JAPANESE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA INC.

OUTLOOK

SUMMER EDITION 2023 **VOLUME 71 ISSUE 4**

JCAM is a federally registered charity # 12064 6021 RR0001

What a busy JCAM Summer!

President's Message

Dr. Kelly Kaita

Summer is now in full swing, and the heat has finally returned. With that it brings to light so many activities that have recently taken place or are about to take place. This reminds me of the amazing commitment that our volunteers put forward to ensure the success of our small organization! For that, I am grateful and wish I were able to thank you all! Yoroshiku Onegaishimasu!

Since my last report, we have had Bon Odori at the centre which was an incredible success thanks to the committee led by Caroline Yamashita and Taka Hattori. They were able to put on what I feel was the best Matsuri to date. We were extremely fortunate to have financial support from both the Consul General of Japan in Calgary and the Province of Manitoba. Their financial support makes the event more accessible to the public of Manitoba. Thank you to both offices and all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make it a success.

The centre closure this year was for a particularly good reason. We secured funding to see both the men's and women's restrooms renovated from floor to ceiling. Both restrooms are now completely touchless with motion activated everything! Advance Services contractors worked right up to the last night to make sure that we could open our doors to the public on time and on budget.

JCAM has recently been successful in obtaining another grant from the Government of Manitoba which will assist with our abilities to host meetings virtually and to ensure that all our projectors and screens be upgraded. We will also ensure that we have new equipment which will allow for events to be streamed to all those who are unable to attend our many events.

Karakoro EISA was a complete sell out and we had only a few rush seats left. After the event, I was approached by so many guests with only wonderful things to say. This was followed by Karakoro EISA playing the Sunday night at Folklorama to a sold-out audience. We are so fortunate to have a wonderful relationship with them as they hope to return in the next few years!

Which leads to Folklorama! Our biggest community event takes over 200 individual volunteers to be successful. This year we were week 2, and thanks to everyone who helped, once again the Japanese Pavilion was a tremendous success with number of attendees close to 2022 which we genuinely thought was one off. Due to this success, JCAM has signed up for week 1 in 2024 and our deposit was made to Petrus Hall.

GALA Dinner! The 2023 JCAM GALA dinner feels incredibly special now that we have "weathered the storm" over the past 3 years and JCAM has reemerged under a rainbow of success. "*Keizoku wa chikara nari*" is a famous Japanese proverb which translates into "Persistence Pays off." This proverb sums up all the efforts of our members, volunteers, employees, and our board! Let us continue to strive to keep our centre a home to be proud of and shared by all.

Our guest of honour for the 2023 JCAM Gala Dinner is Ms. Isha Khan, CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of the Canadian Museum of Human Rights. Ms. Khan is a lawyer, educator, and community leader dedicated to building a culture of human rights in Canada.

Our 2023 JCAM Community Awards will also be presented. The Gala Dinner provides the opportunity for us to celebrate the contributions of those who keep our community thriving. This year we are so excited to present the Community Service Awards to Mr. Harvey Kaita and Mrs. Kathy Grabowski. Both have made significant contributions to the Japanese community and deserve to be celebrated. This year we have also created an award for an individual in our province who we feel have contributed in a meaningful way to the Japanese Community – Bill Norrie – Community Supporter Award. This will be the inaugural year and the award will be presented to Past Mayor Mr. Brian Bowman by Helen Norrie (wife to Bill Norrie).

This year, JCAM Gala Dinner guests will have a chance to meet members from across Canada as the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC) hosts its annual meeting in our city. Over 100 delegates are invited to our centre to work for the betterment of all the cultural associations across Canada. The NAJC meeting agenda is a discussion to build membership capacity and succession planning.

The Gala Dinner is the one annual event where most of us get to sit back and enjoy an evening with family and friends. It provides a wonderful opportunity to catch up with one another. Join us for an evening of laughter, lively conversation, and even a maskless hug or two!

So PLEASE, PLEASE join us by purchasing your tickets today and join us celebrate JCAM and what it means to all of us.

HORIZON CLUB NEWS

The Horizon Club will be starting our lunches on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. Please come and join us. Membership is only $5 and lunches are $6 for members and $10 for non-members. Membership is open to all JCAM members who are 55 and over years young.

We have delicious lunches prepared by our member cooking teams. There are exercise classes led by members who are trained and certified by Active Aging in Manitoba. There will be line dancing classes and other fun activities.

