

CALGARY JAPANESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2016

CJCA Quarterly Newsletter

"CJCA Line Dancing Club"

Stampede Breakfast Boogie!

by Carolyn Terakita, Kaede No Kai



The 6th Annual CJCA Stampede Breakfast was another great success! Blue skies and warm weather brought out a crowd of over 600 hungry breakfast goers. Delicious pancakes, juicy watermelon sausages, beverages were enjoyed along with the incredible and talented music of Kelly Sitter, lead vocalist of Jo Hikk, who were nominated for the Canadian Country Music Association's Group or Duo of the Year in 2009. Rounding out this year's entertainment were the CJCA Line Dancers and Midnight Taiko.

Thanks to the generous support we received for the Calgary Food Bank's – "Put the Boots to Hunger" campaign, we were able to make a huge contribution of over 100 pounds of food and over \$685 in cash donations.

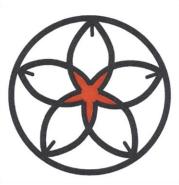


Kaede Cultural Society and CJCA would like to extend special thanks to Aaron MacPhail of Mobile Entertainment for securing Kelly Sitter and providing music during the event.

Thank you to the CJCA Line Dancers for their dedication to a very unique part of the Calgary Canadian culture. Special thanks also to Midnight Taiko for showcasing Japanese traditional music.

"Stampede" continued on Page 3.

Volume 23, Issue 3



LOCATED AT

CALGARY NIKKEI CULTURAL & SENIORS CENTRE 2236 – 29th Street SW Calgary, Alberta T3E 2K2

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Closed Weekends & Holidays (Subject to change.)

CONTACT US

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: <u>cjcamain@shaw.ca</u> WEBSITE:

www.calgaryjca.com

President's Report

Respectfully Submitted by Joanne Terakita Planidin

2016 - 2017 CJCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT, Joanne Planidin jbplanidin@gmail.com

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Taeko Nagao

ntaeko@telus.net
Rocky Oishi

rjoishi@shaw.ca

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EX-OFFICIO

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NAT'L ASSN. OF JAPANESE CDNS. Kevin Okabe, Executive k.okabe@najc.ca

SUPPORT SERVICES

ADVERTISING, Bob Planidin COMMUNICATIONS/WEBMASTER Allan Okabe

LIBRARY, Michiyo Lim (Japanese)
OMATSURI FESTIVAL, Ted Wada
tqwada@ymail.com

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER, Pat Jetté cjca-quarterly@shaw.ca



Photo:

Consul General Kunihiko "Kuni" Tanabe & Mrs. Tanabe with CJCA President and Kotobuki President, Kathrine Nugent

"Summertime" - Here is a recap of all the great things we, as a community, can be very proud to be part of...

Consulate General of Japan in Calgary

Welcome to Consul General Kunihiko Tanabe and Mrs. Tanabe. We value our close relationships with the Consulate office and we are looking forward to many more opportunities to work together in the near and distant future.

Consul General Tanabe arrived in Calgary in March from the United Kingdom. It is his first time in Canada and in Calgary, so I invite you all to make him feel welcome and to show him true western hospitality when you have a chance to meet him. He has already had his traditional first experiences as a new resident of Calgary, with being 'White Hatted' by Major Nenshi and by donning an apron at our own Stampede Breakfast. I hope that the Consulate enjoyed his pancake flipping experience? From my perspective, it looked like he was a natural!

CJCA Casino - Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who worked shifts at the Calgary Casino in June. The shifts are long and into the wee hours of the morning but there is always good company and good conversations. These much needed funds help to keep our centre in good working condition

and also help to support the many programs that are housed within.

Disaster Relief Efforts - Following the devastating news of the Kumamoto Earthquake in Japan in April of this year, the Consulate's office was quick to respond to the outpouring of support and donation requests. To date there has been some \$8,700 raised for relief efforts in the affected area. I was in Japan at the end of May and there is still so much more that needs to be done.

On the heels of this disaster were the wildfires of Fort McMurray. So many Calgarians, Albertans and Canadians opened their homes, hearts and their pocket books to help in whatever way they could. CJCA also lent their support to the Canadian Red Cross for relief efforts.

CJCA Stampede Breakfast - Thank you to the members of the Kaede Cultural Society for chairing the breakfast again this year. Mother Nature smiled on us and we had a perfect day for pancake flipping, sausage turning and country singin'. We are very fortunate to have live entertainment and I think the crowd agreed, as this year, people just pulled up a chair and stayed a while! Thank you to the members of the CJCA Line Dancers and to Midnight Taiko. This is what makes our breakfast unique – the mix of Japanese and Canadian cultures.

"President" continued on Page 3.

"President" continued...

Omatsuri Festival - Congratulations to Ted Wada and his committee of fabulous section coordinators and volunteers. With each year comes new challenges and this was no exception, but the committee was undaunted and rose to the occasion. This new venue required a whole new plan, but no challenge is too great for these festival warriors! As of this writing, the festival is just a week away. I hope that you have signed up to volunteer or at a minimum enjoyed the day!

National Association of Japanese Canadians – AGM | Conference - On September 9, 10 and 11, 2016, CJCA will be hosting the National Association's AGM at the Sheraton Suites Eau Claire. Delegates will be arriving from across Canada not only to conduct the business of the association, but to attend the inaugural National Conference.

The Conference is one you won't want to The session speakers and facilitators have been confirmed. For Heritage there will be a session on Genealogy and Digital Storytelling. For Human Rights, there is a discussion on the UN Declaration, Truth Reconciliation. Community Diversity – a discussion regarding roles and responses to current challenges. We are very excited to have Garry Watanabe, an executive coach and His session is Building trainer. Commitment to Achieve High Performance.

In conjunction with this conference CJCA will also be hosting a banquet on the Saturday evening. The banquet will be to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Japanese Canadian veterans who served in the First World War. We are planning to recognize all Japanese Canadians and their families who fought in not only the First World War but anyone who served in any war. If you have a family member or know of anyone who has served, please contact us so that we may contact them.

There are volunteer opportunities as well as sponsorship opportunities and we would also encourage you to

'Sponsor a Senior'. Whether it be your own family or maybe just a close family friend or just a deserving member of the past generation. The banquet will honor our proud history as Japanese Canadians.

"Stampede" continued...

