

HANDBOOK

THE GREATER TORONTO CHAPTER
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

Presents

AN INHERITANCE OF ACTIVISM
A HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NAJC HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

2022 OCTOBER 28TH - 30TH
TORONTO, ONTARIO

WWW.TORONTONAJC.CA

An Inheritance of Activism
A Human Rights Symposium

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National Association of Japanese Canadians
6 Garamond Ct., Toronto, Ont. M3C 1Z5
www.torontonajc.ca

For the issei and nisei, who prevailed

(after Ken Adachi)

We meet in Tkaronto (Toronto). We acknowledge that Tkaronto is the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples. We also acknowledge that Tkaronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Dish With One Spoon covenant between the Anishnaabe, the Mississaugas and the Haudenosaunee. Many nations have cared for this territory, and it is now home to many Indigenous nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. Europeans and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. We are all treaty people. We bring good hearts to our accountability to be in good relationship in this place where Indigenous nations have come together for thousands of years to share knowledge and land.

We are inspired by the words of Phil Fontaine,
former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

“The attempt to transform us failed. The true legacy of
the survivor, then, will be the transformation of Canada.”

Our work today, tomorrow and thereafter
is to be part of that transformation.

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October 28, 2022

WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear friends,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to this 75th Anniversary Symposium. To those visiting from outside the Greater Toronto Area, I extend an extra special welcome. I love this city and hope you enjoy your time here.

Toronto is home to more than 250 ethnicities with 175 different languages spoken here. I call it the great “people-scape,” while not known for its natural features, the people make the place. In 2019 the BBC declared Toronto the most diverse city in the world. It is a city of displaced persons, Japanese Canadians included, and immigrants.

Change has taken place. In 1942 a ban and quotas restricting JC settlement reflected the racism of the day. My great-grandmother, grandparents and parents forcibly uprooted from B.C., were pushed further east to Montreal at a time when signs saying “gentiles only” were commonplace. Other displaced peoples included Chileans, Vietnamese, Sri Lankan and Syrian refugees, individuals facing persecution due to sexual orientation, and Indigenous peoples seeking opportunities and living conditions not available elsewhere.

Change is a given and at this symposium we will discuss current challenges such as housing, anti-Asian racism, online hate and other issues that must be addressed to strengthen Canada.

I’m so grateful to the fantastic team of volunteers who made this event possible and feel it necessary to highlight a few, such as the Toronto NAJC board and the NAJC human rights committee. In particular, my exceptional co-chair Kristen Kiyomi Perry; Alex Rafuse-Okuda, Ottawa Japanese Community Association board member and now Young Leaders’ committee chair; Suzanne Hartmann, the commemorative booklet editor and Derek Sakauye, for his enthusiasm and work ethic.

Make friends and have fun. Let’s all think of ways to build community while turning good intentions into results.

Sincerely,

Lynn Deutscher Kobayashi (she/her)
President, Toronto NAJC
Symposium co-chair and executive lead





PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

October 28–30, 2022

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone celebrating the 75th anniversary of the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC).



Since it was founded in 1947, the NAJC has been committed supporting the Japanese Canadian community and to preserving and sharing Japanese heritage and culture in Canada. This milestone offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon your organization's proud history, to celebrate its many accomplishments and to set goals for the future.

I would like to thank the members of the NAJC, past and present, for their dedication to fostering fellowship in the community. Canada is truly a multicultural nation, made stronger and more resilient by our diversity.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable anniversary and continued success.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada



Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario

October 28 – 30, 2022

A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD

I'm very pleased to extend greetings to everyone taking part in NJCCA/NAJC 75th Anniversary Human Rights Symposium.

Ontario is proud to be home to a strong and vibrant Japanese Canadian community whose members have played an important role in shaping the social, cultural and economic fabric of our province and country.

The theme of this symposium — An Inheritance of Activism — serves to remind us of our shared obligation to learn from the lessons of history, to be vigilant against all forms of bigotry, and to build a world without prejudice and hate.

