



# National Association of Japanese Canadians Heritage Committee meeting minutes

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Meeting date: 24 October 2015

Meeting time:	8:00am PST / 11:00am EST – 9:30am PST / 12:30pm EST Meeting started: 8:30am PST / 11:30am EST (due to technical errors).
Meeting location:	WebEx online
Meeting called by:	Lisa Uyeda, Chair
Type of meeting:	Committee meeting
Facilitator:	Lisa Uyeda, Chair
Note taker:	Lisa Uyeda
Attendees:	Noreen Kuroyama, Kevin Okabe, Lisa Uyeda, and Lillian Maguire. Guest Pat Jette.
Regrets:	Bryon Wilfert (due to technical errors).

## Adopt 24 October 2015 meeting agenda

Motion moved:	Lillian Maguire
Motion second:	Noreen Kuroyama
Result:	Carried

## Adopt 22 August 2015 meeting minutes

Motion moved:	Kevin Okabe
Motion second:	Noreen Kuroyama
Result:	Carried

## Business arising from Minutes

### 1. Road Camp Signage Project

Review of project charter:

- All members of the Heritage Committee will be part of the project team. Additional project team members are encouraged, specifically those who may have prior background knowledge about



the road camps. For example, Leanne Riding spent a considerable amount of time conducting archaeological surveys of the original road camp locations this past summer.

- No comments were made towards tasks and deliverables but a few recommendations were made to the target completion dates. Suggested moving the completion date for task #2 compile background information from February 2016 to March 2016; task #3 conceptual sign design from March 2016 to end of March 2016; and task #5 complete sign design and develop signs from July 2016 to end of August 2016.
- Further discussion is needed to determine which project team members will research where/what but general thoughts included: Nikkei National Museum resources; Nikkei Voice, New Canadian articles and other newspapers/newsletters; community records (e.g. family photographs or memoirs); Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (Toronto) resources; publications such as The Exiles by Yon Shimizu. Images created prior to 1949 are in the public domain and are not held by copyright.
- Budget: in addition to in-kind contributions the Heritage Committee could contribute between \$500-1000 for hiring a professional to create the conceptual sign designs and/or if there are any fees during the research process (e.g. reproduction fees).

Motion: Lillian moves to approve up to \$1000.00 to go towards involvement with the road camp signage project. Seconded by Kevin. Carried.

[Action]: Lisa to provide feedback/edits as discussed above to Scott Back.

Lisa has asked Frank for access to his road camp related articles and hasn't heard back yet.

[Action]: Lisa to ask Frank again if he can send us his road camp related articles.

## Old business

### 2. National heritage survey

Lisa apologizes for the delay in completing the survey. There were a few complications with the formatting but has since resolved the issue. Will be moving forward with Benchmark because it is more adaptable for the complex questions. Once the survey is drafted, the login information will be shared with the Heritage Committee for review. Unfortunately, once a survey is published it cannot be changed.

[Action]: Lisa to finalize survey on Sunday, committee members to review and provide feedback by Wednesday.

Lillian suggests conducting a phone survey to ensure local participation. It will be important to get the right person to complete the survey. A newer member at the local level may not be knowledgeable enough to speak about past events. Lisa has a rough contact list in Google drive that she has been compiling over the past few months.



[Action]: Lisa to share the contact list with committee members; members to add their names beside individuals/organizations they wish to contact directly. Feel free to edit the list and add more contacts.

### 3. New members

Welcome Pat Jette (Calgary) to the meeting who is attending in observation to learn more about the Heritage Committee.

Would still like to invite more individuals to join the Heritage Committee, specifically from other communities to give a more national perspective. Lillian recommends connecting with Joanne Nakamura Rowland, Keiko Miki, and Setsuko Okuda who might be able to put us in touch with an interested candidate.

[Action]: Committee members to reach out to those who might be interested and provide more information to them. Interested individuals can reach out to Lisa and send a brief overview of why they are interested in joining the Heritage Committee.

### 4. Apology Legacy Project (ALP) – Passing of Roy Inouye

Roy Inouye, co-chair of the ALP with Tosh Suzuki, passed away on 8 September 2015. Tosh has reached out to Bev Ohashi and Lisa to inform them that NDP MLA Katrine Conroy (Kootenay West) rose in the BC Legislature on October 5 2015 to remember and honour Roy Inouye; the ALP is officially recorded in Hansard and therefore a matter of public record. Lisa notes the road camp signage project is a stepping stone for future work with the BC Park Board to achieve the installation of internment camp signage; Scott Back can put us in touch with his colleagues who are responsible for the interior region.

[Action]: Lisa to connect with Tosh Suzuki again re: road camp signage project.

Roy Inouye's daughter brought two boxes of Roy's NAJC records to Kevin. There are more records in the family.

## New Business

### 5. Ontario camps – Angler, Petawawa, Schreiber

Additional possibilities include identifying camps that were located in Ontario and making arrangements to include information signage at those locations. Unclear to what is available at the Prison of War (POW) locations but Kevin found a sign for Schreiber. More research and discussion is needed in the future.

[Action]: Kevin to forward photograph of Schreiber plaque that is already in existence.

### 6. First World War commemorative events 2016-2017

Kevin and Pat briefly updated the committee on their plans to acknowledge the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First World War Nikkei Veterans during the 2016 NAJC AGM in Calgary. Kaye Kishibe (Toronto) wrote an article about the Nikkei Veterans; to be shared. In 1993 an honour roll was unveiled at the Museum in Calgary, the exhibit is still on display.

Ken Noma mentioned to Lisa that he was interested in putting together First World War Nikkei Veteran informative panel layouts that can be shared with local organizations. The layouts consist of the digital files that can then be printed on foam core (poster boards) at the expense of the local organizations. A



similar project was completed for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the forced dispersal of Japanese Canadians in 1942. The committee is interested in reviewing the panels that were created in the past. Additional thoughts were compiling the panel layouts into a small booklet.

[Action]: Lisa to ask Ken Noma for the panel files and/or the NAJC office depending on where the editor and final files are located.

## 7. Heritage Conference

The idea of a heritage conference has been mentioned in the past couple of months. The possibility of a joint NAJC Human Rights Committee, NAJC Young Leaders conference, and NAJC Heritage Committee was mentioned at an National Executive Board (NEB) meeting but no plans have been put in place and no financial contributions have been made; for further discussion in the future.

Broader conversation related to financial revenues was discussed. The Heritage Committee would like to brainstorm and pursue other sources of funding that could potentially be used for a conference and/or projects. For example, the National Human Rights Museum has a gift shop that at the present time does not sell any items related to Japanese Canadian history; this could be an opportunity for the NAJC to work with the museum gift shop. Pat mentioned the Human Rights Museum is opening a resource library and is looking for publications to be added to their collection. The NAJC may wish to consider donating publications.

[Action]: Lisa to set up a fundraising shared document in Google drive to help brain storm ideas.

[Action]: Lisa to ask Ken Noma (Executive Director) to help research heritage funding opportunities that the NAJC may be eligible to apply for.

## Meeting adjourned

Motion moved:	Lillian Maguire
Time adjourned:	10:24am PST / 1:24pm EST
Next meeting date & time:	Saturday, 28 November 2015 at 8:00am PST / 11:00am EST
Next meeting location:	WebEx online