



**National Association of Japanese Canadians  
National Executive Board  
ZOOM MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017**

(All meetings: 8pm EST; 7pm CST; 6pm MST; 5pm PST)  
Start Time: 8:06 pm

**MINUTES**

A. Roll Call:

David Mitsui, President  
Noreen Kuroyama, Treasurer  
Bev Ohashi, Past President  
Eiko Eby, Director  
Susan Matsumoto, Director  
Ken Noma, Executive Director

Lorene Oikawa, Vice President  
Michiko Yano-Shuttleworth, Secretary  
Susanne Tabata, Director  
Lisa Uyeda, Director  
Bryan Tomlinson, Director (late)  
Terumi Kuwada, Interim National  
Administrator

Regrets: Eiko Eby

B. Minutes Recorder: Ken Noma

C. Moved by Susan Matsumoto, Seconded by Michiko Yano-Shuttleworth to approve the Agenda as amended. - Carried

D. Moved by Bev Ohashi, Seconded by Lisa Uyeda to approve the minutes of the NEB Feb 14 2017(ZOOM) as amended. - Carried

E. President's Report: No report at this time Dave

F. Treasurer's Report Noreen  
- adjustments have been made to accommodate the ED budget without impact on the overall 2017-2018 budget passed by the NC  
- concern raised over the need to close the books for 2017 but the lack of final financials from the 2016 Calgary AGM is preventing this from happening.

**Action #1:** The ED will pursue this item

- may require the engagement of two people to manage the Excel/Quickbooks transition as well as the role of accountant; funds have been set aside for this possibility. Matters will become clearer once the new National Administrator is in place April 21st  
- the monthly service Quickbooks charge has been noted in the Report  
- building occupancy item of \$8,500 may not be spent pending the outcome of assessment by Dave, Ken and Lisa

- G. Past-President's Report Bev  
 - no further additions to the submitted report
- H. Executive Director's Report Ken  
 - no report at this time
- I. National Administrator's Report Terumi  
 - no report at this time
- J. Strategic and Financial Planning All  
 i. 2017-18 Budget (updates?) Committee Chairs  
 ii. 2017-18 Strategic Plan (update?) Dave  
 iii. 2018-19 Draft Budget – 1<sup>st</sup> draft to be developed in May 2017 All  
 - no updates at this time
- K. Business Arising from NEB Meetings/Minutes
- i. Charitable Status – Hastings Park Foundation (Update) Ken  
 - no updates
- ii. Canadian Race Relations Foundation (Update?) Lorene  
 - discussions have been held with President Albert Lo who has agreed to work with the NAJC on mutually beneficial projects. ED noted that space has been allocated in the 2017 Ottawa AGM/Conference agenda for a workshop on the historic connections between the two organizations
- iii. Bilingual Human Rights Guide for Japanese Canadians (Update?) Lorene  
 - no updates at this time
- iv. National Office Storage and Archival Assessment Project (Update?) Lisa  
 - pending visit and report by Dave and Ken. Lisa will work with Terumi to determine an appropriate date for her to assess the storage facility
- v. Honourarium for Kevin Okabe (Tabled) Dave
- vi. Contract Accountant Dave  
 - on hold until later this month
- vii. Lifetime Achievement Award Suggestion (Tabled-Attachment 1) Dave
- viii. Gordon Hirabayashi Award and the Art Miki Leadership Award Ken  
 - vetting of potential nominees
- L. NEB Standing Committee Follow-ups & Reports
- i. Human Rights Committee Lorene  
 - has spoken to a Committee member and will speak to others around the counter petition. No other updates.

**Moved by Lorene, Seconded by Susanne to nominate Naomi Katsumi as a member of the Human Rights Committee -Carried**

- ii. Membership Committee Eiko  
- no report
- iii. Arts, Culture and Education Committee Susanne  
- Susanne discussed some aspects of the report submitted. Hope to unveil the Japanese Canadian Artists Directory at the Ottawa AGM
- Moved by Susanne Tabata, Seconded by Lorene Oikawa to nominate Takao Tanabe as the first recipient of the NAJC Pioneer Artist Award - Carried**
- Action #2:** a letter of congratulation will be signed by the President and forwarded to Takao Tanabe
- iv. Heritage Committee Lisa  
- a detailed report was submitted. HC may consider putting the Digital Storytelling project into the 2018-2019 Heritage budget request
- v. Community Development Committee Michiko  
- reported that 22 participants attended the cosplay workshop and plans are underway to continue this along with other new projects. Images from the workshop will be posted on our social media soon
- vi. Endowment Fund Committee Dave  
- members: Dave Mitsui (chair), David Fujino, Ken Teramura, Kayla Isomura and Andre Boutin-Maloney. 16 applications have been received and plans are to hold a meeting of the Committee in early May
- vii. Constitution, Resolutions and Bylaws Committee Susan  
- discussion around the submitted report. Steve Sellers will begin the process of submitting the formal bylaw change before the deadline date. There was support for a discussion (perhaps at the Ottawa AGM) around the issue of non-Japanese members sitting on the national executive
- viii. Nominations Committee Dave  
- no report at this time
- ix. JC Young Leaders Committee Bryan  
- discussed items in the report. Noted that the website and social media has been the main focus at this time. Will begin contacting those young leaders who signed the petition. Bryan was requested to come back with specific recommendations for further action of those who refuse to support the the process for discussion and action
- x. National Honourary Advisory Council Bev  
- update in the past-President's report
- xi. Future Directions Team Dave/Bev  
- copy of the FDT minutes shared by Dave

