



National Association of Japanese Canadians Heritage Committee meeting minutes

Meeting date: 28 November 2015

Meeting time:	8:00am PST / 11:00am EST – 9:30am PST / 12:30pm EST Meeting started: 8:07am PST / 11:07am EST
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, Lisa Uyeda, Lillian Maguire, and Bryon Wilfert.
Regrets:	Kevin Okabe

Adopt 28 November 2015 meeting agenda

Motion moved:	Lillian Maguire
Motion second:	Bryon Wilfert
Result:	Carried

Adopt 24 October 2015 meeting minutes

Addition: 7. Heritage conference, [Action]: Lisa to ask Ken Noma (Executive Director) to help research heritage funding opportunities that the NAJC may be eligible to apply for.

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

Business arising from Minutes

1. Canadian Museum of Human Rights – library donations

- Lisa Uyeda has asked Jim Suzuki (National Administrator) and Ken Noma (Executive Director) to compile a list of books the NAJC has published that could be donated to the Canadian Museum of Human Rights' library. Ken Noma and Jim Suzuki will follow up.



2. Internment panels – files received from Ken Noma

- Ken Noma has sent the final pdf for the internment panels created in 2012 for the 70th Anniversary of the 1942 forced dispersal. The original layout files (design files) don't seem to be available.
- Lisa Uyeda has shared the pdf file through Google Drive and committee members can download the file at:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0QMK00GLBL0ZkotVUY3Y2dBbkU/view?usp=sharing>
- Next steps: It would be beneficial to acquire the original design files and keep them at the NAJC office. The Heritage Committee may wish to reprint the panels into a booklet or other format in the future.

[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to inquire about the original design files to see if they can be located and kept at the NAJC office.

3. Fundraising ideas

- Lisa Uyeda has set up a shareable Google Drive document to collaborate on fundraising ideas and committee members can view/edit the file at:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IFfPapXNQCDkjoBn-8nGZambhuGrF2B7zcm1CRMW1GM/edit?usp=sharing>
- Next steps: everyone to review and add ideas (related to heritage and/or related to the NAJC). Once the document has more content, the committee can meet to discuss proposals for next year.
- Bryon Wilfert will be meeting the new Minister of Heritage soon and will inquire about possible government funding opportunities.

[Action]: All committee members to add ideas to the fundraising document.

[Action]: Bryon Wilfert to inquire about government funding opportunities and update the committee.

Old business

4. Road Camp Signage Project (research)

- Project Charter: Final updates were completed and incorporate the recommendations made at the last Heritage Committee meeting. Bev Ohashi is waiting for Scott Back to remove the draft watermarks from the Project Charter document so she can sign it.
- Lisa Uyeda has asked Leanne Riding if she would be interested in joining the project team.
- Lisa Uyeda will see Frank Moritsugu in Toronto this holiday season and will ask him for access to his road camp related articles again.

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

- Research tasks: committee members to compile a list of what resources are available and what might be a priority for the committee to review and incorporate into the panels.
 - Nikkei National Museum resources: Lisa Uyeda
 - Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre resources: Noreen Kuroyama



- Community news (Nikkei Voice, local newsletters): TBD
- New Canadian online newspaper: Lillian Maguire
 - <http://multiculturalcanada.ca/tnc>
- Publications: The Exiles by Yon Shimizu: TBD
- Other archives: Lisa Uyeda to search other archives (e.g. Library and Archives Canada)
- Community records (family photographs, memoirs, etc.): TBD
- Ontario Heritage Foundation created signage for Ontario camps sometime in the late 1990s, through the Department of Agriculture.

[Action]: Bryon Wilfert to review the Ontario Heritage Foundation and provide more information.

[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to send a link to the New Canadian

[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to ask Kevin Okabe what areas of research he might be interested in.

5. National heritage survey (contacts)

- Survey comments were provided by committee members through email discussion and were incorporated into the final survey.
- The survey went live and can be accessed at: <https://najc.ca/najc-heritage-committee-survey-2015/>
- An eNews announcement was released on 9 November 2015 and can also be accessed at: <https://najc.ca/najc-heritage-committee-survey-2015/>
 - Committee members can share the eNews announcement with the local organizations and/or access the survey through an article posted on the NAJC.ca website.
- Lisa Uyeda has received responses from The Edmonton Japanese Community Association and The Kamloops Japanese Canadian Association.
 - The Edmonton Japanese Community Association published a report highlighting the history committee's work. Lisa Uyeda received a copy of the report in the mail and will review.
 - For more information and to view the report online, visit: <http://www.ejca.org/history-project.html>
- Would like to complete the survey before the New Year or mid January at the latest. The committee has \$2000.00 left in the budget to spend before the end of the fiscal year on 31 March 2016.
- Phone survey: Lisa Uyeda has created a draft list of contacts (waiting for contact list from National Administration). The draft list can be accessed and edited at: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/130Q5i1CzRTgVXK4cxaCzUIPH64IMY0BQ1M8ZOx5yIDg/edit?usp=sharing>
 - Lillian Maguire to connect with Yukon, Lethbridge, Regina, Hamilton, and Manitoba.
 - Lisa Uyeda to connect with Vancouver GVJCCA, Nikkei National Museum, Edmonton, and Kamloops.
 - Noreen Kuroyama to connect with Toronto NAJC.
 - Bryon Wilfert and Kevin Okabe to review list and



[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to update list and identify what organizations are still available to connect with.

