



National Association of Japanese Canadians

2013 AGM National Association of Japanese Canadians

September 21 and 22, 2013
Toronto, Ontario – Greater Toronto Chapter of the NAJC

Saturday, September 20, 2013

Meeting called to order 9:10 am
Opening remarks by President Ken Noma, AGM Chair

Ken commented about the set-up of the AGM. He is hoping next year when Vancouver is approved that the business part of AGM will be compressed to allow time for discussion groups, networking, outings.

Announcement: Words of welcome by David Fujino
Housekeeping: Gala Banquet tonight to celebrate 25th Anniversary of Redress at Toronto Cultural Centre. Bus transportation from hotel to and from the Cultural Centre.

Appointment of Glenna Carlson as recording secretary
Introduction of Terumi Kuwada Past President at Large
Appointment of Steven Seller as Rules of Order Chair for the meeting

Ken made announcement of Two Year Term (2014-2015) Appointment of two Endowment Committee Members by Acclamation as follows:

Gaia Hashimoto (pg 19)

Nominated by: Manitoba Japanese Canadian Citizen's Association

Michiko Yano-Shuttleworth (pg 19)

Nominated by: Greater Toronto NAJC

Introduction of New Member Association by Ken Noma:
Whitehorse – Yukon (Japanese Canadian Association of Yukon)

Ken Noma also advised that an application may come through for a new Hamilton Member Organization.

Ken Noma asked members to use any contacts they have to encourage Montreal to re-join as Member Organization.

Roll Call:



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National Executive Board Members

President	Ken Noma
Vice President	Lillian Nakamura Maguire
Acting Treasurer	Kevin Okabe
Secretary	Bev Ohashi
Directors:	Valerie Hoshizaki-Nordins
	Lisa Schoenhofer (attending Young Leaders Conference)
Past President	Terumi Kuwada at large
Recorder:	Glenna Carlson

NAJC Member Delegates

Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society	Michael Abe
Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association	Gary Matson
..... <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Jack Matsushita</i>
Kamloops and Area Chapter NAJC	Les Tabata
Vernon Japanese Cultural Society	Janice Buick
Edmonton Japanese Community Association	Yoko Azumaya
..... <i>Alternate</i>	<i>David Mitsui</i>
Calgary Japanese Community Association	Joanne Terakita Planidin
CJCA Community and Seniors Foundation	Cindy Nagata McMillan
Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge and Area	George Takashima
Japanese Cultural Association of Manitoba	Lucy Yamashita
Lakehead Japanese Cultural Association	Steven Seller
Greater Toronto Chapter of the NAJC	David Fujino
Ottawa Japanese Community Association	Jen Matsunaga
Japanese Canadian Association of Yukon	Fumi Torigai
NAJC Hamilton	Patricia Simpson
..... <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Douglas Ikeda</i>

Individuals:

Japanese Cultural Association of Manitoba	Keiko Miki
Greater Toronto Chapter NAJC	Kim Uyede-Kai

Young Leaders:

Kamloops and Area Chapter NAJC	Nicola Tabata
CJCA Community and Seniors Foundation	Michiko Kajita
Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge and Area	Timothy Koba



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Greater Toronto Chapter of the NAJC
Greater Toronto Chapter NAJC

Jessica Whitehead
Lindsay Tsuji

Observers:

Mika Fukuma
Jennifer Hashimoto
Mike Murakami
Miku Yodoi

Steve Seller reviewed Rules of Voting. Delegates each get 10 votes. If Alternate votes, Delegates cannot. Individual members in good standing get one vote.

Motion (#1) to accept the 2013 AGM Agenda as written in the AGM booklet (pg. 1-3)

Moved by: Gary Matson (Vancouver)
Seconded by: Michael Abe (Victoria) Carried

Motion (#2) to accept the 2012 AGM minutes as printed in the AGM booklet (pg. 5-18)

Moved by: Joanne Terakita Planindin (Calgary)
Seconded by: Les Tabata (Kamloops) Carried

Interim Treasurer's Report – Kevin Okabe

Financial reports are on pages 29-34 in AGM Booklet.

