

ANNUAL REPORT



national museum
& cultural centre

2019|2020



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President’s Report | Herbert I. Ono

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.

We find ourselves in extraordinary times, facing unprecedented challenges in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are also still mourning the loss of:

- Robert Banno, one of our longest-serving directors, President of the Nikkei Place Foundation, and philanthropist; and
- Gordon Kadota, first President of the National Nikkei Heritage Centre, a member of our Board of Directors from 2000 to 2011, and a dedicated advocate for and supporter of Nikkei Centre and the Foundation.

We were also saddened to learn of the unexpected passing in Japan of Emmie Hayashi, the late wife of former long-time Director Mits Hayashi.

But this year also marks the 20th anniversary of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre, which opened on September 22, 2000 – a significant milestone. And I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to reflect on the achievements and accomplishments of Nikkei Centre during 2019-2020, which have been built upon the lasting legacy left by leaders like Robert and Gordon, and stand as a testament to the continuing generosity of our Community and the tireless efforts of Nikkei Centre's dedicated staff and many volunteers.

Governance

Our current Board of Directors held its first meeting immediately following our last annual general meeting and has continued to meet monthly, moving to a virtual meeting format while Nikkei Centre was closed between March 18, 2020 and June 2, 2020 in accordance with Provincial COVID-19 social-distancing directives. The Executive Committee has also been meeting monthly, typically one week in advance of each board meeting.

Meetings of the Finance Committee, the Fundraising Committee and the Governance Committee have been held somewhat less frequently, on an as-required basis. In addition, various ad hoc committees comprised of both Board and non-Board volunteers have held meetings at various times of the year to advance a variety of initiatives, such as planning for the Nikkei Matsuri Festival and the Community Awards Dinner, and to help focus attention on certain issues that we will have to address as part of our continuing strategic planning process (such as next-generation engagement, to encourage younger members of our Community to become more actively involved with Nikkei Centre).

I cannot thank enough the members of our Board who have all supported me in my inaugural year as President. I am particularly grateful to past President (and current Vice President) Akiko Gomyo who facilitated a smooth transition of her duties to me, and for her many years of dedicated service to and support of Nikkei Centre. I also very much appreciate the sage counsel received from, and the extra time and effort spent on Nikkei Centre's affairs by, the other members of our 2019-2020 Executive Committee: Carrie Okano, Vice President; Ron Kruschen, Treasurer; Ian Miki, Secretary; Fred Yada, Director; the late Robert Banno, Director; and Karah Goshinmon-Foster, Executive Director.

HIGHLIGHTS

New Executive Director

Karah Goshinmon-Foster was appointed as our new Executive Director in August 2019 after an executive search led by our Governance Committee. Karah, who formerly served as Nikkei Centre's Manager, Culture & Partnership Engagement, and Education Coordinator, has stepped into the demanding and high-profile role with enthusiasm, and has truly made it her own. The Board of Directors is particularly grateful for her leadership – and indeed for the efforts of all members of Nikkei Centre's Staff – in responding to COVID-19.

In December 2019, Karah was among a group of four Japanese Canadians invited by Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to participate in a one-week Japanese Canadian Leadership Delegation to Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka, on the recommendation of the Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver.

Reduction of Debt

We have continued to work towards improving our financial position. Thanks to the generosity of our Community who contributed substantial funds to Nikkei Centre through testamentary bequests and charitable donations, and also to the fiscal discipline that director Ron Kruschen has been instrumental in institutionalizing in his capacities as our Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee, Nikkei Centre has been successful in materially reducing its debt burden.

Most significantly, the balance on Nikkei Centre's non-revolving credit facility, which is secured by a mortgage, was reduced to \$271,596 as at March 31, 2020, compared to \$694,800 on March 31, 2019. This has placed Nikkei Centre in a much better position to respond to the financial challenges brought on by COVID-19.

Special thanks to Director and Secretary Ian Miki for chairing our Fundraising Committee and taking the lead on our fundraising efforts, which have taken on added urgency in recent months. We are also very appreciative of guidance

and support received in this regard, and in relation to other components of our facility, from Henry Wakabayashi and Sam Yamamoto.

Nikkei Matsuri Festival

Our annual Nikkei Matsuri Festival was held Saturday, August 31st, and Sunday, September 1st, 2019. Now widely recognized as one of the largest Japanese festivals in Canada, the Festival received national media attention when Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado honoured us by giving the keynote address at the opening ceremony.

Special thanks to Louise Akuzawa, a nominee for election to our Board of Directors, for once again taking the lead in ensuring the Festival's continued success as Chair of the Nikkei Matsuri Organization Committee.

Community Awards Dinner

Our annual Community Awards Dinner was held on Saturday, October 12, 2019, and had as its central theme The Vancouver Asahi Spirit of Strength & Resilience, in honour of the 100th anniversary (in August, 2019) of the Vancouver Asahi baseball team's first pennant win.

The well-deserved Community Awards Dinner recipients for 2019 were as follows:

Japanese Canadian History and Preservation Award - 75th Anniversary Nikkei Legacy Signage Project Committee

Outstanding Community Service Award - Frank Kamiya

Japanese Culture Award - Nikkei Book Sale Committee

Special thanks to Director Kevin Isomura who once again chaired our Community Awards Dinner Committee, and was instrumental in its success.

Museum

This was a banner year for the Museum, under the leadership of Director-Curator Sherri Kajiwarra. The many accomplishments are simply too numerous to list, but I would like to take this opportunity to mention a few.

On July 20, 2019, the new Karasawa Museum gallery was officially opened after an ambitious renovation made possible by a generous \$1 million donation from well-known philanthropist and Nikkei Place co-founding director Yoshiko Karasawa, and by financial support from the Government of Canada. Fittingly, the inaugural core exhibit, entitled *Nikkei 日系*, features more than 25 individuals and family stories which advance our mission to honour, preserve, and share Japanese culture and Japanese Canadian history and heritage for a better Canada.

The renovations included a newly refreshed Charles H Kadota Resource Centre, museum archives, museum shop, and reception area.

The upcoming *Broken Promises* exhibit represents the culmination of seven years of research through Landscapes of Injustice, a federally-funded university research project led by the University of Victoria and in which the Museum is a key partner. The exhibit focuses on the dispossession of the Japanese Canadian community in the 1940s, and will open at the Museum on September 26, 2020. The exhibit will be featured at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto and the Royal BC Museum in Victoria, in its full iteration, before transforming into a travelling exhibit for loan throughout Canada.

Our Museum's travelling exhibitions include *The Suitcase Project*, a photograph and multimedia exhibit of *yonsei* and *gosei* reflecting on the history of internment in Canada and United States, and *A Call for Justice*, the story of the 10-year struggle for redress for Japanese Canadians who suffered so much during 1942-1949. Notably, *The Suitcase Project* is currently being hosted by the National Japanese American Historical Society in San Francisco, California.

Our Museum's digital exhibit, *Taiken: Japanese Canadians since 1877*, featured on the second floor of Nikkei Centre, starting at the Gordon & Kyoko Kadota Landing, has been shared electronically with the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum for local exhibition in Yokohama, as well as the Langham Museum in Kaslo, British Columbia.

