

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Vol. 10 – DECEMBER 2020



<https://youtu.be/Qvt86Zryb9M>

President Lorene Oikawa and the National Executive Board and Staff of The National Association of Japanese Canadians wish you

Happy holidays and a wonderful 2021.

Here's to a healthy, safe, inclusive New Year for all!

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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

We have compiled a list of upcoming events. These events are not necessarily organized by the NAJC itself, but are listed because we felt that the topics may be of interest to our membership.

Date and Time	Description and Organizer	Registration/Join Link
Jan 9 12:00 PM PST 1:00 PM MST 2:00 PM CST 3:00 PM EST	Mata Ashita online intergenerational writing circle Mata Ashita	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mata-ashita-the-japanese-canadian-writers-circle-tickets-132358986291 Website also has tickets to Feb 6, Mar 6, Apr 3, May 1 and Jun 5 events
Jan 12 5:00 PM PST 6:00 PM MST 7:00 PM CST 8:00 PM EST	Meet the Authors - On Being Yukiko Live Zoom Event Japanese Canadian Association of Yukon	Advance registration required: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckduyvrzgrHdThhZJNF8Pt7l-OBnrmHCft
Mar 17 5:30 PM PDT 6:30 PM MDT 7:30 PM CDT 8:30 PM EDT	NAJC General Membership Meeting National Association of Japanese Canadians	Registration information will be circulated to the NAJC Membership via email (meeting restricted to NAJC members/authorized representatives)

If you have an event that you would like the NAJC to promote please email details to Kevin at ed@najc.ca. We can list the event in our newsletter, website and Facebook page.



BC REDRESS UPDATE

Susanne Tabata

The BC election late October 2020 gave a decisive victory to the NDP party to carry out their mandate in the Orange book. Citing support for legacy initiatives for the Japanese Canadians communities, the newly minted government will want to sit down with the NAJC in the new year.

The NAJC had sat with the Premiers office and presented a list of key asks in a July in person meeting in Victoria which included a visit from Premier John Horgan. The asks are outlined in August 2020 Bulletin, circulated to all chapters through the executive director of the NAJC.

Once the writ was dropped for the election, all talks on were put on hold. We finished off the IFSD report and it was submitted to the Premiers office after the election was over and the cabinet had been selected.

With the announcement of the new cabinet, the National Association of Japanese Canadians is ready to sit down post election with the provincial government to focus on a "joint vision" from what was in the platform book (p.32) and for what our mandate is from the NAJC and our communities.

We want to mutually discuss the legacy - building inclusive communities (education, symbols, lasting investments), anti-racism (structures and process), and protecting seniors (programs).

A number of small groups will be set up to represent these areas once we map out the plan with the BC Government.

At this time we are awaiting a date for a meeting and understand that our asks are substantial and will require a careful analysis.

The complexity of the asks require both a review the Health budget in BC and new legislation for the anti-racism working group - both are intricate and require deep analysis in the BC Government.

To the legislation that the NAJC recommended, we would like to go on record with the following which was presented to the government in our July 2020 meeting after being developed as an ask by the NAJC. We anticipate the new government may be creating this body and the NAJC would like to be credited and on record for making this proposal:

ANTI-RACISM WORKING GROUP LEGISLATION REQUIRED

To guarantee the preservation of a core anti-racism function, and ensure continuity from one Human Rights Commissioner to the next, a legislated anti-racism power and legislated permanent Anti-Racism Working Group (ARWG) should be added under section 47 of the BC Human Rights Code. Legislate the establishment, staffing and funding of a permanent Anti-Racism Working Group within the Office of the BC Human Rights Commissioner dedicated to proactive anti-racism and anti-hate research, monitoring and reporting to police, media and public. The ARWG would be led by a OHRC Secretariat and made up of representatives of communities that have faced, or continue to face, racism in BC, including Japanese Canadians. The ARWG would provide a core inoculation function against future systemic racism by initiating investigations into the political and social conditions that have given rise to systemic racism and racist acts in BC's history, including denial of Indigenous title and rights, the internment and dispossession of Japanese Canadians, the Chinese head tax, Komagata Maru and others.

Add Japanese Canadian representation to advisory of Resilience BC and the Multicultural Advisory Council.