- xii. Suzuka Scholarship Bev  
- as reported

M. National Council Meetings and Special Projects Reports

- i. Community Renewal Fund (update) Dave  
- update will be provided at the scheduled NEB meeting in May

- ii. Special Committee on Reconciliation (update) Lorene  
- no report at this time

- iii. Social Media Project (update) Lorene/Ken  
- request made to chairs to share images from their events for posting

N. New Business

- i. Vimy Ridge: Dave reported on the Vimy Ridge ceremonies in Ottawa that he attended with Tim Tamashiro (Calgary) and 28 other Canadians whose relatives saw action at Vimy along with veterans of World War II, Korea and Afghanistan. Every family had a story to tell. Dave expressed his appreciation to the Nikki National Museum for putting his name forward. Tim was nominated by the NAJC.

O. Annual AGM's and Conferences

- i. 2017 Ottawa AGM and Conference Update (Sept 22-24) Ken  
- deadline date of early June for the final program
- ii. 2018 Winnipeg AGM and Conference (Sept 21-23, 2018) Ken  
- no updates

P. Adjournment: Moved by Lorene to adjourn @ 9:45 pm

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

NEXT MEETING: TUES APRIL 25, 2017 -NATIONAL COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING

- NEB Meetings
- i. ZOOM Video Conference  
-Tues Nov 8, 2016 (cancelled)  
-Tues Dec 13, 2016 (moved to Dec 15, 2016)  
-Tues Feb 14, 2017  
-Tues Mar 14, 2017 (cancelled)  
-Tues Apr 11, 2017  
(All meetings: 8pm EST; 7pm CST; 6pm MST; 5pm PST)
  - ii. FACE TO FACE MEETINGS  
-Toronto -January 13-15, 2017  
-Location (Calgary) -May 26-28, 2017  
-Ottawa/Gatineau -September 22-24, 2017 (AGM and Conference)

NATIONAL COUNCIL ZOOM Video Conference meetings with NEB:

- Tue Nov 15, 2016 (cancelled)

- Tue Jan 24, 2017 (cancelled)
  - Tue Feb 14, 2017
  - Tue Mar 21, 2017 (rescheduled to Apr 25, 2017)
  - Tue May 30, 2017
- (All meetings: 8pm EST; 7pm CST; 6pm MST; 5pm PST)

(NAJC-NEB-Agenda-April11-2017)

**ATTACHMENT 1**

From: **Henry Shibata** <rustyshibata@hotmail.com>  
Date: Mon, Jan 23, 2017 at 9:32 AM  
Subject: Re LifeTime Achievement Award  
To: "d.mitsui@najc.ca" <d.mitsui@najc.ca>  
Cc: "sachiko\_okuda@sympatico.ca" <sachiko\_okuda@sympatico.ca>

Dear Mr. Mitsui:

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ottawa Japanese Canadian Association we discussed the possible agenda for the Celebration of the 140th Anniversary of the presence of Japanese people in Canada in concert with the 150th Anniversary Celebration of Canadian Confederation. According to our President, Sachiko Okuda, the OJCA will be hosting the NAJC here in Ottawa for a 4 Day Event (Sept 21 to 24).

Accordingly, I learned that 3 National Awards (Art Miki, Gordon Hirabayashi and a new 'Arts Pioneer') will be presented to deserving recipients.

Over the past years, many members of our community have made truly notable contributions to Canadian Society and have been duly honoured by the Governments of Canada and Japan as well as other organizations. However although mention is made of these individuals in the "Geppo...The Bulletin, A journal of the Japanese Canadian Community, History and Culture" ....( ref. Japanese Canadian Timeline 1833-2008), I am certain that the majority of Japanese Canadians are not aware of these contributions that we can point to with pride! Also there may be others who should be considered as deserving to be placed on such a list as well!

So... my humble suggestion is to create another category, a "Lifetime Achievement Award" to honour such outstanding members of our society so that their names and contributions will go on record as a vital and lasting part of the legacy of the NAJC!

A certificate and a modest memento can be fashioned to be presented to such people even posthumously as recognition and gratitude for their outstanding achievements. The list of recipients and their accomplishments should be provided on our website for all the world to see!

This suggestion is being sent to you to record for perpetuity the turbulent but proud legacy of the people of Japanese ancestry in Canadian History!

With best personal regards,

Henry Ryusuke Shibata, MD MSc FACS FRCSC  
Professor Emeritus McGill University  
Founding President Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology  
Chairman Emeritus Cedars Cancer Foundation