Our government will always stand with Japanese Canadians and our broader Asian community in condemning anti-Asian hate and hatred in all its forms. Thank you to the entire team at the Greater Toronto Chapter, National Association of Japanese Canadians, for organizing this event and for promoting a greater understanding of historical injustices suffered by Japanese Canadians.

Best wishes for an enlightening and inspiring symposium.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Ford".

Doug Ford
Premier





Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the Greater Toronto Chapter, National Association of Japanese Canadians' Human Rights Symposium celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the National Association of Japanese Canadians/ National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association (NJCCA).

Congratulations to your organization on celebrating this milestone anniversary. Best wishes to everyone taking part in this event themed, "An Inheritance of Activism", that will provide an opportunity to look back on your organization's past milestones while looking forward to the wonderful possibilities to come. Thank you to the Japanese community in Toronto for contributing greatly to the fabric of our society.

Events like these celebrate the rich cultures and traditions that make our city so unique, and are essential to a prosperous, vital and livable Toronto.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for a memorable event and continued success.

Yours truly,

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
100 QUEEN STREET WEST, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5H 2N2

MESSAGE FROM SYMPOSIUM CO-CHAIR

Oct. 28, 2022

Welcome!

I am excited to welcome you to the NJCCA-NAJC 75th Anniversary Human Rights Symposium. I would like to thank my co-chair Lynn, our hosts, the Toronto NAJC, the members of the NAJC Human Rights Committee and our partners for their time and dedication in creating this space. Gratitude goes to our knowledgeable speakers, our essential volunteers and our sponsors for making this event possible.

This weekend, I hope we will all benefit from connecting, learning, sharing and moving toward further action for human rights.

As a yonsei, connecting with the Japanese Canadian community has been important in rooting my social justice work. It has been a pleasure to work with people from different geographies and generations.

As an organizer, it has been an honour to witness and recognize both the historical and current work that Japanese Canadians across the country are doing in the fight for justice for all. I am proud we are gathering this weekend to continue these efforts.

Our diverse community, with both different and shared experiences, can learn from each other and apply this to our current realities. We can draw inspiration from the organizers that came before us, as well as our own activities, as we continue to work for the rights of the Japanese Canadian community and act in solidarity with other marginalized communities.

This is our inheritance of activism.



Kristen Kiyomi Perry (she/her)
Symposium co-chair
NAJC Human Rights Committee



SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

DAY 1 (FRIDAY, OCT. 28)

CHELSEA HOTEL

33 Gerrard St. W., Toronto, Ont.

4 - 8 p.m. Early registration and welcome Hospitality Suite

DAY 2 (SATURDAY, OCT. 29)

CHELSEA HOTEL

8:15 a.m. Registration Churchill Court

Meet and Mingle Churchill Court

Continental Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Welcome Churchill Ballroom

Inheritance of Activism

TRC reconciliation

11:15 a.m. LUNCH BREAK

noon -1:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:

Intergenerational Trauma and Mental Health Windsor Room

Destigmatizing the Homeless and Precariously Housed Wren Room

Anti-Asian Racism Churchill Ballroom

1:15 – 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:

Intergenerational Trauma and Mental Health Windsor Room

Destigmatizing the Homeless and Precariously Housed Churchill Ballroom

2SLGTBQIA+ Creating a Safe Space Wren Room

2:30 –3:30 p.m. Coffee hour for volunteers and attendees Windsor Room

4:30 -7:30 p.m. Survivor Dinner, Anniversary Dinner
(not included in symposium fee) Churchill Ballroom

REEL ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL Headquarters

8 -11 p.m. After-party reception
Presentation – London, Ont. mural

For the latest updates, please visit www.torontonajc.ca

OPENING PLENARY

Truth and Reconciliation

Creating bridges across communities and generations through story and experience



SESSION DESCRIPTION

Join Elder Sault (Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation), Prof. Eva Jewell (Anishinaabekwe from Deshkan Ziiibiing - Chippewas of the Thames First Nation) and Prof. Jennifer Matsunaga (sansei JC), born, raised and living on unceded Algonquin territory) in this 75-minute session.

