

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



Get Involved with your NAJC!



2020 may be the Year of the Rat, but it also signifies a year that will be chock full of activity for the NAJC! All positions on our National Executive Board will be up for election later this year, and a call for nominations will soon be issued. Aside from those positions, there are numerous other voluntary positions that we are seeking to fill **IMMEDIATELY** on our many committees.

If you ever wanted to get more involved with your national association, here is your chance! There are various positions available, requiring differing levels of involvement and commitment.

See page 2 for a full listing of positions along with a brief description of the committees that the positions are related to.

To express your interest in volunteering for any of these positions, apply online! Go to

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSejTwCSTEmmjH5A9eqAWY0le8GzUI_as-kYO2zwCZC0v8DezQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

National Office

180 McPhillips Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3E 2J9
(204) 943 2910

www.najc.ca

Twitter: @najc_ca

Facebook: National Association of Japanese Canadians

Contact Us!

EXECUTIVE

Lorene Oikawa

president@najc.ca

Keiko Miki

vp@najc.ca

Les Kojima

treasurer@najc.ca

Eiko Eby

secretary@najc.ca

DIRECTORS

Kiyoshi Dembo

membership@najc.ca

Alex Miki

youngleaders@najc.ca

Susanne Tabata

ace@najc.ca

Bryan Tomlinson

governance@najc.ca

STAFF

Kevin Okabe, Executive Director

ed@najc.ca

(403) 561 7572

Karina Uehara,

National Administrator

national@najc.ca

(204) 943 2910

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



VOLUNTEER FOR THE NAJC!

Continued from page 1

A summary of the open positions is provided below. In some cases we are looking for people reflecting certain demographics or from a certain geography to ensure balance on our committees:

Endowment Funds Committee

- Purpose: to assess all applications submitted and recommend successful applicants for approval once a year – application deadline March 31 with the committee meeting 2-3 times via videoconference
- 2 positions available immediately (to serve until June 2021)
- 2 more positions to be filled in the fall 2020 (to serve until June 2022)
- Looking for people from across Canada

Nominations Committee

- Purpose: to administer the nominations and elections process to the National Executive Board and to pursue nominations for these positions. The committee will meet 3-4 times via videoconference
- 2 positions available immediately (to serve to October 2020), and we are looking for people from BC, AB and ON

Community Development Fund Committee

- Purpose: to identify community development priorities and administer Community Development Fund grants once a year. The committee will meet 2-3 times via videoconference

- 2 positions available immediately (to serve a 2 year term) and we are looking for people from across Canada

Membership Committee

- Purpose: to oversee the recruitment, registration and retention of members and to promote the NAJC across the Japanese Canadian community. The committee will meet 4-6 times a year via videoconference
- 2 positions available immediately (to serve until February 2022) and we are looking for people from BC and the Prairies

Audit and Review Committee

- Purpose: to scrutinize the organization's budget and financial statements. The committee will meet 2-3 times via videoconference
- 3 positions available immediately to serve until February 2022 and we are looking for people from across Canada

Human Rights Committee

- Purpose: to focus on human rights issues pertinent to the community and planning programs in support of human rights and social justice. The committee will meet several times a year via videoconference
- Various positions available immediately to serve until February 2022 and we are looking for people from across Canada

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



VOLUNTEER FOR THE NAJC!

Continued from page 2

JCYL (Young Leaders) Committee

- Purpose: to act as a national voice for and engage young people across Canada and support programming. The committee will meet several times a year via videoconference
- Various positions available immediately to serve until February 2022 and we are looking for representatives from across Canada but outside Toronto

Arts, Culture and Education (ACE) Committee

- Purpose: The committee works to create partnerships and projects which are national in scope. The committee will meet several times a year via videoconference
- 2 positions available immediately (to serve until February 2022) and we are specifically looking for people from Interior BC and the Territories

BC REDRESS UPDATE

Thank you to the NAJC membership for your continued support and confidence as we navigate into the next phase of B.C. Redress. There have been many people involved in the project as we have utilized various ad hoc committees to get parts of the project advanced. As each new committee is formed, we disband the former committee. Here is the progression of committees to our current one:

1. BC Redress Advisory Panel - that helped shape the proposal to the BC Government

2. BC Redress Committee of BC Presidents - that presented the proposal to the BC government
3. BC Redress Steering Committee - that planned the consultations and prepared the consultations findings report
4. BC Redress Strategy Committee - that identified the key next steps in the redress process, planned the presentation of the Findings Report to the BC Government, and recommended the formulation of a Negotiations Strategy Team
5. BC Redress Negotiations Strategy Team - approved by the NEB and NC in December – has a mandate and the authority to develop and implement a negotiation strategic plan to reach a negotiated agreement with the BC Government

Therefore the next phase of BC Redress is being directed by the Negotiations Strategy Team. Here is an update of activities.

