On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, it is my pleasure to report on the activities and accomplishments of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre, for the period of January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

Board Governance

The past 15 months has seen an active board fulfilling its duties as a team. We met 13 times as a board to conduct NNMCC business, and the committees and sub-committees met regularly. A significant amount of effort and planning was conducted to ensure the organization fulfilled its objectives.

Mission

To honour, preserve and share Japanese culture and Japanese Canadian history and heritage for a better Canada.

Vision

Strengthening Canada as a multicultural nation by bridging Japanese and Canadian culture.

VALUES

1. We take pride in our multi-cultural, multi-generational community, and respect and honour our heritage.
2. We honour our commitment to our diverse community.
3. We embrace inclusiveness, compassion and humility.

In order to fulfil any commitment, a healthy financial foundation is a must. In my three years of presidency, great effort was given to reduce our operating deficit, and for the first time after many years were able to have some surplus in the calendar year 2018. I would especially like to thank Ron Kruschen, Board Director and Chair of Finance Committee, for his time and effort and strong will to put the finances of the NNMCC on the right track.

This year’s financial report covers 15 months, instead of the regular 12 months. This is due to the change of fiscal year from January to December to April to March. This change was decided to better match our partner organizations and also to better reflect the organization’s financial efforts.

Highlights

One of the major highlight was the museum redevelopment. Thanks to Yoshiko Karasawa, who donated $1 million for our museum redevelopment, and Heritage Canada, who provided a matching grant, we were able to conduct a major expansion, the first since the building was constructed almost 20 years ago. The staff were busy vacating our archives, education, research and gallery area and Roger Lemire, Executive Director met with the contractors on a daily basis to ensure the construction was on right track and on time. The construction of the museum, now called Karasawa Museum, was finished by the end of March 2019. We are looking forward for the opening ceremony to be held in July 2019.

We had the honour of a visit from the Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism in August 2018. This visit was in conjunction with our matching grant we received from Heritage Canada.

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We had a most successful Nikkei Matsuri 2018 in numbers of attendees and revenue. This great family festival was enjoyed by more than 14,000 people, and has become a major cultural event here in Burnaby.

The focus of this year’s Community Awards & Fundraising Dinner was to celebrate 30 year anniversary of the Redress settlement. The award was presented to the six representatives of NAJC Strategy Committee for their leadership. 230 people attended the event, and the fundraising aspect of the dinner was once again very successful.

Thank you

On behalf of the board of directors, I would like to express a big thank you to Roger Lemire, Executive Director, who will be retiring at the end of July, 2019. Roger brought NNMCC a higher profile on all government levels, and allowed the organisation to be recognized as a truly truly National Nikkei Museum and Cultural Centre.

At the same time we welcome Karah Goshimmon, our new Executive Director starting from August 1. This enthusiastic young lady brings a lot of new ideas and energy, and we are looking forward for the new leadership. We ask you for your continued support with our new leadership.

As for myself I have decided to step down from the presidency of the organization. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow directors for their patience and support during my term.

Thank you to all the staff who have been working so hard to make this place even better. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who donate their time and skills. Thank you to all the donors and sponsors for your generosity. With everybody’s efforts, we strive to be the Centre of the Japanese Cultural Community. I am proud and honoured to have served this organization.

Thank you!
In 2018-2019 the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre experienced a year of significant change and evolution. The single biggest undertaking was completed in this time with the redevelopment of our museum, archives, education, research, retail and reception areas which will open to the public in July/2019 and with the generous support of Yoshiko Kawasara our Kawasara Museum will open its doors to welcome the community and share the history and experiences of the Japanese Canadian community. This undertaking was in itself the largest project the organisation has taken on since its inception and we are very proud to share with everyone that we will once again be NEW AGAIN.

In 2018 the NNMCC developed a totally rejuvenated full slate of cultural programming and events as well as once again presenting one of Canada’s largest celebration of Japanese Culture, Nikkei Matsuri, with over 14,000 guests passing through the doors to enjoy this truly unique family festival. Our rentals program continued to make inroads while we were under construction and we worked hard in broadening our client base and we are grateful for the communities support in ensuring that this all important revenue stream continues its growth.

As my tenure as the Executive Director of this organisation comes to an end in July of this year, I would sincerely like to express my deepest appreciation to the community in being given the opportunity to serve. Our work here carries a tremendous responsibility and I am hopeful in some small way I was able to contribute to the Japanese and Japanese Canadian community. I would like to congratulate the incoming Executive Director, Karah Goshinmon. Karah was selected after a national search and I know she will do an outstanding job in leading the organisation in the coming years.

Volunteerism is the cornerstone of an institution such as ours and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who committed your valuable time to us and I would especially like to thank our volunteer Board of Directors who tirelessly committed to guide our organisation. A special thanks to Cathy Makihara who was the Board President in my early years, and Akiko Gomyo who stepped up to lead our organisation and was critical in the growth of the NNMCC as well as a leader whom I counted on numerous times for council and friendship.

And finally, the staff of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre is one of the most committed and dedicated in the industry. I would like to thank them for all of their support and I know they will be the foundation of success in the coming years.

Thank you everyone.
2019 Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre Board Candidates

ROBERT T. BANNO
I am a sansei born in Tashme, BC. and the founding president of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre and the President of the Nikkei Place Foundation. I was also the Fundraising Chair of the Society for the Capital Campaign, who led a dedicated team responsible for raising more than $7.5 million for the building of the Centre. I have been involved in the Japanese Canadian community for about 25 years and was a member of the Redress Committee of the Greater Vancouver JCCA. I am committed to the vision of Nikkei Place and the development of a Japanese Canadian museum of national stature at Nikkei Place. I am a business lawyer at DLA Piper whose practice focuses on advising Japanese companies and advising First Nations on economic development matters.

DEAN LEWIS DALKE
I am a lawyer with DLA Piper (Canada) LLP where I have practiced since 2004. I am married to Ayumi and have three young sons, Lewis, Thomas and James. I was born in Langley, BC and grew up on a farm in Surrey.