Most importantly the breakfast could not be, without the support and generosity of our major sponsors. A very special thank you to:

Mark Gaede of ATCO Kerr McNeil and Daniel McAndrew of Superior Propane

Last but not least, all of our incredible volunteers, without whom the event would not be able to proceed. Great job everyone!!! Volunteers: (Our apologies if we may have missed anyone!)

Bev Adams, Betty Araki, Charles Araki, Midori Button, Tomoko Button, Maureen Coleman, Aiko Furuya, Alexander Garrison, William Garrison, Thieko Hiraga, Doug Hironaka, Russ Hironaka, Pat Jetté, Paul Jetté, Chris Jim, Toshiko Komori, Nancy Kondo, Betty Leong, John Maruyama, Cassidy McMahon, Peter McMahon, Bryan McMillan, Mai Nagao, Taeko Nagao, Kerry Nagata, Cindy Nagata-McMillan, Ruth Nagata, Sakiko Nakagane, Christine Nugent, Brenda Nugent, Kathrine Nugent, Rocky Oishi, Bob Planidin, Kiyomi Planidin, Tobie Sakamoto, Pat Sakura, Robert Sameshima, Shirley Shigematsu, Masoud Tajallipour, Matsue Takeda, Toshiko Tamachi, Bill Toyota, Lloyd Tsukishima, Anna Uyeno, Tom Uyeno, Grace Wada, Sey Yamashiro, Tyler Yasui and Masa Yokoyama

CJCA Business Networking Group

by Joanne Planidin

This group has enjoyed a very successful year to date. They have hosted a number of very successful events, established a Facebook page with over 50 members and has 5 very enthusiastic people on the organizing committee – Yukiko Moriya, Tomoyuki

Honda, Kevin Okabe, Yoshiko Yamaguchi, John Wang and Cheryl Borres.

The next event is scheduled for October, so please stay tuned for updates. If you are interested in networking with a very diverse range of people and businesses, they welcome you to sign-up on the Facebook page to get the latest news and event information.

"Like" us at:

https://www.facebook.com/groups /643504739077594/

Sir John Franklin Junior High Visitation

by Roy Nagata

On Monday, May 15th, Dr. Tom Uyeno and I were invited to address 4 classes of 30 students each at Sir John Franklin Junior High School at the invitation of social studies teacher, Ms. Tamara M. Elby, and provided with a two-hour time slot with which to engage students and questions. This answer speaking engagement marked over eighty visitations for me to address students at Calgary schools (both public and separate, as well as post-secondary institutions including the University of Alberta, University of Calgary, SAIT and Police Academy at Mount Royal This was Tom's inaugural College). school visitation and speaking engagement.

Together Tom and I shared information about the horrendous conditions at Hastings Park Clearing Station, which Tom experienced first-hand and the Taylor Lake elite self-supporting He also spoke about his experiences at the ghost town of Slocan, where he was interned during World War II. My experiences were vastly different, as our family was forced to relocate from the coast, to southern Alberta in Welling, (18 miles south of Lethbridge) to start a new life labouring on a sugar beet farm in order to avoid having our family being split up.

We wish to thank the Consul General of Japan for the donation of colourful posters of Japan to supplement our school visitation.

2016 CJCA Ca\$ino Report June 1-2, 2016

by Kevin Okabe

The 2016 CJCA Casino was held on June 1 and 2, 2016 at Casino Calgary. Thanks to the over forty volunteers (listed below) that assisted us in completing a successful fund raising event!

Al Nawata, Bill Hasegawa, Bill Toyota, Bryan McMillan, Cindy Nagata-McMillan, Carolyn Terakita, Chris Jim, Dan Ichii, Debbi Hayashi, Doug Hironaka, Doug Ohama, Gene Sakura, Goro Hirasawa, Grace, Hirasawa, Grace Wada, Harvey Tanaka, Jean Henderson, Jean Nakatsu, Jean Oishi, Joanne Planidin, Ken Huish, Kevin Okabe, Kiyomi Planidin Wong, Masaye Tanaka, Pat Jette, Pat Taguchi, Robert Sameshima, Rocky Oishi, Russ Hironaka, Ruth Nagata, Sally Hironaka, Ted Nakatsu, Ted Wada, Tina Koo, Tomiko Morris and Yoshiko Planidin

I would especially like to acknowledge the support that we received from members of the Calgary Kotobuki Society and the Kaede Cultural Society in assisting us in finding volunteers.

I would also like to send a great big thank you to Ruth Nagata who went out of her way to help find volunteers for this event (especially with last minute replacements), and Ted Nakatsu for working two shifts during the event.

Funds generated from the casino event will be used to offset expenses to operate the Calgary Nikkei Cultural and Seniors Centre and to run various programs being organized by the Japanese Community Calgary Association. We expect that our next casino will be held in 2018. We will put out another call for volunteers a few months prior to that event.



Provincial Golf Tournament



OH-YES!!! Art Ohno and junior partner Alex Mason (Taguchi Yonsei from Bermuda) were the winners of the exciting finish to the amazing Horserace!

Many thanks to tournament organizers -Blake Tomiyama (Calgary) and Mas Shigehiro (Lethbridge) for their hard work making this event possible. Also, special thanks to the attentive staff at the Paradise Canyon Golf Resort in Lethbridge! See you next July...





Blake and Grandpa Mas with this year's youngest golfer Jady (11)

Centre Spring Clean-Up

by Tomoko Button

On behalf of the board, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to assist in cleaning our Centre.

Tom Nawata, Mari Sasaki, Keiko & Koichi Otsuki, Grace & Ted Wada, Carolyn Terakita, Rocky Oishi, Stephanie Jacobson, Kyle Freney, Russell Hironaka, Aoi Kurosawa, Chiharu Izumi, Yumiko Pidlisny, Luminita Gurita, Joanne Planidin and Tomoko Button



www.calgary-buddhist.ab.ca by Laura Sugimoto

On July 16th, we were fortunate to have Makino Sensei from Hawaii as an inspiring quest speaker. After spending the morning with us, he went on to Lethbridge to participate in Obon services there.

Calgary's Obon will be held on August 28th at 3:00 pm at the Temple, followed by a light meal. Our quest speaker will be Christina Yanko Sensei from the Toronto Buddhist Church. We are looking forward to Lethbridge folks joining us. We hope that you can join us as well.