EDUCATION - LEGISLATION REQUIRED

Work with the Japanese Canadian community to update Grade 5 Social Studies curriculum to make the internment, dispossession and dispersal of Japanese Canadians from 1942 – 1949 a standalone component within "human

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rights and responses to discrimination in Canadian society” unit. (needs enabling legislation)

Work with the Japanese Canadian community to update Grade 10 Social Studies curriculum to make the internment, dispossession and dispersal of Japanese Canadians from 1942 – 1949 a standalone component within “discriminatory policies and injustices in Canada and the world” unit. (needs enabling legislation).

ALL HANDS ON DECK! - HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Lynn Deutscher Kobayashi, Chair

Thanks to Keiko Miki the outgoing Chair, for her guidance in helping with the transition to the new term. We have a great team with continuing members Fumi Torigai and Kei Ebata - new members, Pauline Kajiira of Hamilton, April Sora of Saskatoon – both work for their respective cities in Equity and Inclusion, Maryka Omatsu, Director and Judy Hanazawa of the GJVCCA and veteran of past committees. We have had three meetings in this new term.

The NAJC is a member of the ACT2endracism network, a coalition of over 40, primarily Asian organizations in 6 provinces. Much of the work on anti-Asian racism is taking place in this context and Judy Hanazawa and Lynn Deutscher Kobayashi sit on its Executive Committee.

Last month seven members of the HRC attended a Virtual Tour of the Mohawk Institute Residential School in Brantford, Ontario, hosted by the Toronto NAJC and are planning for a NAJC hosted tour.

We are looking into Human Rights Training, as suggested in the last term, to increase our organizational and individual capacity to address and facilitate conversations about human rights in our community.

Immediate tasks are to review and refine the NAJC Human Rights Mission Statement and establish an NAJC Human Rights Calendar of key dates. While we may not always be able to put forth original content, we can identify

compatible statements to support. As we did on UN Human Rights Day in supporting the UN statement.

As for events, we are undertaking a Newcomer-New Immigrant Orientation to be conducted in Japanese. The purpose, to introduce new immigrants to the landscape of human rights in Canada. This will be led by Fumi Torigai. To ensure that the NAJC Gordon Hirabayashi award for Human Rights is awarded in 2021 hosting the play, Hold These Truths, about Gordon Hirabayashi is under consideration. We also want to provide a safe place to have conversations about where LGBTQ+ issues and race intersect by holding a intergenerational panel discussion.

Steps are underway for a series of events to increase community awareness of Indigenous Peoples Education and Anti-Black racism to better stand in solidarity as allies.

Our plans for the year are ambitious, so we welcome new committee members or volunteers, particularly younger members. And your interest can be event or issue specific.

Email Lynn Deutscher Kobayashi at humanrights@najc.ca to inquire about joining our team. The next meeting will take place the first week of January.



NAJC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – DECEMBER 2020 会長のメッセージ

2020年12月

By Lorene Oikawa

When I wrote my last president's message, we were reviewing the initial results of the elections in Saskatchewan and British Columbia. With the unprecedented number of mail-in ballots, it was going to take a while with the final count. The results are now final. In Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Party won 48 seats to the NDP's 13 seats. No other party won a seat.

ロリン・オイカワ

11月の会長のメッセージでサスカチュワン州とブリティッシュ・コロンビア州の選挙について、郵便投票が例年に比べて非常に多く、まだ選挙結果が出ていないとお伝えしました。やっと結果が出たのでお知らせします。サスカチュワン州はサスカチュワン党が48議席、新民主党が13議席、他に議席を獲得した党はありませんでした。

In British Columbia, the BC NDP won 57 seats to the 28 seats for the BC Liberals, and two for the BC Greens. Premier John Horgan has named his cabinet and made equity and anti-racism a priority for all of them. He has also given a mandate to his new Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport to "Honour the Japanese-Canadian community by providing lasting recognition of the traumatic internment of more than 22,000 Japanese-Canadians during World War II in libraries, communities and at the BC Legislature." This was also part of the BC NDP's platform. We were meeting with the BC government prior to the election being called. We have been in touch and look forward to continuing our work with them on meaningful legacy initiatives for the Japanese Canadian community.

