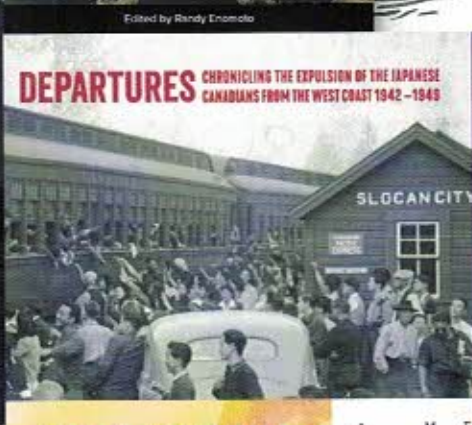
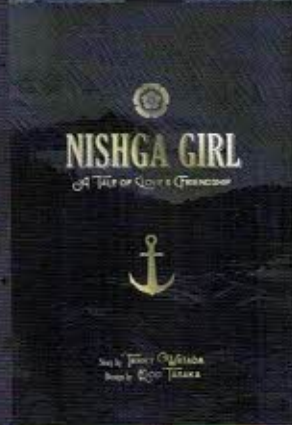
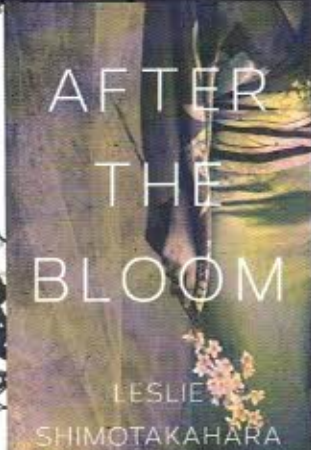
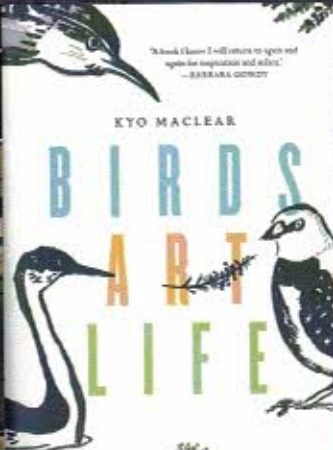
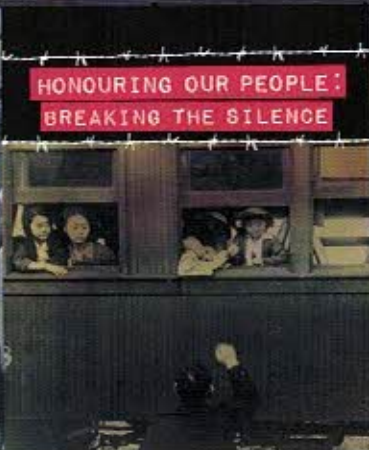
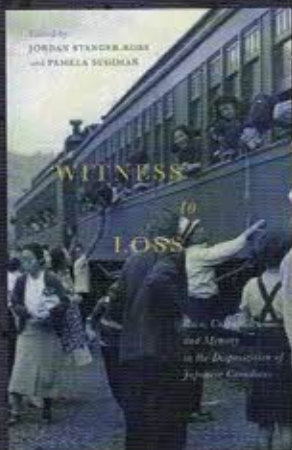




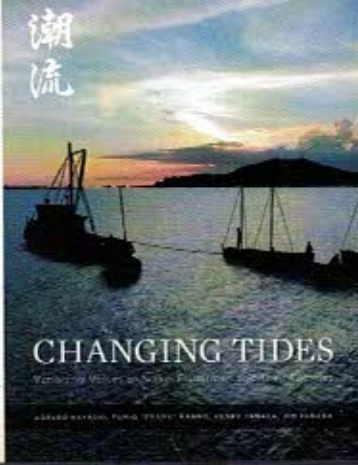
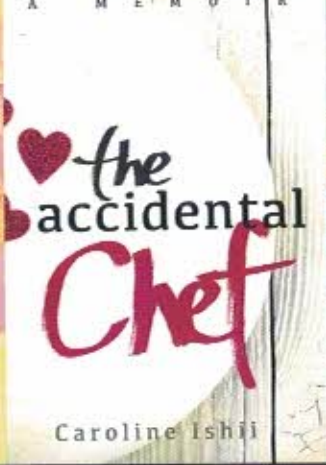
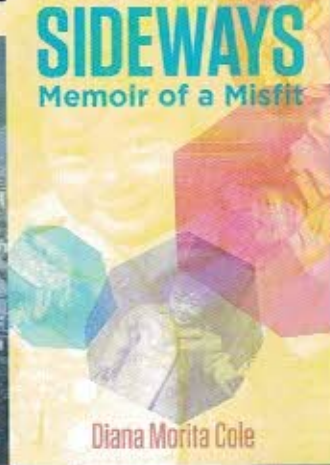
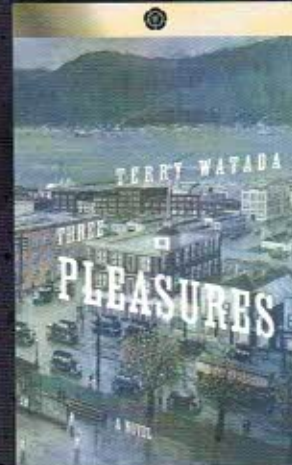
THE Bulletin

