to encourage digital stories from all generations of JC across Canada

New Immigrants

* Welcome package from NAJC to offer community resources, give JC history, program information on local chapters and institutions
* More inclusive programming
* Engage their help in community development

Community Development

* Strong communication and dialogue between local; dissemination through national
* Restructuring of standing committees and their priorities. Revisit these, discuss frequently
* Encourage and prioritize grassroots development

**Group 3**

Education:

* Model curriculum of Japanese culture and JC history to schools

New Immigrants

* NAJC director of new immigrants
* NAJC web in Japanese

Community Development:

* Share success cases of local community assistances

**Group 4**

Education:

* Encourage and support learning Japanese language
* Better communication
* Educating JC history
* Terms – JC pidgin; Japanese cultural terms
* JC history in schools
* Curriculum for teachers
* Teachers – learning JC history so they use resources
* Kids attending JC centres (JC, immigrant, general students)
* Seniors – guest speaker in class or filmed for clips for teachers/curriculum

New Immigrants:

* Look at recruiting – gender balance; Japanese immigrants and integrated into local organizations (i.e. board, events)
* Better communication – where appropriate include Japanese language
* JC organizations/centres being involved in immigrant programs
* Cross-cultural learning
* Provide resources to multicultural/immigrant resources

Community Development:

* Political activism – learning about effecting change, campaigns, processes, mentorship, networks
* More communication by NEB to locals
* Liaising with other national organizations

**Group 5**

Education:

* Workshops for educators, information for them
* Websites, teacher resources links, eg. Densho
* Upgrade NAJC website
* Partnerships with other ethno-educational groups, aboriginal groups
* Mandatory JC history in all provinces, territories
* NAJC back educational resources initiatives
* Educate new immigrants – JC history and link their experiences and history of oppression in their own country

New Immigrants:

* Translate our website, brochures, etc into Japanese
* Bilingual staff, board member
* Working NAJC Committee on how to engage with new immigrants
* Next conference have a theme on new immigrants