ブリティッシュ・コロンビア州では新民主党が57議席、自由党が28議席、緑の党が2議席でした。州政府首相のジョン・ホーガンは閣僚を任命し、閣僚全員に政府は公平と人種差別の根絶を優先政策課題にすると伝えました。ホーガン首相は新任の観光・芸術・文化・スポーツ大臣に「太平洋戦争中に22,000名余りの日系カナダ人が強制収容された苦難の歴史を図書館、地域社会、ブリティッシュ・コロンビア州議会で長く記憶するようにして、日系カナダ人社会に敬意を払う。」ことを命じました。これはブリティッシュ・コロンビア州の新民主党の綱領の一つでもあります。全カナダ日系人協会はブリティッシュ・コロンビア州選挙の前から政府と交渉していましたが、これからも新政府と接触を続けて、ブリティッシュ・コロンビア州政府とともに日系カナダ人社会に意味のある日系カナダ人の歴史を記憶するプロジェクトを推し進めます。

We've sometimes felt that the holiday season was coming upon us too fast, but this year, for some people it can't come fast enough. We're dealing with a second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and we really need some comfort and joy, and a happy, safe new year.

In British Columbia, we are hoping that if everyone abides by the rules, wear a mask and avoid gathering, then the numbers will stop climbing, and perhaps we can have modest gatherings at Christmas. At this point, it does not seem likely, so we need to plan for the worst and hope for the best.

クリスマスと正月は私たちにとっては早く来すぎた感を感じたこともありますが、今年は特に待ち遠しく感じます。現在ブリティッシュ・コロンビア州はCOVID-19の流行の第二波の真っ只中です。皆、緊張した生活をしています。くつろいだ楽しく過ごせる生活が本当に必要です。そして幸せで安全な正月が来てほしいです。ブリティッシュ・コロンビア州では皆がCOVID-19予防の規則に従い、マスクを着用し、集会を避ければ、感染者の数が減少して、クリスマスを数人が集まっ

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て祝えるようになるのではないかと願っています。しかし現在ではまだこれは不可能のように思えます。最悪に備え、最良を願いましょう。

It does feel harsh that at a time when we need our families the most, it is a gathering that could harm them. In order to protect our loved ones and everyone, we must follow the provincial health officer's orders. Please wear a mask. Also, please spare a kind thought for some who are dealing with ill and dying parents. I know too well how hard it can be, and with a pandemic it puts a greater strain on families.

家族が一同に集まる季節に、家族が集まれば COVID-19 感染の危険が高まるとはなんと辛いことでしょう。しかし、家族そしてみんなを守るためには州政府の COVID-19 予防規則を守り、マスクを着用しましょう。両親が病気になっていたり、命の危ない状態にある人が身近にいたらどうぞ親切にしてあげてください。このような家族は COVID-19 環境下でとても大変な状況にあります。

Be gentle with others and yourself. Share the kindness. We see the increase in hate and those who are lashing out against the safety procedures. It's a small number, but they take a lot of space and seem to occupy a lot of air time. We need to speak out against hate and also see how we can be an ally to those in need. The pandemic is exposing the inequities which existed prior to the pandemic and it is getting worse.

他人にそして自分にも優しくしてください。皆で親切を分け合いましょう。他人を憎んだり、COVID-19 の規制にたてつく人が増えています。この人たちはごく少数ですが、メディアで目立ちます。私たちはただ黙ってはいけません。憎悪活動にはっきりと反対を表明しましょう。そして助けを必要として

いる人の味方になりましょう。COVID-19 は社会の不平等を以前より明らかにしてきています。そして不平等は増加しています。

Women who are disproportionately represented in violence statistics are sometimes at greater risk being trapped with their abusers at home. Follow the 16 days of

activism against gender-based violence, an international campaign through the UN, which runs from November 25 to December 10, Human Rights Day.

<https://bit.ly/2JmA7e7> Use #OrangeTheWorld and #16Days in social media posts. Also, check out the Canadian Women's Foundation campaign for the Violence at Home Signal for Help. It's a discreet way for a woman at risk of abuse or violence to silently signal for help in online meetings. The signal is a woman holding her hand with palm to the camera, tucking her thumb in her palm and then folding her fingers down to cover her thumb. Read more how you can safely help a woman in distress. <https://canadianwomen.org/signal-for-help/>

暴力を被るのは女性が圧倒的に多いです。そして女性は家庭内暴力の被害者になる危険も高いです。11月25日から12月10日の人権の日までの16日間は国連が設定する「性別に根ざした暴力に対抗する行動を起こす期間」です。