Our Museum’s collections include the first professionally managed archive in Canada for Japanese Canadian collections, and the Museum acts as a hub for a searchable database for Japanese Canadian archives from Toronto, Kamloops and New Denver.

Our Museum also played a key role in the production of the Historica Canada Heritage Minutes vignette on the Vancouver Asahi baseball team, released in 2019: www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/vancouver-asahi

Hold These Truths

Hold These Truths, the critically acclaimed play on the life of Gordon Hirabayashi, was staged at The Cultch Historic Theatre between October 30 through November 2, 2019. Co-producers Tamlyn Tomita and Daniel Blinkoff generously donated all box office proceeds from the play’s Vancouver run to Nikkei Centre, the Asian Canadian and Asian Migration Studies Program, and the Kokoro Dance Theatre Society.

Tamlyn, the accomplished Japanese American actress whose long list of acting credits include *The Karate Kid Part II*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Man in the High Castle*, and *Star Trek: Picard*, took time out of her busy schedule to attend our Community Awards Dinner and donated one of the most sought-after live auction items of the evening.

Lunar New Year Celebration 2020

Nikkei Centre was chosen as the venue for this high-profile event on February 1, 2020, which was hosted by Members of the Legislative Assembly Katrina Chen (Burnaby-Lougheed), Raj Chouhan (Burnaby-Edmonds), George Chow (Vancouver-Fraserview), Judy Darcy (New Westminster), Anne Kang (Burnaby-Deer Lake), and Janet Routledge (Burnaby North), and by Members of Parliament Jagmeet Singh (Burnaby South) and Peter Julian (New Westminster-Burnaby).

We were delighted to welcome guests from across the Lower Mainland, many of whom had never been to Nikkei Centre before.

I am pleased to report that we continue to receive warm support from our local MLAs, MPs, and from His Worship Mayor Mike Hurley of the City of Burnaby and Burnaby City Council.

Heads of Japanese Mission Conference

In my capacity as President, I was invited to attend the Heads of Japanese Mission Conference hosted by the Embassy of Japan in Canada, in Ottawa, on January 20, 2020. There, I participated in a roundtable discussion chaired by Ambassador Kawamura, in which the participants included Consuls General of Japan from across Canada, representatives of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and leaders of the Japanese Canadian community from across the nation (including Gary Kawaguchi, President of the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto and a member of our Board of Directors).

The roundtable provided a unique opportunity to articulate Nikkei Centre’s values and mission statement for the benefit of Ambassador Kawamura and the Japanese delegation.

Locally, we continue to enjoy an excellent relationship with the Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver. Special thanks to Consul General Hatori, Deputy Consul General Tada and Consul Ikeda for their continued interest in Nikkei Centre.

Acknowledgement and Appreciation

In my remarks at our Community Awards Dinner, I stated:

“The Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre’s Mission is to honour, preserve and share Japanese culture, and Japanese Canadian history and heritage, for a better Canada. This evening, we will be honouring several outstanding members of the Nikkei community for their contributions in furtherance of that mission. *Their selfless dedication and hard work – undertaken without fanfare or any expectation of recognition – epitomize*

the very best qualities of our many volunteers, without whose help and involvement we simply could not function.”

The same could be said for our small yet dedicated staff, each of whom remains deeply committed to our Values and to our Mission, and whom I know go well above and beyond the call of duty and their respective job descriptions. With the advent of COVID-19, Staff have undertaken – without complaint – the burden of mitigating the risks associated with the gradual reopening of Nikkei Centre.

Thank You – and a Request for Your Assistance

Nikkei Centre’s continued success is directly attributable to – and most certainly dependent on – your support, in the form of: (a) financial donations and testamentary bequests; (b) donations of your valuable time for our many programs and initiatives that require volunteers; and (c) once things return to normal, simply showing up at our many events and inviting your friends and families to attend as well. I would personally like to thank you all for your support and continued interest in Nikkei Centre, whose Values and Mission remain as important as ever during these times marked by increasing focus on social injustice and systemic racism.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has resulted in the suspension of our key fundraising events – namely, the Nikkei Matsuri Festival and the Community Awards Dinner – and has crippled our ability to earn revenues from the rental of our space for events such as wedding receptions. We will require your financial support – so, please give generously.

Yoroshiku onegaishimasu.

Message From the Executive Director | Karah Goshinmon Foster

This year, the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre (NNMCC) navigated significant change, while continuing to strive for greater success in upholding our mission, vision, and values. The NNMCC had a successful year in managing resources, developing creative programs and events, enhancing our collection and research in the Charles H. Kadota resource centre, and producing exhibits for the newly renovated Karasawa Museum gallery which reopened following construction on July 20, 2019. By the end of March 2020, it had been an extraordinary year for the NNMCC, and unprecedented challenges were yet to come for us, our supporters, partners, volunteers, visitors, and indeed much of the world.

In April 2019, following the change in our fiscal year as recorded in the 2018/2019 Annual Report, we began the first month of our new fiscal year with heavy-hitting activity. We kicked off the month with O Hanami a two-day cultural event, and Canada Post’s Asahi Stamp Unveiling, with special guests Asahi player Kaye Kaminishi and actor George Takei. In May 2019, the NNMCC was thrilled to welcome Wagashi Master, Junichi Mitsubori from Japan, in partnership with Gusta Cooking Studio (Toronto) for an evocative performance and *wagashi* (sweets) master class.

While starting out on these high notes, we bid a heartfelt farewell to Mits and Emmie Hayashi at a gathering in the Ellipse Lobby of NNMCC on April 27, 2019, with their niece from Japan, Kayoko Ihara, who maintains contact. We were shocked and saddened by the loss of significant community leaders and supporters, who were instrumental in the creation of Nikkei Place and the NNMCC. They leave an inspiring legacy: Gordon Ryo Kadota (d. July 31, 2019), Emmie Hayashi (d. August 3, 2019), and Robert Banno (d. June 16, 2020) for whom at the time of writing, the community is mourning. On September 22, 2019, the three Nikkei Place societies (NNMCC, Nikkei Seniors Healthcare & Housing Society, and Nikkei Place Foundation)

planned and hosted a Celebration of Life for Gordon Kadota at Nikkei Centre, with NNMCC staff preparing and serving light refreshments alongside the NNMCC Auxiliary Committee volunteers.

In August 2019, approaching our 20th anniversary year, I stepped into the Executive Director role, as Roger Lemire gradually finished his time with the NNMCC, staying on through Nikkei Matsuri and Community Awards Dinner to facilitate a smooth transition through the end of October. Roger always operated with the best interests and sustainability of the organization in mind, and we thank him for his determination to lead the NNMCC toward greater future success. Through the initiative of our new Fundraising Committee Chair, Ian Miki, the Friends of Nikkei Centre Maintenance Fund Campaign was successful in exceeding our \$50,000 fundraising goal (including a single matching \$25,000 donation) to grow the designated Maintenance Fund to maintain our exquisite 20 year-old building, and honour those founders and supporters whose names surround the Ellipse Lobby and cover our walls, representing the community we serve. We are humbled by the NNMCC Auxiliary’s community spirit, vigour, and unwavering support led by Chair Yoshi Hashimoto and devoted Committee.