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a journal of Japanese Canadian community, history + culture



FOCUS ON NIKKEI BOOKS



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働きing: 漫画家 寺田克也さん & ソニックの安原広和さん | The Three Pleasures
75th Anniversary Japanese Canadian Legacy Signage Project | Giving Spree

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JCCA President Lorene Oikawa at Remembrance Day Ceremony, Japanese Canadian War Memorial.
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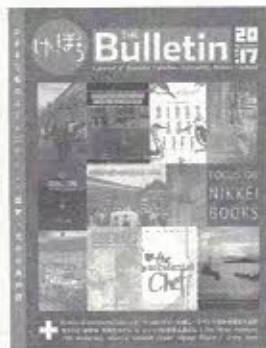
Diana Morita Cole ... 2 | New Nikkei Books ... 4 |
Review: The Three Treasures ... 6 | 75th Anniversary Japanese Canadian
Legacy Signage Project ... 8 | JCCA Donations ... 10 | Editorial ... 10 |
JCCA President's Message / Membership Form ... 11 |
Japanese Canadians in Surrey ... 13 | Board Directions ... 14 |
CrossCurrents ... 17 | Community Calendar ... 18 | Japanese Canadian
Working Group ... 20 | Terry Watada ... 23 | Community Kitchen ... 24 |
TorontoNAJC ... 27 | Asahi Baseball in Kamloops ... 23 |
Tonari Gumi Corner ... 29 | Remembrance Day ... 30 |
VJLS Monthly Update ... 32 | Milestones ... 33 | Poetry Corner ... 37
Nikkei Place Monthly Update ... 38 | Geppo begins ... 42 |

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JAPANESE CANADIAN WORKING GROUP

Report on Lethbridge/Calgary Community Forums, 27-29 October, 2017

Introduction

In 1994, Gordon Goichi Nakayama sent his type-written apology to the Anglican Church. 20 years later, in 2014, Joy Kogawa upon expressing an apology to all those hurt by her father, publicly supported the community outreach work of the Japanese-Canadian Working Group (JCWG). Over many months, the JCWG worked with the Anglican Church on the Church apology issued on 15 June, 2015. Since the 2015 apology, the JCWG has been offering community information and consultation events so that Japanese Canadian survivors, families and the community may have more understanding and knowledge about clergy sexual abuse and its effect upon individuals, families and communities. Our goal is to complete post apology community information and consultation sessions and to provide recommendations by 15 June, 2018.

On October 27 to 29, 2017, JCWG members Judy Hanazawa and Wendy Matsubuchi-Bremner, travelled to Lethbridge and Calgary, to offer community outreach and meet local community members including survivors and families, in the Diocese of Calgary. We approached this weekend being prepared to offer information, share a meal, respond to questions and listen to stories from those we met. Our travel and work was sponsored by the Diocese of Calgary.

The following is our report on these Alberta meetings.

What Happened in Lethbridge

In Lethbridge, On October 28, we conducted an information sharing community forum modelled after the session held in Vancouver on February 18, 2017. This meeting was at the Lethbridge Multicultural Centre, with the help of Pastor George Takashima, a retired educator and current board member of the Centre. Although notice about the event was given 1 month prior, no registration was required for this event either in advance or at the time. We handed out prepared folders which provided information from our February 18th event as well as relevant documents like the written Anglican Church apology, and clinical information about the effects and treatment of sexual abuse.