The sensei will be doing cemetery visits that day as follows:

- Strathmore 9:00 am
- Mountain View 9:45 am
- Burnsland 10:30 am
- Eden Brook 11:00 am
- Queens 1:00 pm

Regular services will begin again in September, with Sunday service at 10:00 and Thursday service at 7:30 pm. In October, the Thursday services will be by Buddhism 101, replaced Introduction to Buddhism.

Mark your calendars for October 22:

We will have a special chow mein/sweet and sour ribs dinner at the Temple, with an All Things Japanese. Tickets for the dinner will go on sale at Obon on August 28th.

See you all at Omatsuri on August 13!

Thank you for your continuing support!

LONG-LIFE



KOTOBUKI KAI

by Lorraine McNeill

2016 CALGARY KOTOBUKI SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Kathrine Nugent Past-President, Bill Toyota Vice-President, Tetsuo Wada Treasurer, Albert Nawata Secretary, Tobie Sakamoto

DIRECTORS

Nancy Kondo Ruth Nagata Satomi Okabe Haruyo Onishi Patricia Sakura Tom Uyeno Kathleen Wall



On May 11th, guest speaker Deborah McLennan from 'Alberta Pulse', spoke on the benefits of eating Pulses, edible dried seeds of legumes such as dry peas and beans, lentils and chickpeas that have little to no fat content. Because they are high in protein, fibre and complex carbohydrates, pulses are of great benefit for those with weight, high cholesterol, diabetes, celiac disease problems or are vegetarians. More

information can be found on their website at www.pulse.ab.ca.

An excellent video, "Yukawa Story", shown on May 18th, and introduced by Tom Uyeno, told of the lifework of Hideki Yukawa, atomic physicist and Nobel Prize winner. This documentary was narrated by his son. The bento for May was organized by Toban C and again another delicious lunch from Redheads Bagel Café.

Toban D's craft day project had ladies winding yarn with elastic to make very useful cuff holders to keep shirt sleeves pushed up so they do not get wet or soiled when working. Games tables enjoyed bridge, mah jong, and some involved in meditative colouring.



Dr. Keiko Gomyo with daughter Yoshiko on her 88th birthday.



Another special birthday cake from Linda Mimura's daughter was enjoyed by all.

KOTOBUKI GOLF TOURNEY



Busy June featured the annual "Best Ball Golf Tournament" at the Cochrane course on the 6th. The weatherman smiled upon the 24 golfers who enjoyed the warm sunny day. Thanks again to Dan Ichii, Al Nawata and Kathrine Nugent for organizing the teams and to Kotobuki Kai, Bill Dawson, Goro Hirasawa, Pat Jetté and Kathrine Nugent, for their generous donations to add to this very fun day.



NOTICE:The golfer is responsible for any damage or injury their ball causes.





A bus trip to the Palliser Hotel for "High Tea" on June 20th, thanks to organizers Grace and Ted Wada, was "highly" enjoyed by 31 members. The scones, petite sandwiches and delicious desserts were beautifully presented and with much polite attention from our waiters. Thank you to Kotobuki Kai for their generous donation to make this an affordable event, giving seniors a chance to visit and enjoy the lovely hotel.

Roy Nagata's movie, "Vancouver Asahi", was a very touching depiction of this baseball team and the role they played in Vancouver as they rose to the top of the league despite racism and poverty, and how it all ended abruptly with Japan's entry into World War II. Made up of Canadian, 2nd generation Nisei players, the team was inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in 2003.

Kotobuki broke for the summer on June 29th, with a lively social hour, and bento from Redheads Bagel Café thanks to Toban D. The afternoon was taken up with special bingo, called by ever faithful Robert Sameshima and assistant, Dave Horiguchi. Many thanks to Nancy Kondo for her creative prize bags, filled not only with surprise monetary amounts, but the addition of her special Canada Day maple leaf baked cookies and cucumber tsukemono (pickles)!



Many celebrated Stampede week by volunteering or attending the CJCA Pancake Breakfast on July 9th, one of the few sunny days of this 10 day event. The Line Dancers, many Kotobuki members, performed for attendees as they enjoyed their breakfast. It was an honour to have Consul General Tanabe and Mrs. Tanabe attend the festivities in Stampede attire.

CTV News showed Stampede goers lined up for coffee and donuts on Senior's Day at the grounds. Kotobuki Secretary, Tobie Sakamoto was on camera, also in her Stetson and Stampede outfit.

Thank you to the membership for your involvement and dedication all year. President Kathrine and the executive and board members, thank you for your organization and never ending work to make Kotobuki a fun meeting place this entire 2015/2016 year.

See you on September 14!



Remember our shut-ins and enjoy the summer!

IN MEMORY

by Roy Nagata



The Calgary Nikkei community is saddened by the passing of:

KOGAWA, Lillian

On May 15, 2016 in Calgary, Alberta at the age of 76 years. Lillian was born on October 12, 1939 in Haney, BC.

She is survived by her loving husband Gordon of 55 years; daughters, Sandra (Don) and Wanda (Darryn); many grandchildren and great grandchildren as well as sisters and brothers.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families.



"The Perfect Gift!" OKAGE SAMA DE

"I am what I am because of you"
A History of Japanese Canadians
in the Calgary Area
\$75.00 - Published by CJCA
(8½ x 11 - hardcover book,
370 pages, over 600 images
& CD with 30 interviews)

AUGUST

Calgary Japanese

Omatsuri Festival

Saturday, August 13, 2016 from 11 am to 6 pm

Location: MAX BELL CENTRE 1001 Barlow Trail SE Calgaryjapanesefestival.com (Please refer to flyer.)

SEPTEMBER

NAJC 2016 AGM | Conference

September 8-11, 2016

Commemorative Banquet

Saturday, September 10

Sheraton Suites Calgary Eau Claire (Please refer to flyer & notices.)