I met Ayumi in Japan. I lived in Fukuoka for one year (2007-08) and obtained a masters of law from Kyushu Daigaku. While in Japan I also did an internship at the Japanese law firm Nishimura & Asahi in Tokyo. Since returning to Canada, I have visited Japan almost every year. We are also fortunate that Ayumi’s parents visit us in Vancouver every year. Ayumi’s siblings, nephews, nieces and friends also visit occasionally.

I am eager to contribute to the mission of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre so that my sons will have opportunities to learn about and preserve their Japanese heritage, and to learn about the history of Japanese immigrants in, and their contribution to, Canadian society. I have attended several Nikkei Centre events and look forward to becoming more involved in the Nikkei Centre’s work.

I obtained a law degree from University of Ottawa, an MA in international affairs (Carleton) and a bachelors degree in business and political science (TWU). I have served on the board of an international development charity (ACTS.ca) for over 10 years and am currently vice-chair.

My law practice focuses on commercial litigation, advising clients on dispute resolution and resolving their disputes in court when necessary. My clients include several Japanese companies. I am a member of the Canada Japan Society of BC.

KIYO GODO
Kiyos the Managing Director for Lightheart Hospitality Group and Lightheart Properties. These companies operate small businesses in British Columbia and Alberta that range from a pub, restaurant, liquor store, and brewery to property portfolio. Over the past 12 years, Kiy0 worked with the founder, Terry Lightheart, in multiple roles within the organization to develop and grow these companies. His educational background combined with his mentorship from Terry and other driven entrepreneurs has helped me to develop a strong background in finance, management, and strategic decision-making.

In addition to being involved with the Lightheart companies, Kiy0 was a consultant in international business for product and brand management from 2011 through 2014. Working with Winplus North America, Kiy0 dealt with Fortune 500 companies Ashland (Valvoline Oil), SC Johnson (Windex), and Bosch. The position was an invaluable business learning experience that he continues to draw from today for strategic planning and implementation processes.

When Kiy0 left his consulting position in 2014, he co-founded a Real Estate Crowdfunding company, Metro-Funder, but when presented with the leadership role as Managing Director left the start-up. Today Kiy0 focuses his energy and efforts solely on the Lightheart Companies.

Kiy0’s educational background is a Mechanical Engineering degree (UBC), Diploma in Urban Land Economics (UBC), Bachelor of Business in Real Estate (UBC) and an MBA (Queens University).

Connection to the Nikkei community
Starting as a child, I have always felt a connection to my Japanese heritage with my name. People often ask where is your name from? Are you Japanese? Although my family history was rarely spoken about at home, I started becoming interested in speaking with my Aunt. My Aunt, Yoshi Godo, held the position of President for the JCCA for 1994 – 95.

In 1995 – 96, I started taking Renshikan Karate-do classes while in high school. This was my first exposure to the martial arts. 5 years later, I started training again in Shito-Ryu Seiko-Kai Karate-do, under Master Akira Sato in Vancouver. This training I took very seriously, travelling to Japan multiple times to further develop my skills. I received my 1st Degree Black Belt in 2006. I continued to train and eventually opened a karate club in Burnaby in 2009 and was in instructor along with my wife and close friend until 2014. Burnaby Mountain Karate continues to operate today under the direction of a new instructor.

In 2011, my father and aunts family arranged a tour back to Ontario to visit the interment camp in Geraldton to show my Brother and I some of our family history. Since then, my aunt has written a book to tell our family’s story.

Over the last 10 years I have made many trips to Japan for work in both the Automotive and hospitality field; for training in Karate; and personal connections with my family.

I have 3 children and I would like to continue to maintain and develop my connection to my Japanese heritage and community. With their names being Japanese: Kazumi, Koji, and Kai, I would like them to have an understanding of their Nikkei identity.
2019 Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre Board Candidates

AKIKO GOMYO
I was born in Hyogo, Japan and immigrated to Canada in 1980. I have previously lived in Halifax NS, Powell River BC, and now in Vancouver. In my childhood I lived in Germany for 5 years and later on in El Salvador and Costa Rica, Central America. I graduated from Sophia University, Tokyo, majoring in German language, and as a mature student graduated from UBC with a Masters Degree in Business Administration in 1993.

From 1988 to 2003, I was co-owner with my late husband Yoshi Gomyo, a retail store, Yoshi’s Salmon Village Ltd, specializing in smoked salmon and other Canadian food products. In 1993, we established a smoked salmon processing plant, Yoshi’s Salmon Smokehouse Ltd. After Yoshi Gomyo passed away in 2003, I was the president of both companies until it was sold and closed in 2010.

I have been a past director of NNHCS before the building was built, and again after retirement, a director of the NNMCC since 2010. I have chaired the Nikkei Matsuri in 2014 and 2015, and since 2016 I have served as President of the Board of Director of NNMCC. My wish is that the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre becomes the Centre of the Nikkei Community, and by offering great events and interesting programs, be loved and enjoyed by all.

HISASHI IKEDA
Born and raised in Japan. Hisashi joined Mitsubishi Corp. in 1986 soon after graduating Waseda Univ. and has spent most of his career in the resource sector. Hisashi has arrived in Vancouver with the responsibility as CEO of Mitsubishi Canada Ltd. since March, 2016.

KEVIN ISOMURA
Kevin is a partner with Dale Matheson Carr-Hilton Labonte (DMCL), a firm of chartered professional accountants based in the Lower Mainland. Kevin provides high net worth entrepreneurs and large and small private family-owned businesses and professional service firms with financial assurance and strategic advice on investment decisions, tax planning, family succession planning, mergers and acquisitions, and business transition matters.

In the past 31 years as a professional accountant, Kevin has been a partner of a Big 4 accounting firm, Chief Financial Officer of a large BC based privately-owned lumber and panel producer, director of BC’s largest employee-owned road maintenance company, Mainroad Contracting and director of the following Not-For-Profit organizations: The Vancouver Golf Club, Vancouver Richmond Association for Mentally Handicapped People, Fraserside Community Services Association, Vernon & District Association for Mentally Handicapped People, and Pied Piper Preschool.

Kevin graduated from UBC with a Bachelor of Commerce and has been a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of BC since 1986.