Kevin distributed copies of Audited Financial Statements as of March 31, 2013.

Email was sent on September 2, 2012 including the following:

1. NEB Treasurer's Report: Budget Review 2011-12 Fiscal Year
2. New Budgeting Process
3. 2013-14 Budget
4. Set of Presentation Graphs

Motion (#3) to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented

Moved by: Janice Buick (Vernon)
Seconded by: Steve Seller (Lakehead) Carried

Motion (#4) to accept the Auditor's Report as presented

Moved by: Steve Seller (Lakehead)
Seconded by: Gary Matson (Vancouver) Carried

Motion (#5) to appoint the auditor of Runchey Miyazawa Abbott for the 2013/14 year

Moved by: Jen Matsunaga (Ottawa)



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Seconded by: Yoko Azumaya (Edmonton) Carried

Motion (#6) to appoint the legal firm Tapper Cuddy LLP as legal counsel for the 2013/14 year

Moved by: Joanne Terakita Planidin (Calgary)
Seconded by: Michael Abe (Victoria) Carried

Motion (#7) to accept the proposed fiscal year ended 2015 budget as presented (pg 32-34)

Moved by: Gary Matson (Vancouver)
Seconded by: Joanne Terakita Planidin (Calgary) Carried

NEB Members Reports

1. President Ken Noma / Heritage Committee Chair: as written on pages 20-23 of the AGM booklet

Ken highlighted the following from his report:

Delegates received Manga Book. If interested in purchasing the Manga Book Member Organizations can purchase them for \$10 each.

Nikkei Heritage Tours to Japan: Working with travel agent and the bulk of commission is turned over to NAJC (approximately 10%, split local and NAJC). Prices are very reasonable. The Hawaii Tour will be offered in August 2014. The Japan Tour will likely be offered in October 2014.

Next year is election year and Ken Noma, President and Bev Ohashi, Secretary and Lillian Nakamura Maguire, Vice President will step down. The position of Treasurer is also open. The Greater Toronto Chapter NAJC needs a new President.

Ken will work closely with Kevin to market merchandise.

Ken advised that there is a need to move toward Social Services in communities.

2. Vice President Lillian Nakamura Maguire/ Human Rights Committee Chair: as written on pages 24-28 of the AGM booklet
3. Interim Treasurer Kevin Okabe: as presented and written on pages 29-34 of the AGM booklet
4. Secretary Bev Ohashi / Community Development Chair: as written on pages 35-36 of the AGM booklet
5. Director Valerie Hoshizaki Nordin: as written on page 37 of the AGM booklet



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6. Director Lisa Shoenhofer: as written on pages 38-39 of the AGM booklet

Committee Reports

1. Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF) Report: as written by Arthur Miki Representative to NAJC on pages 40-41 of the AGM booklet
2. Japanese Canadian War Memorial Committee Report: as written by Linda Kawamoto Reid, Chair, on pages 42-43 of the AGM booklet
3. Networking with Diverse Communities: as written by Terumi Kuwada Past President at Large on page 44 of the AGM booklet

Member Reports

1. Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society: as written by Michael Abe, President on pages 45-50 of the AGM booklet
2. Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association: as written by Gary Matson, President on pages 51-55 of the AGM booklet and Activity Report of the GJCCA Human Rights Committee: as written by Judy Hanazawa on pages 56-64 of the AGM booklet
3. Kamloops Chapter of the NAJC: as written by George Uyeda on pages 65-70 of the AGM booklet
4. Vernon Japanese Cultural Society (VJCS): as written by Janice Buick, NAJC Representative on pages 71-74 of the AGM booklet
5. Edmonton Japanese Community Association: as written by Yoko Azumaya, 1st Vice President on pages 75-81 of the AGM booklet
6. Calgary Japanese Community Association: as written by Joanne Terakita Planindin, President on pages 82-87 of the AGM booklet
7. Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge and Area: as written by David Tanaka, President on pages 88-92 of the AGM booklet
8. Japanese Cultural Association of Manitoba: as written by Art Miki, President on pages 93-96 of the AGM booklet
9. Lakehead Japanese Cultural Association: as written by Steven Seller, President on pages 97-100 of the AGM booklet
10. Greater Toronto Chapter NAJC: as written by Ken Noma, Past President on pages 101-104 of the AGM booklet
11. Japanese Canadian Association of Yukon: as written by Fumi Torigai, President on page 105-108 of the AGM booklet
12. Ottawa Japanese Community Association: as written by Jen Matsunaga, President on pages 109-113 of the AGM booklet
13. Hamilton Chapter NAJC: as written by Patricia Simpson, President on pages 114-117 of the AGM booklet