1. BC Redress Negotiations Strategy Team – members of the team
Susanne Tabata – Spokesperson Designate
Eiko Eby
Lorene Oikawa
Paul Kariya
Special Advisors - Maryka Omatsu, Art Miki, and Les Kojima
2. Meetings - are occurring with government representatives and MLA's
3. Ask Package – the committee is working on developing a Proposal Package with “Asks”

Further updates will be provided as this project progresses.

Eiko Eby, Secretary



NAJC President's Message

January

By Lorene Oikawa



The NAJC National Executive Board wish all the best for you and your loved ones in this New Year, 2020. It's the year of the rat, and according to legend, the rat's intelligence, quick thinking and adaptability allowed it to become the first animal in the 12 year zodiac. The order of the animals after rat (nezumi) are ox (ushi), tiger (tora), rabbit (usagi), dragon (tatsu), snake (hebi), horse (uma), sheep (hitsuji), monkey (saru), rooster (tori), dog (inu) and boar (inoshishi).

2020 is about starting a new project with great energy and progressing without obstacles. Challenges will bring out the best in everyone. The metal element (one of five elements, wood, fire, earth, metal and water) this year means a sharper focus. Decisions will be made and there will be more satisfaction.

The symbolism of this New Year is an auspicious start to another productive year for the NAJC. We completed our BC Redress

NAJC 会長のメッセージ 2020年 1月

ロリン・及川

NAJC 全国理事会は、皆様にご挨拶を申し上げます。2020年は子年です。言い伝えによると、子（ねずみ）は頭が良く素早く考えて物事に対処するので、十二支の最初の動物になったそうです。ねずみのあとの順番は、牛、虎、兎、龍、蛇、馬、羊、猿、雄鶏、犬、猪と続きます。

2020年は新しいプロジェクトを力強く、障害をもともせずに進める年です。チャレンジこそが私達から最良の資質を引き出すものです。宇宙は木、火、土、金属と水で構成されているという古代中国の考え方があります。これによれば今年には金属の年で、目的を決めてそれに力を注ぐのが良いとされています。物事を決定すれば満足が得られる年です。

このように今年にはNAJCにとっても縁起の良い年です。NAJCはブリティッシュ・コロンビア州政府リドレス公聴会を完了して、日系カナダ人社会からブリティッシュ・コロンビア州政府への勧告書を昨年末ブリティッシュ・コロンビア州政府に提出しました。私たちは今月ブリティッシュ・コロンビア州政府と会い、勧告書に基づいたこれからの行動を話し合います。勧告書には公聴会の討論から決定した五つのテーマが載せてあります。五つのテーマに関する勧告は日系カナダ人の関心事と日系カナダ人社会が必要とするものに関してです。そしてこれらの

勧告は日系カナダ人の過去の歴史に関連したものだけでなく、現在、未来にわたり広くカナダ社会に貢献するものです。NAJCは勧告の内容を実現するための細部にわたる具体的な方法を追求していきます。

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



community consultations and presented the findings to the BC government near the end of last year. We will be meeting with the BC government this month to determine the next steps. There are five themes to the findings from the community input, and the themes cover a broad range of interests and need in our community. The work we are doing is about history, and it's also about now, the future, and the benefits for society as a whole. The NAJC will be following up with a more detailed proposal to move forward with recommendations.

Our work is not limited to one initiative. We are going to continue to work with our member chapter organizations and look to expand our partnerships with the community including from our connections made at COPANI XX in San Francisco,. We want to preserve the history of our ancestors, share our Japanese Canadian stories, arts, and culture as part of our work to build inclusive and welcoming communities. This also includes working with other groups to eliminate discrimination and racism.

We are cultivating new media contacts and broadening our reach. Watch for the links to media stories such as this recent article <https://bit.ly/39EorMF>. Watch for our communication in the Nikkei Voice, The Bulletin, najc.ca, e-news, Facebook, and Twitter. We will have regular member newsletters which we started last year, and we are developing special communications for our BC Redress initiative.

