There is one last tradition that my family is still trying to preserve...Mochi-tsuki!

My grandfather fashioned an usu, Canadian style, by filling a steel barrel with concrete and making a bowl-like indentation in which to pound (tsuku) the mochi, not sure when exactly but around the time they moved to Alberta, after the war. Kine (wooden hammer) and seiro (square wooden steamers) too handed down from my grandfather.

The Mochi Party or Mochi-tsuki (mochi pounding) has been a CJCA Christmas/Oshogatsu (New Year's) tradition for several years now. This past December we had 66 attendees of all ages participate!

We adopted a few of the new technologies and kept a few of the traditional ones. We steam the rice in electric mochi machines and also pound it in the machine. But in order to preserve a little tradition, we then put the mochi in the usu and use a little human muscle to pound it. I think that this is really the highlight of the afternoon, or a close second to the actual eating and enjoying the many flavors and toppings.

From the soup – Ozoni, Zenzai (Oshiruko) red bean soup, natto, sugar and shoyu, kinako (soyabean flour), nori, and daikon oroshi (white radish). So many choices and hard to say what was the favorite, but there was little left at the end of the day.

Thank you to the many volunteers who came to lend their hands to the party and especially to Taeko and Mai Nagao, the committee chairs.
On October 21, CJCA was invited to attend the 35th Anniversary Celebration of the sister province relationship (the second oldest for Alberta). The official welcome and the resigning of the sister province agreement was held at Government House in Edmonton.

This was the first time that I, personally, had been to Government House. The formal part of the program was held in the ‘oval’ conference room on the top level. It was very reminiscent of the UN (or at least from what I’ve seen in pictures!) the oval seating arrangement and flags lining the perimeter. Quite impressive!

In attendance was a large delegation from Hokkaido including the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly – Speaker of the House – Mr. Ren Endo and Vice Governor of Hokkaido – Mr. Yoshihiro Yamaya. Along with a large delegation from various sectors of Hokkaido’s industrial and recreational departments. Representing the Alberta government were the Honourable Lois Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism Carolyn Campbell, other members of the Alberta government and members of the Legislative Assembly (quite a few new faces, as a result of the recent election).

Following the formal part of the resigning we were all invited to lunch in the main hall of Government House. A very nice meal, including Alberta Beef (of course) and an opportunity to connect to other representatives of the various groups and organizations who have either been directly involved or have some connection to the sister province initiative.

Interesting to note that Calgary does not have a Sister-City arrangement with another city in Hokkaido.

Also in conjunction with this 35th Anniversary was a special exhibit commissioned by the Consulates office to commemorate this historic milestone.

The Government of Alberta and the Royal Alberta Museum are committed to recognizing the 35th anniversary of formal relations between Hokkaido and Alberta. To recognize this important milestone, this contemporary photographic exhibition by Japanese photographer Naoki Ishikawa will show at the Royal Alberta Museum in Alberta and at the Historical Museum of Hokkaido in Sapporo, Japan.

“President” continued on Page 3.
“President” continued...

Born in Tokyo in 1977, Naoki Ishikawa is interested in anthropology and ethnology in addition to exploration of the unknown. He has published works dealing with the experiences of migration and travel. For The Void (published in 2006 by Knee High Media) he won both the Sagamihara Prize for Newcomer Professionals as well as the Jun Miki Award. For New Dimension and Polar (published in 2008 by AkaAkasha Art Publishing and Little More, respectively), he received the Photographic Society of Japan’s Newcomer’s Award and the Kodansha Publication Culture Award. For his work in 2009, which included Mt. Fuji and Vernacular (published by Little More and AkaAkasha Art Publishing, respectively), he received the Higashikawa Award for “Best New Photographer.” Vernacular includes photographs of the Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands) in the Canadian Northwest and of the Arctic towns of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk. Ishikawa also won the Domon Ken Award for Corona, a photographic portrayal of 21st-century reality across the vastly spread out islands of Polynesia.

The first networking event for this fledgling group was held on Thursday, November 05, 2015. Three enthusiastic individuals formed the first event committee members – Miwa Weninger, Yukiko Moriya and Kevin Okabe.

We are very fortunate to have Mr. Hirata, the President of the Japan Canada Oil Sands Ltd. – JACOS, as our first guest speaker. Mr. Hirata provided his own personal vision and business acumen. He gave the attendees a very thought provoking view of the Oil Sands industry. [www.jacos.com](http://www.jacos.com)

Food was catered by Redheads Bagel Café. The attendees enjoyed a very flavourful mix of sushi, and a unique take on a Tonkatsu sandwich. If you haven’t had a chance to check out this very special café you are really missing the most authentic Japanese curry (didn’t see any bagels on the menu?) [www.redheadscafe.com](http://www.redheadscafe.com)

Jencor Mortgage graciously offered to host this first event. They allowed us the use of their board room, including the AV equipment, and provided the coffee and tea for the evening. We are very grateful for their most generous support.

