



M ontr é a l B U L L E T I N

JAPANESE CANADIAN AND NIKKEI COMMUNITY NEWS

July-August 2022 Issue

Ikebana International Montreal Honoured at 50th MATSURI JAPON Exhibition



The Montreal Chapter of Ikebana International held its 50th annual exhibition at the Japanese Pavilion of Montreal's Botanical Gardens on June 11 and 12. During the opening ceremonies, Consul General Jun Saito presented chapter president, Andrée Kordich, with the Consul General of Japan award (see page 9). Flower arrangement: Josiane Girard. Photo: Madeleine Murphy.

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Intergenerational Support for Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivor Family Members



Counselling Support and Education Support

The Healing Fund for Japanese Canadians has worked with counsellors, community members, and the Anglican Church to develop a system to provide support for those living with the trauma of Mr. Nakayama's abuse. While the abuse itself may have occurred many years ago, its effects are still being felt today. The Healing Fund's intent is to address this trauma by providing counselling support and education support to survivors and their families.

Sexual abuse can be damaging to individuals, families and entire communities. It can destroy one's sense of self worth and agency, with effects that can last a lifetime, and can even be passed on to the next generation. Former Anglican priest, Gordon Goichi Nakayama, exploited his position of power for decades, abusing hundreds of vulnerable boys while simultaneously maintaining his role as a revered community leader and Anglican priest. Many families were honoured to have him in their homes, as priests were considered next to God in importance. This gave Mr. Nakayama access to children across the country and internationally. As a bilingual adult, he was also able to exploit the rift between Japanese-speaking immigrant parents and their English-speaking Nisei children.

Many people who experience trauma during childhood are at higher risk for developing mood disorders later in life, such as anxiety and depression, as well as other forms of mental and physical illness. With the help of a professional counsellor, psychotherapist or psychiatrist these intergenerational illnesses are treatable with the counselling support we are offering.

Please visit bit.ly/Healing-Anglican or www.anglicanhealingfundforjapanesecanadians.com for more information about our programming. The Healing Fund is the new name for the Japanese Canadian Working Group, who in 2018 conducted a series of community meetings across Canada. The Healing Fund operates with strict confidentiality measures and is here to support you in your healing journey.

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Medical Views

Health care for the elderly

By Dr. David O'Hashi

Estimates are that by 2030, almost 25% of the Canadian population will be seniors, or 95 million in number and they account for nearly 50% of all health care spending in Canada. Given that 90% of seniors have a chronic medical condition, the goal is to keep them independent, active and participating in social activities.

The elderly can be divided into two groups. Fortunate seniors who live alone with minor medical problems, may require home services, and are lucky to have regular check-ins by a relative or close friend.

Supportive care from community services, and government assistance programs. Volunteers offer Meals on Wheels, transportation for medical appointments, home cleaning, and caregiver arrangements are invaluable.

Living at home may also require some physical aids, especially in bathrooms, and stairs with bars and handles and ramps to make them accessible. This can help to reduce falls, which are the number one cause for injury-related hospitalizations in seniors and can cause irreversible issues. Wearing a 'medical-alert' system is a valuable security measure.

Those living alone with chronic illnesses, and have no close members or friends to call upon for emergency aid are particularly susceptible. Identification by social services are important to assist in their daily needs.

Recent natural crises have demonstrated the need for a directory of seniors in the community. This allows for their rapid

identification and location. Major forest fires, rapid flooding which have destroyed homes, or severe ice storms with loss of electricity and recent pandemic Covid-19 have all revealed need for this information.

Unfortunately, in many, progressive disabilities reduce the capacity for safe living. These include difficulty with mobility, major sensory deficits in hearing and vision, or progressive loss of mental function. Many elderly will require more assisted-living accommodation, either senior apartment with meal facilities, while those with major medical conditions may require transfer to a nursing home with full-time care. Waiting time for admission can be up to three years which poses a particular strain for care especially if there is an important medical condition, eg. stroke or progressive dementia.

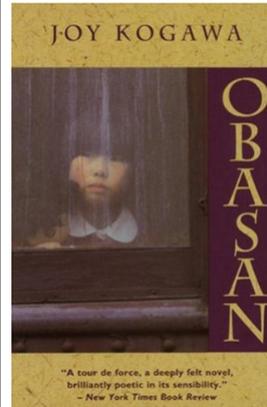
We must not allow our elderly to live without support and care for their daily needs. Family members should provide support and assistance to those living alone by regular contact. More organized aid must be given to that segment that do not have any close relatives or friends to insure their safety and welfare, and this is where social services and nursing care is essential. Let us not forget their contribution to society and let us reciprocate with a conscientious effort to seek out and volunteer toward their wellbeing.

Writer's Corner

JC Books and Authors

By Yosh Taguchi

Ask any nikkei to name a JC author and his or her book title and my guess would be that the author and book most likely to be mentioned will be "Obasan" by Joy Kogawa. I think it was the late Jesse Nishihata, a genuine intellectual and scholar, who first recommended it to me. I remember enjoying it thoroughly. Sometimes later I was introduced to the author and I was struck with how quiet and laid back she was. I was expecting her to be loud and bombastic like her father, the Anglican minister who addressed us when we were wolf cubs in Tashme. (That had to be 1943.) I was struck with how different Joy was from her father. Later on, Joy would publicly expose her father's sexual proclivity for young boys — a courageous thing to do!



If you were pressed to name another JC author. the author most likely to be named might be Mark Sakamoto. I did read his first book and look forward to more. Curiously the only book I know of that is set at the time of our confinement in the internment camps is by an author outside the JC community. The book is authored by Danielle R. Graham and is entitled "All We Left Behind." It is a simple story of a romance between a white boy and a nisei girl and there is mention of Hasting's Park, Tashme, Slokan, and New Denver.

There may be other books about our community I am unaware of. Let me know if you know.

ENTRÉE GRATUITE

FREE ADMISSION



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MATSURI JAPON



SAMEDI 13
AOÛT 2022
11h - 19h

SATURDAY 13TH
AUGUST 2022
11AM - 7PM



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