We have regular meetings set for the NEB and membership in 2020. Of note, we will have a special meeting of members in March to discuss some revised bylaws to make our processes more

NAJCの仕事はブリティッシュ・コロンビア州リドレスにとどまりません。NAJCはNAJCの会員団体と一緒にいろいろな外部団体と協力関係を築いていこうと思います。例えばNAJCは昨年秋にサンフランシスコで開かれたCOPANIXXに参加して新しいつながりを作ってきました。NAJCは日系カナダ人の歴史を保存し、日系カナダ人の物語、芸術と文化を外部の人達に伝えようと思います。そして日系カナダ人社会が誰でも歓迎される開かれた社会であることを知ってもらいたいと思います。このことはまた、外部のグループと一緒に差別や人種差別主義の根絶に向けて努力することでもあります。

NAJCはコミュニケーションの方法を拡張して、より多くの人達がNAJCの活動を知ることが出来るように努力していきます。最近の論文 (recent article) といったメディア・ストーリーのリンクに注目してください。またこのNAJCウェブサイト、日系ポイス新聞、ザ・ブルティン雑誌、NAJC電子ニュース、フェースブック、ツイッターなどに注意してください。NAJCは昨年、会員のためのニューズレターを始めました。今年も続けます。またブリティッシュ・コロンビア州リドレスの進捗状況をしらせる特別なコミュニケーションも考えています。

NAJCは2020年に全国理事会および会員団体の定期的な会合を企画しています。3月にはNAJC会則の改定に関する特別な会合を開きます。その改定手続きをより効果的でだれにでもわかる透明な形にするためです。また秋にはエドモントンでNAJC年次総会と全国カンファレンスを開きます。

全カナダ日系人協会は、1947年に創設され、あと二年後に創立75周年を祝います。私たちがこの組織をスタートさせた時、NAJCの主な目的は日系カナダ人社会を強固なものにする、カナダ人総ての人権が尊重される社会を作るために努力するという二つでした。そして年月は過ぎましたが、私たちの使命は継続しています。も

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



effective and transparent. And we will meet in the fall in Edmonton for our AGM and National Conference.

The National Association of Japanese Canadians was founded in 1947 and in two years we will celebrate our 75th anniversary. When our organization was started, our main objectives were about strengthening the Japanese Canadian community and human rights. Even though times *have changed, our mission continues. Incidents related to hate persist although we are no longer the main target and our work is needed now more than ever.

With thanks to our ancestors and our families, we know their perseverance, resiliency, and hard work got us to where we are today. However, the strategies and tactics we need to employ are different than in the past.

In some ways, we have the most resources and technology at our disposal, more than any other generation, and the challenges we face have also multiplied and are different than in the past. You see the concerns in the headlines, in social media, and some of it seems so daunting such as hate and climate change. But we also see and hear people speaking up and taking action. We also appreciate your support, our members and allies. It will take all of us sticking together, working together, and we can accomplish so much. Ganbatte! We will persevere.

We hope you had the opportunity to enjoy some time for rest and making good memories with your loved ones. Some of my memories include the traditions of my grandmother and mother, eating noodles on New Year's Eve and eating the

special foods of Osechi on New Year's Day (Shogatsu).

Here's to a happy, healthy, and hopeful 2020!

う日系カナダ人は対象から外れましたが、カナダでは現在でも人種その他に基づく憎悪行動があります。NAJJCはその従来目的に基づいた仕事を継続する必要がいままで以上にあります。

私達の現在の生活は、私達の先達である日系カナダ人の忍耐、不倒不屈の精神、勤勉な労働の所産です。私達はこのことに深く感謝します。しかし現在の私達に必要な戦略と戦術は私達の先達がとったものとは異なります。

現在の和達たちは過去の世代に比べると活動に使えるととても多くの資源と技術を持っています。しかし私達が立ち向かう課題も過去と比べると格段に複雑になっています。社会メディアには憎悪行動、気候変動のような手強い問題に対する懸念がヘッドラインを飾ります。ですが私達はいろいろな人達が問題に立ち向かっていることも知っています。NAJJCは皆様と一緒にこれらの問題に立ち向かえば、必ず成果を上げることが出来ると思っています。頑張って目的を貫徹しましょう。