The committee members set up a Facebook page to continue connecting and to provide networking opportunities for all of the current and potential individuals and affiliates. Check out the site, join the group, get connected and keep up with future events.

December 7, 2015 - In an effort to close out the 2015 year and to continue the momentum generated by the first event, one last ‘Xmas Meet and Greet’ was hosted on Monday, December 7 at Hapa Izakaya Restaurant.

Although the end of the year is always a busy time for most, there were 24 very enthusiastic individuals who came to make new connections, build on the first ones and to just enjoy a very relaxed few hours of great food and great company.

There were a lot of new faces to add to the regulars (already forming the core). One of the newest attendees from the November meeting added his connections and volunteering spirit to the organizing committee – Tomoyuki Honda.

The attendees were treated to a sampling of the many dishes Hapa Izakaya has to offer. The restaurant opened in July 2014 as part of the Hapa Izakaya family of Vancouver. Seasoned Chef-Owners, Toshiyuki “Iwa” Iwai and Takashi “Kin” Kanomori bring from Vancouver 18 combined years of Hapa Izakaya experience. Their passion for cooking is only equaled by the excitement they share of finally realizing their dream of opening their own izakaya in Calgary.

The food was exceptional, the company becoming so familiar. The restaurant has a very open but welcoming ambiance. It was a great way to close out the 2015 year for the Business Networking group.

CJCA Business Networking Group
by Joanne Planidin

November 5, 2015 - CJCA embarked on a new initiative in the fall of 2015. The first meeting saw a very diverse group of interested individuals who came out to show their interest in trying to build relationships both professionally and personally.
Great Opportunities with Jencor

Jencor Mortgage believes in supporting our community and that being said, we were honored to have CJCA's first Business Network Meeting held at Jencor Mortgage Learning Center. It was a great success and bringing potential networking opportunities to those that participated.

Jencor was established in 1987 and since that time Jencor has become one of Canada's largest independently owned and operated mortgage brokerages. As a full service mortgage brokerage firm, Jencor has arranged financing for both residential as well as commercial clients. Since 1987, we have helped thousands of Canadians obtain mortgage financing totaling in excess of eleven billion dollars. For over twenty-eight years, Jencor's team of licensed Mortgage Advisors and underwriters have been dedicated to helping Canadians secure financing options that best suit their individual needs. Let me share some of our industry's recent news.

High Ratio Minimum Down Payment Policy Change

December 11th 2015, the Government of Canada announced the minimum down payment requirement will be increased from 5% to 20% on the portion of a purchase price for a property that is above $500,000 but less than $1,000,000. This means if a person wants to purchase a home for $750,000, they will be expected to produce a down payment of $50,000 ($500K x 5% + $250K x 10%), before fees and taxes. In the past, the down payment required would have only been $37,500.

Will Interest Rates Remain Low Long-Term?

According to a recent report published by RBC Economics Research, which provides analysis and forecasts related to Canadian financial markets and the economy, the overall housing market may show a modest slow-down in 2016. However, forecasts show that even though there may be a slight increase in Canadian interest rates over the coming months, the rise will be gradual. This means that home buyers can expect the interest rate to remain low over the long-term, even though there may be an increase. Experts also agree that it is possible that Bank of Canada could raise the rate to around 1.25% (Currently 0.50%), but not until about midway through 2016. While that is an increase of 0.75 percent, it will still remain low enough to help maintain the demand for housing into the near future.

For all your home financing needs, please call Miwa at (403) 774-5705 or e-mail me at miwa@jencormortgage.com

Miwa Weninger
Mortgage Broker at Jencor Mortgage Corporation
http://www.jencormortgage.com/agent-profile/Miya_Weninger/

Canadian interest rates over the coming months, the rise will be gradual. This means that home buyers can expect the interest rate to remain low over the long-term, even though there may be an increase. Experts also agree that it is possible that Bank of Canada could raise the rate to around 1.25% (Currently 0.50%), but not until about midway through 2016. While that is an increase of 0.75 percent, it will still remain low enough to help maintain the demand for housing into the near future.

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Miwa Weninger
Mortgage Broker at Jencor Mortgage Corporation
http://www.jencormortgage.com/agent-profile/Miya_Weninger/

Roku owners, Mr. & Mrs. Tanaka
Located at:
Royal Oak Park Shopping Centre
(403) 718-9077

There are some important service dates coming up in the next few months:

- March 20 – Ohiganye – Spring Equinox
- April 10 – Hanamatsuri – Buddha’s Birthday (lunch will follow the service)
- May 22 – Gotanye – Shinran’s birthday

As well, we will be having our annual Keirokai lunch in May (date to be confirmed).

Services are every Sunday, with mediation from 9:10 to 9:40 and the service from 10:00 to 11:30. We look forward to seeing you!