He is third generation (sansei) Canadian of Japanese descent born in Montreal to Hide and Emma who were interned in Greenwood and Tashme. He and his wife, Denise, of 32 years have two wonderful daughters, Erica and Kayla who are highly engaged in their multicultural Japanese/Chinese heritage. Kevin joined his daughters on the 2015 Internment Bus Tour which provided a first-hand appreciation of the social injustice and inhumane conditions experienced by his parents 75 years ago. Kevin hopes to learn more about his heritage while making a positive contribution to the NNMCC.

GARY KAWAGUCHI
Executive with corporate experience in Finance, Operations, Marketing at the officer level with Pepsi-Cola Canada Ltd., Canadian Tire Corporation, Canada Trust, Dundee Bancorp, and Look Communications. Currently the President of PRL Benefits Limited and minority shareholder of the parent company Purves Redmond Ltd, and President of the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre since 2009 (board member since 1992), and past President of the Summit Golf and Country Club.

RON KRUSCHEN
I was the president of a national consulting firm which serves institutional investors such as Foundations, Endowments and Pension Plans across Canada until my retirement a few years back. We worked with client boards to develop investment strategies and governance policies in support of their missions. As an economist, a UBC MBA and a member of The Institute of Corporate Directors, I also sit on the boards of an investment management firm and 2 other not-for-profit organizations.

My connection to the Japanese community is through my Japanese wife, Louise Akuzawa and our teenage son Nalto. I’m originally from Ontario and the son of WWII German immigrants. Both Louise and I have been Society members for many years and participated in the numerous cultural events sponsored by the NNMCC (Louise is the Chair of Nikkei Matsuri) and the larger Japanese Canadian community. We regularly return to Japan to visit family and enjoy the many historical and cultural sites.

Since joining the board in 2014, I have served on the Finance committee, am currently the Society Treasurer and the Chair of the Governance committee. Am looking forward to another eventful year and am honoured to be allowed to work with the NNMCC Board and members to achieve the NNMCC vision.

RYAN LANG
Ryan Lang is a Yonsei and currently lives with his wife, Eliza, in Vancouver, BC. He first visited the Nikkei Centre when his great grand mother Tamako Miki moved to Nikkei Place in the early 2000s. Ryan’s grandfather, Patrick Miki and his great aunt, late Joan Miki, have been significant
2019 Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre Board Candidates

Herbert (Herb) I. Ono

I am a third generation Canadian of Japanese descent (sansei) who was born and raised in Sechelt, BC. His father, Mutsuo “Butch” Ono, was among those Canadians of Japanese descent who were evacuated from the Pacific coastal area during World War II, and who, as a teenager, moved to Alberta to work on sugar beet farms. His mother, Fumiye (nee Yamada), was born in a logging camp at Cartwright, BC, and raised in Hiroshima.

I am a third generation Japanese-Canadian, born in Prince Rupert to Marianne Mio and Roy Natsuhara. I have enjoyed being a NNMCC director for 20 years, since 1998, including five years as President and Co-President. I received an LLB from UBC and BComm from UVic. I have three children, Karsten, Kaeden and Kaia, and my wife Emily is also involved in the Japanese Canadian community, including the Sakura Days Japan Fair and the Powell Street Festival.

In terms of my career, I have practiced corporate immigration law since 2000 and co-lead the Canadian immigration practice at EY Law LLP. I love promoting BC, especially Vancouver, as a strategic place for businesses to operate and an enriching place for foreign people to work. Some of my most gratifying experiences have been helping create a work permit-related category in BC that allowed Vancouver to become the world’s largest hub for visual effects and animation and more recently helping create work permit-related categories that will facilitate the tech sector to develop Canada-wide. I have also enjoyed instructing for UBC’s Certificate in Immigration: Laws, Policies and Procedures program since 2009 and being a Director of the SPARK Computer Graphics Society since 2010.

CARRIE OKANO

I was born in Burnaby, BC and attended Simon Fraser University. I worked for 25 years in human resources in the health care field and held various roles including senior leadership positions. More recently I have been providing consulting services in human resources to a broad range of clients in the private, public and not for profit sectors. I have served on the NNMCC board as a member of the human resources committee and also in the capacity of secretary. Currently I participate on the governance committee. I look forward to continuing to contribute on the board and value the opportunities it provides me. I enjoy knowing that I am part of a group that supports the NNMCC which is a valued resource in the many communities we serve.

CRAIG NATSUHARA

I am proud to be a fourth generation Japanese-Canadian, born in Prince Rupert to Mutsuo “Butch” Ono and Roy Natsuhara. I have enjoyed being a NNMCC director for 20 years, and has since acted as Nikkei Matsuri Games’ Coordinator each year.

She got involved with the NNMCC in 2014 and has since acted as Nikkei Matsuri Games’ Coordinator each year.

She is married to Alan Morris, an economist and retired university professor, and resides in North Vancouver. They have two grown sons and a grandson.

IAN MIKI

I am a third generation Japanese-Canadian, born and raised in Surrey, BC. I am a professional engineer with a MBA. I am a Project Director with FortisBC Energy Inc. I have been involved in many Japanese community groups throughout my life including, Japanese school, kendo, bonsai and the Powell Street Festival. My wife Chieko and I have three young children.

WAKAKO MORRIS

Born in Tokyo, Japan, Wakako spent her childhood in the Philippines, and her teenage years in Lima Peru. She graduated from Sophia University in Tokyo, with BA in Spanish. She married her husband Alan in Japan in 1979 and immigrated soon after to Vancouver. Most of Wakako’s career has been with international corporations, and since 1986 with international governments. She retired in 2016 from North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC), an international governmental organization, as its administration and financial officer. In 2016, she received a lifetime achievement award from the NPAFC.

She got involved with the NNMCC in 2014 and has since acted as Nikkei Matsuri Games’ Coordinator each year.

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She is married to Alan Morris, an economist and retired university professor, and resides in North Vancouver. They have two grown sons and a grandson.
Ono's research encompasses the immune system, eye inflammation and age-related macular degeneration. Ono is married to Wendy Yip, who trained as an immunologist at McGill and as a lawyer at Boston University. They have two daughters.