I am grateful to the Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver for the opportunity to join the Japanese Canadian Leadership Delegation of four to Japan, which offered much inspiration, experience and knowledge to become better equipped to lead our team. This year, to adjust to a new role and responsibilities, with an open mind, I have been observing intently, listening carefully, and critically assessing our society, operations, and partnerships to steer the organization into the next decade with fiscal responsibility, innovative programming, and a strong team of museum and cultural sector professionals. The work we do would not be possible without our donors, members, volunteers, and directors. Many thanks to our:

- Donors for your goodwill, philanthropy, and trust
- Members for your commitment, engagement, and support
- Volunteers for your altruism, enthusiasm, and effort
- Board of Directors for your confidence, generosity, and guidance

Throughout the year, permanent staff roles (Executive Director, Volunteer Coordinator, Program Assistant, and Museum Intern) experienced change. Accepting the role of Executive Director left a space to fill. Considering our need to update policies and procedures, and strengthening operations across departments to facilitate enhanced efficiencies among our team and Operations Manager replaced the role of Manager, Culture & Partnership Engagement in January 2020. The end of March 2020 saw unprecedented challenges due to COVID-19, forcing the Nikkei Centre facility to temporarily close to the public on March 18, 2020. While conserving resources, we transitioned staff to work remotely, provide online engagement, prepare to reopen, and plan around uncertainty in the coming months. I would like to thank all of the staff of the NNMCC for your ingenuity, resilience, and resourcefulness. You are ambassadors of our community, and your hard work and dedication provide services, experiences, and memories that are invaluable.

Faced with the effects of COVID-19 on our revenue sources, we are working on strategies to ensure sustainability and recovery, while developing new models for ongoing future engagement, drawing on my 20 years of experience in customer service and small business environments, and the Japanese philosophy of *omotenashi*, to care for guests wholeheartedly. Our skilled and dedicated team will press forward into the coming year inspired by our predecessors and focused on positioning the NNMCC as a vibrant destination to experience, learn, and share Japanese Canadian history, culture, and heritage.

2020 Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre Board Candidates

LOUISE AKUZAWA

While working at both business and not-for-profit sectors including BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses as an Office Manager, Louise has also been a senior reporter for the Japanese weekly newspaper *Vancouver Shinpo*. For many years, Louise covered local arts and culture stories including the launch of the *Nikkei Fishermen on the BC Coast-1st Edition* (2007) book, the Coalition to Save the Legacy Sakura of Oppenheimer Park (2008), and the Commemorative plaque Ceremony for Vancouver Asahi (2011). She has interviewed many of the Japanese Canadian Community personalities including recipients of the Order of Rising Sun, Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendations, Order of Canada and Order of British Columbia.

She was a coverage team member for the 2009 Canadian visit of the then Their Majesties the Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan and was a contributor to the Destination BC's web magazine which introduces beautiful British Columbia to Japanese readers.

Louise has been Chair of the major NNMCC fundraising event Nikkei Matsuri since 2016. She sits on the NNMCC Fundraising, Community Award Dinner and the Japanese Immigrants committees, and is a member of the Japanese Community New Year's Celebration organizing committee.

Louise grew up in Tokyo, and lives in Vancouver with her husband Ron Kruschen, the NNMCC Board Treasurer and their son Naruhito, who works as a NNMCC facility staff member while attending college.

"It has been a pleasure to be a part of the NNMCC Society, and I look forward to continue to contribute to our community".

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

Kiyo is 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, Kiyo worked with the founder, Terry Lightheart, in multiple roles within the organization to develop and growth 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, Kiyo was a consultant in international business forproduct and brand management from 2011 through 2014. Working with Winplus North America, Kiyo 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 Kiyo left his consulting position in 2014, he co-founded a Real Estate Crowd funding company, Metro-Funder, but when presented with the leadership role as Managing Director left the start-up. Today Kiyo focuses his energy and efforts solely the Lightheart Companies.

Kiyo'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.

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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 three 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.

NAOKO HALL

Naoko was born in Fukuoka, Japan. She moved to Vancouver, Canada in April 2017 with her family. She has two teenage daughters, both of whom have really settled and enjoyed everything that the Canadian school system has to offer. Naoko is now the Chief Operating Officer of Gabby Communications International Inc. in Canada, while leading Gabby Academy Co Ltd. in Japan as the CEO. She has been a board member of Vancouver's Japanese Business Association (Kiyukai) and she recently became the Secretary. In addition, she is a board member of Vancouver Fukuoka

Kenjinkai (Association of People from Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan) and acting as a liaison between Fukuoka and Vancouver.

After she graduated from the University of Okayama in Okayama, Japan, she worked for Kyushu University, one of the National Universities in Japan from 2000 to 2016. During these years, she gained valuable experience administering academic programs with a particular focus on international education. In addition, she was transferred to Kyushu University's California office in San Jose, CA as the Deputy Director. Seeing young Japanese students who were struggling to show their abilities due to their limited spoken English skills, she realized what she had to do to contribute for the better future of Japan.

After resigning from Kyushu University, she co-founded Gabby Communications International Inc. in Vancouver. Soon after, she established Gabby Academy Co., Ltd. in Tokyo Japan. The Gabby Academy offers a hybrid training service of online tutoring and a computer-based application for the accelerated acquisition of second language speaking skills. The methodology is being invented jointly with a Brain Scientist from the University of Tokyo. Her goal is that, in the future, many Japanese people will develop the ability to communicate confidently in English, empowering them to connect to the world.

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 of 32 years, Denise, 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.

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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 Naruhito. 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 contributors to the Nikkei Place. Ryan has attended many Nikkei events and would like to ensure the 4th generation Japanese Canadians are educated and active in the local community.

Ryan joined Deloitte in 2019 as a Managing Director in Canada's investment banking division. Based in Vancouver, he leads the Western Canadian Capital Advisory practice. Ryan provides independent advice on financing options, the sourcing of debt and equity capital for private and public companies. He also offers issuers independent assistance in negotiations with capital providers. Prior to Deloitte, Ryan spent 10 years in commercial and corporate banking, business strategy, and real estate development and acquisitions. Ryan holds a Bachelor in Business in Real Estate degree from the University of British Columbia, a Master in Business Administration from IE Business School in Madrid, Spain and is a CFA Charterholder. Ryan is currently pursuing the Chartered Business Valuator designation. Ryan and Eliza have lived in Vancouver for three years and enjoy outdoor activities including hiking, cycling, golfing and skiing. Ryan and Eliza also enjoy travelling locally and internationally.

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.

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.

CRAIG NATSUHARA

I am proud to be a fourth 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

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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.