Authentic Gem!
Kotobuki members look forward to a mild winter as promised by the weather gurus, hopefully keeping our roads free of ice and snow as we travel to Kotobuki and the many appointments we must attend to as seniors. Kotobuki kai realizes the importance of caring for oneself by keeping active, providing a program filled with activities that include physical exercises like Tai Chi, Yoga, Chair exercise, line dance and odori. The mental well-being is also considered with karaoke, group singing and fun times working together on crafts, playing games such as mah jong, bridge, sequence or even bingo that keep us thinking. Learning a new language with our conversational English and Japanese classes helps us continue life-long learning. Films and speakers keep us informed and current. Health professionals help monitor and care for the medical fitness of everyone from podiatry to blood pressure and glucose testing on a monthly basis.

The AGM on November 25th brought in new members to the Board. Following is the new Board for 2015 - 2016:
President Kathrine Nugent
Past-President Bill Toyota
Vice-President Tetsuo Wada
Treasurer Albert Nawata
Secretary Tobie Sakamoto
Directors: Nancy Kondo, Ruth Nagata, Satomi Okabe, Haruyo Onishi, Patricia Sakura, Tom Uyeno and Kathleen Wall

Thank you to Kathrine and this dedicated group for their organization and devotion to Kotobuki.

Thank you Robert Sameshima and Toban A for again another delicious bento, this month, from Red Head Bagel.

The holiday season arrived with much merriment and celebration. On December 8th, baskets filled with food stuffs and scarves, (knitted by our members), were again assembled for our “shut-ins”. Thank you to Ruth Nagata and Kathrine Nugent for shopping and organizing this project, and for all those who helped assemble and deliver the baskets to those unable to attend Kotobuki this past while.

On December 9th, our special anniversaries and birthdays were acknowledged with cards and warm wishes. We were honored to have Consul General Tamura and Mrs. Tamura join us for the afternoon festivities. Kathrine welcomed all and Consul General Tamura’s address on longevity was most informational. Chuck and Kim Oshiro and Roy and Luri Nagata were recognized, as both couples celebrated their 50 year, golden anniversaries. Congratulations from all! Also, 33 members from age 70 to amazing Hiroshi Kuwahara at 101, were recognized.

The buffet lunch that followed looked festive with all the holiday decorations by Toban B members. Sushi from “Kinjo’s”, sandwiches, veggies and cheese trays from the Co-op, pickles and punch were enjoyed by all. Cornucopias filled with shortbread baked by Toban B members, and truffles and mandarin oranges, rounded out the menu.
A musical revue by Kotobuki’s “special choir” in reindeer headdresses, led by conductor Ted Wada, performed “The Twelve Days of Christmas”, produced much laughter. Thank you Nancy Kondo and Ted for organizing this special event and rounding out the afternoon with the Special Bingo. Thanks again Nancy for filling the colorful bags with surprise prizes, much to the delight of all. We ended the afternoon with a special cake from Amandine and refreshments. Thanks again to the crew and all those able to help with the clean-up.

Kotobuki Kai is again to be congratulated for their charitable donations to organizations that work to help the less fortunate in our community and to health care associations. The members filled 3 Food Bank boxes plus cash donations and 10 Samaritan Purse Shoe Boxes for needy children. Donations were made to CUPS, Food Bank, Mustard Seed, Alzheimer’s Society, Calgary Women’s Emergency Shelter, Meals on Wheels, Developmental Disabilities Residence Centre, Inn from the Cold, Nepalese Earthquake Disaster Fund, Parkinson’s Alberta Society, Brown Bagging for Calgary Kids and EMS.

Our wind-up for the year was celebrated by 103 members at the Grey Eagle Casino on December 16th. The buffet was again delicious and a $5.00 certificate was given to all to try their luck at the slots. Thank you to the Grey Eagle Staff and Ruth Nagata for the organization of this event and overseeing the rides issue so all could attend. Thank you also to President Kathrine for presenting each of us with a lovely ornament, a memento to remember this occasion.

Kotobuki resumed again on January 13th to welcome in 2016. After a happy hour of group mixing and mingling, Masa Yokoyama and Toban C prepared Ozoni, a special mochi soup, to start the New Year. Thank you for this wonderful start to the Year of the Monkey, Yokoyama-san and Toban C.

UPCOMING KOTOBUKI EVENTS:

February 8, 2016
Stage West Production of – “Solid Gold II”

“Sakura Tea”
Saturday, April 23, 2016
From 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Kellogg’s Rice Krispies cereal is not just for breakfast...