NOVEMBER



Craft & Food Bazaar (NJCA)

Sunday, November 20, 2016 from 1am to 3pm

DECEMBER



Mochi Party

Sunday, December 11, 2016



Kid's Christmas Party

Sunday, December 18, 2016



CJCA Kids Winter Camp

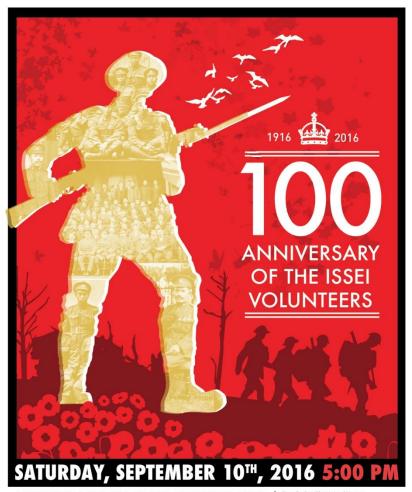
Date: Tuesday, December 27 to Friday, December 30 (4 days)

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Fee: \$60.00, Ages: 4-6years old **Japanese New Year (Oshogatsu theme) kids camp**



Upcoming Events

(Activities held at the Centre unless otherwise specified.)



SHERATON SUITES CALGARY EAU CLAIRE
255 BARCLAY PARADE SW, CALGARY, AB.

COMMEMORATION BANQUET, SILENT AUCTION, COMMUNITY & VENDOR MARKETPLACE

TICKETS \$100 EA. SENIORS 65+ \$80 EA.

Photo Credit: Nikkei National Museum 1992-20-33, 1992-20-34, 2010-23-2-4-551, 1994-70-3



To purchase tickets, please contact: cjcamain@shaw.ca or call (403) 242-4143 ext 4

MONDAY



CJCA KARAOKE CLUB

Starting: September From 11 am to 3 pm Contact: Masa Onishi (403) 686-6993 or onishimasa@yahoo.com



MIDNIGHT TAIKO KAI

(Drumming - Evenings)

Monday & alternate Thursday's

President: Ben Lim

Booking Info: John Nguyen

(403) 975-1270 or

bookings@midnight-taiko.ca

Website: www.midnight-taiko.ca

TUESDAY



KAEDE NO KAI (Odori/Dance)
Starting: September 6
7 to 9 pm (& Wed. 7:30 to 9 pm)
Instructor: Joanne Planidin
jbplanidin@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY



KOTOBUKI KAI (Seniors)
President: Kathrine Nugent
(403) 242-4691
or knugent@hotmail.ca



TO THE RES

CJCA RENSHIKAN KARATE CLUB

Starting: September 6 to 8 pm (& Saturday 9 to 10 am) Instructor: Seichi "Sey" Yamashiro Contact: cjcakarate@gmail.com

THURSDAY



SOGETSU IKEBANA GROUP

Starting: September 8 6 to 9 pm (bi-weekly) Instructor: Keiko Otsuki ikebanastudio@shaw.ca

Website: www.ikebanastudio.com FRIDAY



JLS - Friday Evenings (& Thursday) <u>Classes held at</u>:

Queen Elizabeth Junior/Senior
High School
512 18th Street NW, Calgary
Principal: Yoko Fukushima
(587) 582-8948 or
contact@calgaryjls.com
Website: www.calgaryjls.com

Programs

(Activities held at the Centre unless otherwise specified.)



ZUMBA FITNESS

Starting: September 9
10:00 - 10:45 am/11:00 - 11:45 am
Licensed Instructor: Aoi Kurosawa
(403) 561-1340 or
ciaociaoaoi@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/groups/ zumbawithaoi/

SATURDAY



NIHONGO TIME

"Japanese Conversation"
10 am to noon (year-round)
Contact: Taeko Nagao
(403) 650-7634 or ntaeko@telus.net

SUNDAY



LINE DANCE CLUB

Starting: September 11
3 to 5 pm (Drop-ins welcome!)
Contacts: Ted Wada or Rocky Oishi
(403) 278-8061 or tgwada@ymail.com
(403) 281-1203 or rjoishi@shaw.ca



NEW JAPANESE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION (NJCA)

MAILING ADDRESS:

Box 34137, Westbrook P.O. Calgary, AB T3C 3W2 **CONTACT US:** Alex Nagao

TEL: (403) 251-1762 EMAIL: nagaoa@telus.net

WEBSITE: www.nicacalgarv.ca



2016-2017 NJCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Atsuko Boyd Kiyomi Hayashi Naoki Ikeda Nokiko Kimura Michiko Lim Alex Nagao Mai Nagao Taeko Nagao Miyuki Perry Akemi Sato Shinya Tanaka Anna Tokunaga



JAPANESE CULTURE FOR KIDS

Starting: September 8 (Thursday & Friday)

From 10:00 to 11:00 am (For children under age 6.) For detailed schedule/fee information: Taeko at (403) 650-7634 or japanesekidsclass@gmail.com

2016 EVENTS SCHEDULE (NJCA)

= 20	16 行事予定 2016 Events = (Revised)
NJ	CA 主催行事 (NJCA Family & Kids Events)
2月6日(土) FEB.6	豆撒き Pm3:00-4:00 MAME-MAKI 感謝デー
3月6日(日) MAR.6	皆で歌おう「花は咲く」Am10:00-12Pm 復興支援イベント Recovery Support Japan Tsunami Event
3 73 6 H(H) MAK.0	"Let's sing together" 雛祭り(子供会) Pm1:00-2:30 HINAMATURI PARTY
4月 APR。	総会 NJCA AGM
5月22日(日) MAY.22	「日本文化:着物フェアー」 Am10:00-Pm2:00 [Asian Heritage Month] Japanese Culture:KIMONO FAIR
6月 JUN. 運	動会& ピクニック SPORTS DAY & PICNIC (TBA)
7月 JULY	ハイキング HIKING
	Fall Festival cancelled
11月20日) NOV.20	クラフトフードパザー Am11:00-Pm3:00 Crafts & Food BAZAAR
12月18日(日) DEC.18	クリスマスパーティー(子供会) Pm 1:00~3:00 <i>KID'S X'MAS PARTY</i>
* In case of inclement w	veather or lack of attendees, events will be cancelled.
注:行事、日時の変更は、	必ず事前にお知らせいたします。 ンセルになる事がありますので、必ず申し込みをして下さい。

Events will be cancelled if there are not enough participants.

For more detailed description of Events, please visit our website:

www.calgaryjca.com njca@njcacalgary.ca



"Computer Classes" Free for CJCA/NJCA Members!

WHEN: Classes are held twice a month

Classes are intended for beginner to mid-level users.