皆様はお正月をゆっくりとご家族やお友達と一緒に楽しく過ごされたとおもいます。私は祖母と母の伝統を守り、大晦日には年越しそばを食べ、お正月にはおせち料理を食べました。

では皆様にとって 2020 年が幸せで、健康な、望みの多い年となりますように！



NAJC Endowment Funds **Information Released for** **2020**

Community Development Fund

Note: This fund is only available to NAJC Member Organizations (Full or Supporting)

For 2020-2021 fiscal year, we are pleased to inform you that the Community Development (CD) Fund will be providing grants. The mandate of the CD committee is to respond to the needs of our member organizations in terms of capacity building with regards to leadership and board development, fundraising, strategic planning, volunteer recruitment, and other projects and events. We are pleased to be accepting applications for the CD Fund which are due **April 30, 2020 at 2 pm CDT.**

Use the link

<http://najc.ca/funds-and-awards/community-development-fund/>

for instructions on how to submit. New this year is an option to use a google form on the NAJC website for those who want to submit electronically.

Sports, Education, and Arts Development Fund

Note: This fund is open to the general public.

The purpose of the SEAD Program is to:

- promote athletic, artistic and academic development of Japanese Canadians
- enrich Japanese Canadian culture and community within the Canadian society
- provide financial assistance in the form of grants to Japanese Canadian individuals furthering their studies, training and skills (but is not meant to replace scholarships/bursaries for tuition)

Cultural Development Fund

Note: This fund is open to the general public.

The purpose of the CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT program is to:

- provide financial assistance to community and cultural organizations, and individuals, for projects and activities
- promote and develop Japanese Canadian culture and heritage

Application forms for the SEAD and Cultural Development Fund can be completed online or downloaded here:

<http://najc.ca/funds-and-awards/najc-endowment-fund/>

Deadlines for applications are March 31, 2020 by 2:30pm CDT.



Have You Seen the News?

In Other News:



<https://tsuruforsolidarity.org/>

125,000 paper cranes to DC in June 2020 for Tsuru for Solidarity's "National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps"

Japanese Americans from across the country will gather next spring in Washington, D.C. on June 5-7, 2020 for a "National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps." We plan to bring 125,000 paper cranes, or tsuru, as expressions of solidarity with immigrant and refugee communities that are under attack today. The 125,000 cranes represent the members of our community who were rounded up and incarcerated in U.S. concentration camps during World War II, including both Japanese Americans and Japanese Latin Americans. Standing on the moral authority of our own unjust incarceration, the protest will demand that no matter where someone came from or how they arrived to the United States, they be treated with dignity and respect. We will stand with immigrant communities to condemn

the policies that dehumanize them, including ICE detention; jailing and separation of parents, families and children; and the Muslim ban.

The planning is being led by Tsuru for Solidarity, a nonviolent, direct action project of Japanese American social justice advocates. "We expect this to be the largest gathering of Nikkei since World War II, when we were forcibly removed from our homes and incarcerated in U.S. concentration camps," said Mike Ishii, one of the lead organizers.

Fold-ins: We invite supporters to organize local "Tsuru Fold-Ins" to bring tsuru to Washington, D.C., or mail them to us by May 1, 2020. Details, including where to send tsuru, are available on our website: www.tsuruforsolidarity.org.

Fundraising: We are actively raising funds to help cover the substantial costs of the caravan, protest, and healing circles. Our goal is to raise \$125,000 in individual contributions: one dollar for each member of our community who was rounded up and incarcerated during World War II. To reach this goal, we ask that 1,000 people step forward to contribute at least \$125.

Additionally, thanks to the generosity of Gerry and Gail Nanbu, all donations made until December 1, 2019 will be matched, up to \$25,000. Mr. and Mrs. Nanbu write, "This match challenge is made in remembrance of our families, whose courage and resilience in the face of adversity has taught us to stand up for justice."

Our fiscal sponsor, Densho, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, so all donations are tax-deductible. Please visit <https://tsuruforsolidarity.org/give/> for more information and to contribute.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



Program: The three-day program in Washington, DC about lodging and other costs will be provided when registration opens in early 2020.

Friday, June 5: A Japanese American community gathering and preparation for the following day's march and rally.

Saturday, June 6: A mass public solidarity march and rally, led by World War II camp survivors and descendants, with paper cranes and taiko drumming. This event will be open to the public.