To make these sweet sushi creations just follow the directions on the cereal box for “Rice Krispies Squares” or for more ideas visit: www.ricekrispies.com/recipes/sushi-treats

Some additional helpful tips:
- Adult supervision!
- To avoid sticky hands and tools keep some PAM Cooking Spray handy.
- Use an Onigiri (Rice Ball maker or multi-mold press).
- For best results make half-batches as the mixture cools quickly.
- Make all your rice balls first then decorate later.
- Organize your favourite candy: We used Fruit by the Foot (nori/seaweed), Swedish fish, Juubes (for ginger & wasabi), and Orange Sugar Pearls (for salmon roe/fish eggs with liquid honey).
- Dab of water to seal Fruit by the Foot.
- Use recycled sushi containers.
- Very freezer friendly!
The Calgary Nikkei community is saddened by the passing of:

**TATEISHI**, Alice Hiroko (1936 - 2015) on November 12, 2015 in Calgary at the age of 82 years. Alice was born on October 20, 1933 in Fanny Bay, B.C. Alice and Jim celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in July of this year. Alice will be dearly missed by her husband and their children Doug, and daughter-in-law Susan Alter, Sharon and son-in-law Terry Medock, Cheryl and son-in-law Bob Driscoll, and Jennifer and son-in-law Larry Padley, as well as four grandchildren.

**KITAGAWA**, Jim (1934 - 2015) in November, 2015 in Calgary at the age of 81 years. Jim was born on October 18, 1934 in Vancouver, B.C. to parents Heiuemon and Kimi Kitagawa. During WWII, his brother Roy, sister Ayako and his parents were relocated to Southern Alberta. Jim attended various post-secondary schools and spent most of his working years at the Calgary International Airport. He was married to Noreen Kitagawa, who passed away on December 30, 2014. They have one son, Stephen Kitagawa (Michelle) and two granddaughters (Chloe and Ellie). Jim was part of the original Nisei Gospel Church in Lethbridge, going back to the late 1950's and early 1960's. He was active, together with his family in the foundation stages of the present Calgary Japanese Gospel Church.

**HAYASHI**, Sensei Michael passed away peacefully on Friday, December 4, 2015 at the Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre after losing his short battle with cancer.

Sensei Michael was born on April 26, 1965 in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Like many Japanese-Canadians, he grew up in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist home. His grandfather, with whom he lived with was the lay-minister at the Thunder Bay Buddhist Church. This connection would become the roots for his future.

In 1992, Sensei Michael attended Lakehead University receiving an Honour's Bachelors of Arts in English and Education. With the encouragement of his family he went on to study at Ryokoku University in 1997 where he received a Master of Arts in Jodo Shinshu Theology.

Following graduation, Sensei Michael became a minister at the Buddhist Federation of Alberta (1997-2000), the B.C. Interior Shin Buddhist Temples (2000-2004). In 2010, he accepted a position at the Toronto Buddhist Temple and moved to Winnipeg in 2013 to become the minister of the Manitoba Buddhist Temple.

Sensei Michael is survived by his wife Kiyomi, three sons (Brandon, Justin, Ethan), mother Chiyeko (Roy Masuda), sister Kelly Dulude and step-brother Kenji Masuda and uncles Tosh and Bruce (Jean Ann) Hayashi, aunts Catherine (Lorne) and Debra Hayashi, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at the Manitoba Buddhist Temple, 39 Tecumseh Street, Winnipeg, MB at 7:00 p.m.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families.

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6th Ghost Town Bus Tour

**September 12 -16, 2016**

Sponsored by

The Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge & Area (NCS of LA)

- A 5-day bus tour to the West Kootenays
- Visit former internment sites of Canadians of Japanese descent who were incarcerated during WWII
- We will visit Slocan Valley, New Denver, Sandon, Kaslo and also Doukhobor Village & Museum in Castlegar
- Visit Ainsworth Hot Springs prior to returning home

Cost: $825/person...price includes bus transportation, 4 nights hotel accommodations (double occupancy), all entry fees, and 7 meals. Space is limited so register early! Send deposit cheque in the amount of $400 made out to: “NCS of LA” and mail to:

George Takashima
3112-29 Street South
Lethbridge, AB T1K 7J9
no later than April 30, 2016

For more information, contact George at

E-mail: geotak@shaw.ca
or (403) 328-0156.

Please note: $800/person, if you book before March 10th, 2016
“LET’S SING TOGETHER!”
Sunday, March 6, 2016
From 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
The NJCA is holding this event to support recovery of the Japan
Earthquake of 2011.
“HANA wa SAKU”
( Flowers are blooming)
Please come and join us to sing
“HANA HA SAKU”
together via TV Japan.
Participation Fee: $5.00 (donation)
We will practice the song first then
shoot the film. If you would like to
listen to the song, please visit the NJCA
website and look for
“POCO A POCO”.
Extra practice days:
February 6 at 1:00–3:00pm
February 21 at 10:00 am to noon

FOLLOWED BY:

Kid’s Hinamatsuri Party!
From 1:00 to 2:30 pm
Come and see the traditional
Hina-dolls, make crafts and
enjoy cakes with your kids!
Member’s Fee: $3.00 and
Non-members: $7.00
Please contact and RSVP:
Taeko at (403) 650-7634,
njca@njcacalgary.ca or
ntaeko@telus.net

MARCH

APRIL

“Sakura Tea”
Saturday, April 23, 2016
From 1:00 – 4:00 pm
(See Flyer.)