TERESA R. (KOBAYASHI) TABO
Teresa is a sansei born in Edmonton Alberta, and has lived in Germany and Japan but for most of her life here in Vancouver. A koto master, she commenced her studies with her mother Miyoko Kobayashi and received her degrees in Japan. She also studied shamisen and Japanese classical dance for several years. Teresa is presently working at Deloitte in the field of Human Resources with over 30 years of experience in both the public and private sectors and is a GPHR practitioner. She is married to Yoshihiro Tabo and has one daughter Yume. Teresa looks forward to serving on the Board of Directors for the NNMCC.

LESLIE TERAMOTO
Born and raised in Vancouver, I am nisei with family ties to Tokyo and Fukui, and through my husband’s family to Hyogo, Okayama and Kanagawa. I started my career in the private sector, handling procurement, strategic planning and project management for a Swiss-based multinational company. Subsequently, I joined the Government of British Columbia, serving in different capacities including corporate governance, 2010 Olympics oversight, Asia Pacific Initiative, and presently, in export and international investment. Currently, I am also a Board member with the Canada-Japan Society of BC. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree from McGill University, a MBA from the University of London, and am a proud graduate of Gladstone Japanese Language School. Using my skills and experience, I hope to contribute further to the mission and goals of the Centre.

FRED YADA
Fred Yada, B.Comm., F.C.A. – I am a retired partner in the chartered accounting firm Dale, Matheson, Carr-Hilton, LaBonte and am a director of Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre, and served as president for 4 years. I also serve as a director of Nikkei Place Foundation. I am a past director of the Sarah McLachlan Foundation and treasurer and Board Member of The Lions Gate Hospital Foundation. In the past, I have been a director of JCCA and Sakura-so.

I was the treasurer and director of the Japanese Canadian Redress Foundation for 10 years. The most rewarding accomplishment during my term with the Foundation was the granting of funds to the NNMCC to acquire the land to build Nikkei Place. It is exciting to see the many activities, programs and events at Nikkei Place and to have our elderly being cared for at Nikkei Home. I would like to continue to make a contribution to our community.

ANA ELISA YAMAGUCHI
I was born in Brazil to Nisei Japanese parents and moved to Japan after high school in search of my Japanese heritage, and to learn Japanese. I earned a PhD in Sociology from Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, and taught as a professor at Sophia University. My research explored the challenges faced by Nikkei Latin Americans who resettled in Japan. In Tokyo, I also served as the President of a non-profit organization called SABJA which provided social services and mental health assistance to Japanese descendants from Latin America.

I was drawn to Vancouver's multicultural society and moved to Canada five years ago. I am proud of my Japanese and Brazilian heritage, and my new Canadian home. I am fluent in Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, and English and look forward to promoting partnerships and greater understanding in the cultural mosaic that is Canada. I am looking forward to engaging with Nikkei communities and working alongside the NNMCC to fulfill its vision.
Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, April 18, 2018 | 7:00 pm
In the Matsu Room at the NNMMC at 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby, BC

Present: A quorum was present.

Roger Lemire (Executive Director)

Akiko Gomyo, President | Ron Kruschen, Treasure | Carrie Okano, Secretary/Recorder | Ian Miki, Vice President

1. Confirmation that the Notice of the AGM was distributed to the Members in accordance with the Society Act and the By-Laws of the Society and that a Quorum is present

2. President’s Report

Akiko Gomyo referenced highlights from the President’s report that is found on page 2 of the Annual Report which was included in the AGM Materials.

Akiko reported on the activities and accomplishments of the NNMMC that occurred in 2017 which was year full of active duties including: ten board meetings; committee and subcommittee meetings; a half day strategic planning workshop attended by Directors that focused on financial stability. Through the planning and work of the staff, volunteers and the Directors, we hope to see financial improvements in the coming year.

Akiko mentioned the work that was done in 2016 to revisit the Mission, Vision and Values which helped to refocus for the future of the NNMMC. In 2017 the focus was on how to achieve financial stability.

Akiko recounted a number of events that took place during the previous year including: hosting a violin concert by internationally renowned violinist, Karen Gomyo; the Kimono Culture exhibit co-curated by Sherri Kajiwara, NNMMC Museum Director-Curator and guest curator Hitomi Haruma from Victoria which was attended by almost 6,000 visitors; the 5th Nikkei Matsuri, a two-day event with an estimated 13000 visitors; 43 educational programs, “taiken”, which were attended by 1300 students and supported by volunteers; 5 Japanese book sales which are also supported by dedicated volunteers; and the annual Community Awards Dinner with its theme of 75 years from the Nikkei internment and which was well received and incorporated an emotional fundraising component.

Akiko also addressed the museum expansion project which is possible thanks to Yoshiko Karasawa’s generous donation. The project is fully underway, with plans for completion in 2019.

Akiko expressed appreciation to the Board of Directors and its Executive for supporting her presidency. Additionally, Akiko acknowledged Roger Lemire for his support of her.

Akiko closed her comments by thanking the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers; as well as the donors and sponsors who believe in our work; and the members and guests who attend the events and programs.

3. Executive Director’s Report

Roger Lemire reported on highlights of the previous year which is found on page 3 of the AGM Materials.

Roger began by thanking attendees for taking the time to attend today’s Annual General Meeting.

Roger said that 2017 was once again a very busy year for the NNMMC. At the beginning of the year planning for the redevelopment of the Nikkei National Museum begin. This initiative was made possible through the generosity of Ms. Yoshiko Karasawa, Cultural Spaces Canada and Canada 150. The first phase of the redevelopment was the renovation of the second floor to accommodate staff who vacated space on the first floor in preparation for the museum construction in the Fall of 2018. Roger happily reported that Phase I was completed on time and on budget. Phase II will begin following Matsuri.

Roger reported that in 2017 the Museum had a leading role on several national projects, including the Landscapes of Injustice initiative and with the Virtual Museum of Canada, an on-line exhibit, Writing Wrongs. The Museum’s Gallery exhibits continued to
be thought-provoking and attracted strong community interest. Also, our education and outreach programs had a record year in student and community engagement.

Once again, our two signature events, Matsuri and the Community Awards Dinner, were overwhelming successes due to the community’s generosity. We have come to realize that these events are an important part of the Japanese Canadian celebrations of culture and community.