Together they will share their perspectives around notions of truth and reconciliation. The conversation will be sure to provoke deep reflection and develop new understandings. Please attend with an openness to learn, and a curiosity for new and different perspectives. There will be some time left at the end for questions from the audience.

Garry Sault is an Ojibway elder from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. His people signed more than 20 pre-Confederation treaties with the Crown, which cover most of the Golden Horse-shoe. A veteran who served in the U.S. navy, he resides on the New Credit First Nation with his wife of 40 years and enjoys spending quality time with his grandchildren. Garry is a sto-ryteller & has welcomed chiefs, premiers, environmentalists, and many more to the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Eva Jewell is Anishinaabekwe from Deshkan Ziiibiing (Chippewas of the Thames First Nation) in southwestern Ontario, with paternal Haudenosaunee lineage from Oneida Nation of the Thames. Her research interests are currently in Anishinaabe cultural/political reclamation and Canada's accountability to reconciliation. She is an assistant professor.

in the Sociology Department at Toronto Metropolitan University and research director at Yellowhead Institute

Jennifer Matsunaga is an Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Ottawa, unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg. Her interdisciplinary research examines reparations for historical injustices in settler states with a focus on Canada. Her reflections on truth telling, shame, resilience, assimilation, colonization and intergenerational trauma - are rooted in her lived experience as a sansei, and her family and community history of internment and redress.

She is on the board of the Ottawa Japanese Community Association and NAJC Human Rights committee and a founding member of the School of Social Work's Kinis tòtà dim in: Circle. Her academic writing has been published in *Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education and Society* and *Canadian Ethnic Studies*. Her creative writing in *Living Hyphen* and her non-fiction work has been recognized in the CBC Books non-fiction prize competition.

SESSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Anti-Asian Racism:

From Yellow Peril to Beyond the Model Minority



SESSION DESCRIPTION

Featuring moderator (Judy Hanazawa) and presenter (Karen Cho). From micro-aggressions to violent hate crimes instances of anti-Asian racism, triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, continue to rise. Anti-Asian racism is nothing new, but today's version provides an opportunity to re-think its roots as well as explore ways of systemically addressing it.

In this interactive workshop, we will unpack the roots of “yellow peril” racism in North America and examine how the model minority myth has been used to divide marginalized groups.

How can we build on and improve past anti-racism struggles and strategies?

Thought-provoking short videos will act as conversation starters where participants will share experiences, and develop actions and strategies, big and small, to combat racism from a place of inclusive solidarity.

Judy Kiyoko Hanazawa was born in Merritt, B.C. in 1947 where her family moved after their removal from Steveston and incarceration at Bridge River. Judy grew up in Strathcona, a once thriving Japanese Canadian neighbourhood. She has a son and daughter and two grandchildren.

Judy attended University of British Columbia earning a bachelor’s and master’s degree in social work. For more than 60 years, she worked in child and family services with the provincial government and Squamish Nation.

She has been involved with the Greater Vancouver JCCA (GVJCCA) and NAJC since after redress. For the GVJCCA she has served as board and executive as director and president, and a long-term human rights committee member. For the NAJC, Judy was past director and human rights committee chair and remains a member. Since 2020, she’s been an active member of Act2EndRacism, which supports communities targeted by anti-Asian racism. On June 3, 2022, through B.C. Japanese Canadian Redress, Judy was appointed to the B.C. Multicultural Advisory Council.

Karen Cho is a Chinese-Canadian filmmaker known for exploring identity, immigration and social justice.

Karen’s first film, *In the Shadow of Gold Mountain*, focused on the Chinese head tax SH1 and Chinese Exclusion Act, and was used as a tool in the fight for redress LK2. Film credits include the Gemini Awards-nominated *Seeking Refuge* and *Status Quo? The Unfinished Business of Feminism in Canada*. Her television work has touched on: Aboriginal health and

wellness, Japanese internment, Quebecois cuisine, Vancouver's downtown east side and worldwide artist activists. Karen was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award in 2018 for work on CBC's *Interrupt This Program*. Her latest film, *Big Fight in Little Chinatown*, launching in 2022, is about endangered Chinatowns in North America.