CJCA - AGM
Sunday, April 24, 2016
From 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Contact: Joanne Planidin

MAY

KIMONO FAIR
Sunday, May 22, 2016
(See Page 11 for details.)

JUNE

Sports Day & Picnic
Watch for details!

You are invited...
Calgary Kotobuki Society
(Calgary Japanese Senior Club)
Invite You to Our Annual

SAKURA TEA
Saturday April 23, 2016
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Calgary Nikkei Centre
2236 29 Street SW
Free Admission
Door Prizes
Refreshment
Japanese Food
Baked Goods
Crafts

Reminders:

CJCA - Annual General Meeting
Sunday, April 24, 2016

MAY is Asian Heritage Month in Calgary!
**MONDAY**

**CJCA KARAOKE CLUB**
Starting: January 11
From 10 am to 3 pm
Contact: Masa Onishi
(403) 686-6993 or onishimasa@yahoo.com

**MIDNIGHT TAIKO KAI**
(Drumming - Evenings)
Monday & alternate Thursday’s
President: Ben Lim
Booking Info: John Nguyen
(403) 975-1270 or bookings@midnight-taiko.ca
Website: www.midnight-taiko.ca

**TUESDAY**

**KADE NO KAI** (Odori/Dance)
7 to 9 pm (& Wed. 7:30 to 9 pm)
Instructor: Joanne Planidin
jbplanidin@gmail.com

**WEDNESDAY**

**KOTOBUKI KAI** (Seniors)
President: Kathrine Nugent
(403) 242-4691 or knugent@hotmail.ca

**THURSDAY**

**CJCA RENSHIKAN KARATE CLUB**
Starting: January 13
6 to 8 pm (& Saturday 9 to 10 am)
Instructor: Seichi “Sey” Yamashiro
Contact: cjckarate@gmail.com

**FRIDAY**

**SOGETSU IKEBANA GROUP**
Starting: January 7
6 to 9 pm (bi-weekly)
Instructor: Keiko Otsuki
ikebanastudio@shaw.ca
Website: www.ikebanastudio.com

**JLS - Friday Evenings (& Thursday)**
Classes held at:
Queen Elizabeth Junior/Senior High School
512 18th Street NW, Calgary
Principal: Yoko Fukushima
(587) 582-8948 or contact@calgaryjls.com
Website: www.calgaryjls.com

**SATURDAY**

**NIHONGO TIME**
“Japanese Conversation”
10 am to noon (year-round)
Contact: Taeko Nagao
(403) 650-7634 or ntaeko@telus.net

**SUNDAY**

**LINE DANCE CLUB**
Starting: January 10th.
3 to 5 pm (Drop-ins welcome!)
Contacts: Ted Wada or Rocky Oishi
(403) 278-8061 or twada@ymail.com
(403) 281-1203 or rjoishi@shaw.ca

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*Programs (Activities held at the Centre unless otherwise specified.)*
NEW JAPANESE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION (NJCA)

MAILING ADDRESS:
Box 34137, Westbrook P.O.
Calgary, AB   T3C 3W2
CONTACT US: Alex Nagao
TEL: (403) 251-1762
EMAIL: nagaoa@telus.net
WEBSITE: www.njca calgary.ca

2015-2016 NJCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Atsuko Boyd
Kiyomi Hayashi
Naoki Ikeda
Nokiko Kimura
Michiko Lim
Alex Nagao
Mai Nagao
Taeko Nagao
Miyuki Perry
Akemi Sato
Shinya Tanaka
Anna Tokunaga

JAPANESE CULTURE FOR KIDS
Starting: January 7, 2016
(Thursday & Friday)
From 10:00 to 11:00 am
(For children under age 6.)
For detailed schedule/fee information:
Taeko at (403) 650-7634 or
japanesekidsclass@gmail.com

2016 EVENTS SCHEDULE (NJCA)

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>2月 6日(土) FEB.6</td>
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<td>3月 6日(日) MAR.6</td>
<td>復興支援イベント Recovery Support Japan Tsunami Event</td>
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<td>4月 APR.</td>
<td>練会 NJCA AGM</td>
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<td>5月 22日(日) MAY.22</td>
<td>「日本文化：著物フェア」 Japanese Culture: KIMONO FAIR</td>
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<td>6月 JUN.</td>
<td>運動会&amp;ビクニック SPORTS DAY &amp; PICNIC (TBA)</td>
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<td>7月 JULY</td>
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<td>11月 20日(日) NOV.20</td>
<td>クラフトフードバザール Crafts &amp; Food BAZAAR</td>
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<td>12月 18日(日) DEC.18</td>
<td>クリスマスパーティー-(子供会) Kid’s X’MAS PARTY</td>
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*In case of inclement weather or lack of attendees, events will be cancelled.