Roger went on to say that we made progress in our fiscal performance; however we still have work to do in 2018 and have set specific strategic objectives to lead us toward long term viability.

Roger thanked the many dedicated volunteers without whom we could not serve the public and our communities and he expressed appreciation to the volunteer Board of Directors and its Executive Committee. Roger closed by giving a heartfelt thank you to the committed and dedicated staff of the NNMCC who give “110%” each and every day to ensure that we offer everything that the community has come to expect.

4. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting April 13, 2016

Motion to adopt the AGM minutes of April 19, 2017
Moved/Seconded by: Herb Ono/Karen Duffield  Minutes approved

5. Auditor’s Report

Presented by Ron Kruschen, Treasurer.

Ron said that the Auditor’s Statement is based on our accounting processes.

Ron reviewed highlights of the 2017 Auditor’s report.

In particular, Ron reviewed highlights from the Income Statement and indicated that there are 3 funds: the Society Fund, the Fisherman’s Reunion Fund and a Capital Asset Fund. Ron referenced: increased expenses for gas and BC Hydro resulting from a colder winter; expenses associated with publication of the book Changing Tides; credit card fees; and 12 months’ of interest at prime + 1.75% on a bank loan.

Ron also identified that the major portion of revenue is rentals; up slightly from the previous year, at $340,000. Also that the primary recipients of grants are the museum and special events, ie. Matsuri and the Community Awards Dinner.

Ron noted that the NNMCC’s two signature events raised a significant amount of money.

Ron said that unfortunately, expenses were greater than revenues, resulting in a deficit.

Ron referred attendees to 3 notes to the Financial Statement. Specifically, he identified Note #9, Endowment Funds; Note #14, Transformational Gift; and Note #15, Other Information – Nikkei Place Foundation Repairs & Maintenance Fund.

Ron noted that the Auditor was not in attendance at the AGM. He added that if there was anyone who wanted to spend more time reviewing the Financial Statements and asking detailed questions, a date will be set up in May to do this. There is a sign up list for those who are interested.

Motion to adopt the Auditor’s Report and approve the financial statements of the NNMCC for the year ending December 31, 2017.
Moved/Seconded by: Ron Kruschen/Fred Yada  Motion was carried.

6. Appoint Auditors

Motion to appoint Tompkins, Wozny, Miller & Co as auditors for 2018
Moved/Seconded by: Ron Kruschen/Naoto Horita  Motion was carried.

7. Appoint new Board of Directors

Confirmation that there were no mail in nominations from the membership.
Nominees for the 2018 Board of Directors of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre, as recommended by the Governance Committee:
The new board was approved by acclamation.

8. **Transact such other business as may lawfully come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.**

1. Ron Kruschen spoke to the need to change the Fiscal Year end. Currently the NNMCC Fiscal Year is consistent with a calendar year and ends on December 31. It is proposed that a motion be made to change the Fiscal Year end to March 31. The rationale for this change would be that many granting organizations of the provincial and federal governments have their Fiscal Year ending on March 31. The NNMCC is required to report to governments and this has required extra workload as a result of the different Fiscal Year end. It should be noted that grants comprise 25% of our income. Further, the NNMCC is part of a larger group that includes the Nikkei Place Foundation and the Nikkei Seniors Health Care and Housing Society, both of which have March 31 as their Fiscal Year end. Changing the NNMCC’s Fiscal Year end would bring it into alignment with the other two societies. At the March 21, 2018 board meeting, the Board of Directors approved a motion to change the FY for tax purposes to be April 1 to March 31.

Motion to change the NNMCC Fiscal Year End to March 31.
Moved/Seconded by: Ron Kruschen/Kevin Isomura

Motion was carried.

9. **Adjourn the Annual General Meeting**

Concluded at 7:42pm
NNMCC 2017: The Year in Review

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Employees (as of December, 2018)

Executive Director  Roger Lemire
Director/Curator  Sherri Kajiwara
Manager, Culture & Partnership Engagement  Karah Goshinmon
Museum Programmer  Nichola Ogiwara
Collections Manager  Lisa Uyeda
Research Archivist  Linda Kawamoto Reid
Culture, Education & Programs Coordinator  Carolyn Nakagawa
Sales Coordinator  Karen Duffield
Special Event Coordinator  Yukiko Nishikawa
Office Assistant  Yoko Aiura
Volunteer Coordinator  Noriko Muraoka
Museum Intern  Kayla Isomura (to Oct 2018)
Collections Intern  Nathan Yeo (from Oct 2018)
Facility Staff  Sam Haocheng
Patrick Fujisawa
Tai Anderson
Shiho Ando (to July)
Matthew Armstrong
Travis Armstrong (from Oct)
David Bergen
Ranier Dalisay
Heruzal Evalle

Committees of the Board

Executive
Strategic Planning
Finance
Governance & Human Resources
Museum Redevelopment
Membership
Building
Japanese Immigrants

Project Committees

Fishermen’s
Japanese Canadian War Memorial
Tashme Heritage
75th Anniversary Legacy Signage Project

Museum Programs

The Nikkei National Museum is the only institution in Canada solely devoted to the history, culture, and art of Japanese Canadians. We endeavour to align our programs with exhibits, collections, and education goals.

Collections Management

Nikkei National Museum Repository

The Nikkei National Museum (NNM) manages the largest collection of Japanese Canadian materials in Canada by acquiring, preserving, researching, and making accessible archival records and objects of cultural and historic value. We continue to grow and in 2018 we received 78 new donations and accruals with an additional 22 received between January to March 2019. The number of items in each donation can range from one to hundreds and may include documents, photographs, diaries, maps, art work, films, oral histories, and objects. Storage space was an issue during our museum renovation that began in October 2018 and numerous donations were placed on hold until later in 2019.

Beginning in the summer of 2018, the museum team began preparing for the temporary relocation of the entire museum repository to make space for the renovation. Larger and more stable items were relocated to offsite storage nearby and placed on display throughout the centre. Access to the collections was paramount to continue offering our services and complete our own research needs so the rest of the repository was stored in the centre’s Tsubaki and Intergenerational rooms. Many thanks to our facility team, Hi-Cube Storage, and DLO Move Support Services for assisting us in temporarily installing our shelving. The museum team moved into their new office space in April 2019 and will continue to move the collections into the new repository spring/summer 2019.