Sunday, June 7: Cross-community, intergenerational "Healing Circles for Change." These small group sessions will build solidarity across communities and promote healing through sharing personal stories of incarceration and detention. They will be organized by Dr. Satsuki Ina, an expert on intergenerational trauma. Participation will be limited to those who register in advance.

Additionally, in the days preceding the D.C. program, a caravan of buses will leave from Los Angeles and other locations. These buses will carry a smaller group of activists to World War II concentration camp sites and present-day immigrant detention sites, where they will join in solidarity with local activists who are leading efforts to shut down these sites. The caravan will then join the larger group in Washington,

D.C. We are also working to schedule meetings with members of Congress while the caravan is en route.

For updates and registration information: Please sign up on our email list (opt in on our website, www.tsuruforsolidarity.org) to be notified about registration for the Pilgrimage. Information

Partners and endorsing organizations: Current endorsers and partners include: Densho; Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) National; JACL Chicago; Portland JACL; Japanese Community Youth Council; Japanese Americans for Justice; Japanese American Service Committee (Chicago); Karen Korematsu and the Fred T. Korematsu Institute; Manzanar Committee; Minami Tamaki LLP; Minoru Yasui Legacy Project; National Japanese American Historical Society; New York Day of Remembrance Committee; Nikkei Progressives; Oregon Nikkei Endowment; Peggy Saika; and Tule Lake Committee.

We invite partners nationwide to join the DC action by lending their name, organizing fold-ins, sending members, and raising funds to support the action. Please contact tsuruforsolidarity@gmail.com if you would like to add your organization's name and support.

General inquiries: tsuruforsolidarity@gmail.com



**Canadian
Race Relations
Foundation**

The latest edition of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation newsletter was recently released. You can find it here:

<https://mailchi.mp/crrf-fcrr/september-3804777?e=a846b87d8c>

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



Upcoming Dates and Meeting

Notifications:

NAJC Special General Meeting

Bylaw and Constitutional Changes

Via Zoom Internet Conferencing

March 18, 2020

5:30 PM PST

6:30 PM MST

7:30 PM CST

8:30 PM EST

Mark it in your Calendars:

NAJC Annual General Meeting and National Conference

October 2-4, 2020

Edmonton

Planning is starting to gear up for the NAJC Annual General Meeting and National Conference. We have established the dates as follows:

Friday, October 2 – Annual General Meeting

October 3-4 – National Conference/Member Seminars

Further details will be revealed in future newsletters, but based on the establishment of the October 2 Annual General Meeting date, we would like to make our membership aware of the following relevant dates:

Date	Deadline/Event
May 5, 2020	Nomination papers for the NEB and Call for Motions to be sent to the membership, along with a request to submit reports for the NAJC Annual Report
Jun 17, 2020	NAJC General Membership Meeting by Zoom
Jul 4, 2020	Deadline for returning nomination papers for the NEB and proposed motions for the AGM. Membership to be informed of any proposed by-law changes to be presented at the AGM
Jul 19, 2020	Written reports need to be submitted by this date in order to be included in the NAJC's Annual Report
Aug 3, 2020	Deadline for renewing or applying for NAJC membership in order to be allowed to vote at the AGM. Nomination papers, ballots, motions to be sent out to the membership
Sep 2, 2020	Target date for distribution of the AGM booklet and audited financial statements to membership
Sep 25, 2020	Deadline for returning mail-in ballots in order to be counted for the 2020 NAJC NEB elections
Oct 2, 2020	NAJC AGM and Conference

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 6 – JANUARY 2020



NAJC General Meeting

Via Zoom Internet Conferencing

June 17, 2020

5:30 PM PDT

6:30 PM MDT

7:30 PM CDT

8:30 PM EDT

Enews versus Membership Newsletter

This newsletter has been created to inform the official NAJC Membership about NAJC news, notifications and activities. This is different than distributions that are occurring via enews, which may include individuals and organizations that are not members of the NAJC.

If you would like to submit an article or notification to the next NAJC Membership Update, please email your submission to ed@najc.ca.

If you are not on the NAJC Enews distribution, please feel free to add yourself by going to www.najc.ca and filling out your details in the section on the bottom of the page “Subscribe to our mailing list”

NAJC and Japanese Canadian Facebook Sites and Social Media

Check out the Japanese Canadian and NAJC Facebook site to keep up to date on events, happenings, stories and photos!

<https://www.facebook.com/najc.ca/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Japanese.Canadian.FG/>

(submit member request to join)

Twitter: @najc_ca