<https://bit.ly/2JmA7e7> をご覧ください。ソーシャルメディアでは #OrangeTheWorld と #16Days を使ってください。またカナダ女性基金の「家庭内暴力被害者が助けを呼ぶシグナル」キャンペーンをご覧ください。これは家庭内虐待と暴力の危険に直面している女性が密かにオンラインの会合で助けを求めるシグナルを出すことを勇気づけるキャンペーンです。このシグナルを出すには下の図を御覧ください。カメラに向かって（他の人には見えないようにして）片手を開いて親指を内側に曲げます。次に残りの4本の指で親指をかくします。このシグナルをどのように出したらよいかは次のウェブサイト詳しく説明してあります。

<https://canadianwomen.org/signal-for-help/>

When you are doing your holiday shopping, keep in mind local businesses in your community. Many are offering shop online and curbside pickups. Also, check out any virtual shopping opportunities through local NAJC member organizations such as purchasing a membership and making donations, virtual craft fairs, and supporting Japanese Canadian artists and authors, and community groups. A subscription to Nikkei Voice and The Bulletin magazine also make good gifts. Your

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support would be very appreciated and helps strengthen the community.

However you celebrate the holidays, I hope you will enjoy some wonderful Japanese food on January 1st. Our family tradition starts on New Year's Eve when we eat noodles before midnight. The long noodles represent a long life. Soba noodles are made from buckwheat which is a hardy plant and it represents strength and resilience. Also, it is said that the noodles are easily cut so it's a way of letting go of the hardship of the year.

クリスマスと正月の買い物をするときは、近所の商店でオンラインショッピングサービスや、オンラインで買った品物を袋に入れて店の前に出してくれるサービスをしているところがあるかどうか調べてください。またあなたの所属する日系カナダ人組織で会員登録、寄付、工芸品の購入をオンラインで出来るかどうかも確かめてください。このようなオンラインサービスを活用して日系カナダ人芸術家や日系カナダ人組織を支援することができます。「日系ボイス」や「ザ・ブレティン」の購読をオンラインでして友人に贈呈することもできます。ホリデーシーズンの過ごし方は人様々ですが、元日の日本食は誰も見逃すことはできないでしょう。我が家では大晦日に年越しそばを食べることから始まります。長い蕎麦は長寿のシンボルです。また蕎麦はすぐに切れるので、今年一年の嫌なことを切り離してしまう、という意味もあるそうです。

On New Year's Day, osechi-ryori are the lucky foods that are prepared in advance so that you would not cook on the first three days of the New Year. You can buy a lot of food at Japanese grocery stores or restaurants. I buy and make the foods. It's a delicious way to start the New Year and by carrying on the family traditions it reminds me of my mom and grandmother and connects me to my ancestors. Here are some of the foods I eat on New Year's Day. Kuromame are sweetened black beans that symbolize good health. Nishime has gobo, carrots, lotus root, and taro. Ebi – cooked prawns representing long life. Tazukuri – dried baby anchovies coated in soy sauce symbolize a bountiful harvest. Konbu – seaweed – means

happiness and joy. Kinpira – gobo (burdock root) and carrot. Gobo means good health and harvest. Renkon – the holes in lotus root means you can see the future. Kamaboko – usually pink and white. Mochi – pounded sweet rice filled with anko (sweet red bean paste). What are your family traditions and holiday food? Email national@najc.ca or share on our NAJC Facebook. Keep in touch with NAJC e-news at <http://najc.ca/subscribe/>

Enjoy the holidays! Stay safe!

With best wishes from the National Executive Board.

元日にはおせち料理を食べます。正月の三が日は料理をしないことになっているのでおせち料理を予め用意します。現在では日本食をスーパーやレストランで購入できます。私は日本食は買うものと、自分でつくるものがあります。私にとって日本食を食べることは楽しく新年を迎えることであり、また母や祖母から受け継いだ日本文化であり、自分の日系人としての過去とのつながりを確認することでもあります。私が元日に食べるのは以下のものです。甘く煮た黒豆は健康の象徴です。煮しめはごぼう、にんじん、れんこんと里芋が入った煮物です。エビー調理した車エビ、長寿を表します。田作りー醤油でコーティングされた乾燥アンチョビは、豊作を象徴しています。昆布は幸福と喜びを意味します。きんぴらーごぼうとにんじん。ごぼうは健康と収穫を意味します。レンコンーレンコンの穴は未来がみえることを意味します。かまぼこー通常はピンクと白。餅ーあんこを詰めたつきたてのもち。あなたの家族の伝統