JAPANESE YOUTH ASSOCIATION OF CALGARY
FOR INFORMATION: Mai Nagao at jyacalgary@gmail.com
Website: http://jyacalgary.wordpress.com/
Find us on – Twitter and Facebook

“Computer Classes” Free for CJCA/NJCA Members!
WHEN: Classes are held twice a month
Classes are intended for beginner to mid-level users.
You can participate if you: are planning to start using a computer/internet/e-mail.- want to improve your computer skill - want to learn how to use applications (Excel, Word, Photo-editor, etc.) - have a question (hardware, software, iPad, PC, printer, trouble, etc.) - don't have a computer but want to try anyway (student computers are available). Maximum 4 students at a time.
To "reserve" your spot, contact:
Alex Nagao at 403-390-0285 or nagaoa@telus.net
You can check the class schedule at: http://teamup.com/ks9d5aa2c7a7c537
Abacus (Soroban)

Classes are year round!

WHEN:  Wednesday (from 4 to 7 pm)
LOCATION:  Nikkei Centre (Basement)

For information & registration, please contact:
Takayuki Hatakeyama at sorobancalgary@gmail.com
(403) 667-5884 or http://abacuscalgary.com

MAY is Asian Heritage Month

“KIMONO FAIR” hosted by NJCA

WHEN:  Sunday, May 22, 2015
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Bring your kimono, professional make-up and kimono dressing service will be provided! There will be kimono accessory sale, Japanese treat sale, kimono & obi rentals and kimono dressing class.

Fee:  NJCA/CJCA members $10.00
(Non-members $15.00)
For professional make-up, dressing kimono, and photo shooting, gratuity appreciated.

Kimono Fair Schedule:
10:00-11:00 am Kimono Dressing Class (Open class)
11:00 am Professional Kimono dressing & make-up
(Appointment required!)
RSVP & Inquiry:
Taeko at (403) 650-7634
order@njcacalgary.ca or ntaeko@telus.net
(Subject: KIMONO) by Friday, May 20th at 12:00pm
We are also recruiting volunteers!

"Drums of the Dragon"

Midnight Taiko is holding a joint concert with the Calgary Wind Symphony entitled "Drums of the Dragon" that will be held on Sunday, June 12, 2016 at the Rosza Centre at the University of Calgary.
This concert is at 2:30 pm.
Tickets are $20/person (general seating).
For more information visit:
http://www.midnight-taiko.ca/performances/drums-of-the-dragon-concert/

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

2016 CJCA Casino

The next CJCA Casino event will be held June 1 & 2, 2016 (Wednesday & Thursday) at the Casino Calgary (located near Barlow and 16th Avenue NE) - note change in the Casino. We are once again looking for volunteers to help out in all positions. No prior experience is necessary, and best of all, all volunteers are entitled to free food & drink on us!

The positions available include:
Alternate General Manager - Banker/Fill Clerk – Cashier - Chip Runner - Count Room General Manager - Count Room Supervisor - Count Room

The shifts available include:
Morning/Afternoon Shift: 11 AM to 7:30 PM
Evening Shift: 6:30 PM to 3:30 AM (early morning)
Count Room: 11:00 PM to 3:30 AM (early morning)

All proceeds from the casino will be used to support the operations of the CJCA's Senior's & Community Centre and CJCA programs!

If you are interested in volunteering, or would like to find out more, please contact Mari Sasaki at the CJCA office
at (403) 242-4143 Ext. 4 or e-mail: cjcamain@shaw.ca

by Ted Wada, Festival Chair

This year's 6th Omatsuri Festival will be on Saturday, August 13 at the Bowness Community Centre, the same place as we had in 2015.

Once a year, all the Japanese communities in Calgary get together to celebrate our fascinating culture in a traditional way. A planning is already under way to make this year’s Omatsuri another exciting cultural experience for the current and future generations in Alberta and the most important ingredient in the festival is your participation.

Mark the date on your calendar and just come as you are, with your family and friends, dressed in a kimono, yukata etc. Check out the website for volunteering, performing and vending opportunities as well as other details as its being updated continually. We are also looking for additional members, interested in being involved in the organizing committee.

Calgaryjapanesefestival.com
While ordering a manuscript "Battlefield at Last" by Kaye Kishibe (of Toronto)...it was discovered that he had also published an article on a popular soprano named Aiko Saita (1909 – 1954). This sparked a "blast from the past" about an event that happened in "1953" during the days of the "Calgary Nisei Club".

Of course Tom (above left) does not throw anything away...so he still had the recital program from said 1953 concert! The club organized social activities such as performances, dances, hay rides, picnics and so on. Coincidentally, Takako (pink) lived in the same mining district called No. 1 Japtown in Cumberland on Vancouver Island prior to WWII as Ms. Saita’s mother. She recalls her visiting and singing from the hilltops. Mr. Kishibe has kindly sent us a re-mastered CD of her songs and is now in the hands of Tom and the CJCA Karaoke Club.