HERBERT (HERB) I. ONO

Herb is the Co-Chair of McMillan LLP's Japan and U.S. Securities Practice Groups. Based in McMillan's Vancouver office, Herb has a varied cross-border corporate finance and securities law practice. Prior to joining McMillan LLP, Herb spent two years as a foreign lawyer with the Tokyo "Big Four" law firm (四大法律事務所 yondaihōritsujimusho) now known as Nagashima, Ohno and Tsunematsu. Herb is admitted to practice law in California, British Columbia and Ontario. He holds a Master of Laws degree (LL.M.) conferred by the University of London (London School of Economics), a Bachelor of Laws degree (LL.B.) conferred by the University of British Columbia, and a Bachelor of Arts degree conferred by Simon Fraser University.

Herb is 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-ken, Japan, before returning to Canada in 1956.

Herb has always admired the stoicism of Nikkei persons of his parents' generation who endured injustice and intolerance with

quiet dignity, and committed themselves to making Canada a better place for their children and later descendants. He is committed to advancing the mission of the NNMCC to "...honour, preserve, and share Japanese culture and Japanese Canadian history and heritage for a better Canada."

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 fulfil its vision.

Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

Saturday, July 20, 2019 | 11:00 am

In the Matsu Room at the NNMCC at 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby, BC

Present: A quorum was present.

Roger Lemire (Executive Director)

Akiko Gomyo, President | Kevin Isomura, Vice President | Ian Miki, Vice President | Ron Kruschen, Treasurer | Carrie Okano, Secretary/Recorder

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 on page 2 of the AGM materials.

Akiko reported on the activities and accomplishments of the NNMCC that occurred in 2018 - 2019:

The past 15 months the Board has been active in fulfilling its duty. The Board met 13 times to conduct NNMCC business and the committees and subcommittees met regularly to ensure the organization met its objectives.

One of the major highlights of the past year was the museum redevelopment. With thanks to Yoshiko Karasawa for the \$1,000,000 donation and Heritage Canada's \$500,000 matching grant and under Roger Lemire's leadership we were able to conduct a major expansion, the first since the building was constructed 20 years ago. The construction of the museum, now called the Karasawa Museum, was completed at the end of March 2019. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the staff for their hard work as we look forward to the official opening of the Museum.

This past year, in August 2018, we were honoured with a visit from the Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism. This visit was in conjunction with the matching grant that we received from Heritage Canada.

Also in 2018, we had a most successful Matsuri in terms of 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.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to express a big “thank you” to Roger Lemire, Executive Director, who will retire at the end of July, 2019. Roger brought NNMCC to higher profile with all levels of government and allowed the organization to be recognized as a truly National Nikkei Museum and Cultural Centre.

At the same time, we welcome Karah Goshinmon as our new Executive Director starting on August 1. Karah brings enthusiasm, energy and lots of new ideas and we are looking forward to her leadership. We ask for your continued supports with our new leadership.

Thanks to the Board of Directors for their efforts, especially Ron Kruschen for his leadership in the financial management of the NNMCC and getting us onto the right track. Thank you to Carrie Okano for guidance with HR support during difficult times.

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.

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. We will have a new president elected at the Board meeting after this AGM.

With everybody's efforts, we strive to be the Centre of the Japanese Community. I am proud and honoured to have served this organization. I am confident in the next generation who will lead us into the future. Thank you.

3. Executive Director’s Report

Roger Lemire reported on highlights of the previous year which is found in the Executive Director's report on page 3 of the AGM Materials.

Thank you everyone for attending our 2018-2019 annual general meeting.

As this is my final address at our AGM I hope you will bear with me as I would like to take a little longer than normal with my remarks.

Also, although our Treasurer, Ron Kruschen, will be providing the update of our audited financial statements for a 15-month period ending March 31, 2019 to accommodate the timing adjustment to our new fiscal year, my comments will be limited to the 12 months ending December, 2018.

This is a very good time for everyone associated with the Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre. 2018 was a year that culminated with a number of very positive outcomes.

Over the past year we completed an organisation review that supported the strategic plan as developed by our board of directors with a focus to move the NNMCC into a new era.

I would like to highlight some of these areas:

- We identified the need to enhance our cultural events as they had become stagnant. We embarked on a renewed focus on enhancing the Japanese experience here at the centre. New initiatives were introduced to make every special event a cultural experience, for anyone that has attended one of these events we have been pleased to enhance the elements of what it means to be Japanese all the while balancing with Japanese Canadian culture. Our events are not only more impactful they are also more profitable.
- Our cultural programming was refreshed to introduce a new slate of activities for our guests to experience.
- Our education and outreach programs had record numbers this year enabling us to a record number of children and their impressionable minds to educate them on the history of Japanese Canadians.
- Our archive areas continued to accept a record number of artifacts and we continue to be the single largest repository of Japanese Canadian history in all of Canada.
- Our rentals area was able to maintain our revenue streams as we came under significant strain during construction with a limited inventory of space available.
- Our museum team managed our way through a very difficult time while we went through construction.
- And finally as some of you have seen and some of you will see today our wonderful new Karawara museum was built and we did not lose a single day of activity during the construction period. This, in itself, was an unbelievable accomplishment.
- 2018 saw the culmination of a reorganisation of staff that enabled us to place greater focus on the strategic direction of the NNMCC and 2018 reaped the rewards of the development of the strongest team that the NNMCC has ever had.
- All of the above took place and even with the amount of change, construction and reorganisation in 2018 the NNMCC continues to improve our fiscal picture

We are very well positioned for the future.

With a more solid financial foundation, a staff that is focussed and committed to success, record years in almost all of our business units as I look forward I am personally excited for what will be accomplished in the coming months and years.

If you will allow me I would like to thank a few people:

Firstly, all of the directors of our volunteer board past and present who have served the NNMCC over the last six years. Thank you for your guidance and support. We have continued to attract quality people and as I look at the new slate it appears that this wonderful trend will continue. Every director that has been a member of our board should be very proud. Our organisation is in a great place thanks to your direction and stewardship and I would like to personally thank all current and past directors for their guidance, support and generosity.

Secondly, all of our volunteers. We are a lean organisation and would not have been able to accomplish all of the things that we have without your support and providing us with the most valuable asset a person has to offer, your time. Thank you, thank you.

Thirdly, my staff. Karah, Ella, Nichola, Lisa, Linda, Carolyn, Karen, Yukiko, Yoko, Nathan, Patrick, all of our facility staff, all of our students and interns past and present and last but not least Sherri, my sincerest thank you to each of you. Your commitment and dedication is second to none and our community should be extremely proud to have you look after this wonderful place. The responsibility is huge but you have all demonstrated the ability to live up to the challenge.

And a final thank you to Akiko Gomyo. Six years ago I asked Akiko to chair our Matsuri family festival and she jumped right in. She committed herself to that event as well as future years and for the past three years served as our board president. I don't think we could have accomplished everything that we have done without her leadership. You were not only our president who was always by our side on the bad days and you always cheered us all on during the good days. You are an outstanding person and I am proud to call you my friend.

My time is up as the Executive Director of the Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre.

At the end of this month I will hand over the helm to Karah Goshinmon who will lead the organisation into its next chapter, I know she will do an outstanding job.

