

the Bulletin

けっほ

April 2019

a journal of Japanese Canadian community, history + culture

Summoning Spring

Sakura Days Japan Fair
at VanDusen Gardens



 **Sakura Days Japan Fair**

www.JapanFairVancouver.com

Kohei Honda
and Keita Kanazashi

Program Guide
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Managing Editor

John Endo Greenaway
john@bigwavedesign.net

Japanese Editors

Kazuho Yamamoto
Kaori Kasai
editor.geppo@gmail.com

Advertising Manager

Anne Jew
604.609.0657 (advertising enquiries only)
annejew@telus.net

Distribution Manager

Michael Tora Speier

Administrative Assistant

Mitsuyo Okamoto

JCCA Board Of Directors

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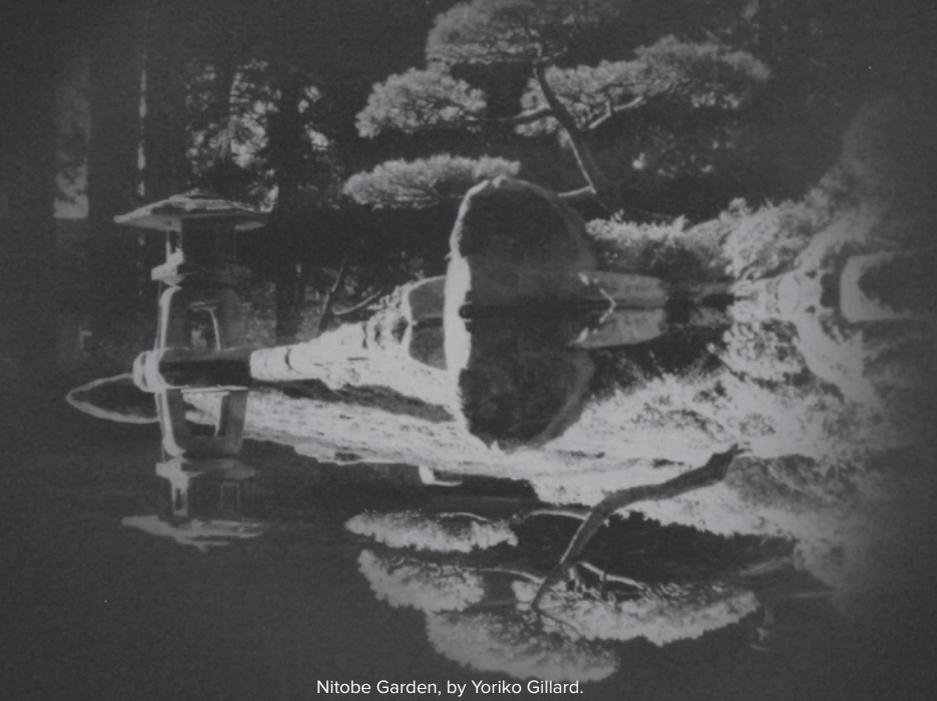
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JCCA & BULLETIN OFFICE

249 - 6688 Southoaks Crescent
Burnaby, BC, V5E 4M7
Tel: 604.777.5222
E-mail: gjcca@gmail.com
Managing Editor: editor@bigwavedesign.net
Website: gjcca.org

OFFICE HOURS

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JCCA Office: gjcca@gmail.com
English Editor: editor@bigwavedesign.net
Japanese Editor: editor.geppo@gmail.com



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Report from the Japanese Canadian Working Group

APRIL 2018

by Judy Hanazawa

Since the last update from the Japanese Canadian Working Group, there have been more developments about our outreach programming.

From March 16 to 18, Wendy Matsubuchi Bremner and Judy Hanazawa travelled to Winnipeg to present information to the Japanese Canadian Association of Manitoba. We were able to meet with the executive of the association and share our Outreach and Education information regarding GG Nakayama, clergy sexual abuse, and effects upon survivors, families and community. We also requested feedback regarding appropriate healing and resolution steps which the Anglican Church can undertake with the community. We presented during the day on March 17 at the Cultural Centre of the Association, and returned in the evening where we met many more community members at a dinner and film event, and provided our information.

As we were unable to meet with Diocese representatives, on Sunday, March 18, 2018 we left education kits at the office of Rt. Reverend Donald Phillips, PhD, Bishop of Rupert's Land (Manitoba/Winnipeg area) and Canon Mary Holmen, Diocesan Pastor for Healthy Communities. We also met with Paul N. Johnson, Rector and Dean of the Cathedral of St. John, the oldest Anglican Cathedral in Western Canada, leaving some education kits with him. Minister Paul acknowledged another separate case of clergy sexual abuse in the Diocese and suggested further contacts with the Diocese.

At this time we have had no follow up contact with Bishop Donald Phillips or Canon Mary Holmen. We also left education material at the Museum of Human Rights with Alain Bouchard, Manager of Programme Delivery and Services and followed up with a teleconference on March 16 with Clint Curle, Senior Advisor to the President, Stakeholder Relations, who had facilitated Museum outreach meetings within the Japanese Canadian community in Vancouver during 2017. Clint was interested in learning how the Museum's human rights programming could support our work regarding healing initiatives with the Anglican Church.