On June 24th many of our members enjoyed JCAM's Bon Odori Matsuri. The Horizon Club Singing Group performed a heartwarming rendition of You Are My Sunshine at the sing along.

The Horizon Club ended our 2022-23 year on Wednesday, June 21 with an amazing bento lunch prepared by Chef and Mrs Ono. There were about 70 members who enjoyed the lunch. Many stayed for Bingo after lunch.

On June 14th, the Horizon Club booked a bus for a group of us for a trip to The Leaf at Assiniboine Park. We all enjoyed the wonderful plants and very large Koi.

On May 31st, we hosted a presentation by the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society. Japanese Canadian Legacies is the implementation of BC Redress. This was an open presentation and many survivors affected by the actions of the BC government during World War II were in attendance.

Looking forward to seeing our returning members and hopefully welcoming new members.

JCAM Board of Directors 2022-2024

President:	Kelly Kaita	Takayuki Hattori	Sarah Keating Sangalang
Vice-President:	Debra Takeuchi	Satoshi Takeuchi	Cory Rybuck
Treasurer:	Jim Suzuki	Lucy Yamashita	Junko Bailey
Secretary:	Grant Voakes		
Past President:	Ken Teramura		

JCAM DONATIONS

(April 14, 2023 to August 21, 2023)

JCAM Silver Family Sponsors
Yayoi & Lester Brandt
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Jim & Margaret Suzuki
Kelly & Lisa Kaita and family
Kevin & Satomi Okabe and family

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Terry & Cathy Tully
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In memory of Mickey Kojima
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Elizabeth Ready
Mustaqil Ali
Yoshiko Matsubara
Glenn Koga
Akira Iwamoto
Sadao Ono

In memory of Fred Kaita
Tannis Nishibata-Chan & Ron Chan

In memory of Fred Matsuo
Alena Matsuo

In memory of Hilary Nordin
Joy Ooto
Howard & Brenda Mark
Keiko Yoshino
Alena Matsuo
Tannis Nishibata-Chan & Ron Chan

In memory of Virginia Omori
Shirley Teranishi
Howard & Brenda Mark

In appreciation of Sadao Ono
William Pope

Jim Taniguchi 98th Birthday
Doug Taniguchi

In memory of Ken Shimizu
Sachiko Conway

In memory of Grace Granger
Ralph Ooto

In memory of Peter Onagi
Alena Matsuo

JCAM Renovations
Marie Ohta

JCAM extends its appreciation to all donors for their generosity and support.
JCAM is now able to receive donations through e-transfer – etransfer@jcamwpg.ca

JCAM PROGRAMS

All Program participants must be a member of JCAM.

JCAM

PROGRAMES

SHODO
Instructor: Yayoi Brandt
Saturdays – October 7, 14, 21 and November 11, 18, 25 (6 sessions)
1:30 – 3:00pm **Fee: $60**

IKEBANA
Instructor: Debbie Tsuyuki
Wednesdays – September 13 to October 4 (4 sessions)
7:00pm – 8:30pm **Fee: $40**
Maximum enrolment: 10 people
* Flowers will be provided for the first class only

SHAKUHACHI
Instructor: Eric Napier-Strong
Thursdays – September 14, 28 and October 5, 12, 19, 26 (6 sessions)
6:00pm – 7:30pm **Fee: $60**
* *A practice shakuhachi may be purchased or rented separately*

KOTO
Instructor: Junko Rybuck
Mondays – October 16 to December 4
6:00pm – 7:00pm **Fee: $110** *(includes textbook and equipment rental)*

ADULT ODORI
Instructor: Lucy Yamashita
Sundays – October 15 to December 3 (8 sessions)
1:00pm – 2:00pm **Fee: $80**

CHILDREN ODORI
Instructor: Sumi Saito
Saturdays – October 14, 21, 28 and November 4, 18, 25 (6 sessions)
11:30am – 12:15pm (ages 6-9) **Fee: $45**
12:30pm – 1:15pm (ages 10 and up) **Fee: $45**

HERITAGE COOKING CLASS SERIES (maximum 10 participants per session):

Okonomiyaki
Monday, October 30
Instructor: Taka Fujiwara
6:30-8:30pm
Fee: $50

Sushi
Monday, November 6
Instructor: Sadao Ono
6:00-8:00pm
Fee: $50

Chicken Karaage
Monday, November 13
Instructor: Roy Nishimura
6:00-8:00pm
Fee: $50

Japanese Chow Mein
Monday, November 20
Instructor: Jim and Margaret Suzuki
6:00-8:00pm
Fee: $50

Vegetable Tempura
Monday, November 27
Instructor: Taka Hattori
6:00-8:00pm
Fee: $50

JCAM

PROGRAMMES

JCAM KIDS CLUB *NEW*

Join our new JCAM Kids Club! The purpose behind this program is to bring children to JCAM to experience Japanese cultural activities as well as encourage friendships within the community while enjoying the Centre.