On behalf of my family I would like to thank the membership for the opportunity to serve the Japanese Canadian community.

Each and every day I came to work, I have had as my goal when the time came to leave the organisation I had hope that it would be in a better place. I hope I have and want nothing more than success for the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre's future.

Thank you.

4. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting April 18, 2018

Motion to adopt the AGM minutes of April 18, 2018

Moved/Seconded by: Ron Kruschen/Herb Ono Minutes approved

5. Auditor's Report

Receive and approve the Auditor's Report and Financial Statements of the NNMCC for the fiscal year ended March 2019.

This is a 15-month audit which was done to align with timing of grants and improve the reporting, while allowing us to align with the NHCSHC and the NPF. Now all 3 societies are on the same end date for the fiscal year. Given that the fiscal year is 15 months, there is no similar period with which to compare it.

Ron reviewed the highlights of the 2019 Auditor's report. In particular, Ron noted:

- A reminder that the NNMCC does not receive any direct support from any level of government. Funding comes basically from membership fees and revenue from activities.
- Rentals and grants are an important source of revenue.
- The Capital Asset Fund is where the Yoshiko Karasawa donation and the Heritage Canada grant were received for the museum renovations. Note that these funds do support operational costs for the organization.
- Donations from the community were in the amount of \$300,000 which is approximately 20% of revenue so therefore are important aspect of our income stream.
- Fundraising events are very important for us. As a result of activities including Matsuri and the Community Awards Dinner, \$170,000 in revenue was generated.
- Museum exhibits are rented by other organizations and generate revenue.
- When a grant is received by the NNMCC there is a financial obligation to produce something. At the NNMCC, grant funds are often used for project expenses related to the specific activities for which we receive grants.
- Repair and maintenance expenses – a reminder that the building is almost 20 years old; the HVAC will need improvements in the future.
- The full cost of expenses was \$1.7 million. A reminder that these financial statements have 2 Q1s. Q1 is usually the quarter in which the NNMCC experiences some financial loss therefore, this is not a particularly problematic number;
- The concept of "deferred revenue": grants are written for specific projects and, for example, the federal government will likely give a response to the grant application in February or March, hopefully with a cheque. These funds are put into a deferred account, and as we are actually undertaking the project, funds are withdrawn from this account as they are used.

There is a sign-up sheet for those who are interested in learning more about the NNMCC's financial information. Ron generously offered to spend some more time on this with interested individuals at a separate time/location to be determined.

Motion to adopt the Auditor's Report and approve the Audited Financial Statements for the Year ending March 31, 2019.

Moved/Seconded by: Herb Ono, Kevin Isomura Motion was carried.

6. Appoint Auditors

Motion to appoint Tompkins Wozny LLP as auditors for the NNMCC for 2020/2021.

Moved/Seconded by: Fred Yada, Kevin Isomura Motion was carried.

7. Appoint new Board of Directors

Ian Miki thanked the directors for the past year and recognized Akiko Gomyo's contributions as the President.

Ron Kruschen made special acknowledgement of those directors who aren't running again and recognized Naoto Horita's long service as a director. Ron read out the list of nominees for Directors.

Confirmation that there were no mail in nominations from the membership.

Nominees for the 2019/2020 Board of Directors of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre, as recommended by the Governance Committee:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Robert Banno | 6. Kevin Isomura | 11. Wakako Morris | 16. Teresa R. Tabo |
| 2. Dean Lewis Dalke | 7. Gary Kawaguchi | 12. Craig Natsuhara | 17. Leslie Teramoto |
| 3. Kiyokazu Godo | 8. Ronald Kruschen | 13. Carrie Okano | 18. Fred Yada |
| 4. Akiko Gomyo | 9. Ryan Lang | 14. Herb Ono | 19. Ana Elisa Yamaguchi |
| 5. Hisashi (Roger) Ikeda | 10. Ian Miki | 15. Santa Ono | |

The new board was approved by acclamation.

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

9. Adjourn the Annual General Meeting

Moved/Seconded by: Karah Goshinmon/Sherri Kajiware

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Concluded at 7:42pm



Director/Curator Sherri Kajiware instructs Collections Assistant Rita Rahmati during installation of the core exhibit Nikkei, 2019.



Film Conservation Technician Jeffery Chong is demonstrating film conservation procedures during an interview with OMNI2 NikkeiTV.

NNMCC 2019-2020: The Year in Review

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Employees (as of December, 2018)

Executive Director	Roger Lemire (to July 2019) Karah Goshinmon Foster (from August 2019; Manager, Culture & Partnership Engagement to July 2019)
Director/Curator	Sherri Kajiware
Operations Manager	Trisha Roberson (from January 2020)
Collections Manager	Lisa Uyeda
Museum Programmer	Nichola Ogiwara
Research Archivist	Linda Kawamoto Reid
Culture, Education & Programs Coordinator	Carolyn Nakagawa
Sales Coordinator	Karen Duffield
Special Event Coordinator	Yukiko Nishikawa
Office Assistant/ Receptionist	Yoko Ariura
Volunteer Coordinator	Dana Basharymova (to June 2020)
Volunteer Coordinator	Emiko Newman (from August 2019)
Program Assistant	Eri Muroya (to August 2019)
Program Assistant	Marina Mayumi de Souza (from September 2019)
Collections Intern	Nathan Yeo (to August 2019)
Collections Intern	Lindsey Jacobson (from November 2019)
Communications Assistant	Kaoruko Sasaki (from February 2020)
Facility Team Coordinator	Patrick Fujisawa
Janitor	Herozal Evalle
Facility Staff	Sam (Haocheng) Liu Rainier Dalisay Jamie Seo Scott Stewart Matthew Armstrong Tai Anderson Naruhito Kruschen Travis Armstrong

Committees of the Board

Executive
Finance
Fundraising
Governance & Human Resources
History & Heritage
Museum Redevelopment
New Immigrants
Next Generation

Committee Partnerships

Japanese Canadian War Memorial
Japanese Canadian Legacy
Steveston Memorial Project
Tashme Heritage
NNMCC Auxiliary Committee

Nikkei Place Foundation performs the function of fundraising and processing of all NNMCC donations.

We are immensely grateful to our donors and members who continue to believe in our mission and place their trust in the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre past, present and future.

The Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre would like to acknowledge the generosity of our numerous and loyal volunteers who contributed over 8600 hours of volunteerism this year. Without you we could not provide the programs and services we do.

THANK YOU to our, summer students, practicum/intern students, community members, and community partners for continuing to support our museum and cultural centre. A special thank you to our support team who contribute in all of our collection-related activities such as digitization, database descriptions, exhibition preparations, research, and preservation/conservation work. Without you we would be hard pressed to fulfill our mission.

Nikkei National Museum

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. Our exhibit entitled *Nikkei 日系*, was seen by over 4,800 visitors, while *Taiken: Japanese Canadians since 1877* is open to all visitors of Nikkei Centre.