[Action]: All committee members to follow up with various organizations.

[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to follow up with Ken Noma to inquire if the announcement went into the Bulletin-Geppo publication.

[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to resend eNews survey announcement to all committee members.

6. New members

- Lisa Uyeda met with Pat Jette in Calgary during the last National Executive Board meeting. Pat Jette enjoyed attending the meeting and might be interested in joining the Heritage Committee following the NAJC AGM in September 2016 (she is on the planning committee).
- January will include an announcement in the Bulletin-Geppo for new members.

[Action]: Lillian Maguire to follow up with Keiko Miki (Winnipeg) and Joanne Nakamura Rowland (Regina) to inquire about new members and connect them with Lisa Uyeda. Lisa Uyeda to connect with Sachiko Okuda (Ottawa) to inquire about new members.

7. Apology Legacy Proposal (ALP)

- Lisa Uyeda has connected with Tosh Suzuki to inform him of the Road Camp Signage Project.
- The Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association (GVJCCA) has been in touch with Tosh Suzuki. The NAJC and the GVJCCA will be working with Tosh Suzuki to continue to pursue the ALP with the addition of implementing a community consultation process.
- Heritage Committee involvement: Education, Internment Camp Signage, Historic Locations, Community Consultation Process. To be discussed once the ALP moves forward with support from the BC Government.
- The Heritage Committee would be interested in receiving updates (e.g. accessing meeting notes and receiving updates on the projects). Direct participation might be difficult given geographic restrictions.

8. Digital storytelling – projects to meet our strategic plan

- Lisa Uyeda has asked the NAJC office for more information on the oral histories that were conducted by the Heritage Committee a few years ago (~2010). Lisa Uyeda has requested access to the interviews as well as any documentation around them.
 - Would like to review these oral history resources and find a way to make them available to the public.
 - Discover Nikkei is a website developed through the Japanese American National Museum, visit: <http://www.discovernikkei.org/en/>
 - There are many Japanese Canadian stories on their website that would be interesting to highlight through the NAJC website.



[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to connect with Ken Noma and the Discover Nikkei folks to see if there is a way to feature articles through NAJC website.

[Action]: Lisa Uyeda to touch base with the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre for oral history resources to share online.

9. First World War commemorative events 2016-2017

- The 100th anniversary of the First World War Nikkei Veterans will be acknowledged during the 2016 NAJC AGM in Calgary.
- No updates on the progress of creating information panels that can be shared with local organizations and how the Heritage Committee can assist.
- The Japanese Canadian War Memorial Committee sent a request for financial support on 7 November 2015. The request outlined a proposal for the design and implementation of a commemorative plaque to honour the Nikkei Veterans from the First World War. The plaque will be installed in one of two empty cairns in Stanley Park next to the War Memorial Cenotaph. The National Executive Board carried a motion to support the project and provide up to \$2500.00 in financial support. The plaque will be unveiled on 9 April 2016 during the 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge Commemorative event.
- Future project ideas:
 - Commemorative booklet to go along with panels or information for the NAJC website.
 - New publication - Battlefield at Last: The Japanese Canadian Volunteers of the First World War, 1914-1918 by Kaye Kishibe. Perhaps help distribute copies to the local organizations.

[Action]: Committee members to think about possible projects and discuss at the next meeting.

New Business

10. Heritage tours to Japan

- Organizing a future heritage tour to Japan was briefly discussed at the last National Executive Board (NEB) meeting in Calgary. Heritage tours to Japan were offered a few years ago and were coordinated by Ken Noma and travel agent, Joseph Sheu. Joseph Sheu is available to continue this initiative if interested.
- The NEB would like to ask if the Heritage Committee is interested in pursuing a heritage tour, perhaps as a fundraiser. If yes, when?
 - Waiting on more information from the heritage surveys to know if there is an interest in the community.
 - Would not be able to coordinate a tour for 2016 due to limited time and resources.
 - Would be interested in looking into partnering with another organization.
 - It could be possible to generate revenue from the commission.
- Table discussions until receive more information from survey.



11. Landscapes of Injustice update

- Tosh Kitagawa and Ken Noma are the NAJC representatives on the Community Council.
- The project is within the research phase and a new publication is currently in the final editing stages.
- Researchers have visited the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre to do research; they are mostly communicating with Elizabeth Fujita and Theresa Takasaki.
- Updates from the project teams are often provided on their website at:
<http://www.landscapesofinjustice.com/>

Meeting adjourned

Motion moved:	Lillian Maguire
Time adjourned:	9:50am PST / 12:50pm EST
Next meeting date & time:	Saturday, 23 January 2016 at 8:00am PST / 11:00am EST
Next meeting location:	WebEx online