The event was attended by survivors, supporters and community members from the Lethbridge area, as well as Father Andrew Horne and others from the Coaldale Church of the Ascension where Mr. Nakayama had ministered for approximately 40 years.

We started the workshop with meeting norms to ensure participants were able to feel safe – answering questions and reassuring that anyone could come or go at will, that no one needed to speak, that everyone

was required to respect the privacy of individual comments or other reactions. Those who attended were given the choice to introduce themselves by name or not. One participant strongly expressed “It’s too late”, explaining the church did not respond when asked to do something about Mr. Nakayama 30 years ago. We agreed the church withheld reports of sexual abuse for a long time. A participant shared his story. Coaldale Church of the Ascension members described their community trauma upon discovering Mr. Nakayama’s history as a perpetrator, as they began their current project to write the history of their church. We learned survivors of Mr. Nakayama’s abuse also included non Japanese Canadian youth from the Coaldale parish. Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson attended this event, describing the sexual abuse prevention program within the Diocese of Calgary and offering his empathy and support for attending participants affected by Mr. Nakayama’s history. For information purposes, we also showed filmed excerpts of our February 18, 2017 Vancouver workshop, as well as a video provided by a Chinese-American group which revealed the effects of 30 years of sexual abuse by their minister and how they began work on their healing.

What Happened in Calgary

In Calgary, we met at the Calgary Japanese Cultural Centre with a member of the Calgary Japanese Cultural Association and an elder who has been active in the community over many years. Although the community has been aware for decades about Mr. Nakayama’s long history as a pedophile, feelings have not been openly expressed. However the underlying deep concern for survivors and families was clearly evident during our conversation. There was a positive response considering supportive steps which could be taken such as hosting

community gatherings, or establishing a free and confidential counselling service through the Diocese of Calgary. Perhaps people would be willing to share community information about positive actions like this..

Additional Information and Recommendations

We also participated in an open telephone discussion and left folder information during an in-home visit with a senior survivor. From this contact we learned that offering visits outside the community eye may feel more supportive and be more comfortable for those who wish to share their story.

Also, with support from the area Diocese, it would be ideal if culturally-competent, local therapists would be available. Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson agreed the Diocese of Calgary would be willing to fund such counselling in his Diocese.

When participants were asked about what would promote healing and closure, some responses included:

1. The effects of Mr. Nakayama’s sexual abuse are intergenerational and widespread. It is not just survivors, but supporters such as family, friends and communities who have also suffered and may be in need of support and healing. Grandchildren of victims could still be affected, even living in different communities from where the abuse occurred. Members of the Church of the Ascension indicated their trauma and grief, even if they have only been parishioners for the quarter-century after Mr. Nakayama’s tenure.
2. One comment referred to the challenge of trying to access the Calgary Diocese clergy code of conduct regarding sexual abuse. Although Archbishop

Gregory said the Diocese abuse prevention program was accessible on the website, facilitators looking for this information after the event had to concur with participants that it was a difficult search. Our recommendation is that the website be amended to make the search easier. We will share this feedback with Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson, Bishop Melissa Skelton and the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

3. Prevention of further abuse is key. Diocesan measures to prevent clergy sexual abuse must be clear, mandatory, easily-accessible to clergy and public. There must be easy access to Clergy Code of Conduct on diocesan websites and mandatory in-service training. Each should outline prevention, and reporting, as in the program developed by the Diocese of New Westminster.
4. Specific help from the Diocese of Calgary may be required so that the parish of the Coaldale Church of the Ascension can truly celebrate its existence despite the darkness that Mr. Nakayama's abuse created in the middle of its 75 year history.
5. Participants who gathered in Lethbridge commented that being together felt beneficial and more such meetings would be positive. During the gathering, participants expressed their concern, support and appreciation for each other. There were indications Japanese Canadian participants and members of the Church of the Ascension may be available to support each other as Church members (many of whom are not Japanese Canadian), continued their project to write the history of their church and address Mr. Nakayama's abuse and its effect upon the community.
6. For the Anglican Church, redress is a word which associates with court actions and lawsuits when addressing a wrong committed against a community. As a follow up to their apology, the Church may feel more encouraged to engage openly and fully to the process of "healing". Engaging with survivors, families and community in the search toward healing may support the Church to focus upon positive, supportive actions they can take.
7. Participants felt and expressed individual financial compensation was not the goal or answer to initiate healing and well-being. Direct measures to help individual, family and community healing and prevention of future abuse is very strongly preferred, whether for survivors or for their communities.
8. Any measures promoting healing need to be implemented on an urgent basis, for the sake of aged survivors. The JCWG was advised to consult survivors and their communities as soon as possible, and the various diocese should be urged to follow up with recommendations with equal haste. It is noted