Karen has been involved with the Head Tax Redress Movement, Montreal's Chinatown Working Group, Progressive Chinese of Quebec, Coast to Coast Chinatowns Against Displacement, Action Chinese Canadians Together and Act2EndRacism.

Creating Safespaces for 2SLGBTQI+ Nikkei



SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session is focused as an information presentation to connect audience members with answers to questions about lives in the queer and trans community. Speaking from personal experiences, the presenters will be engaging with questions submitted anonymously at the beginning of the session and expanding on topics focused on supporting queer and trans people. Throughout this session, we hope to offer those seeking to support people at the intersection of racialized, sexual and gender identities clarity on the needs and desires we have for progress and safety.

MODERATOR

Niina Dubik is a haafu writer. She participated in JCAM's Through the Generational Lens video project and is a member of the NAJC's Human Rights Committee.

Akira Imai (she/her/hers) has been working and living on Coast Salish territories (lower mainland of B.C.) her entire life. She has years of experience supporting youth through organizations like CampOUT!, and helping people navigate gender affirming care in BC.

In this symposium, Akira hopes to be a resource for those who wish to support gender variant and queer people in their lives.

Jun Cura-Bongolan (he/him, they/them) is a Filipinx yonsei; a descendant of prewar issei immigrants to the Philippines; born and raised in Tkaronto (Toronto). He became involved with the Japanese Canadian community after years of reflecting on two personal coming out stories: his maternal grandmother's suppression of her Japanese identity and that of his own sexuality.

As a patrilineal descendant of the indigenous Ifugao people in the northern Philippines, Jun also acknowledges the vibrant stories, cultures and traditions practiced on the ancestral lands of the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Wendat (now home to various First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples). His connections to his father's spirituality and grandmother's life history has inspired him to share his own journey of self-discovery as a young, gay Nikkei.

Izumi Sakamoto (she/her) is an immigrant from Japan (shin-ijusha) living in Tkaronto for the past 20 years. Raising her 11-year-old child with her Taiwanese co-parent has helped her develop her identity as a queer Japanese Canadian person. As an associate professor of social work at the University of Toronto, her research focuses on anti-oppression, immigration, and Japanese Canadian arts and activism.

Intergenerational Trauma and Mental Health



SESSION DESCRIPTION

Featuring yonsei (Leanne Toshiko Simpson), sansei (Dr. Jim Sugiyama), nisei (Ron Shimizu) and yonsei (Nicola Koyanagi)

perspectives, this panel will explore intergenerational trauma and mental health, making connections between community well-being and histories of discrimination, model minority myths and cultural barriers to communication. The panel will be followed by a peer-supported sharing circle, facilitated by Leanne Toshiko Simpson and Nicola Koyanagi from Mata Ashita: Japanese Canadian Writers' Circle.

Leanne Toshiko Simpson (she/her) is a mixed-race yonsei writer and psychiatric survivor from Scarborough. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder at 17, she has taught expressive writing workshops for sick, mad and disabled writers since 2017. She is a graduate of University of Toronto Scarborough Creative Writing and the University of Guelph's MFA, and is currently completing an EdD in Social Justice Education at the University of Toronto, focusing on the intergenerational impact of the Japanese Canadian internment. Leanne teaches disability arts and BIPOC literature at U of T, and she also co-founded Mata Ashita in 2020, bringing together emerging Japanese Canadian writers from across the country. Her debut mental health novel, *Never Been Better*, is forthcoming with HarperCollins.

Dr. Jim Sugiyama is a family physician, who provides primary health care to the most marginalized populations including refugees. He has been a professional mentor and "on the job" reference for many international medical graduates. Under his leadership and care he has helped them gain industry-specific experience in a Canadian setting.

Ron Shimizu, the youngest of six children, was born in a Canadian prison camp in 1944. His issei parents settled in Ucluelet, B.C. in 1919 until removed in 1942 to an incarceration camp in Slocan, B.C., where Ron was born.