と正月料理はなんですか。電子メール national@najc.ca か NAJC のフェースブックでお知らせください。尚、NAJC の活動は NAJC 電子ニュース <http://najc.ca/subscribe/> で確認してください。

では安全にホリデーシーズンをお楽しみください。

NAJC 全国理事会から皆様に幸あらんことをお祈り申し上げます。



**Excerpt from “TO BE CANADIAN
MEANS TO SHARE THE LEGACY OF
INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS”**

Kim Uyede-Kai

<http://www.torontonajc.ca/2020/12/19/save-the-evidence-a-virtual-tour-of-the-mohawk-institute-residential-school/>

When the last of 130+ Indian residential schools in Canada closed in 1996, stories of abuse, hunger, disease, and deaths were not publicly acknowledged. It took lawsuits and truth-telling by courageous survivors of repeated physical and sexual abuse and systematic cultural genocide for non-Indigenous Canadians to finally pay attention.

Regardless of whether we arrived in the distant past or present, Canadians of Japanese ancestry settled on Indigenous land. Many of our ancestors who arrived in the early 1900s had some relationship with the Indigenous communities on the West Coast mainland and islands. It is our generation’s responsibility to learn about the Treaties we are part of and the traditional territories we now live on, and to learn about the devastation of the Indian residential schools, as well as the resilience of Indigenous peoples, so that we can be part of the journey of reconciliation.

In response to this call to responsibility, the Greater Toronto Chapter of the NAJC began to explore ways to engage our community in learning about residential schools. The first learning event took place this past November. The Mohawk Institute residential school in

Brantford, Ontario was in the midst of a major renovation project when the pandemic hit. Opened in 1828 and finally closed in 1970, the Mohawk Institute is one of two former schools whose survivors chose to keep and renovate the building so that the history is never forgotten. Virtual tours that included interviews by former students were offered as a way of fundraising and the Greater Toronto Chapter NAJC was able to sponsor a tour hosted by an generational survivor.

(After the tour one) attendee said: “Like the Japanese Canadian story, people need to know about this history...More of Canada’s ugly past needs to come to light in order to create a peaceful and inclusive environment for everyone. We need to learn from the mistakes in order to create a better future.

Reconciliation is a must. It doesn’t matter how many years and generations it takes, it needs to be done.”

(Japanese Canadians) have a responsibility to follow the TRC Call to Action #93 to teach newer immigrants from Japan about residential schools and our relationships with Indigenous peoples.

While our Japanese Canadian community’s collective voice may be small, we have a responsibility to not be silent. But first we must listen and keep learning how our generation can be good relations. And we must tell our own stories so that our history is not forgotten. Our story is where we meet Indigenous stories.

Kim Uyede-Kai is Vice-President of the Greater Toronto Chapter, NAJC. She lives and works on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, also now home to Inuit and Metis Nations, and the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Treaty. Kim works for The United Church of Canada, one of the church parties to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement.

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GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

CANADA SUMMER JOBS

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>

The annual call for applications for the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program will launch on December 21, 2020, and will remain open until January 29, 2021.

To support employers through a period of economic recovery, we will fund up to 120,000 jobs for youth through CSJ 2021 - an increase of 40,000 jobs compared to last year. In addition, temporary flexibilities will be offered for CSJ 2021 to respond to the needs of employers and youth.

Applicants will be able to seek funding to hire youth between April 26, 2021 and February 26, 2022. While employers are encouraged to offer quality jobs on a full-time basis (35 hours per week), part-time jobs (minimum of 12 hours per week) will also be eligible for funding. This flexibility was introduced to enable hiring of youth outside of the summer period.

Approved employers from the not-for profit sector will still be eligible for a wage subsidy reimbursement of up to 100% of the provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage.

Are you ready to create quality work experiences for youth, provide youth with opportunities to develop and improve their skills, and respond to national and local priorities to improve access to the labour market for youth who face unique barriers?