Collections Management 2019/2020

by Lisa Uyeda, Collections Manager

Nikkei National Museum Repository

The Nikkei National Museum is home to the largest community-driven repository of Japanese Canadian history in Canada. By acquiring, preserving, and making accessible archival records and personal belongings related to Japanese Canadian heritage, we offer an important resource for all to learn about Japanese Canadians' place in our country's history. Preserved within our archives storage vault are over 41,000 photographs and digital images, 38 metres of textual records, 650+ oral history records, 156 film reels, and over 2600 artworks and objects that were once the personal belongings of individuals and organizations in our community. We continue to grow and between April 2019 to March 2020 we received 93 new donations and accruals. The number of items in each donation can range from one to hundreds and may include documents, photographs, books, maps, artwork, films, oral histories, and objects.

We are governed by our NNM Collections Policy and the NNM Loans Policy; we carry out work procedures in accordance with the NNM Collection Management Practices and Procedures which includes but not limited to acquisition, rejections, deaccessions, appraisal, arrangement and description, digitization, preservation and conservation, repatriation, and access; and we support the code of ethics of the International Council of Museums, Association of Canadian Archivists, Canadian Conservation Institute, and the Canadian Museums Association.

In April 2019 we began the big move from our temporary spaces in the Tsubaki room and the Intergenerational room to our brand new museum space. The collection was temporarily moved onto tables in the gallery while the museum-quality shelving units were dismantled and reinstalled in the collections storage vault and temporary deposits room. A few additional shelving units were purchased and installed in January 2020 and we thank Hi-Cube Storage for their assistance in installing all of our units. Thanks to the renovation our storage vault is 745sqft and grants us more opportunities to maximize our storage capabilities in the near future. We hope to replace our larger static shelving with compact rolling units so we can continue to strengthen and grow our collection. Sincere thanks to Laura and Debra Saimoto for offering in-kind support to store our larger and more stable items offsite and for helping us retrieve the items this past June. Our collections team has a bit more tidying up to do and we look forward to wrapping up this large task this fiscal year.

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 31,000 archival records and objects from all four institutions through our online database at nikkeimuseum.org. Of the 31,000 items available online, 24,417 are from the NNM! Despite our increased efforts to promote our online database and add more content, visitor hits have dropped from 110,000 page views in 2018 to 24,012 page views this past fiscal year. It may be time to refresh our online database, adopt new ways to help visitors find our website, and add more search functions. Our museum team looks forward to exploring new options to help promote access to our collections.

Families on the Coast: K&M Boat Works and the Oikawa Island Project

The Nikkei National Museum is pleased to announce the completion of our digitization project, *Families on the Coast: K&M Boat Works and the Oikawa Island*. Our digitization project focused on two fishing families who made significant contributions to British Columbia's fishing industry during the early 1900s: The Madokoro family, and the Oikawa family, for which Oikawa Island in Richmond is named after. Explore the Mamoru Madokoro collection; the Thomas and Sachi Madokoro Family collection; the Toyoko Oikawa collection; the Jesse Suzuki collection; and the Suian Maru collection. In addition, explore the Horii Family collection and browse the two incredible fishing ledgers from 1935-1939, documenting the financial information of fishermen from the North Pacific Cannery in Port Edward and Arrandale Cannery just north of Prince Rupert. Thank you to the Irving K Barber British Columbia History Digitization Program at the University of British Columbia which supported us in making available 887 photographs, 265 objects, 46.9 cm textual records, 5 maps, and 1 sound recording. The British Columbia History Digitization Program promotes increased access to historical resources by providing matching funds to undertake digitization projects that result in free online access to unique BC historical material.

At Risk: Preserving Our Most Vulnerable Fonds Project

The NNM and the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto completed our joint project aimed to preserve and make accessible items in our care that were of high priority. At Risk: Preserving Our Most Vulnerable Fonds granted us the ability to rehouse and describe 38 collections/fonds consisting of 6.15m textual records, 2093 photographs, 102 films, and 503 audio recordings, and our oldest items date to 1864! In particular, we digitized remarkable films that capture one family's experience before, during, and immediately after the forced uprooting and dispossession during the Second World War; royal visits to Canada from the perspective of the Japanese Canadian community; the Vancouver Japanese Language School and Japanese Hall, now a national historic site; cultural ceremonies;

and the ground breaking ceremonies for both the NNM and JCCC. Thank you to Library and Archives Canada’s Documentary Heritage and Communities Program for financial support.

The NNM Moving Image Collection is available online at centre.nikkeiplace.org/research/moving-image-collection. To promote access to the films, Gloria Macarenko host of the CBC *Our Vancouver* program interviewed Collections Manager Lisa Uyeda in a segment called “Netflix Alternatives” which aired on May 23, 2020; watch the interview at youtu.be/Ybmub36G1Ps.

Additionally on February 8, 2020, the NNM hosted a film screening titled *Nikkei Mubi: Japanese Canadian Home Movies from the 1930s – 70s*. A selection of the recently digitized films were curated by our contract Film Conservation Technician, Jeffery Chong, and presented with accompanying music and narration in the Special Events Hall. The film screening was promoted on OMNI2 NikkeiTV and you can watch the interview with Jeffery Chong and Lisa Uyeda at youtu.be/imq_kCFMeKw. A shorter version of Nikkei Mubi will be shared at the upcoming Powell Street Festival (August 2020).

Home Run at Powell Street Project

The NNM and the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto completed our second joint project, *Home Run at Powell Street*. The project increased our capacity to preserve and make accessible records documenting the immensely popular Asahi Baseball Team and the surrounding historic Powell Street neighbourhood. We successfully rehoused and described 12 collections/fonds consisting of 1.95m textual records, 2159 photographs, 15hrs. 15mins. of oral history recordings; as well as new films from Kaye Kaminishi, the last surviving member of the Asahi Baseball Team, totalling an additional 3 hrs. 12 mins. 47 secs. of film of life before the Second World War. Featured are photograph albums and scrapbooks created by the players, as well as oral histories and films capturing life on Powell Grounds. Thank you to Library and Archives Canada’s Documentary Heritage and Communities Program and the NNMCC Auxiliary for financial support.

Lost and Found Blog

Lost and Found nnm-lostandfound.blogspot.ca is a blog project created by the NNM with featured posts from our friends aimed to generate a conversation across our community. This conversation helps us put names to faces and places and this year, we posted 187 photographs recently digitized by our *Home Run at Powell Street* project and we had 7772 visitor views. In continued partnership with the *Nikkei Voice*, a special featured photograph was printed in each issue and the community response was very positive. Beginning in August 2020, we look forward to celebrating our 20th anniversary by sharing photographs that capture the early NNMCC days!

