



**National Association of Japanese Canadians  
National Executive Board  
July 17, 2018  
Zoom Meeting  
MINUTES**

(Filename: NAJC-NEB-Minutes-Zoom Meeting July 17 2018)

1. Administration:

Dave

a) Roll Call:

David Mitsui, Michiko Shuttleworth, Eiko Eby, Susanne Tabata, Noreen Kuroyama, Lorene Oikawa, Lisa Uyeda, Bryan Tomlinson, Kevin Okabe, Karina Uehara

b) Minutes Recorder: Karina Uehara

c) Approval of the Agenda

d) Approval of Minutes: NEB Zoom Meetings June 19 and July 9- not done

2. Nanjing Issue

Lorene

The committee has been working on the draft. The commemorative day will not be successful as it promotes intolerance and increased tension between Asian Canadians hostility towards the Japanese Canadians communities. NAJC is working with Canadians and policies in making an inclusive society. NAJC recognizes that Canada acknowledges history but needs to work more on knowing the history of diverse communities and also indigenous people. Also, Canada should look at diverse citizens and celebrate accomplishments of the citizens of our country. It would be good to highlight that NAJC has been working on human rights for over 70 years, and represents 17 Japanese Canadians associations across Canada. The goal is inclusivity.

There are many commemorative days but were not acknowledged but other governments. It was mentioned that Alpha hammered this idea under "peace education". It is more important to work on curriculum.

There was a Nikkei Community meeting at the Nikkei Cultural Centre on July 11 that Lorene attended. The attendees wanted to write letters to the MPs and requested templates as their English wasn't good enough. There were around 170 attendees.

The HR committee will finish the draft of the statement for the NEB to review and David will get back to the reporter with the NAJC position.

The CRRF was a positive outcome from Redress that could be mentioned as well. Also, David should include his background from a survival descendant family of mass incarceration and injustice in Canada to give credibility to the position. The statement should focus on the positive, human rights and education.

**ACTION:** the HR committee will finish the statement in the next 2 days and the NEB will edit and finalize it. David Mitsui will respond to the reporter with the statement.

It would be helpful to research about the position of the reporter.

Lorene Oikawa will contact Albert Lo as he wrote the bill 79 and is the Chairperson of the CRRF.

### 3. Financial Statements and 2019 Budget

Noreen

There are three areas to talk about: the first one is 2018 Financials. Kevin Okabe has revised all the financials. There are some adjustments and entries that Hiroe or Karina can input in Quickbooks before passing the QB file to the auditor. Kevin will check with Les Miyazawa regarding the timeline of the completed audit (hopefully the middle of August). The second area is the budget 2019. The budget was going down and it shows a decrease in expenses. The expenses for Future directions will be separated from the Executive expenses. The Future Directions Team might not have expenses in 2019 as they finished their work. A report from FDT will be presented at the coming AGM. The third area is the National Council meeting in August. The approach will be to look at the big picture: how far in the future you foresee having an NAJC? What projects NAJC wants to support? How does NAJC want to spend the money? How long does NAJC wants to continue? If NAJC would be a granting organization, then NAJC will continue spending until all the funds are used. NAJC will show the financials to the NC and the comparison of the last 3 years.

The Community Renewal fund report: there are still 2 more years that the organizations can apply. The organizations have 3 years to use the funds. There are around \$126,000 of liability.

**ACTION:** Kevin Okabe will send the zoom meeting invitation for the National Council that will happen on August 20, 2018.

The current sustainable revenues are about \$200,000 per year. NAJC is spending \$300,000, so there are \$100,000 deficit per year. The deficit comes out of the investment fund which at 5% of possible return, NAJC is basically losing \$100,000 deficit and the earning power of it. Then, next year, instead of \$200,000 as operating budget to break even, now you only have \$195,000. This is the impact of \$100,000 deficit. \$5,000 is coming out of the budget each year, if it continues for 2 or 3 years, then the committee funds are gone. In order to be sustainable, NAJC has to spend what it earns. NAJC is going down a path that it is irreversible. An idea was suspending committee operations for a couple of years. NAJC can be only a granting organization, minimize operations and only give out the earnings to support different projects. As a national organization, is this what NAJC should be doing? Is NAJC's only purpose to give out money? Another option is not to give out the Community development fund as these funds were for NAJC discretionary use.

Lisa Uyeda reminded the plan of showing projections of the investments in the AGM, some facts and its sustainability.

Correction: page 5 of the report, under Heritage explanation report. It should say UBC commemorative wall instead of Tosh Suzuki (\$500).

### 4. Nominations and AGM

Kevin

Kevin Okabe is preparing the package about the nominations. The nomination committee drafted the procedures. As there were different practices in the past, Terumi helped determine the current procedures. The procedures will be distributed to the members in the August meeting.

**ACTION:** NEB will read the procedures regarding nominations and elections, send feedback to Kevin Okabe and endorse for future use.

AGM update: Registration form has been gone out and so far, there was only one registration received.

**ACTION:** Karina Uehara and Kevin Okabe will determine the NEB payments and reimbursements for AGM. NEB will send the registration form only for now.

It is not compulsory for the NEB to attend the gala dinner.

Young leaders will share all the activities of the activities with the rest of the participants.

Kevin will send a formal invitation to the consulate of Calgary. Kevin already sent a formal invitation to the ambassador of Japan. NAJC will cover the ambassador and his spouse Saturday and Sunday attendance to the conferences as well as the consul's.

5. Upcoming Meetings

- NEB Meetings
  - i. ZOOM Video Conference  
September 11, 2018
  - ii. FACE TO FACE MEETINGS  
-Winnipeg -September 21-23, 2018 (AGM and Conference)

NATIONAL COUNCIL ZOOM Video Conference meetings with NEB:  
- Monday, August 20, 2018 - (8:30pm EST, 5:30 Pacific)

6. Young Leaders Fund

Bryan

**MOTION:** NAJC NEB approved the YL fund disbursements for 2018-2019. Moved Bryan Tomlinson, seconded by Lisa Uyeda that the NAJC NEB approve the proposed amounts for the projects recommended by the NAJC Young Leaders Committee for the 2018-2019 NAJC Young Leaders Fund.  
Carried

7. Adjournment at 9:09 pm