If yes, then apply for the Canada Summer Jobs funding! It is easier than ever. The application form for CSJ 2021 has been simplified to make it less time consuming for you to complete. For more information click:

www.canada.ca/canada-summer-jobs or call

1-800-935-5555 (ATS: 1-800-926-9105)



Canadian
Race Relations
Foundation

Fondation
canadienne des
relations raciales

CRRF - COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION FUND

Do you have a project focused on anti-Black, anti-Asian or anti-Indigenous racism? Are you part of a grassroots organization or local not-for-profit group that advocates for racialized communities? Or are you part of a coalition that is advocating for change? Bringing people together or running a campaign to raise awareness of racism? We want to hear from YOU.

The Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF) is excited to announce the CRRF COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION FUND (CMF), a fund program providing grants from \$5,000-\$20,000 for anti-racism projects across the country.

Click on the link below for complete details, including program objectives, who can apply, timeline, the evaluation criteria and the application form.

https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/mobilisation-fund/crrf-community-mobilization-fund?utm_source=Canadian+Race+Relations+Foundation&utm_campaign=1d9a627db6-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_08_12_08_05_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_297b4ef6a2-1d9a627db6-211498433&mc_cid=1d9a627db6&mc_eid=7d07553e9b

Don't miss this opportunity to get support for your anti-racism projects and apply today! Questions about the Community Mobilization Fund can be directed to sxu@crrf-fcrr.ca

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MATA ASHITA – WRITERS CIRCLE

Submitted by: Anne Canute

Mata Ashita is an intergenerational writing circle for Japanese Canadians and a space for connection during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Starting January 9 and continuing on the first Saturday of each month in Spring and Summer 2021, Mata Ashita will host Japanese Canadian artists over Zoom and invite the community to participate in an online creative writing workshop inspired by their work. We are excited to announce the first three speakers of our six-month program, supported by the Tomoko Makabe Legacy Fund to honour her contribution to Japanese Canadian research and writing.

January 9 [Joy Kogawa](#)

February 6 [Sally Ito](#)

March 6 [Michael Prior](#)

The workshops begin at 12PM PST/3PM EST and feature a 30-minute Q&A followed by an hour-long writing workshop. Each session will be led by an experienced writing-for-wellness facilitator and will include a community support specialist.

We hope that these workshops will help us engage in meaningful conversations around creativity, connection, and mental health, especially at a time when it is harder than ever for us to be together. We

are also looking forward to highlighting classic Japanese Canadian works and new material from rising stars in the literary community.

Mata Ashita means see you tomorrow, and for us, that means a promise to take care of ourselves and each other during this difficult time. Japanese Canadian writing has long been a medium through which our community has found incredible power and meaning, and we hope to continue this tradition with writers new and old.

Get your [free tickets now](#) for our first session with Joy Kogawa on January 9th, 2021 at 12PM PST/3PM EST.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mata-ashita-the-japanese-canadian-writers-circle-tickets-132358986291>

We look forward to seeing you there!

explorASIAN 2021

Submissions Are Open!

Submissions for Vancouver explorASIAN 2021 are now open! To submit your events to our 2021 Festival program, please fill out the form through the link above. Please note that only events happening in and around the month of May are eligible. We sincerely appreciate your partnership and look forward to supporting your events!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeZm7AzRp3HyVHPGFdsEOKrGpe98o61L68wTZrIC29RHlz2AQ/viewform>

<https://explorAsian.org/> for more information

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KYOWAKAI: NEW BOOK RELEASED - MEMORY AND HEALING IN NEW DENVER

<https://newdenver.ca/2020/kyowakai-book-published-2/>

The Village of New Denver has just released a new historical book titled *Kyowakai: Memory and Healing in New Denver* written by local author Anne Champagne and designed by John Endo Greenaway. The book tells the story of Japanese Canadian internment in New Denver, the creation of the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre (NIMC) by the Kyowakai Society, and the healing it inspired.

The books can be ordered by emailing nikkei@newdenver.ca or purchased at the Village Office and at the NIMC in 2021. NIMC 2021 wall calendars are also still available for purchase. Both books and calendars are \$20 each plus applicable tax and would make wonderful gifts for the holiday season! Proceeds from both will go towards the NIMC. Thanks for your support!

ON BEING YUKIKO – LIVE ZOOM EVENT



JCAY invites you to:

MEET THE AUTHORS

Live Zoom Event

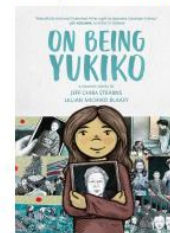
Presentation, Q & A, and Discussions

Tue. January 12, 2021

6:00 to 7:30 pm Yukon time

The Zoom link to this event will be made available soon

Everyone welcome!