Associate Member Report



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1. Regina Japanese Canadian Club Inc.: as written by Laura Kobayashi on pages 118-121 of the AGM booklet

Ken asked if there were questions regarding any reports.

Lillian highlighted the that they have a good HR Committee but require representation from Alberta. Please let Lillian know if someone is interested in making a commitment to Human Rights and Social Justice issues.

Lillian referred to the "Survey Questions to NAJC Associations re: Immigrant Women" encouraging associations to answer the questionnaire and seek out some answers and gather as much information as possible to help provide an assessment across the country so NAJC can support accordingly. This is an opportunity for another group to connect to the NAJC. Member Organizations are requested to return the Survey to the NAJC office by November 30, 2013. The results will be compiled and recommendations will be presented to the Board. There was discussion around social issues.

Edmonton: David Mitsui, Alternate from Edmonton spoke about a fund raising venture of a War Memorial.

Ken Noma noted that the practice of giving \$500 annually towards laying of a Wreath will continue.

Ken reminded Member Organizations that they can apply for Community Development and Endowment Funds.

Member Organizations were asked which events draw the most people. The consensus was events around food and culture draw the most response. Victoria started a tradition three years ago, the Obon Matsuri, to get generations together where they gather annually at the grave sites to pay their respects and care for the graves. This event started with 30 people and has grown to 90.

Motion (#8) to accept the NEB members' and other reports as presented and as written in the AGM booklet

Moved by: Fumi Torigai (Yukon)
Seconded by: Michael Abe (Victoria) Carried

Resolution #1: JCAM/MJCCA re: Membership

Motion (#9) to table Resolution until Sunday.

Moved by: Steven Seller (Lakehead)
Seconded by: Gary Matson (Vancouver) Carried



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There was discussion on the rebranding of the NAJC AGM to an Annual Community Conference.

The following points were highlighted:

- time networking/visiting museums/etc.
- Is it possible to compress AGM to ½ day including elections if speeches are prepared ahead of time and included in the booklet?
- have recipients of Endowment Funds give report of their projects.

Approval of the 2014 AGM Location

Vancouver has accepted to be Host Centre for the next AGM in September 2014.

Motion (#10) to accept Vancouver as the Host Centre for the 2014 AGM in September.

Moved by: Vancouver

Seconded by: Ottawa

Carried

Endowment Fund Recipients Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 Report: as written by Ken Noma, Chair on pages 124-127 of the AGM booklet

Lunch, Recognition, and Presentation

Recognition of departing NEB Members: nil

National Award and presentation was made to recipients Tosh and Mary Kitagawa by Ken Noma.

The NEB supports the motion that the City of Vancouver will introduce on September 24, 2013 apologizing for the racist motion that was passed in Vancouver City Council in 1942 by Alderman Halford Wilson and seconded by Alderman George Price. This motion was intended to remove all Japanese Canadians from the Pacific Coast to central parts of Canada. It was also designed to install fear in the hearts of the general public that all Japanese Canadians were a threat to the security of BC and removal was desirable and essential. It will be voted on September 25, 2013 and there will be three members of the Japanese Canadian community who will speak to the motion. The new motion by the City of Vancouver will formally apologize for its complicity, its inaction and for failing to protect her residents of Japanese ancestry. Ken Noma, President of NAJC will accept the Apology on behalf of the community.

There was a straw vote to support the acceptance of the Apology. Straw vote was unanimous.