At the end of the Second World War, following the expulsion of JCs from B.C., his family moved to Ontario in 1947, resettling in Hamilton in 1951 where Ron grew up. He attended McMaster University and received a master of arts in political science. Ron worked at Environment Canada in Toronto for 30 years and then acted as a consultant for another seven years before retiring. He is married to Edy Goto and has two children.

Active in the JC community since 1976, Ron has served on many boards: Toronto Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC), the Annex of the JCCC, Toronto Buddhist Church and Toronto Chapter of the NAJC. He currently is convener of the Toronto NAJC's Elders Council.

PEER SUPPORT

Nicola “Nico” Koyanagi (she/they) is a mixed-race yonsei with European ancestry, living in Nogojiwanong/Peterborough. They are a peer supporter, mediator, community organizer and an avid gardener. Nico offers peer support during Mata Ashita’s writing circles and works with OPIRG Peterborough to coordinate community events focused on social and environmental justice. She is a co-founder of the BIPOC Growing Collective in Nogojiwanong and volunteers with several organizations, including Tsuru for Solidarity, where she co-facilitates healing circles for a diversity of individuals across North America. She is interested in how we can live with more compassion and care toward ourselves, each other, and the earth while resisting colonialism and capitalism in all its forms.

Destigmatizing the Homeless and Precariously Housed



SESSION DESCRIPTION

Featuring activist, organiser, Downtown Eastside, Vancouver Kathy Shimizu, Kim Uyede-Kai and Brent Kitagawa. Adequate housing is recognized as a basic human right by the United Nations and refers to much more than a physical structure. After the Second World War ended, interned Japanese Canadians, now homeless, were displaced east of the Rockies in search of a place to call home. Every precariously housed person we see today also has a story.

This workshop will explore the following questions:

- What are the root causes of homelessness?
- How can we humanize the “issue” and our responses?
- What is our role and shared responsibility as community members and as individuals around homelessness and inadequate housing?
- What are tangible ways that we can create and foster relationships to build community?
- How do we decolonize our work?
- How can we use our voices to change political will?

MODERATORS

Kathy Shimizu is a sansei settler, graphic designer, artist, and community organizer living and working on the stolen and occupied traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples in Vancouver.

She has worked and volunteered for the Powell Street Festival Society in various roles since 1991, including current work to establish a Downtown Eastside Community Land Trust and supporting the mutual aid network that exists in the neighbourhood. She is a co-founder and administrator of WePress Community Arts Space Society and a member of Sawagi Taiko. She helps create space for marginalized voices by using the importance of history, and the power and joy of arts and culture, to build community and fight for social justice and change.

Kim Uyede-Kai is vice-president of the Toronto NAJC and a board member of Toronto Urban Native Ministry. She is a yonsei (maternal side). She has a special interest in social justice, human rights and right relations, and Indigenous justice and was previously a member of the National Human Rights Committee (NAJC). She works for the United Church of Canada with particular experience in intercultural, LGBTQ+, Indigenous right relations and anti-racist initiatives.

Remembering the injustices of Japanese Canadian community internment, its intergenerational effects, and the struggle for redress, identity, and righting Canadian history matter to her not only personally, but because this is a Canadian issue.

As long as there are Canadians who don't know this Canadian government-sanctioned history of human rights injustices to one racialized community, there is work to be done to ensure that it doesn't happen again. Though small, the Japanese Canadian community can use its voice of experience to speak with any other Canadian minority or Indigenous group experiencing injustice.

Brent Kitagawa is a social worker who works in Toronto with Streets to Homes and was a street outreach counsellor. He serves Toronto's homeless population using non-judgmental listening as part of a homes-first approach.

BUILDING SOLIDARITIES



Welcome by **Elder Garry Sault** (bio pg. 8)

Amira Elghawaby is a journalist, human rights advocate and director of strategic communications and campaigns at the Canadian Race Relations Foundation. She has worked in the labour movement as well as an advocate for civil liberties of Canadian Muslims at the National Council of Canadian Muslims. She has been involved with initiatives to counter hate and promote inclusion; as a founding board member of the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, as a champion of the United For All United Way-East Ontario initiative, and as a Silk Road Institute director. She served two terms as a commissioner on the Public Policy Forum's Canadian Commission on Democratic Expression.