2016 marks the 100th Anniversary of the Issei who volunteered to fight for Canada in The Great War (World War I). Some Issei were unable to enlist in the "Canadian Expeditionary Force" in Vancouver but were able to do so in Calgary and other locations in Alberta.

If you had a relative that participated (the Calgary Highlanders or another battalion), please feel free to share their story. Other Canadian Forces experiences and contributions are also welcome!

If you haven’t been to "The Military Museums" of Calgary on Crowchild Trail recently, the museum has undergone an impressive expansion. Included is a "Library & Archives" managed by the University of Calgary.

Soldiers of the First World War: 1914-1918
What are “Attestation Papers”???
Learn more by visiting:
Library and Archives Canada
http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Pages/home.aspx
Letter of Thanks – December 2, 2015:

Dear Calgary Kotobuki Society,

Thank you very much for donating your publication, *Interesting Past...The history of the Calgary Kotobuki Society* to the Nikkei National Museum& Cultural Centre on 14 November 2015.

*Interesting Past...The history of the Calgary Kotobuki Society* is a beautifully printed commemorative volume of 20 years of this vibrant organization. The thorough index of past and current members and executives, complete with photographs, promises to be helpful for researchers, and the book contains many other items of interest, including a description of the Kotobuki Society's trip to BC and to the then-newly-opened National Nikkei Centre. Another excellent feature is the small but varied selection of recipes!

We are honoured to receive this donation which is a valued addition to the Museum to be preserved for future generations. Our library and archives are accessed by students, academics, researchers, the Nikkei community, and the community at large. Your kind contribution will significantly benefit our researchers and enhance our available resources.

Thank you again for your generous contribution and for your support of the Museum.

Warm regards,
Lisa Kiyomi Uyeda. Collections Manager
Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre
6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby, BC

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“Arigato!” by Roy Nagata

Cinema Kabuki was aired on the big screen in high-definition at the Cineplex Odeon at Eau Claire on November 1, 2015 in Calgary. This screening was held in association with the Consul General of Japan in Calgary and the Japan Foundation by Marty Gross Film Productions Inc.

This movie titled, “Kagotsurube”, (The Haunted Sword) was enjoyed by the matinee audience. The Calgary Japanese Community wishes to extend our “Thank You” to the Consulate General of Japan in Calgary.
One big “Mochi” Party!

One of the many "volunteer" organized events at CJCA.

Watch for "2016 Keirokai" highlights in the June issue!

"Craft & Food Bazaar" – Vendors!

Photos courtesy of: Tom, Ted W., Shirley & Jetté’s.
Canada Must Stand Firm in Support of Syrian Refugees

The National Association of Japanese Canadians applauds the Liberal government’s clear commitment to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees in communities across Canada over the next few months. We also are encouraged by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s more general pledge to pursue a principled, humane approach in Canada’s international engagements.

The National Association of Japanese Canadians urges the Government of Canada to maintain an unwavering stance with respect to a refugee policy that is compassionate and upholds the human rights of all.

Recent news coverage in Canada, the United States and elsewhere highlights the potentially corrosive effects of shifting public opinion on government policy with regard to the Syrian refugees. Canada has long-established policies for selecting and resettling refugees in Canada. The recent suggestion by government officials that these protocols might be altered in the Syrian case can only be seen as an effort to cater to unfounded public concern.

In the United States, Roanoke Mayor David Bowers cited the incarceration of “Japanese” during World War II as justification for calling a halt to the resettlement of Syrian refugees to the United States. In a short space of 27 years, Mayor Bowers has forgotten the lessons from the Japanese American redress settlement of 1988.

Actor and Japanese-American George Takei wrote on Facebook: “Mayor Bowers, there are a few key points of history you seem to have missed. The internment (not a “sequester”) was not of Japanese “foreign nationals,” but of Japanese Americans, two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens,” Takei writes. “I was one of them, and my family and I spent 4 years in prison camps because we happened to look like the people who bombed Pearl Harbour. It is my life’s mission to never let such a thing happen again in America.”


The Government of Canada has a responsibility not to yield to short-term solutions influenced by the politics of racism. Rather, our government has a responsibility to pursue policies that uphold international standards of human rights. The Japanese Canadian community will never forget the racism that fueled the wrongful dispossession, incarceration, exile and dispersal of some 22,000 innocent people between 1942-1949. At that time, it was people of “Japanese origin” who were targeted under the guise of national security. Today, it is people of the Islamic faith - particularly those of Middle Eastern origin - who are caught in the same spotlight of fear and hatred. They are labelled “terrorists,” simply by virtue of their faith and culture. We, as a society, cannot allow such hatred to dictate our public policy and allow it to become institutionalized.

The path for Canada is clear. Our country has a role to play by taking a strong stand against racism and fear-based politics.
COMMUNITY CORNER

CONGRATULATIONS Howie!
CJCA would like to extend our congratulations to Howie Shikaze for his appointment to the Chair of the Calgary Police Commission. We wish him every success in his new role. Howie is also a past member of the CJCA Board.