that the JCWG is already starting to plan additional community forums to the spring of 2018, in Winnipeg, Toronto - Hamilton and possibly Montreal.

9. Counselling paid for by the Anglican Church but not administered through the Church was appropriate. Survivors are not necessarily affiliated with the Anglican Church, as some of Mr. Nakayama's victims have chosen to sever all ties with the Church or even with all religion as a result of their abuse.
10. Without exception, supporters felt it would be a nice gesture to have gatherings for old friends so they are able to see each other and have time together. There was some acknowledgement this would need to happen quickly due to age and health, and that it may require a supporting caregiver to also attend. Also, more than one such gathering may be appropriate if groups of friends wished to meet in specific locations.
11. The JCWG should probably outline the organization of gatherings, including costs, location and other logistics for presentation to the Church as a significant and meaningful step in post apology healing.
12. Scholarship funds for self-declared survivor families should be available, with funds not accessed in a given year or years to be applied to studies in relevant areas such as Asian Canadian history, trauma and its intergenerational effects, anti-racism, unity in diversity, and social justice. Supporting scholarship would be a form of healing in that the Anglican Church would be seen as modelling leadership in prevention and healing. This could be documented in the description of the scholarship offered—both when advertised and when presented. Mr. Nakayama's name would not be mentioned.

13. There was expression that an amendment to the apology may be required which would correct the Church's claim that "no one came forward". Some survivors have felt intimidated and silenced by that statement which they do not really believe is true. For example, families stepped forward for their children, which legally holds as much weight as their child 'stepping forward'. A delegation from Vancouver's Holy Cross Church brought specific examples of Mr. Nakayama's 'bad behaviour' to Bishop Hambidge in 1978. Community members in Alberta described their efforts to notify the church about Mr. Nakayama's crimes. Also, community information indicates Mr. Nakayama was dismissed from his missionary work in Okinawa after committing sexual offences while there in 1951.

Conclusion

For the Japanese Canadian Working Group, being present and providing information in Lethbridge and Calgary was also a learning experience. We are concluding that it makes a positive difference to meet people and offer our support in person. Community members and others affected by the crimes of Mr. Nakayama indicated a variety of responses to our offer of support. On a face to face basis, more participants than expected were willing to openly share their experience. Being together as a group seemed to encourage a feeling of safety, support and comfort. Other community members may be reluctant to be associated with Mr. Nakayama. Effects of his crimes may be deeply felt among some seniors and community members, with concern for survivors shared privately but unspoken publicly. Anger was also expressed at the past lack of church support for some survivors. Community members were generally not aware of possible effects upon younger generations within survivor families.

continued on page 22

Working Group continued

We are sincerely appreciative of all those who assisted us during our time in Lethbridge and Calgary. Thank you to George and Peggy Takashima for their organizational support and work in Lethbridge. Thank you to community members who met with us in Calgary. Sincere thanks must be expressed to Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson for providing support from the Diocese of Calgary for these meetings and personally participating in the Lethbridge gathering. Finally, sincere thanks and great appreciation are extended to all in Lethbridge and Calgary who met and shared their stories and concerns with us. It was an honour for us to be in their company.

Participating in these meetings indicated to us the great benefit and importance of making opportunities for more face to face outreach events. We learned community members do make themselves available to attend, learn, share, listen and give support to one another.

Contact Information

The Japanese Canadian working group will continue to report to the community on our activities.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any concerns, questions or comments. Contact information is:

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Judy Hanazawa 604 876 9858. Email at: judyhana@telus.net or jhanazawa@telus.net

Wendy Matsubuchi Bremner 604 986 5318. Email at: matsubuchifamily@gmail.com ♦

CrossCurrents continued

guitar. He understands business much better than I do and she can write a lot better than me, content wise.