Pamela Sugiman has been dean of the faculty of arts at Toronto Metropolitan University since 2016. She has chaired its Department of Sociology and held a tenure-stream position at McMaster for 15 years. She has a reputation for creativity, collegiality, transparency and vision.

Her commitment to issues of social justice, equity and inclusion is rooted in her personal history as a Japanese Canadian. She has promoted the development of Indigenous education, democratic engagement, migration and immigration and student-worker experience.

Hayden King is Anishinaabe from Beausoleil First Nation on Gchi'mnissing, in Huronia, Ont. His research projects revolve around renewing Indigenous relationships to the land. He is co-lead on a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council partnership grant seeking to understand Indigenous jurisdiction in modern treaty contexts; through Yellowhead Institute he is studying the practical strategies First Nation communities deploy to reclaim land and resources. Hayden is a student of Anishinaabeg law, working to re-articulate the legal relationships between hunters and the land.

Kim Uyede-Kai (bio pg. 15)

Karen Cho (bio pg. 10)

Check www.torontonajc.ca for livestream information.

SHARING GROUPS

Sunday morning

Participants will choose to participate in discussions around one of these topics:

- Intergenerational Trauma and Mental Health
- Destigmatizing the Homeless and Precariously Housed
- Truth and Reconciliation

A facilitator will give brief overview of the topic and maintain a supportive and encouraging environment to promote participation and open sharing. Keep in mind that some topics may include vulnerable or challenging subject matter.

A moderator will ensure that everyone is speaking respectfully, and work to keep participants on the relevant topic. They will guide participants through a discussion, which promotes exchange and introspection and moves in the direction of action for human rights.

NAJC DR. GORDON HIRABAYASHI HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

The award is presented in recognition of an individual or organization in Canada contributing to the development or promotion of human rights and equality in Canada.

2021 RECIPIENT - SHIN IMAI



Upon becoming a lawyer in 1980, Shin Imai practised at Keewaytinok Native Legal Services in Moosonee and later had his own practice in the areas of human rights, refugee law and Indigenous rights. In 1989 he joined the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General to develop Alternative Dispute Resolution programs and initiate justice projects in Indigenous communities.

He was appointed to faculty at Osgoode in 1996 and a director of the Justice and Corporate Accountability Project. He has served as academic director at Parkdale Community Legal Services, director of the Intensive Program on Aboriginal Lands, director of Clinical Education, and co-director of the Latin American Network on Research and Education in Human Rights. Imai was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award at the Law School in 2004, 2007 and 2010.

2022 NOMINEES

Kaz Shikaze is a respected Toronto nisei elder. He has been a lifelong volunteer and tireless supporter of human rights and humanitarian efforts. He has been wearing his growing collection of orange shirts every day for over a year.

Kathy Shimizu works both within and beyond the Japanese Canadian community she leads efforts to alleviate poverty and homelessness in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside – with immediate hands-on supports and political advocacy.

John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights is a legacy of the Human Rights Education Foundation established by John Peters Humphrey, the principal writer of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

ABOUT GORDON HIRABAYASHI

“I first met Gordon Hirabayashi in 1983. Though he moved to Canada in 1959. He was active with the Japanese Canadian community and served on National Council NAJC during redress discussions. His arguments for individual compensation were compelling. I give credit to Gordon Hirabayashi for his conviction and persistence that the principle of individual compensation must be the cornerstone for any meaningful and just resolution with the government.”

- Art Miki

Gordon Hirabayashi dedicated his life to battling discrimination wherever he encountered it. After Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec.7, 1941, Japanese Americans were subject to harsh restrictions and loss of basic freedoms including incarceration. Hirabayashi turned himself in to the FBI with the objective of testing the relocation and incarceration order's constitutionality without a due process of law. In 1943 the U.S. Supreme Court upheld his conviction and Hirabayashi was ordered to serve his sentence at the Tucson Federal Prison in Arizona.