You can participate if you: are planning to start using a computer/internet/e-mail.want to improve your computer skill - want to learn how to use applications (Excel, Word, Photo-editor, etc.) - have a question (hardware, software, iPad, PC, printer, trouble, etc.) - don't have a computer but want to try anyway (student computers are available). Maximum 4 students at a time.

To "reserve" your spot, contact:

Alex Nagao at 403-390-0285 or nagaoa@telus.net

You can check the class schedule at: http://teamup.com/ks9d5aa2c7a7c537



JAPANESE YOUTH ASSOCIATION OF CALGARY

FOR INFORMATION: Mai Nagao at jyacalgary@gmail.com Website: http://jyacalgary.wordpress.com/ Find us on – Twitter and Facebook

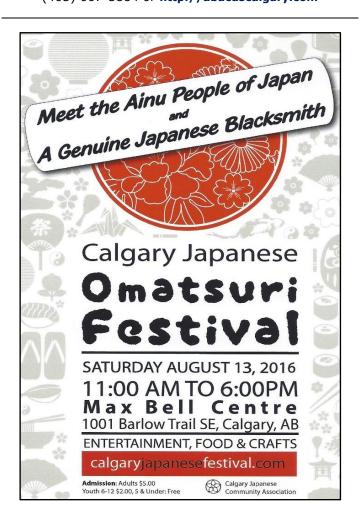
MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS





Abacus (Soroban)

Classes are year round!
WHEN: Wednesday (from 4 to 7 pm)
LOCATION: Nikkei Centre (Basement)
For information & registration, please contact:
Takayuki Hatakeyama at sorobancalgary@gmail.com
(403) 667-5884 or http://abacuscalgary.com



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



Calgary Nikkei Centre Garden
by Joanne Planidin

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! - CJCA has recently enlisted the services of a gardener from the Lethbridge Nikka Yuko Garden to provide his expertise and guidance, ensuring the future health and integrity of the garden are maintained at the highest level.

Stephanie Jacobson is our local volunteer coordinator for the weekly maintenance and weed control. If you have an interest in gardening, or if you just want to spend a little Zen time weeding, we invite you to come every Wednesday morning at 9:30 am to the centre. Bring your garden gloves, your favorite hoe and rake, a hat for sunny days and of course the sunscreen. If Wednesday is too wet for weeding, the regular schedule will move to the following Saturday morning.

At the end of August, we plan to add mulch to the garden. We will need a few extra volunteers to help with the spreading of the mulch. Date for the mulch work is yet to be confirmed. Please look for updates in the centre email blasts.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

by Kevin Okabe



"Leaving a Proud Legacy for Future Generations"

180 McPhillips St. Winnipeg, MB R3E 2J9
Tel: (204) 943-2910 or national@najc.ca or www.najc.ca



OVEERVIEW

The National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC), the Calgary Japanese Community Association and the CJCA Community and Seniors Foundation proudly host the NAJC's National Conference and Japanese Canadian War Veterans' Commemoration Banquet on September 10, 2016 at the Sheraton Suites Eau Claire Hotel in downtown Calgary.

Saturday, September 10, 2016 - NAJC/CJCA/CJCA Seniors & Community Foundation National Conference

The Saturday Conference will be open to anyone that is interested in attending. We are expecting to attract over 100 delegates to the conference, made up of:

- 30+ delegates coming from across the country, from various member organizations of the NAJC as well as members of the NAJC National Executive;
- 20+ delegates from the Japanese Canadian Young Leaders group, comprised of aspiring future leaders ages 18-39;
- Interested individuals, businesses and community groups from Calgary and Alberta area;
- 10 delegates from member organizations of the Asian Heritage Foundation of Southern Alberta, affiliated youth organizations and members of the Asian Business Network.

We will have three, short 1 hour seminar during the morning, with sessions running concurrently so that delegates can pick and choose two of the three seminars they wish to attend. In the afternoon, delegates will have a choice of attending a longer, 3 hour workshop session from one of the three streams. The streams of programming that are planned for the conference include:

HERITAGE STREAM

<u>Seminar</u>: Genealogy Research (Linda Kawamoto Reid, Vancouver)

The seminar will be a brief overview of the first steps to Nikkei genealogical research. Nikkei genealogy is unique and challenging for many reasons. We will acknowledge those challenges and also celebrate the bonuses of Nikkei genealogy. A handout folder with handy tips, helpful websites, samples of information available in government records, and a way to recognize a family koseki (family registry in Japan) will be presented. Samples of directories to assist with research will be available to view.



Due to the explosion in interest in exploring one's own genealogy (ancestry), Linda Kawamoto Reid of the Nikkei National Museum will put on an introductory seminar on the subject, to provide some tips on how individuals and families can research their own histories.

Resources that are of specific interest to Japanese Canadians will be identified, and recommendations on how to best research government documents will be offered. Recognizing and understanding the importance of acquiring a family **koseki** in Japan will be explored.

<u>Workshop</u>: Creating Nikkei Stories (David Tanaka, Lethbridge and Lillian Nakamura-Maguire, Whitehorse)





Storytelling is as old as civilization itself. The paintings in the Lascaux Caves in France tell stories about what Palaeolithic people celebrated and cherished. We have stories to tell about our life and times and fortunately, our storytelling can be done digitally. This workshop will cover two main topics: 1) finding a story you can tell; and 2) overview of digital tools and techniques. *Please bring an artifact to this session (photo, small object or curiosity of personal significance)*. You will use the artifact as a trigger to the story making process.

HUMAN RIGHTS STREAM

<u>Seminar</u>: 9-11, France, Orlando, Donald Trump, and Japanese Canadians. What is the connection? (Lorene Oikawa, Vancouver)



Join members of the NAJC Human Rights Committee for an engaging discussion about what is happening in our communities and around the world. Discover the connection between Japanese Canadian history and current events. Learn about the work of the committee and how we plan to build a strong network across the country. <u>Workshop</u>: Never forget. Why is it important to remember Japanese Canadian history and the racism experienced by our ancestors and Indigenous communities?

(Cecile Fausak, Athabaska)

The NAJC Human Rights Committee will be exploring the roots of racism and the danger when we fail to remember the historical racism experienced by Japanese Canadians, and



Indigenous peoples Speaker Cecile Fausak is the United Church's General Council Liaison Minister for Residential Schools. She will discuss the UN Declaration of Human Rights and her work on healing, justice and reconciliation initiatives. Facilitator Lorene Oikawa is the cochair of the NAJC Human Rights Committee. Through small group

work we will be looking at human rights from our own realities and experience, and learning different perspectives, and how we can support safe, inclusive, and thriving communities.