Nikkei National Museum Online Collection

Partnered with the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre in New Denver, the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto, and the Kamloops Japanese Canadian Museum & Archives, visitors can explore over 23,441 archival records and objects from all four institutions through our online database at www.nikkeimuseum.org. We made improvements to our database, upgraded to a
new server, cleaned up coding errors, adjusted a few settings, and corrected the error we were experiencing when uploading new images. These issues could be the reason why our visitor hit counts dropped from 335,000 in 2017 to over 110,000 page views in 2018. We expect our numbers to increase in 2019 and we have already seen 5,632 page views from January to March 2019.

Our Lost and Found blog nmn-lostandfound.blogspot.ca highlights numerous photographs from our collections and we received over 1413 visitor hits; this number is significantly lower than previous years because we reduced the frequency of new posts. In partnership with the Nikkei Voice, a special featured photograph was printed in each 2018 issue and the community response was very positive. We look forward to increasing the number of posts on our blog in 2019 with the launch of our Asahi Naming Project!

The Politics of Racism Project
In 1981 a ground breaking publication was released by Ann Gomer Sunahara titled The Politics of Racism. For the first time, the publication offered a fully documented account of the Japanese Canadian experience during the Second World War and highlighted the political processes that led to the forced removal and dispossession of Canadians of Japanese ancestry. Sunahara’s research, a result of her graduate studies in history, incorporated personal memories of individuals who lived through the experiences and classified government records. The completion of Sunahara’s research and writings proved to be a valuable resource, and a key source of evidence, during the Japanese Canadian fight for Redress. In 2017, Ann began donating her records to the NNM, with the last set of boxes arriving in 2018.

With funding provided by the Irving K. Barber BC History Digitization Program, our Collections Assistants processed 1453 textual records and 62 oral histories captured on audio cassette tapes. Transcripts for each interview will be completed in the summer of 2019 in partnership with the University of Victoria’s Landscapes of Injustice Project. We look forward to launching Ann’s oral histories in partnership with Simon Fraser University, who continue to host our vast oral history collection at digital.lib.sfu.ca/japanese-ca-oral-history-collection. In addition, our Collections Assistants also processed 177 textual records, 12 graphic materials, and 2 objects from the Henry and Yvonne Wakabayashi collection; and 319 textual records, 1 photograph, and 4 objects from the Jitaro and Sumiko Tanaka collection. All 2,030 items are available to explore at www.nikkeimuseum.org.

At Risk: Preserving Our Most Vulnerable Fonds Project
The NNM and the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto embarked on a joint project aimed to preserve items in our care that are at-risk of inaccessibility and irreversible damage if preservation needs are not addressed, including, but not limited to, photographs, film, audio, textual records, scrolls, and items displaying minor to significant biological and/or pest damage.

Our institutions share the responsibility of preserving original films documenting our community's early and wartime history, and the records of Mr. Tsutae and Mrs. Hanako Sato of the Vancouver Japanese Language School & Japanese Hall (VJLS). Funded by Library and Archives Canada Documentary Heritage and Communities Program, we were able to hire contract Collections Assistants, a Film Conservation Technician, and Japanese Language Specialists to assist in the processing and digitization of over 2,200 items. This is a multi-year project and we continue to prepare our most at-risk collections for long term preservation.

Charles H. Kadota Resource Centre
Our Charles H. Kadota Resource Centre is used by students, educators, academics, archivists, curators, the general public, and our community for personal and family research. Our staff facilitate access to rare and one of a kind resources in the library, archives, and museum collection. In 2018, we received 209 research requests and our staff spent over 274 hours helping researchers access our vast resources. From January to March 2019 we received 71 research requests and spent 78 hours. These statistics are lower than last year due to the museum renovation and periods of time when the collections were not accessible because we were moving.

Two of our most exciting research partnerships included the Historica Canada’s Asahi Heritage Minute and the Canada Post Asahi Baseball Stamp. Spot Lisa Uyeda, Collections Manager, in the Historica Canada’s most-watched online Heritage Minute at www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/vancouver-asahi. The new Canada Post stamp features photographs, game tickets, and Kaye Kaminishi’s uniform preserved in the NNM’s repository.

As a commitment to our community and to accommodate all levels of accessibility, our overall service fees remain lower than similar institutions across Canada. Our services include object loans, high resolution digitized copies, research support, and commercial license fees. Each year we aim to generate $2,000 in revenue and in 2018 our income was our highest yet at over $5,012. From January to March 2019, our income was $1,724. In 2018, our in-kind contributions were valued at $1,455 and $965 from January to March 2019. A total in-kind contribution of $2,420 is a direct reflection of our commitment to support our researchers and community partners.

Japanese Canadian Classification Scheme Pilot Project
In 2018, the NNM welcomed Cordelia Shan, a Langara College Library & Information Technology student to completing her practicum, to re-envision a library classification scheme that would be suitable for our special and unique collection of 2000+ publications that focus on Japanese Canadian history, literature, arts, culture, communities; Japanese culture, art, literature; Japanese American history; Japanese Brazilian history; Asian Canadian immigration history, and more. Classification is the
Our Team
A special thank you to our support team who continue to assist staff members Lisa Uyeda and Linda Reid in all of our collection-related activities such as digitization, database descriptions, exhibition preparations, research, and preservation/conservation work. Thank you to our volunteers, summer students, practicum/intern students, community members, and community partners for continuing to support our museum. A special thank you to our friends at the University of British Columbia Rare Books and Special Collections for all of their support this year.

Education Programs
Our field trip programs continue to operate at close to maximum capacity; we accept as many bookings as we are able to maintain under our current staffing model. In 2018, we hosted a total of 40 groups and 1325 students; from January – March 2019 we have hosted 13 groups and 364 students, putting us on pace for 2019 to be as busy as 2018. The majority of our field trip groups are visiting from local public elementary schools, but we also have groups from public high schools, private schools, home-school co-ops, out-of-school care programs, colleges and universities, and local seniors’ groups. We also welcome a number of visiting school groups from Japan, who visit us to learn about Japanese Canadian history.