Eventually he earned a PhD in sociology in 1952, teaching in Beirut and Cairo before assuming a position at the University of Alberta. He was the first chair of its Department of Sociology in 1963. He spent the next decades working with Indigenous and Japanese Canadian organizations locally and nationally.

In 1987 the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favour of Hirabayashi's case, vacating his previous conviction. Hirabayashi toured and spoke about his experiences and was honoured with many awards. The Tucson Federal Prison site where Hirabayashi had served his sentence was named after him in 1999. Hirabayashi died on Jan. 2, 2012. In May 2012 he was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama, the highest civilian honour awarded in the US.

(Edmonton Japanese Community Association)



2022 Board of Directors

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Jennifer Hashimoto, Roy Tsuji, David Fujiwara, Charlotte
Chiba, David Fujino, Bruce Tatemichi

* At the time of publication, we were unable to verify the names of past presidents and their terms.

NAJC HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE 2020-2022

Maryka Omatsu (Acting chair)
Lynn Deutscher Kobayashi
(Past chair, symposium co-chair and executive lead)
Kristen Kiyomi Perry (symposium co-chair)

Niina Dubik
Judy Hanazawa
Connor Hasegawa
Kevin Higa
Jennifer Matsunaga
April Sora
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Kevin Okabe (Executive Director)

PAST MEMBERS

Mariko Kage
Pauline Kajiura
Fumi Torigai

TORONTO NAJC HIGHLIGHTS (FALL 2021-2022)

Japanese Canadian Research Directory, a fully functioning bibliographic database, to honour the legacy of Ken Adachi, the author of *The Enemy That Never Was*.

www.torontonajc.ca/japanese-canadian-research

A symposium on the Ethics of Representing Indigenous and Japanese Canadian Communities in Research in partnership with the Asian Institute at the University of Toronto.

www.torontonajc.ca/2022/05/10/video-ethics-of-research-in-indigenous-and-japanese-canadian-communities

A Digital Museums Canada website inspired by the book *Exiles in Our Own Country, Japanese Canadians in Niagara* in partnership with the Lincoln County Museum and Cultural Centre.

Redress & Reconciliation; an event featuring Mayor Tory at the Japanese Canadian Centennial Temple Bell with the Woodland Cultural Centre, site of the Mohawk Institute Residential School. A senbazuru was presented to the Woodland Cultural Centre to honour the survivors of residential schools and their families.

Co-sponsoring *The Vow From Hiroshima* a documentary about Setsuko Thurlow and the “Remembering Gordon Hirabayashi” events with the NAJC Human Rights Committee.

COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

The Greater Toronto Chapter, National Association Japanese Canadians (Toronto NAJC) organizers of the Human Rights Symposium and our partner the Human Rights Committee of the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC) recognize that everyone, including organizers, volunteers, guest speakers, attendees and members of the public, have the right to an inclusive environment – to be able to express their views without harassment and discrimination and disrespectful behaviour from others. The Toronto NAJC reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone who engages in such conduct.

We are welcoming many people with a range of experiences, ages and identities to this symposium. We must work together to ensure everyone feels respected and supported in this space. Here are some basic community guidelines we will use, although others may be added for different parts of the symposium.

- Respect all participants and spaces
- Value different experiences and backgrounds
- Don't assume, ask if you need to
- Take care of ourselves and each other
- Listen deeply, share when appropriate
- Reflect and learn together
- Work to connect and build community
- Encourage and support each other

COVID-19 Policy

The organizers take the health and safety of all our members and guests seriously. We have taken all precautionary COVID-19 measures for all venues into consideration, and will monitor and follow procedures as determined by government health officials.

SHARING AND USING PRONOUNS

In order to respect and validate the gender identity of each participant, one of the basic things we can do is use their pronouns correctly. You already use pronouns every day, even if this idea might be newer to you!

Some of the most common pronouns are they/them/theirs, she/her/hers, he/him/his. People may use multiple or different pronouns for themselves at different times. For this symposium, we are asking people to write the pronouns that they would like to be used here on their nametags. If you are not sure of a persons' pronouns, you can ask!