JAPANESE/ASIAN CANADIAN BUSINESS NETWORK

<u>Seminar</u>: Coaching for High Performance (Gary Watanabe, Toronto)



In this one hour session on how to use Coaching as a leadership style, Garry Watanabe will outline a framework for creating environments that build commitment in others. This session will have an interactive component so come prepared to talk about some of the challenges you face when coaching the people you lead.

<u>Workshop</u>: *Panel of Japanese and Asian Canadian Business Leaders*

In the afternoon, we will have a distinguished panel of speakers talking about the challenges and lessons learned during their successful careers. The speakers include:

- Howie Shikaze Chair of the Calgary Police Commission and partner with MNP Chartered Accountants. Past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Calgary
- Wayne Chiu a highly respected Canadian business leader and philanthropist who founded Trico Homes in 1992. A member of the Order of Canada, Wayne has been a long standing supporter of a number of community organizations with a passion for social entrepreneurship
- Yoko Azumaya Partner, Barr Picard Knisely (Edmonton), board member of the Edmonton Japanese Community Association
- Lourdes Juan Community leader and founder of two successful businesses, one not-for-profit organization and recognized as one of Calgary's Top 40 under 40

 Peter Kinjo – Owner, Kinjo's Restaurants (four locations in Calgary) and longtime supporter of the Calgary Japanese community





Banquet Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Japanese Canadian Volunteers in the First World War







2016 is the 100th Anniversary of Japanese Canadian soldiers enlisting to fight on behalf of Canada during the First World War. In commemoration of this significant anniversary, a banquet will be held, with displays and presentations by **David Mitsui** (L) and **Tim Tamashiro** (M), descendants of a couple of these soldiers. We also welcome special guest **Kaye Kishibe** (R), author of "Battlefield at Last: the Japanese Canadian volunteers of the First World War, 1914-1918", who will be on hand to sell his publication and talk about the volunteers.

Help us honor the families that sacrificed so much so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we have today. The banquet will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016 and a fundraising silent auction will be held at the event.

Community Trade Show and Marketplace

A community trade show and vendor marketplace is also being planned in conjunction with the Conference and Banquet. We will attract a wide range of community organizations and businesses to the marketplace to disseminate information about their organization and sell their wares.

Japanese Canadian Young Leaders Conference



We are proud to announce that the Japanese Canadian Young **Leaders** (JCYLC) will host their 2016 conference in conjunction with this National Conference. The Japanese Canadians Young Leaders Conference (JCYLC) is a space for Japanese Canadian young people to remember the past, recognize the present, and re-imagine the future of the JC community! By prioritizing dialogue and empowering young people through workshops, heritage tours, panels, and intergenerational discussions, the JCYLC offers a unique opportunity for young Japanese Canadians to develop, inspire, and lead Nikkei communities across the country. The Calgary conference will be the third in a series of annual events organized by the JCYLC.

To register for the conference or to purchase banquet tickets, please visit our website at: www.calgaryjca.com

REGISTRATION FEE: \$100 Deadline: August 31, 2016

BANQUET FEE: \$100 (\$80 for Seniors)

Deadline: August 31, 2016

NOTE: THE REGISTRATION FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE A BANQUET TICKET.

WAYS TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

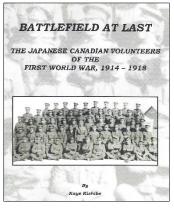
The NAJC National Conference and Banquet, co-hosted by the CJCA, will bring together over 100 delegates and participants from Japanese Canadian communities from across Canada. We encourage businesses to show their support for the work of the NAJC and CJCA by:

- 1) Becoming a sponsor for the event. Sponsorships start at \$500 and include name recognition, promotion and a banquet ticket. Higher sponsorship levels provide further recognition with ad space verbal acknowledgment and exhibitor booth space at the community and vendor marketplace
- 2) Donate an item for the silent auction which will be held in conjunction with the banquet. All donors will be recognized on the bid sheets that will be shown alongside the item donated
- 3) Make a tax-deductible donation to the "CJCA Community and Seniors Foundation"
- 4) Rent a booth in the marketplace (commercial booths are going for \$300 including one conference admission, while community organization booths are going for \$100 including one conference admission)
- 5) Register for the conference on Saturday
- 6) Purchase a ticket for the banquet

We would love to showcase the strong Calgary-based community and business organizations to a national audience. The conference and banquet will also provide great local exposure to the Calgary Japanese community!

For further information on the above opportunities, please contact:

Harvey Tanaka at harvey.tanaka52@gmail.com or by phone at (403) 816-1702 or visit the CJCA website at www.calgaryjca.com



Special Book Pre-Order! "BATTLEFIELD AT LAST" Research manuscript

(8 ½ x 11", 56 pages) Cost is \$15.00. Deadline: August 15. Pick-up available at the event in or later at the Centre. Please contact the CJCA Office to reserve/pay for your copy!

HONOURING THE LEGACY



First World War Researching: Pte. Kichimatsu Sugimoto by Laura Sugimoto

Aix Noulette is a small town in northern France surrounded by stretches of flat farm land, land used for growing potatoes, wheat and corn. To the east are the huge slag heaps of the Douai coal mines at the city of Lens. To the west and south is a ridge that curves along the edge of the Douai plain toward another French village: Vimy.

This is a stretch of the Western Front of World War I, where armies dug trenches in the heavy, wet soil and fought for inches across the farmland from 1914 onwards, and in 1917 drove forward over Vimy Ridge and around the slag heaps toward the coal mines. And here, in the Aix Noulette cemetery, is where Kichimatsu Sugimoto has rested for 90 years.

To me, a farm girl from southern Alberta, this countryside looks familiar: the flat land, the farming, the crops in the fields, the ridge in the distance, even the slags heaps (although the ones at Lethbridge are now long gone). I wondered if Kichimatsu was ever reminded of his home near Raymond.

But how could he have been reminded of southern Alberta? By 1916, this countryside was blasted and destroyed, cratered mud, sectioned by rolls of barbed wire and lined with trenches, illuminated at night by flares and treacherous with gun and gas. The photographs show the unimaginable: a hell on earth.