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The Changing Face of Political and Social Activism Since 1988

Panel presentation by: Arti Miki, Maryka Omatsu (regrets), Jen Matsunaga, Ken Noma

Discussion Groups

Small group discussions focused on the following topics:

1. *Membership*
Facilitated by Valerie Hoshizaki Nordin and Lillian Nakamura Maguire
(see Appendix 'A' for summary)
2. *Financial Sustainability*
Facilitated by Kevin Okabe and Ken Noma
(see Appendix 'B' for summary)
3. *Community Development and Networking*
Facilitated by Bev Ohashi
(see Appendix 'C' for summary)

Groups summarized comments to the larger group.

Adjournment for the day 3:30 pm

Social Time and Banquet Dinner

The 25th Anniversary Celebration of Redress was held at the Japanese Canadian Culture Centre with display tables, sale of merchandise and a silent auction. The Keynote Speaker was Art Miki.

Sunday, September 22, 2013

Meeting began at 8:50 am.

Ken Noma gave opening remarks.

Bev Ohashi distributed feedback forms and Online Toolbox Suggestion Form.

Resolution was untabled.

Resolution #1 (as it appears on pg 122): JCAM/MJCCA re: Membership

At the Annual General Meeting of the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC) in Toronto on the weekend of September 21 and September 22, 2013, the following bylaw resolution is proposed for approval by the NAJC Membership:

Resolved:

To Section 4.1.2 Change all references of "Associate Member Organization" to "Supporting Member Organization"



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To Section 4.1.2.2 "Supporting Member Organization" shall have the following rights:

- (a) To be able to attend the NAJC AGM or Special General Meetings. Airfare and accommodations will not be covered.
- (b) To have two (2) votes at the NAJC AGM for all association related votes.
- (c) To receive regular correspondence from the National Office.

Notes to the Resolution:

The Associate Membership category was originally created to address those organizations and groups who supported the NAJC but may not have had interest in the participation of the Organization, which included voting rights. Recently there are indications that these Organizations may want to be more involved in the workings of the NAJC. The Resolution attempts to do this by changing the name of the category and adding voting rights to this category.

Moved by: Geoff Miki, President, Winnipeg MJCCA
Seconded by: T. Wm. (Bill) Kobayashi, Treasurer, Toronto NAJC

Steve Seller presented amendment to Resolution #1 – NAJC AGM 2013 presented by MJCCA (JCAM).

Motion to Strike, Insert:

Strike:

~~To Section 4.1.2~~ change all references of "Associate Member Organization" to "Supporting Member Organization".

Insert:

~~To Section 4.1.2~~ Change all references of "Associate Member Organization" to "Supporting Member Organization" at all occurrences within the by-laws.

Insert:

d: to be able to nominate and second candidates for elections.

Strike:

~~Member~~ from Section 5.1.4

There was discussion on the amended Motion. Both Toronto and Manitoba agreed with the amended Motion. There was a unanimous vote in favour of Resolution #1 with amendment.



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Motion (#11) to amend Resolution presented by MJCCA (JCAM) as presented by Steve Seller.

Moved by: Steven Seller (Lakehead)
Seconded by: Gary Matson (Vancouver) Carried

Presentations were made by:

- A) Young Leaders
- B) Dr. Mona Oikawa
- C) Japanese Social Services: Issues Facing New Immigrant Families
President DVP: Kiyoshi Dembo
President: David Ikeda

NAJC Elections 2014

A nomination committee will be formed regarding elections next year.

A copy of the slide show from the banquet will be sent to each Member Organization.

Motion (#12) that the 2013 NAJC AGM be adjourned.

Moved by: Steven Seller (Lakehead)
Seconded by: Janice Buick (Vernon) Carried

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.



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Facilitated by Valerie Hoshizaki Nordin and Lillian Nakamura Maguire

Issues that were raised by member organizations in their community reports:

- 1) increasing memberships and recruiting volunteers
- 2) young leadership involvement and engagement of youth
- 3) connecting to ijusha/Imin communities and other JC and ethnocultural community organizations

What is working for you now?

