

the Bulletin

a journal of Japanese Canadian community, history + culture

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April.2021

Ang & Claud
Present:

The My Sister Knows Why Podcast



Akihide John Otsuji 1928 – 1988

Heroism in the everyday: Soul Friendship

Powell Street Festival presents: Paueru Dialogues

Gordon Hirabayashi: 1918 – 2012 | 愛に戻る - Self Love

Eastsideから見える日本と世界 コロナ禍によって悪化する女性の貧困

Anti-Asian Violence | Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival 2021

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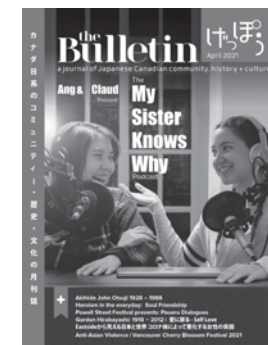
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GVJCCA



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HEALING SUPPORT FOR JAPANESE CANADIANS

The Anglican Church of Canada and the National Association of Japanese Canadians are pleased to announce that an agreement in principle has been reached to provide healing support to Japanese Canadians affected by the actions of Mr. G. G. Nakayama. Mr. Nakayama is known to have sexually abused hundreds of Japanese Canadian boys during his time as an Anglican priest from 1934 to 1994.

The Anglican Church of Canada has authorized the sum of \$610,000 to contribute to a Healing Fund for Japanese Canadians, to be administered by the National Association of Japanese Canadians. The Anglican Church has also agreed to finance the costs of a Facilitator/Project Manager, to be jointly selected by the Church and by the National Association of Japanese Canadians to lead a project team that is being formed to deliver the healing support. The Fund will be used to provide therapeutic counselling, educational grants, healing gatherings and community education, primarily for the remaining survivors of the clergy sexual abuse, the families and descendant families of persons harmed by Mr. Nakayama, and other members of the community affected by Mr. Nakayama's actions. Additional sums may be contributed to the Healing Fund in future.

This support follows up on a public apology made by the Anglican Church of Canada to the Japanese Canadian community in June 2015. In its apology and in recently authorizing the healing funds, the Anglican Church reaffirmed its commitment to participate in a healing and reconciliation process with the members of the Japanese Canadian community that were harmed by Mr. Nakayama.



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TORONTO NAJC AT THE UNITED AGAINST ANTI-ASIAN RACISM RALLY

by Lynn Deutscher Kobayashi

March 28, 2021, Nathan Phillips Square

A contingent from the Toronto NAJC attended the rally organized by the Chinese Canadian National Council, Social Justice and others. President, Lynn Deutscher Kobayashi was one of the speakers. We thank those who braved the rain and Covid concerns. The rally format made it easier to social distance and the large paving stones at City Hall are conveniently about 6-7 feet square.



Rally Speech

Hello friends! Thank you for joining us. Thanks to those joining us online. A big thanks to the rally organizers.

The National Association of Japanese Canadians was formed in Toronto in 1947 to address human rights violations against Canadians of Japanese descent. The Toronto Chapter remains committed to its human rights mandate.

I took part in the 2017 Women's March on Washington, the largest single day protest in US history. Like Japanese Americans, Japanese Canadians were shocked to hear the words Muslim ban. It reminds us of



the over one hundred and forty-five thousand citizens of Japanese descent across the Americas who were incarcerated and exiled. Women showed up in force that day because of the misogyny, racism and discrimination that characterized the 2016 Presidential campaign.

Given the combination of race, gender and a culture of gun violence, the murders of 8 people, 6 Asian women was shocking but understandable. We deeply mourn their loss and grieve with their families and friends.

I love Toronto. I believe in Toronto. Despite the fact that my grandparents and parents forcibly uprooted from BC – could not resettle in Toronto, because for a time there was quotas and a ban preventing Japanese Canadians from living here. One example of why anti-Asian racism is not new in Canada.

Two messages were drummed into me by my mother – Never judge a person by the work they do. Because Japanese Canadians lost businesses, property, and farmland in BC they were forced to do whatever it took to put food on the table. Her second message – Exercise your right to vote because Japanese Canadians were denied the vote until 1949. And for the record, other Asian Canadians were only allowed to vote two years earlier.

Let's act in solidarity to fight anti-Asian racism and all hate, as one spoke in the wheel of momentum to strengthen Canada, one city at a time. Words matter, leadership matters we are here today to embolden HOPE not HATE. Thank you!

THE TORONTO NAJC STATEMENT ON ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

This statement was issued on March 17, 2021 and can be seen at www.torontonajc.ca ♦

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