How did Kichimatsu come to this spot, this place where he died and is buried?

To come to some understanding of this, I have managed to reconstruct some of his history from reading his military records and the notes and letters of survivors as reported in Roy Ito's book "We Went to War". I combed the internet for information about the $52^{\rm nd}$ Battalion and battles that Battalion fought in, and researched Alberta and World War I history. What follows is that re-construction.

Kichimatsu was born on July 5th, 1885 in Mie-Ken, Japan, and immigrated to Canada with his brothers, Kisaburo and Takematsu (brother Ishimatsu came later). They arrived in Raymond, Alberta, around 1907, where there had been a small group of Japanese since as early as 1905.

On June 5th, 1916, three men from that small community in Raymond enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Forces: Mosaburo Hayashi, Otogi Kamachi, and Feiji Suda. Four days later, on June 9th, at the age of 31, Kichimatsu also enlisted; his medical history says he weighed 127 pounds and stood 5 feet 2 inches tall, and he declared that he was a Buddhist. A week later, his Attestation Papers were signed, and along with the others from Raymond, he joined the 13th Canadian Mounted Rifles (13 CMR) as a private.

By June 22nd, less than two weeks later, Kichimatsu was on a train out of Calgary headed east to Halifax. In addition to the four from Raymond, there were thirty-eight other Japanese Canadians on that train, in the 13 CMR; some were from Calgary and some were from BC who had come to Calgary to enlist, as they were prohibited by law from enlisting in BC. These 42 were the first Japanese Canadians to join the Canadian Expeditionary Forces.

On June 28th, he was sailing out of Halifax on the *SS Olympic* with 970 other soldiers in the 13th Canadian Mounted Rifles, and by July 5th, he had arrived in Liverpool, England. It took another two weeks for him to arrive at the Shorncliffe Depot in England for training, and here his Regiment was disbanded and used to reinforce other Alberta units. Kichimatsu was transferred to the famous Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. After just a month of training, on July 24th, he was shipped to France; it took four days for him to get there. On September 18th, he joined his unit in the field, and on September 21st, he arrived in Albert, France. On October 5th, he along with the rest of the group of Japanese Canadians was transferred into the 52nd Battalion (the Manitoba Regiment), and he was immediately sent into battle at Ancre Heights.

In just under three months, he had gone from being a farmer in southern Alberta to a private in the army fighting in the last throes of the bloody Battle of the Somme.

According to survivor recollections, during those first few days on the front, the 52nd Battalion was formed into work parties to take ammunition and supplies to the front and to bring out the wounded, all through constant heavy rain, mud, and cold. On October 10th, 1916, the 52nd returned to the rear area for sixteen days of rest, and then on October 25th, they set off for Armentiere, some 60 miles north near the Belgium border. The 52nd spent most of November on the front lines, half way between Vimy and Ypres.

Kichimatsu's army records state that he was injured on December 17th, 1916 and spent until December 24th at the No. 10 Canadian Field Ambulance, rejoining his unit in the field on Christmas Day. Much to the disgust of some of the troops, the 52nd was held in reserve on April 9th, when the Canadian forces attacked at Vimy Ridge; the 52nd did not move across the newly taken Vimy Ridge to the enemy lines until April 12th.

While Kichimatsu's military records do not mention this, two survivors (Katsuji Nakashima and Norboru Murakami) both stated that Kichimatsu was wounded by an artillery shell on May 6th, 1917, shortly before the 52nd Battalion was to leave the front line. However, his injuries could not have been too serious because Nakashima reports that Kichimatsu was assigned to a work party on June 26th, the day the 52nd Battalion moved north toward Ypres, in Belgium. On June 28th, the Japanese Canadians were back in action near Ypres, and Yoichi Kamakura (from Calgary) was awarded the Military Medal for his part in the action.

A month later, the 52nd, along with the other Canadian battalions, was back in France, just north of Vimy, posed to attempt to take the City of Lens and its coal mines; this was to be the Battle of Hill 70.

On August 15th, 1917, the Battle of Hill 70 began. It is a forgotten battle now, but during the ten days that it raged, the Canadians won six Victoria Crosses for bravery and suffered over 9,000 casualties (dead and wounded). One of those casualties was Kichimatsu Sugimoto. The Morning Alberta of August 23rd, includes him in a list of the wounded for that day; his military record simply says "Killed in Action" August 24th, 1917. Kichimatsu Sugimoto was buried in a nearby cemetery in Aix-Noulette.

"Pte. Sugimoto" continued on Page 15.

"Pte. Sugimoto" continued...

Of those first 42 Japanese Canadian volunteers, two others were killed at Hill 7o/Lens and are buried near Kichimatsu in Aix-Noulette cemetery: Yoichi Kamakura, who died August 26th, and Takakichi Fukui, who died Sept 2nd. Of the other three who left Raymond, only Otogi Kamachi escaped injury; Mosaburo Hayashi was wounded, and Feiji Suda was killed September 28th, 1918.

In 1936, the Japanese Canadian Association sponsored a returned to France for the dedication of the Vimy Memorial. In addition to attending the Vimy ceremony, the group tried to visit as many Japanese Canadian graves as possible (Saburo Shinobu of the Association was a participant and wrote about the experience; his story is Appendix One of "We Went to War" by Roy Ito). The first grave they found, on July 27th, was that of Kichimatsu Sugimoto; a picture of them at his grave is included in We Went to War (page 291).

The Aix-Noulette cemetery is certainly much different now than go years ago when Kichimatsu was buried there, and even different than 70 years ago when Shinobu and the Japanese Canadian Association members were there. Since then, of course, another war has ravaged this countryside. But now, as with all the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemeteries, this Aix-Noulette cemetery is beautifully maintained: the grass is green and neatly manicured, the perennials are trimmed, and from early spring to late in the fall, flowers are in bloom; the cemetery is enclosed by a low brick wall, across which can be seen those green fields of northern France. Each grave is carefully tended; each headstone is the same, but each is individually engraved.

I have been to Aix Noulette twice now, the first time, November 11th, 2004, was a cloudy, cool day, a southern Alberta late fall day, with a hint of rain or maybe even snow; the second time, April 5th, 2007, was a brilliant sunshiny spring day. But it is that first visit that will always linger in my memory. Under the lowering sky, we burned incense at the grave. As we left, the smell of the incense drifted across the cemetery. It was quiet, peaceful, still.