Students of all ages and backgrounds learn about Japanese Canadian history and heritage as well as Japanese culture with a combination of exhibit programming and tours, and hands-on cultural activities. We have a dedicated team of active cultural volunteers who share their considerable knowledge and skills with the students, creating memorable experiences that have many teachers bringing their classes here year after year.

Our Journeys education outreach kits have recently been revamped thanks to the dedication of Masters of Public History student Nathalie Picard, who designed a beautiful new object-centred kit as the thesis project for her degree. In addition to impeccable artefact reproductions, the kit features historical resources, information, and lesson plans to help teachers make the most of this exciting new learning tool in their classrooms. The new outreach kits will begin circulating for rental at a modest fee in September 2019. We also continue to offer and expand on a wealth of online educational resources accessible for free on our website.

Camp Programs
In 2018, we held a record of 3 sessions of our popular Manga Camp for kids ages 9-12: bringing back the popular Spring Break Manga Camp from last year, and adding a second summer session of Manga Camp in August. We were also able to offer a camp for younger children, ages 6-8, concurrently with the July session of Manga Camp called Creative Joy. All camps were very well-received and well-attended: maximum capacity is 20-22 children, and Spring Break Manga Camp had 21; July Manga Camp 22; and August had 14 despite the August camp being a first-time addition which was scheduled and advertised relatively late. 2019 Spring Break Manga Camp also sold out with 21 children registered. We continue to have a number of children come back to attend Manga Camp multiple times, often bringing friends with them. The camps are supported by a team of dedicated volunteers, many of whom volunteer with us year-round with the Taiken field trip programs.

Exhibit Tours
In 2018, we partnered with a new local startup company, Tattle, to offer weekly public gallery tours of the Suitcase Project exhibit during the summer. These tours were developed by Curatorial Intern (BCAC Early Career Development) Kayla Isomura, who created the exhibit, and Culture, Programs, and Education Coordinator Carolyn Nakagawa. Carolyn and her Education Assistant summer student, Connie Ho, coordinated a team of guides to lead these tours, including Kayla, Carolyn, Connie, and additional summer interns Nathalie Picard and Kimberly Cielos. While there have been fewer opportunities for public tours since gallery renovations began in September 2018, we look forward to continuing our partnership with Tattle after the grand reopening of the gallery space in July 2019.

Travelling Exhibits
Museum Program Events (attendance)
- February 10, *Beta Vulgaris*, Exhibit Opening (75)
- March 3, Film Screening, *Facing Injustice: The Relocation Of Japanese Canadians To Manitoba* (50)
- March 10, *Beta Vulgaris* Artist Talk: Kelty McKinnon (40)
- March 11, *Beta Vulgaris* Musical Instrument Making Workshop with Keri Latimer (20)
- April 7, Wagashi Making Workshops (40)
- April 14, Recording And Sharing Family/Community Group Histories (40)
- April 21, Bloom at Celebrate Spring
- June 16, *The Suitcase Project*, Exhibit Opening (200)
- July 21, Tsukuroimono Workshop (20)
- August 11, *The Suitcase Project*, Artist Talk (100)
- November 24, Family History Workshop with Connie Kadota & Lucy Komori (80)
- December 1, Nikkei Christmas Boutique
- February 9, April 13, Aizome Workshops (14 each)
- March 2, Japanese American Documentary Film Screenings (100)

Outreach
- July 27, August 18, Tashme Day Trips

Museum Shop Events & Original Merchandise
- Our lovely little gift shop sells books, films, crafts, cards and art by Nikkei artists.
- Reprint of *Departures*, *Karizumai* books.
- Distribution contract for *Changing Tides* with Sandhill.

Partnerships
- May 2019, Strathcona Cross Cultural Walking Tour

Outreach Activities with Other Organizations/Events
- May 2018 – highway signage unveilings: East Lillooet Self Supporting Internment Camp – Highway 12
- June 2018 – highway signage unveilings: New Denver Internment Camp – Highway 6
- June 2018 – highway signage unveilings: Kaslo Internment Camp – Highway 31
- June 2018 – highway signage unveilings: Slocan City Internment Camp – Highway 6
- July 2018 – highway signage unveilings: Greenwood Internment Camp – Highway 3
- September 2018 – highway signage unveilings: Hope-Princeton Road Camp – Highway 3
- September 2018 – highway signage unveilings: Revelstoke-Sicamous Road Camp – Highway 1
- November 11, Remembrance Day at Stanley Park (500)
- July 1, Steveston Salmon Festival
- August, Powell Street Festival

NEW PUBLICATIONS
- *FE-A-BYU: Japanese Canadian History in Fairview and Mount Pleasant*
- (Japanese translation) *Taiken: Japanese Canadians since 1877*

Community Events and Partnerships
- Bulletin mail out (JCCA)
- Consulate General of Japan
- Gladstone Japanese language school
- JALTA (BC Japanese Language Teachers Association)
- JCCA Nihongo-bu
- Kenyukai
- Nikka Health Care
- Ohfukai
- Okinawa Kenjinkai
- Shizuoka Kenjinkai
- JCCA Keirokai
- Vancouver Ikebana Association
- Suzuya
- Asahi Baseball Event
- Shinnenkai

Multiple Rentals
- Agape Church Burnaby
- Baywest Management
- Bouncy Castle Birthday Parties
- Canadian Blood Services
- Dominion Herbal College
- Deer Lake School (two days)
- Canascent Enterprises
- Kintetsu International Express (Canada) Inc.
- Lego Parties
- Mindfulness Meditation
- Work BC
- North Shore Numismatic coin Show
- Pacific Quorum Properties
- Remax Property Management
- Southview Property Management
- 604 Real Estate Services
- Wendy Quan; Meditation Classes
- West Coast College Massage
- D-Way Management Exhibition
- MCAP

