



National Association of Japanese Canadians Heritage Committee meeting minutes

Meeting date: 25 April 2015

Meeting time:	9:00am PST / 12:00pm EST to 10:30am PST / 1:30pm EST
Meeting location:	WebEx online
Meeting called by:	Lisa Uyeda, Chair
Type of meeting:	Committee meeting
Facilitator:	Lisa Uyeda, Chair
Note taker:	Lisa Uyeda, Chair
Attendees:	Noreen Kuroyama, Lillian Maquire, Kevin Okabe, Lisa Uyeda, and Bryon Wilfert.
Regrets:	None.

Adopt 25 April 2015 meeting agenda

Motion moved:	Bryon Wilfert
Motion second:	Noreen Kuroyama
Result:	Carried

Adopt 31 January 2015 meeting minutes

Motion moved:	n/a
Motion second:	n/a
Result:	Motion tabled; to be reviewed and completed via email

Business arising from Minutes

1. [NAJC by-laws](#)

The National Executive Board (NEB) has reviewed changes to the by-laws. No further changes were made re: Heritage Committee since the last meeting and no changes are expected. No further actions.

2. [National heritage survey](#)

Objective: to gain a better understanding of the national heritage situation. Establish contacts with a specific focus on heritage.

Target audience: member organizations, supporting member organizations, and other national Japanese Canadian organizations. If appropriate, the target audience may include academic institutions such as



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Universities (this may require a more tailored survey to address different needs). Might be necessary to divide the target audience into three tiers/groups.

Supported by the National Executive Board. Draft survey to be completed for June, and results to be completed before December 2015. Online survey preferred for easy dissemination and aim for September. Survey should take a maximum of 15-20 minutes to complete. After September, more detailed responses can be achieved through follow up emails and conversations, or by requesting project descriptions and supporting materials. Rating scales and check boxes are preferred over open-ended questions (the simpler the better).

[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to research potential online survey platforms such as Survey Monkey.

Survey announcement can be posted on the NAJC website, sent via email to the NAJC eNews list and heritage contacts, and printed in the Bulletin-Geppo publication. The NAJC Annual General Meeting will be 26-27 September 2015 in Victoria, B.C. and the survey can be distributed in the AGM package if the timeline is appropriate.

Survey results can be used to identify similar themes/goals/projects in the community; to establish resources that may be available in order to achieve success; and to gain feedback on how the NAJC can better support the community. Aim to get a framework in place to apply for a matching NAJC grant.

Survey categories:

- Curriculum/educational
- Publications/print materials
- Exhibitions
- Displays
- Oral histories
- Presentations/Speakers (public presentations and educational events)
- Collections/archives

Additional information to ask (might be relevant to all, some, or one category):

- Do you have resources to share?
- Online availability
- Free/fee
- Different levels of involvement for different projects
- Target audience
- Additional comments (this may be open ended)
- Past/present/future
- Funding; what have been your sources of funding in the past (or have you had funding from the following in the past: corporate sponsors, individual donors, federal, provincial/territory, etc.)
- Organization relationships (do they work with other JC organizations, cultural/heritage organizations, etc.)



- Information about the organization/group (e.g. how long the organization has been around, if they have volunteer/paid staff, how many members do they have, do they have a heritage committee, etc.)
- Any recommendations on which organizations we can follow up with or send the survey to?

3. Oral history projects

As per the NAJC strategic plan, prioritize contacting and assisting organizations that are presently or in the future undertaking oral history projects. Regina community is keen to learn more about recording oral histories.

Many organizations do not have professionals available to assist in coordinating an oral history project. Guidelines on how to conduct an oral history project would be beneficial to share (perhaps via the NAJC website) and should include potential challenges to overcome during the project.

Old business

4. Establishing a set meeting date every month

Online WebEx meetings will continue on the fourth Saturday of every month unless notified otherwise. Meeting time will take place 8:00am PST / 11:00am EST.

5. Project proposals, approval process, and funding

Tabled discussion.

6. Budget

No updates.

New Business

7. Museum signage conflicts

Lillian briefly reported on her experience working with the Hidden Histories Society in the Yukon. Two information panels focusing on prominent Japanese Canadians were created and the society worked with the individual's family members. In some instances, personal recollections and feelings were different from the larger Nikkei history context. For example, a younger child growing up during the war years may have differing personal feelings than the broader community who struggled to support their families. More detailed discussion re: protocol and experience tabled.

Meeting adjourned

Motion moved:	Lillian Maguire
Motion second:	Lisa Uyeda
Time adjourned:	10:45am PST / 1:45pm EST
Next meeting date & time:	Saturday, 23 May 2015 at 8:00am PST / 11:00am EST
Next meeting location:	WebEx online