1) & 2) *Membership, volunteers and young leadership*

- young leaders initiative, young people are invited to be a part of a program of mentorship and training.
- specific young people are invited to serve on the board or their skills used for a particular board task such as setting up a website
- Facebook page, as a communication tool
- sponsoring a youth team (sport or otherwise)
- rethinking membership as we see it and operating as an event driven organization offering a variety of events such as intergenerational story telling evenings.
- Youth are less inclined to buy a membership or have a long term commitment but if an activity interests them they will get involved and support it.

3) *Ijusha/Imin*

- local association to connect to consulate and provide an information pamphlet about the organization and its programs which will be available for clients
- reminder to be aware of creating a relationship that works for both parties.
- associations to write column in local newsletter or The Bulletin about resources/services available for new immigrants (this needs to be bilingual)
- invite ijusha to share their talents/skills which will introduce them to the local association and its activities and develop relationships with members
- necessary to provide or know where to go for bilingual service

NAJC Role

- NAJC Japanese language website
- connect to Endowment and Cultural Development funding recipients — What are they doing and could they be a help in promoting membership or in serving as a resource in our association?



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- develop a national Market Campaign to increase NAJC profile
- hire a web designer to look at website to make it more user friendly
- restore Nikkei Heritage Day September 22 possibly as a Japanese Canadian History Day
- continue to set an example by showing respect to our country's founding peoples and acknowledge their land whenever we meet
- provide a forum available to all, where internment survivors are able to share their stories, involving support staff such as councillors, etc.
- continue to provide mental space to its members to be a part of the Association's direction.

APPENDIX 'B' **FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT FROM DISCUSSION GROUP** **SEPTEMBER 21, 2013**

Facilitated by Kevin Okabe and Ken Noma

Background

- Most organizations now seem to be holding their own – not overly wealthy but at the same time not in financial difficulty either



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- Cultural festivals or fairs seem to be the major revenue generator for many organizations
- Others rely upon the sale of items (e.g. books), fund raising lunches or dinners or casinos
-

Challenges

- Challenge is to ensure that events do not conflict with others in the community
 - Separation between cultural centre organizations and NAJC member organizations
- Always looking at new ideas and creative ideas
-

Brainstorming

- Business sponsorship – change the way businesses are being approached to support the organization. Currently – approach businesses for donations
- Develop value proposition for business
 - Introduce business membership
 - Identify sponsorship or advertising packages including:
 - advertisement in newsletters
 - links or promotion on website
 - advertisement on signs that are shown at major events and activities
 - include business organizational membership?
 - Hit organizations once instead of multiple ties
- Utilize charitable status to promote fundraising campaigns
 - Giving should not be a one-time event, e.g. United Way

APPENDIX 'C' COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND NETWORKING REPORT FROM DISCUSSION GROUP SEPTEMBER 21, 2013

Facilitated by Bev Ohashi

The following action steps were identified by the discussion group to support community development and networking. These will be reviewed by NEB to determine how these recommendations can move into action for 2013-14.

Action 1:

- each member organization identify individuals who should have access to the “Members Only” section on the NAJC website



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- submit resource form to Mike Murakami on the CDC who will review the resource which will then be sent to the NEB for final approval to be posted on the CD On-Line Resource Toolkit (need to check for copyright)
- arrange with John Greenaway to determine the number of hits on the toolkit section
- in the description of the resource, incorporate key work search for cross-referencing

Action 2:

- identify topics to coordinate webinars so that member organizations can share their experiences and knowledge:
- possible topics are:
 - a) mochi-making: Calgary will be having a mochi-making day in December with new equipment ordered by the Consulate. After this experience, offer a webinar to other members on their experience of this new equipment
 - b) starting a taiko group: Kamloops can offer suggestions if an organization is interested in starting a taiko group
 - c) share experiences with sister city agreements: e.g. Alberta Japan Twinning Society
 - d) Powell Street Festiva:organizers can provide information and strategies to organize a successful street festival

Action 3:

Consider establishing networks with:

- a) University connections
- b) JET Alumni
- c) Japanese Canadian Leadership Program
- d) Entertainment: select an artist that will present/perform at major cities across Canada