January 12, 2021 5PM PST/6PM MST/7PM CST/8PM EST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckduyvrzg rHdThhZJNF8Pt7I-0BnrmHCft>

On Being Yukiko, a brand-new graphic novel written and illustrated by two Japanese Canadian artists, Jeff Chiba Stearns and Lillian Michiko Blakey, was created for young readers, teens and pre-teens. It is also perfectly suitable and appeals strongly to young adults who may be searching for self-identity in the multicultural nation that is Canada. As a matter of fact, any adult readers, whether Japanese Canadians or not, would enjoy reading and appreciate nice graphics and at the same time learn the JC history, especially to grasp its general outline. The story skillfully interweaves topics such as picture brides, Japanese Canadian internment during WWII, deportation to Japan after the war, Redress in 1988, ... and even touches on topics of mixed identity, racial profiling, white privilege, third culture kids, etc., etc. It is a perfect vehicle to start a conversation between different generations, parents and children, teachers and students, and between people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

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THE ASSOCIATION OF NIKKEI & JAPANESE ABROAD

VIDEO FROM FORUM: NIKKEI LIVING ABROAD IN THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD OF THE PANDEMIC

To Whoever is interested:

The videos of this forum were aired on October 30 in Japanese and English and are now subtitled in Spanish and Portuguese. We hope that this is an opportunity for people who have had a hard time attending, or are not familiar with the Nikkei and Japanese Abroad convention, to have an interest in the event.

Part 1: "The Nikkeis of the world overcome the difficult moment of the Covid-19 pandemic"

Opening remarks: Kamon Iizumi, Honorary President of the Kaigai Nikkeijin Kyokai Association

Message: Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Reports from Nikkei societies around the world

Introduction of the commemorative book "Our way - Sixty conventions of Nikkei and Japanese abroad from Showa to Heisei, and now Reiwa"

Part 2: Forum "Multicultural Coexistence and Cooperation between Nikkei societies challenged by the Covid-19 Pandemic"

Moderator: Yoshinori Nakaj, Executive Director of Kaigai Nikkeijin Kyokai Association

Session 1: "On Reports from Nikkei Societies Around the World"

Commentators:

Alberto Matsumoto, President of IDEA NETWORK

Satoshi Yoshida, Director of the Department of Latin America and the Caribbean, JICA

Katsuyuki Tanaka, President of the Kaigai Nikkeijin Kyokai Association

Session 2: "The Nikkei community in Japan and multicultural coexistence"

Commentators:

Silvia Kikuchi, Asia Correspondent, RECORD TV

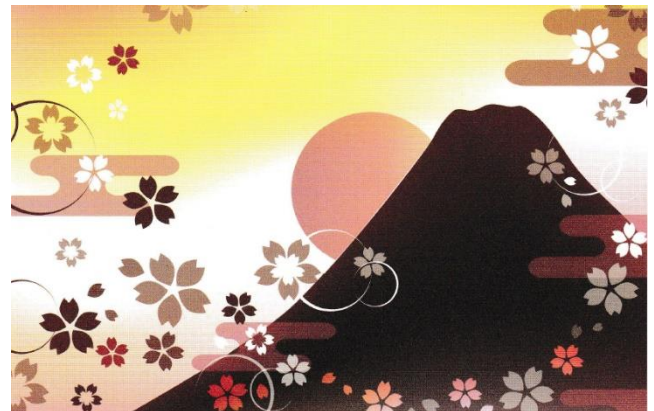
Alberto Matsumoto, President of IDEA NETWORK

Angelo Ishi, Professor at Musashi University

<https://www.youtube.com/user/wwtjadesas>

(Note that the video starts in Japanese but there are presentations in English if you move the video forward)

GREETINGS FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN



Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year

Kawamura Yasuhisa

Ambassador of Japan to Canada

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

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GREETINGS FROM COPANI (PAN-AMERICAN NIKKEI ASSOCIATION)

This year will be remembered as one of the most difficult year in the history of humanity, but it was a year that made us realize our strengths and also our weaknesses and the most important thing is that we are all equal facing this reality.