Scheduling is almost finalized to facilitate outreach and education meetings in Toronto and Hamilton on April 21 and 22.

We have also begun to arrange final community outreach forums in Montreal and possibly Ottawa, as suggested within the community, for the weekend of May 5th and 6th.

At this time we are awaiting further correspondence from the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada regarding support for these additional community outreach and education meetings. The Primate has also asked for a meeting in Vancouver set for



either July 15 or 16. We have informed him that although we appreciate the importance of having a face to face meeting, some working group members will be away and unavailable on those dates. We have suggested July 15 may be a date when some committee members can be present. Further meetings with the Primate will be necessary when all members of the Japanese Canadian working group can participate. We will continue to update the community regarding the activities of the Japanese Canadian Working Group. If any community members have questions or concerns please feel free to contact us. We would appreciate hearing from you. Thank you.

Our contact information is:

The Japanese Canadian Working Group: jcworkinggroup@gmail.com

Judy Hanazawa: jhanazawa@telus.net or 604 808 6379

Wendy Matsubuchi Bremner: matsubuchifamily@gmail.com or 778 836 8250

Letter from the Anglican Primate of Canada

On January 24, 2018 the Japanese Canadian Working Group received the following letter from the Anglican Primate of Canada. We identify this letter as information which the community should also have. This letter was written in response to our communication to the Primate seeking the Anglican Church's support for proceeding with our Japanese Canadian outreach and education meetings which we proposed to do in Winnipeg, Toronto, Hamilton, and Montreal over the winter and spring of 2018. As we engage with communities in outreach meetings over the next 2 months, we would appreciate hearing the community's thoughts about appropriate steps which the Church can take to support healing from the harm committed by GG Nakayama. Suggestions have been forwarded to us from the community about steps such as providing education to Japanese Canadians about clergy sexual abuse and the Church's prevention programs, providing counselling support as needed for survivors, survivor intergenerational families, and friends, providing post secondary education funding for survivor families and community members in relevant areas of study such as family studies, social work, psychology and Asian Canadian studies. Further communication from the Primate and the Anglican Church of Canada will continue to be shared with the community. The Japanese Canadian Working Group welcomes communication from the community as well.



The Anglican Church of Canada / L'Eglise anglicane du Canada The Primate's Office

January 24, 2018

I write with a heavy heart mindful of Gordon Nakayama's sexual abuse of so many young Japanese children through the years that he served as a priest of The Anglican Church of Canada. Such crimes, born of someone's inability to control his sexual desires to seek gratification forcing innocent children into shameful sexual acts, are horrible and the trauma for the victims haunting, for years if not for a lifetime.

I am sorry that a priest of our Church behaved in such a manner, disgracing the sacred ministry entrusted to him in ordination, wreaking unimaginable havoc in the lives of these children, and bringing much pain to their families and much grief to the wider community of Japanese Canadians.

I am aware of the June 15, 2015 Apology made by Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson (Diocese of Calgary) and Bishop Melissa Skelton (Diocese of New Westminster). I stand with them on all twelve points. The first six speak to Mr. Nakayama's immoral behaviour; the last six to the Church's remorse and commitment to "support survivors, affected families and the community as a whole" and "to participate in a healing and reconciliation process".

I have been apprised through formal conversations with Archbishop Kerr-Wilson and Bishop Skelton of gatherings held in Lethbridge, Alberta and Vancouver, British Columbia hosted by representatives of the Japanese Canadian Working Group reaching out to provide education events for Japanese Canadians with respect to the Apology and to consider appropriate actions with respect to enabling healing.

I know of commitments on the part of both dioceses, Calgary and New Westminster, to

- fund additional community outreach and educational workshops that the Working Group would like to offer in Winnipeg, Toronto, Hamilton, and Montreal in 2018;
- assume costs for counselling to survivors and their families in the hope of the healing of those harmed by Mr. Nakayama; and
- offer scholarship support for students of Japanese heritage in Calgary and in British Columbia.

I am engaged in a conversation with Archbishop Kerr-Wilson and Bishop Skelton with respect to a desire on their part "for the national Church to participate financially in responding to the requests of the Working Group in addressing the harm done by Mr. Nakayama". In this instance, the national Church means "The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada". Accordingly, I have brought this "desire" to the attention of our General Secretary, The Ven. Dr. Michael Thompson. I have every reason to be very hopeful of a positive and modest response in which the General Synod would support the Working Group's efforts to create opportunities for gatherings across the country in 2018.

Finally I would like to assure you of my willingness to meet with you and other representatives of The Japanese Working Group along with Archbishop Kerr-Wilson and Bishop Skelton. It is right that I should come to you – to listen and learn, to reiterate my support of the 2015 Apology, to speak of assistance with funding and to pray with you.

In the spirit of contrition for such harm as Mr. Nakayama inflicted through what he himself described in 1994 as his "sexual bad behaviour toward so many people", in the commitment to integrity in actions that accompany apology, and in the hope of healing for those whose bodies, minds and spirits were assaulted with consequences for a lifetime.

May God help us and guide us.

With respect,

I am,

**Sincerely yours,
Fred J. Hiltz
Archbishop and Primate**

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 400-50782
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