The Politics of Racism (POR) eBook Project

Ann Gomer Sunahara, author of *The Politics of Racism: the Uprooting of Japanese Canadians During the Second World War*, has generously donated copyright for her ground-breaking publication and the website domain www.japanesecanadianhistory.ca to the NNM. First published in 1981, POR has undergone two further editions: an HTML version in 2000 with an additional afterward about Redress; and an eBook edition with an additional photo essay by the author. The new eBook can be accessed for free at japanesecanadianhistory.ca, centre.nikkeiplace.org/research/por, google books, amazon, the Internet Archive: <https://archive.org/details/politics-of-racism-ann-gomer-sunahara>, and Open Library: https://openlibrary.org/books/OL27951810M/The_Politics_of_Racism. Thank you to Ann Sunahara for your generous donation and continued support. Additional thanks to Laura Suzuki of Doodletronics, Danielle Jette, and Lindsey Jacobson our Collections and Communications Intern. We gratefully acknowledge the support of Metro Vancouver’s Regional Cultural Project Grants Program in the production of this eBook.

Charles H. Kadota Resource Centre

Our Charles H. Kadota Resource Centre is used by students, educators, academics, archivists, curators, filmmakers, 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. From April 2019 to March 2020 we received 203 research requests and our staff spent over 206 hours helping researchers access our vast resources. 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. Our in-kind services this fiscal year are valued at \$2,430 and our revenue was over \$3,860. Our numbers are a direct reflection of our commitment to support our researchers and community partners.

Nikkei National Museum Loans

Our items were on loan at:

The Royal Ontario Museum – *Being Japanese Canadian: reflections on a broken world*, February 2, 2019 to August 5, 2019.

Coquitlam Heritage at Mackin House – *Resilience: The Internment of Japanese Canadians* at Coquitlam Public Library – City Centre, July 2, 2019 to August 1, 2019.

Our long term loans can be explored at:

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights

The Canadian Museum of History

The Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

The Museum of Vancouver

and travelling within the *A Call for Justice* exhibition.

Remembering Shoji Nishihata (1933-2020)

Shoji was one of the museum’s most dedicated and beloved volunteers for over 24 years. His easy-going nature brought a lot of comfort and joy to those of us who worked with him, and rain or shine he came to help every week. His contributions to the museum were many, including drawing the Powell Street map and providing his family photographs for our *Powell Street Monogatari* exhibit and publication (2011). Join us in paying tribute to Shoji by watching the documentary “Shoji” by Jon Chiang www.youtube.com/watch?v=f59nBGx8heY. Our sincere condolences to Shoji’s children James, Paul, and David, to his grandchildren, and to the Nishihata family and friends.

Education Programs

2019 was a record-breaking year for our educational programs: 2218 students in 71 groups came to Nikkei Centre on field trip visits, or experienced Japanese Canadian history through speaker visits or walking tours, between April 2019 and March 2020, with an additional 94 students benefitting from our new Journeys Outreach Rental Kits. For the calendar year 2019, there was a 37% increase in students participating in educational programs from our previous institutional record in 2016, and 2020 was on track to outstrip 2019 when the centre closed and schools cancelled their upcoming bookings in March 2020. 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, 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.

A highlight of 2019-2020 was the piloting of a volunteer docent program with five retired teachers testing out and advising on protocols to train them to facilitate school tours of museum exhibits. Thank you to Ellen Kadonaga, Vivian Rygnestad, Joyce Shimokura, Patricia Tanaka, and Chuck Tasaka for their input and immense support during the trial period that was cut short by the pandemic. The growth and sustainability of these programs is simply not possible without dedicated support from volunteers from our community. Demand for our education programs is growing rapidly with almost no marketing aside from word-of-mouth; they have enormous potential to massively expand understanding and awareness of Japanese Canadian history and heritage, and Japanese culture, among the next generation of Canadians, but only if our staff and volunteer support can expand at the same pace. In March 2020, we were looking to recruit new docents to expand our team, and we hope to resume and expand the docent program (digitally and/or in person) in the coming school year. Anyone interested in learning more about volunteering for school programs, please contact Carolyn Nakagawa at cnakagawa@nikkeiplace.org.

In addition to our new docent volunteers, our dedicated cultural volunteers have long played a huge role in making our field trip programs memorable for students by leading hands-on

activities. Thank you to Yoko Matsuno and her many friends; Bob and Naomi Mooney and the Mooney family; Kaz Takahashi; and Yukiko Tosa for sharing their respective expertises with such generosity and enthusiasm. And our elder guest speakers, Aki Horii and Roy Uyeda, have provided unforgettable personal perspectives on Japanese Canadians’ experience for hundreds of students just last year.

Our revamped *Journeys* education outreach kits were fully booked for classroom rentals from January – March 2020 after a soft launch in September 2019. Thanks to support from the NNMCC Auxiliary, we have ordered two additional kits to double our capacity to rent to classroom teachers with a plan to cover shipping costs to schools outside the Lower Mainland in the coming school year, so teachers across Canada can easily access this exciting learning tool about Japanese Canadian internment. We also continue to offer and expand on a wealth of online educational resources accessible for free on our website.

Camp Programs

Both Manga Camp sessions held in summer 2019 sold out, with a number of repeat attendees from previous years. Kids ages 9-12 enjoyed drawing their own original *manga* and participating in a variety of Japanese cultural activities thanks to the support of many wonderful volunteers. The popular Creative Joy Camp for children ages 6-8 also returned to run concurrently with the August Manga Camp session; it is offered based on the availability of the instructor Miss Cheryl and is always in high demand.

Spring Break Manga Camp 2020, scheduled for March 16-20, faced a number of challenges as the global public health situation escalated in the days leading up to and during the camp. After the pandemic was declared, our cancellation policy was waived to allow any families with health concerns or recent travel to cancel and receive full refunds. Still wanting to provide a fun spring break experience for the kids attending, we instated a strict sick policy and had campers wash their hands frequently throughout the day. The camp was suspended after three days, on March 18, from an abundance of caution. All families were refunded for the cancelled days, and placed on a priority list for summer 2020 camp registration.

Travelling Exhibits

The Suitcase Project: Feb – July 2020. National Japanese American Historical Society, San Francisco, CA, USA

Two Views, Photographs of Ansel Adams and Leonard Frank: Feb – summer 2020. Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA, USA

Museum Program Events (attendance)

April 13, August 20, September 19, November 2
Aizome workshops (8 each)
July 8-12, 2019, Internment bus tour (50)
July 13, 2019, Nikkei exhibit VIP reception
July 20, 2019, Charles H Kadota Resource Centre re-opening ceremony (100)
July 20, 2019, Museum re-opening reception (100)
August 24, 2019, The Vancouver Asahi film screening (260)
September 7, 2019, David Suzuki documentary + Omoi short films (125)
October 7-11, 2019, Sugar Beet Bus tour (43-48)
November 23, 2019, Wepress Blockprinting workshop (35)
December 14, 2019, Nikkei Holiday Boutique (28 vendors)
February 8, 2020, Nikkei Mubi - Japanese Canadian Home Movies from the 1930s-70s (80)
February 15, 2020, Tsunagu – Intergenerational Conversations (100)
March 14, 2020, Hapas, Hafus and the Future of Japanese Canadian Identity (35)

Museum Shop Events & Original Merchandise

Our lovely little gift shop sells books, films, crafts, cards and art by Nikkei artists.
New product development: Nikkei Soap and Nikkei Strawberry Green Tea.
Co-presented book launch for BC Studies Issue 204 – (Un) Settling the Islands (Feb 15)

Partnerships

May 2019, Strathcona Cross Cultural Walking Tour

Outreach Activities with Other Organizations/ Events

June 27, Vancouver Public Library Multiculturalism Festival
July 1, Steveston Salmon Festival
August long weekend, Powell Street Festival
The Cultch, *Hold These Truths*, Oct 18 – Nov 2, 2019
November 11, Remembrance Day at Stanley Park (500)
Places That Matter, Community Celebration, Presented by Vancouver Heritage Foundation
February 20, 2019, Heritage Hall

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Vancouver Asahi by Norio Goto, English translation book re-printing rights were transferred from Grace Thomson and Elmer Morishita, and NNM printed 75 copies.