5-12 Age Group:
We are teaming up with groups and instructors to provide demonstrations and participation in various Japanese activities like Taiko, Children's Dance, Cooking, Shodo, Origami, and Karate. We will also have Fit Kids Healthy Kids come in and provide fun activity sessions.

0-4 Age Group:
Parent-and-child activities are planned such as story time, movement activities, games, etc.

Each one-hour time slot will consist of:
One 25-minute physical activity such as ondo, karate, taiko, etc.,
One 10-minute break (with drink/snack),
One 25-minute "quiet" activity such as crafts, origami, cooking, coloring.

Saturdays **September 9 to December 9**
(NO classes on September 23 and November 11)
(12 sessions)

Choose one of two timeslots:
9:00am – 10:00am
OR
10:00am – 11:00am

Fee: **$48 (ages 5-12)** Maximum enrolment – 12 children per timeslot
$35 (ages 0-4) Maximum enrolment – 6 children with parents per timeslot

To register for all JCAM Programs, please go online:

https://www.jcamwpg.ca/shop/

Please note that all program participants must be a member of JCAM.

JCAM BON ODORI MATSURI 2023

It was another successful JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri on Saturday, June 24, all due to the hard work of the 15 planning committee members and the 100 volunteers that helped that day. The afternoon started with some Bon Odori dances including the Pokemon Ondo with a number of children participating in the dancing. later, more Bon Odori dances were taught and participants joined in the dancing.

The watermelon hit was a big attraction with everyone watching to see if the kids and adults, that were blind folded, could find the watermelon and hit it. There were also the karaoke sing-a-longs with singers, from various JCAM groups and special guests, ***Les Maruo*** and ***Tomoya Machino*** from the Blue Bombers, belting out the songs. Children got their faces painted, played in the bouncy castle and slide, and played the various games. Participants made a wish and put it on the Tanabata tree. Some people spoke with ***Vice Consul Ito***, from the ***Consulate General of Japan in Calgary***, about Japan and the various programs available through the Consulate General.

Inside the Centre, participants bought Japanese festival food, kakigori shaved ice, and some enjoyed an alcoholic beverage in the beer garden. ***JCAM Souvenirs/Crafts***, ***Edokko Japanese Foods***, ***Dwarf no Cachette Café & Gift***, and ***Yuka's Bakery*** were selling a wide variety of items and we thank the vendors for participating in the JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri and making it a success. ***Innovair Industrial Ltd***, ***Erickson Motors***, and ***Corporate Source*** offered their parking lots for our volunteers and participants to use and we thank them for their support.

We would also like to thank the ***Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage*** and the ***Consulate General of Japan in Calgary*** for their generous funding and helping to make the JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri a great event.

All the volunteers worked hard to make everything go smoothly and made it enjoyable for all the participants.
I would personally like to thank the Planning Committee Members for all their work over the past 4 months planning and organizing the Bon Odori Matsuri and making it such a wonderful success.

The Committee Members were: Jeff Agapito, Niina Dubik, MacKenzie Dyck, Aiden Ebata, Kei Ebata, Sara Ebata, Taka Hattori, Kelly Kaita, Nicolas Matsuo, Phil Mukai, Sadao Ono, Sarah Keating Sangalang, Satoshi Takeuchi and Lucy Yamashita.
We hope everyone enjoyed this year's JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri and look forward to seeing you at next year's Matsuri!

Caroline Yamashita
Bon Odori Matsuri Coordinator

AURORA DANCERS SILK AND SAKE

When our group realized it was going to be the 25th year anniversary of the Aurora Dancers, we knew we had to do something special. Recalling the success of our first Silk & Saké fundraiser in 2013, we decided to organize it again for 2023, this time with the theme: Past, Present and Future. The first Silk & Saké was imagined as an event to showcase the Aurora Dancers and to raise money for new performance kimono and equipment for our group. This time, we wanted to raise funds for additional performance kimono and yukata to accommodate new and returning members. The event was held in Connie Matsuo Hall at the Japanese Cultural Association of Manitoba, 180 McPhilips Street in Winnipeg and was chaired by Alexandra Chaput. The event poster was designed by artist and past group member Hailey Sato, who is now based in Vancouver.