Thank you Calgary Flames!
by Midnight Taiko
We were excited and loved working with our Calgary Flames! Being asked to be a part of the 2015/2016 Home Opener and this time involving a video shoot as well as performing live on the ice. It was definitely the highlight of the season for us. To work with such a professional organization really pushes us to become better and perform at a much higher level. We look forward to many more opportunities to collaborate with other organizations around Calgary and become a more integrated member of the community in this city.

Go Flames Go!

NAJC AWARD NOMINATIONS
If you know of an outstanding volunteer within the Calgary Japanese Community Association whom you feel is worthy of being a recipient of an NAJC (National Association of Japanese Canadians) Merit Award, please submit your application and a short biography of the nominee in writing for CJCA Board consideration to: cjcamain@shaw.ca or submit to the CJCA Office Administrator no later than March 31, 2016.

Nominee:

______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

Nominators – Two Nominators Required or Name of Organization:

______________________________________________
______________________________________________

Reasons for Nomination or Contributions to the Calgary Japanese Community Association:

______________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

______________________________________________

CJCA COMMUNITY & SENIORS FOUNDATION

The foundation is a registered charity and graciously accepts donations from both public and private sectors. (Tax Receipt Issued)
by Shirley Shigematsu

On behalf of CJCA Community and Seniors Foundation, we gratefully acknowledge and thank the following who donated to the Foundation in 2015:

Frank H. Hori Charitable Foundation
Roydon Fraser – In memory of Yaeko Lucy Brignell
Lloyd Humphrey – In memory of Dorothy Harris
Sheila Sander – In memory of Dorothy Harris
Rose and Sho Nagata
Teresa Utsunomiya
Maureen & John Coleman
Mr. Tats Oshiro
Mrs. Louise Sakamoto
Mrs. Evelyn Raham
Mrs. Ester Kitaguchi
CJCA Line Dance Club

It is through such generous contributions that the Foundation can sustain itself and continue to provide cultural and social services to the Japanese Community.

“The Perfect Gift!”

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A History of Japanese Canadians in the Calgary Area

$75.00 - Published by CJCA
(8½ x 11 - hardcover book, 370 pages, over 600 images & CD with 30 interviews)
MISSION STATEMENT

“To promote and maintain Japanese culture in Calgary and District.”

MANY THANKS!
To article contributors, proof-readers, photographers & illustrators.

MEMBERSHIP
The “2016” CJCA Membership Application form is now available. Members only will receive an additional “Monthly” E-Newsletter.

ADVERTISING?
Advertising options and rates are available through the office.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
WANTED: Board Directors, Committee Chairpersons

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday thru Friday during office hours or first Saturday (1-4 pm) and third Sunday (11-12 pm). (Subject to change.)

LOST & FOUND
Unclaimed items will be disposed of on a regular basis.

LOOKING FOR A VENUE?
Contact the office for a variety of hall rental options!

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CALGARY JAPANESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

CJCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM - 2016

Located at: Calgary Nikkei Cultural & Seniors Centre
2236 - 29th Street SW Calgary Alberta T3E 2K2

Inquiries: (403) 242-4143 or cjcamain@shaw.ca Website: www.calgaryjca.com

Please make cheques payable to: "Calgary Japanese Community Association"

☐ New Member  ☐ Family ($30.00)  ☐ Individual ($15.00)
☐ Renewal Member  ☐ Profile Change  ☐ Senior's 80+ ($15. - Single or Couple)

MEMBER PROFILE: (PLEASE FILL OUT & PRINT CLEARLY.)

☐ SURNAME: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________
Spouse's name: ___________________________

☐ E-mail Address: ___________________________ Phone #: ___________________________
Secondary e-mail (optional): ___________________________

☐ Mailing address: ___________________________

☐ City: ___________________________ Province: ___________________________ Postal Code: ___________________________

Membership is in effect from January to December. If you do not have an e-mail address, you will receive a complimentary hardcopy of the Quarterly Newsletter (black & white) via Canada Post. Otherwise, the Q-Newsletter (colour version) and the Monthly E-Newsletter (event updates) will be forwarded to you via e-mail. Event images maybe used in future CJCA related publications and websites. Thank you for your support!

Consent/Signature: ___________________________

PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING SURVEY:

☐ I would like to be contacted in the Japanese language.

☐ I am interested in becoming a volunteer. Areas of interest: ___________________________

☐ I would like to make a "donation" to CJCA.

☐ I would like to advertise my business in the Q-Newsletter and Website.

☐ (Circle the applicable options.) I am currently associated with: Other: ___________________________

Ikibana, Kaede (Odori), Karaoke, Kotobuki (Seniors), Karate, Line Dance, Midnight Taiko,
JLS (Japanese Language School), NJCA (New Japanese Canadian Assn.), Youth Group

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☐ Cash  ☐ Receipt issued by: ___________________________

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