So I'm basically content with how they've done... but I sometimes muse. What if I had a little boy or girl again, would I still be able to him or her something useful. Just a thought but a tantalizing one.

But all that for all of us is contingent on one thing. We've got to make those young and, increasingly, not-so-young people to lose their cellphones at least once in a while and PAY ATTENTION to what's really going on around them. Here comes a cyclist heading towards a jogger with her ears plugged! Oh no, the cyclist is texting at the same time! Oy vey! etc. etc. ♦



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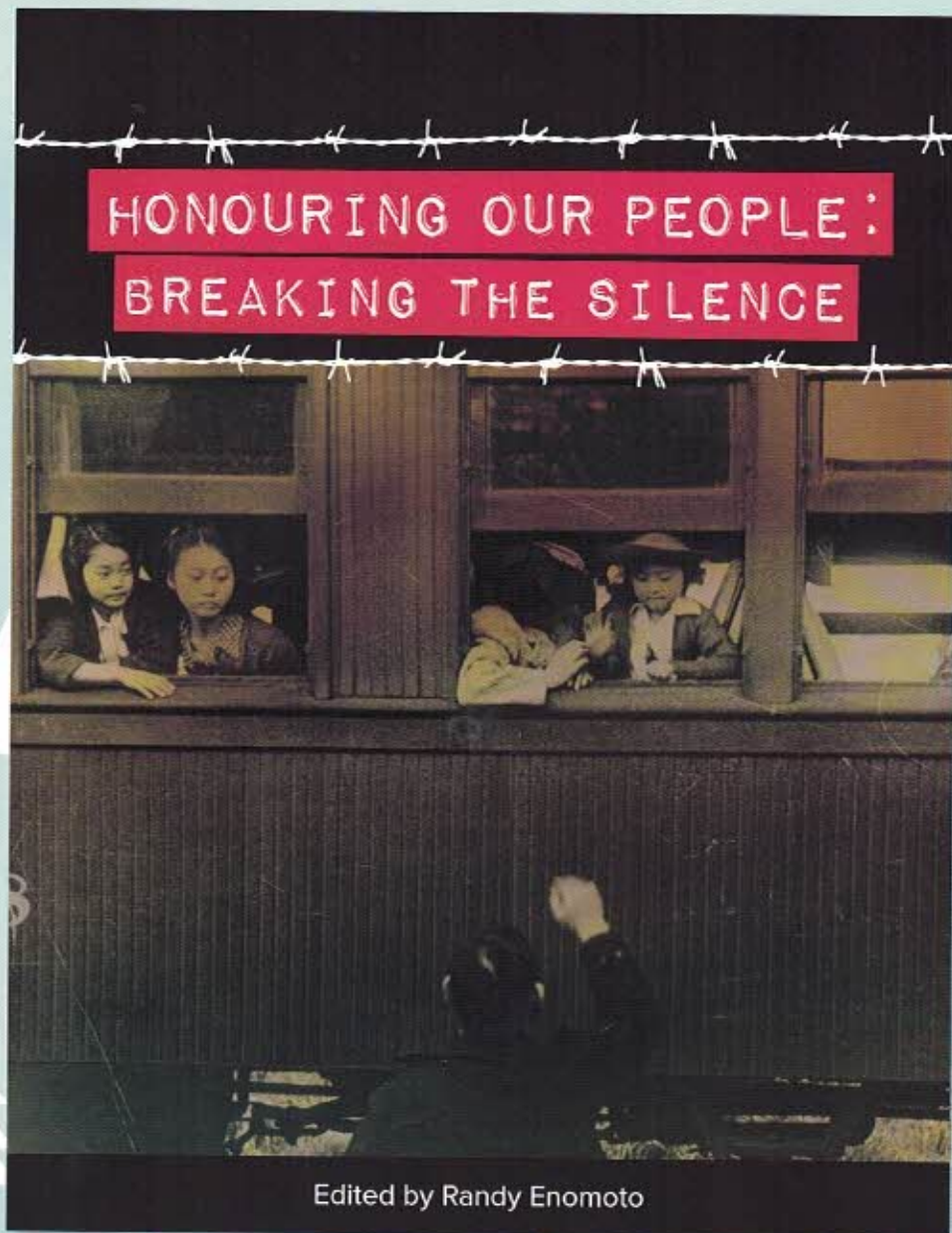
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