Single Rentals
- Burnaby Board of Trade
- Celebration of Life
- CKNW
- HaruMatsuri (formerly J-Fest)
- District 5040 Wine Festival
- Elections BC
- Health Canada
- Fireside Outdoor Recreation Club
- First Service Residential
- March of Dimes Canada
Martello Property Services
Vancouver Japanese Gospel Church
TD Korean Chuseok Dinner
Consulate General of Indonesia with Alun Alun – Indonesian Social Event
Free Health Seminar - Advanced Genomics Gateway
JETAAABC - Japan Bowl
G-Day
Asahi Stamp event
Miso Workshop
Hi-Cube AGM
16th Birthday Party Celebration (hall large group)
18th Birthday Party Celebration (hall large group)
90th Birthday Party Celebration – Community members
Family Reunion – Community members
Gitxsan & Wet’Suwet’en Unlocking Aboriginal Justice

Others
• Weddings
• Birthday parties
• Baby showers
• Wedding showers
• Celebrations of life
• Graduation ceremonies
• Dry Grads

Cultural Events at Nikkei Centre

February Book Sale with Food Fair + HinaMatsuri Festivities
April Celebrate Spring
May Spring Bazaar (coordinated by Auxiliary Committee)
June Book Sale and Food Fair + Workshops
July Tanabata Festival
September Nikkei Matsuri
Cooking & Sake Tasting
October Community Awards Dinner
Nikkei Fall Harvest Fair (coordinated by Auxiliary Committee) & Book Sale
November Craft & Bake Fair
December Breakfast with Santa (coordinated by Auxiliary Committee)
Mochitsuki (coordinated by Auxiliary Committee)

Community Events held at Nikkei Centre
Aikido Seminar
Auxiliary Volunteer party (annual)
Canadian Kendo Federation seminar
Eurhythmics Concert (annual)
Gladstone Graduation Concert (annual)
JALTA: BC Japanese Language Teachers Association
JCCA AGM (annual)
JCCA Nihongo-bu Translation Workshop

Weekly and Monthly Public Programs

Arts & Culture (all ages, children, seniors, women)
• NNMCC Iaido
• NNMCC Karaoke
• NNMCC Senior Karaoke
• Bonsai Club
• Chibi Taiko
• Creative Art Class for Children
• Gladstone Japanese Language School
• Eurhythmics (music for children)
• Haiku
• Igo Club
• Japanese Modern Calligraphy workshop
• Japanese Dance (Satsuki-Kai)
• Kado Sumi (ikebana)
• Mandarin Class (Convsoft Technology)
• Shodo (Japanese calligraphy)
• Soroban (abacus)
• Sushi Cooking Class
• Tanka Kai (Japanese poetry)
• UtagoeKissa (singing)

Public Workshop Series
(held multiple times a year as scheduled)
• NNMCC Japanese Conversation
• NNMCC Kimono Dressing
• NNMCC Tea Ceremony Workshop (Omote-senke & Ura-senke)
• NNMCC Yukata workshop
• NNMCC Bonsai Class

Wellness & Health
• NNMCC Badminton (Senior & Adult)
• NNMCC Hawaiian Hula Dance
• NNMCC Ji Hong Tai Chi
• NNMCC Line dancing
• NNMCC Martial gym
• NNMCC Seniors Health Taiso (exercise) and massage
• NNMCC Seniors Gateball
• NNMCC Iaido
• Aikido
• Ballroom Dance
• Dancercise NY
• Jirikiseitai
• Judo
• Iki Iki Senior lounge
• Karate
• Kui Do Raku (Eat, Chat, Relax for seniors)
• Latin Fit Havana
• Yoga with Kazuko
Outreach Activities & Events

Collaborative Projects
University of Victoria – Landscapes of Injustice research project
University of Victoria – Asian Canadians on Vancouver Island research project

Partnerships
Gladstone Japanese Language School - Tanabata Festival
Carnegie Community Centre - Asahi Tribute Game

Outreach Activities with Other Organizations/Events
June 27, Vancouver Public Library Multiculturalism Festival
July 1, Steveston Salmon Festival
July 30/31, Powell Street Festival

Affiliations with Organizations & Businesses
A Bakers Dozen Antiques
Asian Canadian Writers
Canadian Educational & Cultural Adventures International
Canadian War Museum
Carnegie Community Centre
Culture Days BC Task Force
Gallery Gachet
Gladstone Japanese Language School
Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site
Japan Foundation
Japanese Canadian Citizens Association
Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre of Montreal
Japanese Canadian Culture Centre, Toronto
Kamloops Japanese Canadian Association
Kikori Japanese Furnishings
Langham Museum, Kaslo
MiyaZaki House, Lillooet
National Association of Japanese Canadians
NHK
Nikkei Books, Toronto
Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre, New Denver
Oppenheimer Park Commemoration Committee
Pacific National Exhibition
Powell Street Festival Society
Queens University
Regina Japanese Canadian Club
Richmond Museum
Simon Fraser University
Steveston Community Centre
Steveston Museum
Thunder Bay Museum
Tonari Gumi
University of British Columbia
University of Victoria
Vancouver Japanese Language School & Japanese Hall
Vancouver Public Library
Western Development Museum

We apologize if we have missed anyone or any organization.

Funders in 2018
The Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre thanks the following funders for the continuing support of the projects, programs and services of the organization.

Federal
Citizenship and Immigration Canada – Inter-action Multiculturalism
Canadian Heritage – Museum Assistance Program
Canadian Heritage – Cultural Spaces
Service Canada -- Canada Summer Jobs
Canadian Museums Association -- Young Canada Works
Ministry of Veterans Affairs

Provincial
Direct Access to Charitable Gaming
BC Arts Council
BC1150

Municipal
City of Burnaby Festivals
Burnaby Arts Council

Foundations
Audain Foundation
The Vancouver Foundation
The Deux Mille Foundation
Irving K Barber BC History Digitization Program, UBC
Japan Foundation
Metro Vancouver
Telus Community Board
National Association of Japanese Canadians
Nikkei Place Foundation

NNMCC-related Organizations
Japanese Canadian War Memorial Committee
Nikkei Fishermen’s Committee
NNMCC Auxiliary Committee

The Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre would like to acknowledge the generosity of our numerous and loyal volunteers. Without you we could not provide the programs and services we do.

Thank you very much to the committed donors who have been here for us. Your support makes it possible for the organization to run day to day and to grow.