Community Events and Partnerships

Aikido Seminar
Asahi Baseball Association
Auxiliary Volunteer party (annual)
Bulletin Mail out (JCCA)
Canadian Kendo Federation seminar
Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver
Gladstone Japanese Language School

Gladstone Graduation Concert (annual)
GVJCCA: Bulletin Mailout, AGM, volunteer appreciation, Keirokei
JALTA (BC Japanese Language Teachers Association)
JETAABC - Japan Bowl
Kenyukai
Kiyukai
Nikkei Community Godo Shinnenkai (annual Japanese New Year)
Nikkei Home and New Sakura-so Christmas Party (annual)
Ohfukai
Okinawa Kenjinkai
Shizuoka Kenjinkai
Satuski-kai Dance Performance (annual)
Suzuya Japanese Market
Vancouver Ikebana Association, Spring Show
Vancouver Japanese Gardeners Assn. Plant Sale (annual)

Multiple Rentals

Agape Church Burnaby
Associa British Columbia Inc. –Strata meetings 5 groups
Bouncy Castle Birthday Parties
Canadian Blood Services
Dominion Herbal College
Deer Lake Seventh Adventist School (2-day)
Canascent Enterprises
Kintetsu International Express (Canada) Inc.
Lego Parties
Mindfulness Meditation
Work BC
North Shore Numismatic Coin Show
Pacific Quorum Properties
Re/Max Property Management
South View Property Management
604 Real Estate Services
Wendy Quan: Meditation Classes
West Coast College Massage
D-Way Management Exhibition
BC Lender Group
Daiya Foods

One-time & Private Event Rentals

16th Birthday Party Celebration (hall large group)
18th Birthday Party Celebration (hall large group)
90th Birthday Party Celebration – Community members
Aecolux Technology Meeting
Anime Evolution (2-day)
Axis Communication
Baby Showers
BC Alliance for Arts & Culture
BC Emergency Health Services
BC Labour Market Report
Best Buy Canada
Birthday Parties
British Columbia Philatelic Society – Stamp show
Canada Post - Asahi Stamp Unveiling
Celebration of Life

CKNW
Consulate General of Indonesia– Indonesian Social Event
District 5040 Wine Festival
Elections BC
Graduations
Family Reunion – Community members
Fireside Outdoor Recreation Club
First Service Residential
Free Health Seminar - Advanced Genomics Gateway
G-Day
Gitxsan & Wet’Suwet’en Workshop
Health Canada
Heritage BC
Hi-Cube Workshop
Jikiden Reiki Event
Lunar New Year
March of Dimes Canada
Martello Property Services
Mayor’s Task Force on Community Living
Ministry of Children and Family Development
Miso Workshop
Popular Science Presentations Seminar
Social Welfare Promotion and National Examination
STLEO St. Leonard’s Youth and Family Services
T&T Supermarket Scholarship Award
TD Korean Chuseok Dinner
Trafalgar
Vancouver Japanese Gospel Church
Weddings

Cultural Events hosted by Nikkei Centre

April O Hanami (2-day)

May Spring Bazaar (coordinated by Auxiliary Committee)
Wagashi Performance by special guest from Japan Junichi Mitsubori

June Wagashi Workshop with Junichi Mitsubori

July Tanabata Festival + Book Sale (1-day)

September Nikkei Matsuri (2-day)

October Community Awards Dinner
Book Sale & Halloween Tea Ceremony

November Craft & Bake Fair

December Breakfast with Santa (coordinated by Auxiliary Committee)
Mochitsuki (coordinated by Auxiliary Committee)

February Tea Ceremony - Chasen Kuyo Theme
Family Day Festival + Book Sale

Weekly and Monthly Public Programs

Arts & Culture (all ages, children, seniors, women)

NNMCC Iaido
NNMCC Senior Karaoke
Bonsai Club
Chibi Taiko
Creative Art Class for Children
Gladstone Japanese Language School
Haiku
Igo Club
Japanese Modern Calligraphy workshop
Japanese Dance (Nichibu)
KadoSumi (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 English for Japanese speakers
NNMCC Kimono Dressing
NNMCC Tea Ceremony Workshop (Omotesenke&Urasenke)
NNMCC Yukata workshop
NNMCC Kizuna Japanese Culture (language, crafts)

Wellness & Health

NNMCC Badminton (Senior & Adult)
NNMCC Hawaian Hula Dance (beginner class added)
NNMCC Ji Hong Tai Chi
NNMCC Line dancing
NNMCC Martial gym
NNMCC Seniors Health Taiso (exercise) and massage
NNMCC Seniors Gateball
NNMCC Iaido
Aikido
Jirikiseitai
Judo
Karate
Yoga with Kazuko
Restorative Yoga
Pilates
Zumba

Outreach Activities & Events

Collaborative Projects

University of Victoria – Landscapes of Injustice research project
Queens University – Right to Remain

Tenants

Agape Church
Gladstone Japanese Language School
Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens’ Association
Suzuya Japanese Market
Nikkei Place Foundation

Affiliations with Organizations & Businesses

Canadian War Museum
Gladstone Japanese Language School
Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site
Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association
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
Richmond Museum
Simon Fraser University
Steveston Community Centre
Steveston Museum
Tonari Gumi
University of British Columbia
University of Victoria
Vancouver Japanese Language School & Japanese Hall
Vancouver Public Library

We apologize if we have missed anyone or any organization.

Funders April 2019 – March 2020

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

Federal

Canadian Heritage – Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage
Canadian Heritage – Community Support, Multiculturalism, and Anti-Racism Initiative
Canadian Heritage – Museum Assistance Program
Canadian Heritage – Cultural Spaces
Canadian Heritage – Canada Summer Jobs
Canadian Museums Association -- Young Canada Works
Ministry of Veterans Affairs
Library and Archives Canada – DHCP

Province of British Columbia

BC Arts Council
BC Community Gaming
BC Museums Association

Municipal

City of Burnaby Festivals
Burnaby Arts Council

Foundations

Audain Foundation
The Vancouver Foundation
Irving K Barber BC History Digitization Program, UBC
Metro Vancouver
National Association of Japanese Canadians
Nikkei Place Foundation



Dave Bergen and Collections Assistant Aaron Tong hang a Shizue Takashima painting in the main hall, 2019.