"KIA", Pte. Hikotaro Koyanagi by Chik Koyanagi



"Killed in Action" south west of Passchendaele.
Searchable records available on the
"Library & Archives Canada" website

Second World War: "A Special Japanese Unit"

by Lorraine McNeill and Marjorie Fujino

George Yoshihisa Higa was born in Okinawa, Japan in 1916. At the age of 3, he moved to Canada with his mother, Uta, to rejoin with his father, Shinei. George grew up in the Lethbridge area where the family

farmed and in 1938 married Yoshiko Kohashiqawa.



George enlisted in the Canadian Army in Lethbridge in 1940 with the Royal Canadian Artillery. In 1945, he was recruited by the Intelligence Unit of the Canadian Army. He was posted to India with a special Japanese unit; his assignment to gather information from prisoners captured in the Pacific Theatre.

George was the only one of the Southern Albertans to serve in the Pacific Theatre and actually see action against the

Japanese Army. When there was a call for Japanese Canadians to go to the Pacific Theatre in the latter stages of the war, he was called up. He served in the Canadian Intelligence Corps, being attached to the SEAC (South East Asia Command, 16th Candy Force) in India and Nepal.

While George was away in India, Yoshiko with the help of her brothers—in—law, would often send care packages of toiletries, cigarettes and cookies to him. His younger brother, Harry, a Sergeant in the Canadian Army, was also serving for his country.

When the Second World War ended, every evening Yoshiko could be seen with her *ear to the radio*, *listening for the list of soldiers* who were returning from Asia. George returned home in 1946.

With assistance from the Veterans Land Act, George and Yoshiko started a small farm. They raised a family of 6 on this small farm. In 1966, George and Yoshiko sold the farm so George could attend the University of Lethbridge in the Faculty of Education. He received his Bachelor of Education degree at the age of 54 and taught school in Hilda in the County of Newell and ended his career as principal of Haddington School in Patricia, Alberta.

George enjoyed his retirement in Lethbridge, golfing and curling with family and friends. He passed away on January 2, 1999. On August 16, 2016, George would have turned 100!

Photo: George in London, England.

"In the Service"



Kotobuki's Mr. Nishihata (1958) and Mr. Nagata (1951)

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Foreign Minister's Commendation – Consulate General of Japan

by Joanne Planidin

Congratulations to Mrs. Keiko Otsuki, Sogetsu Ikebana, for receiving this very prestigious award from the Japanese Government. She was presented this award in July for her work to promote the Japanese art of Ikebana here in Calgary. She has been providing instruction and exhibits since 1990 in the Calgary area. This award is presented to individuals or groups who have made considerable contributions and achievements toward the promotion of mutual relations between Japan and a foreign country. Congratulations Keiko!

Congratulations also to Professor X. Jie Yang of the University of Calgary for receiving The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette. This award recognized the contributions that Dr. Yang has made at the U of C in the Department of Linguistics, Languages and Culture. Dr. Yang came to Calgary in 2005 and established the Japanese Studies program at the U of C.

CJCA COMMUNITY & SENIORS FOUNDATION

by Shirley Shigematsu

The foundation is a registered charity and graciously accepts donations from both public and private sectors.

(Tax Receipt Issued)

On behalf of CJCA Community and Seniors Foundation, we gratefully acknowledge and thank the following who donated to the Foundation.

Frank Hori Charitable Foundation

It is through such generous contributions that the Foundation can sustain itself and continue to provide cultural and social services to the Japanese Community.

"ENERGY"



The only word necessary to describe Midnight Taiko's performance with the Calgary Wind Symphony on June 12th at Rosza Centre at the University of Calgary.



Dear Members...

In order to keep the Centre tidy, please DO NOT drop-off unwanted DVDs, CDs, VHS tapes, obsolete computer software or magazines. If you would like to donate "cultural" items, please contact the Centre ahead of time. Thank you for your cooperation!

COMMUNITY CORNER

Calgary Kotobuki Society

25 Year Service Celebration by Lorraine McNeill



Special Kotobuki members Roy and Luri Nagata, Aki and Duke Oshiro, daughter Sandra representing her Dad, and Carole Omura, were honored on June 8th at the "25 year pin" presentation. Congratulations to these members for their years of service and dedication to Kotobuki. The Kotobuki odori ladies entertained in their beautiful blue and white kimonos, dancing to "Korekara" with Ted Wada, singing to the music. The dance steps were from "Tokyo Ondo". Plates of mochi from Fosters Bakery with oranges and strawberries were enjoyed by all.

At age 90, Roy continues his support by educating students at local schools, English to new Canadians and is a regular contributor to the CJCA Quarterly Newsletter.

FORMER 25 YEAR MEMBERS

Miyoko Kadonaga, Terry Murakami, Caroline Hori, Peter Hori, Hiroshi Kuwahara, Kay Kuwahara, Tosh Nagata, Amy Okazaki, Casey Yoneda, Lily Yoneda, Fumi Fujiwara, Eiji Nishihata, Jean Ikeda, Jim Tomimoto, Chikara Koyanagi, Kay Koyanagi, Tosh Takahashi



Where's Wada?

VOLUNTEERS



"Stampede Breakfast" Highlights!



ONE OF THE MANY "VOLUNTEER" ORGANIZED EVENTS AT CJCA...



"Kotobuki Golf Day!" - Thanks Lorraine!

MISSION STATEMENT

"To promote and maintain Japanese culture in Calgary and District."

MANY THANKS!

To article contributors, proof-readers, photographers & illustrators.

MEMBERSHIP

The "2016" CJCA Membership Application form is located at the end of the newsletter. Members <u>only</u> will receive an additional "Monthly" E-Newsletter.

ADVERTISING?

Advertising options and rates are available through the office.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

WANTED: Board Directors, Committee Chairpersons





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We will be at the Centre on from 11 am to 3 pm: Saturday, August 13, 2016 (Omatsuri Festival) Wednesday, October 26, 2016 Wednesday, December (TBD), 2016

Centre Notes

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday thru Friday during office hours or first Saturday (1-4 pm) and third Sunday (11-12 pm). (Subject to change.)

LOST & FOUND

Unclaimed items will be disposed of on a regular basis.

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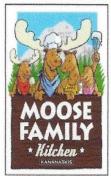
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