Let's celebrate life and pay tribute to all the people who passed away including family and friends. Enjoy with your loved ones and share the Christmas spirit with the hope that we will gather again soon.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fernando Suenaga,

President

Happy Holidays!



Asociación Panamericana Nikkei

El 2020 será recordado como uno de los años más difíciles de la historia de la humanidad, pero fue un año que nos hizo revelar nuestra fuerza y también nuestras debilidades y lo más importante es que frente a esta realidad todos somos iguales.

¡Celebremos la vida! y rindamos un homenaje a todas las personas que dejaron este mundo, incluyendo familiares y amigos. Disfruten con sus seres queridos y compartamos el espíritu de la Navidad con la esperanza de que pronto nos volveremos a ver.

¡ FELIZ NAVIDAD y UN PROSPERO AÑO NUEVO 2021!

L. FERNANDO SUENAGA P.
Presidente

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GREETINGS FROM THE FEDERAL ANTI-RACISM SECRETARIAT

On behalf of the Federal Anti-Racism Secretariat, I would like to convey my best wishes and gratitude for your precious collaboration over the course of the last year.

2020 was a difficult one, as our communities faced an unprecedented pandemic, which put a spotlight directly on the ways in which pre-existing racial inequities have placed racialized communities, religious minorities and Indigenous Peoples at an even greater risk than before. In the midst of this global pandemic, you have shown resilience, perseverance and determination, as we strived to keep our homes, our streets, our communities, and our workplaces safe from the multiple effects of COVID-19.

At the Federal Secretariat, we have been truly moved by the ways in which you have come together, without reserve, to make a transformative difference in the lives of people from coast to coast to coast.

However you may spend your time over the next few weeks, I wish you and your loved ones happy holidays.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Flegel

Executive Director of the Federal Anti-Racism Secretariat

Canadian Heritage



OF THE CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

THE IMPACT OF THE CMHR

By: Friends of the Canadian Museum
for Human Rights

<https://humanrights.ca/>

At the start of the pandemic, the Museum was able to be agile. We launched a series of virtual tours, helping people discover our galleries. We created opportunities for people to keep learning, through the feature-length documentary *Picking up the Pieces: The Making of the Witness Blanket* and stories such as “Star trek and human rights.” We have hosted online events, such as “The age of artificial intelligence” which explored the impact of advanced technology and machine learning on the rights we hold dear. And we’ve been able to build our digital audience through social media, marking milestones for human rights such as International Human Rights Day just last week:

Perhaps one of our most important responsibilities throughout the pandemic is continuing to reach children and students everywhere. No matter what’s happening in the world around them, they deserve to know that they have rights, and they matter. That’s why we’ve been working with teachers to inspire students through “Be an Upstander”, an online engagement tool which helps young people understand how they can take action for human rights in their classrooms and communities, and through virtual field trips and experiences for students everywhere.



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS UPDATE

Take part in our 2021 Annual Public Meeting (APM)—online! The Canada Council for the Arts invites you to join us January 26 at 4:00 p.m. EST for a look back at some of our recent activities, and a look at the year ahead.

<https://canadacouncil.ca/about/governance/annual-public-meeting>

Our Chair, Jesse Wentz, Director and CEO, Simon Brault and directors general Michelle Chawla and Carolyn Warren will present highlights from 2019-2020 and the vision for the coming year.

Be part of the conversation

In addition to reflecting on the past and current year, we will share and respond to the questions and comments we receive from you during a question and answer period. To incorporate as many questions as possible, write us by January 19, 2021.

Here’s how:

Email your questions to apm@canadacouncil.ca or tweet @CanadaCouncil using #CanadaCouncil21.

The event will be made available in English, French, ASL and LSQ with simultaneous close captioning.

Event details:

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

The meeting will run from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. EST

Online: Livestream will be accessible on the APM web page (link above) and RSVP to the Facebook event for a reminder.

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

The NAJC has issued another call for nominations to fill the two vacant positions that exist on the National Executive Board (Secretary and Director). Nomination forms can be obtained by emailing ed@najc.ca and need to be returned to the NAJC (national@najc.ca) by February 18, 2021. If required, elections will be held on May 19, 2021.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE NAJC!

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.

To express your interest in volunteering, apply online!

Go to

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSejTwCSTE mmjH5A9eqAWYOle8GzUI as- kYO2zwCZC0v8DezQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

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