Theresa Oye emceed the show, along with Jennifer Letkemann, the stage manager. The performances consisted of four dances, including "Urizun No Koro" with original choreography by our teacher and leader, Lucy Yamashita, as well as our signature song, "Hare Sugata Naniwa Odori" where we danced alongside alumni of the group. It was wonderful to reconnect with alumni members, who attended additional practices to prepare for the event. The event also held a 50/50 draw, social-style rainbow auction for prize baskets, cash bar with a selection of sake including a special sake cocktail called Aurora Sunrise, delicious appetizer sushi by Sushi Daruma and volunteer-made cookies and sweets. Many of the prizes were donations from members of the group, as well as sponsors of JCAM, including Oomomo Japan Living and Edokko Japanese Food. A slideshow of photos from the group over the years was highlighted during intermissions.

A new addition to this year's entertainment was a fashion show curated by Aurora Member Russell Kunz and featuring kimonos and accessories by collector Cindy Voakes. The fashion show's 11 models were our 2023 and past ambassadors of the Japanese Pavilion of Folklorama, the largest and longest running multicultural festival in the world. The fashion show displayed traditional and contemporary kimono styling, including western accessories and street fashion, collector pieces, formal furisode, and creative casual.

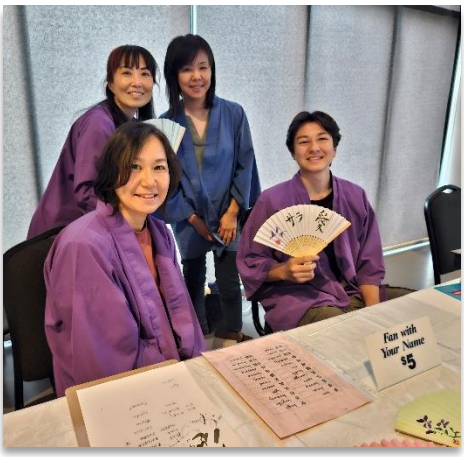
The event closed with special recognition of Mrs. Sachiko Conway-Shimizu for guiding the group in the early days with dressing and makeup workshops, as well as Lucy Yamashita for leading the group for the last 25 years. This event could not have happened without the hard work of each member of the Aurora Dancers, as well as their friends and families. We were able to meet our fundraising goal with a successful application to the JCAM Community Fund Grant and with the generosity and glowing support of our audience.

Photos by Royce O'Toole

Folklorama

Japanese Pavilion 2023

Enjoy some of the sights of the pavilion! A complete report will be in the next issue.


Fan with
Your Name
$5

Food

Souvenirs

JCAM GALA DINNER

Saturday, September 23, 2023

CanadInns Polo Park
1405 St. Matthews at Empress
6:00pm Cocktails
6:30pm Dinner

Tickets: $90 + PST
($30.00 tax deductible receipt)

Keynote Speaker:
Ms. Isha Khan
CEO, Canadian Museum for Human Rights

Inaugural Bill Norrie Community Supporter Award Recipient
Mr. Brian Bowman

JCAM Community Service Award Recipients

Mr. Harvey Kaita
Mrs. Kathy Grabowski

To purchase tickets: https://www.jcamwpg.ca/events/2023-jcam-gala-dinner/

JCAM Calendar of Events 2023

Dates may be subject to change so keep an eye out for JCAM email updates for each of these events PLUS more!

Saturday, September 23:	JCAM Gala Dinner
Friday, October 6:	Donburi Lunch
Saturday, October 28:	Children's Hallowe'en Party
Sunday, October 29:	Ramen Lunch
Friday, November 3:	Donburi Lunch
Saturday, November 11:	Makunouchi Bento Takeout
Sunday, November 19:	JCAM AGM and Volunteer Appreciation
Sunday, November 26:	Ramen Lunch
Saturday, December 2:	Udon Lunch and Mochi Sale
Sunday, December 3:	JCAM Christmas Market
Saturday, December 9:	Children's Christmas Party

For ongoing news from JCAM, check out our social media sites:

www.jcamwpg.ca
Twitter: @WpgJCAM
Instagram: @jcamincofficial
Facebook: @jcam.inc.org
Youtube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCIM3M-5wl3fVBhNEjgcNkFQ
Tik Tok: @jcamwpg

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