Example: Hi, it's nice to meet you! I'm Sarah and my pronouns are she/they. I'm yonsei and I live in Montreal. This is my friend John and they are excited to be at this conference. They are yonsei from Ottawa, and their pronouns are they/them/theirs.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

WIFI NETWORK

Chelsea Meeting

PASSWORD

Chelsea7979

LANYARD

Please wear your symposium lanyard to gain admission to symposium events.

OUTSIDE FOOD AND BEVERAGES

The hotel kindly asks that no outside food or beverages be consumed in the symposium venues. Food purchased in the Market Garden restaurant on the first floor must be consumed in that area.

AFTER-PARTY

Saturday, Oct. 29 (8-11 p.m.)

Reel Asian Film Festival Headquarters

401 Richmond St. W., Suite 448

Whether it's your before-party or after-party please join us. This informal gathering will also serve as the launch of the Toronto NAJCs next generation and youth council initiative.

Light refreshments, wine and beer will be served in a casual setting with a focus on the young and youngish.



Hosts: Thuy Truong,
Derek Sakauye and
Kristofer Sakamoto-
Marshall

JT3 LONDON, ONT.

Featured will be a short presentation by filmmaker, professional creative, Ken Galloway about the newest installation of The Japantown Project: a series of Japanese Canadian-led murals and initiatives using the creative arts to embrace diversity and anti-racism. Previous iterations are the second-floor mural at the JCCC and the Sanko mural on Queen Street West. Past editions of the series have focused on articulating contemporary notions of Japanese Canadian identity. The current project reflects allyship and solidarity as the JT3 London mural will serve to honour the Afzaal family who were killed in the horrific London track attack and the survivors of residential schools, their families and communities.

KEN GALLOWAY - PROJECT LEADER

As a teen Ken fell in love with graffiti and has been painting large-scale murals for more than 20 years. He spent his formative years growing up in Tokyo with his Japanese mother and Canadian father. His first summer job and first employment contract were in Japan. He's written for publications like like the *Toronto Star* and *National Post*, Nelly Furtado and Gord Downie. On the heels of extensive

work with commercial brands like Dove, Tim Hortons and Kronenbourg he defected to the Non-governmental organizations, world. He spent two years bouncing back and forth between Ethiopia, Kenya, Ecuador and India in a quest to infuse more meaning into his work.



The 401 Richmond Building is on the southeast corner of Spadina Ave & Ave. and Richmond St. W., a block south of Queen.

The main doors are on the west side of building close to Spadina. A volunteer will ask to see your symposium lanyard or evite and swipe you in as the building will be locked at the time of the event. This entrance is accessible by ramp for those using wheelchairs or mobility aids. Once in the building, proceed to the fourth floor, suite 448.

- 1) By stairs to the immediate left after you enter
- 2) By elevator, turn right after you enter, then left down the main hallway to the elevator, which is halfway down the main hallway to the right. Volunteers will be on the main floor to assist. *The venue is completely accessible.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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THE CANADIAN RACE RELATIONS FOUNDATION

The tragic experience of the expulsion of Canadian citizens of Japanese ancestry from B.C. under government orders necessitated the Redress Agreement of Sept. 22, 1988. The trauma of what Japanese Canadians went through was clearly the result of institutionalized racism. In an effort to recognize this fact and ensure that such a travesty of justice never occurs again in this country, the Redress Agreement included the establishment of a Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF).

The Honourable Hedy Fry, Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and the Status of Women, officially announced the CRRF in Toronto on Oct. 29, 1996, a day after it was proclaimed in the House of Commons. It was established with a total endowment of \$24 million, equally funded by the NAJC and the Government of Canada. (JC *Redress: The Toronto Story*)

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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, NAJC

SUPPORTER

National Forum on Anti-Asian Racism
Faculty of Arts, Toronto Metropolitan University

Young Leaders Committee, NAJC

DONATIONS AND GIFTS IN KIND

ACT²End Racism Network

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