

To nurture and sustain a community interested in Japanese and Japanese Canadian culture and heritage.

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OUTLOOK

Setagaya Delegation Visit

JAPANESE CULTURAL
ASSOCIATION OF
MANITOBA INC.

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Presidents Message

Jim Suzuki

President of Japanese Cultural Association of Manitoba

It gives me great pleasure to write this article for this edition of the Outlook. I accepted the position of President of JCAM in October 2024. It seems this has been a busy year with many events and activities.

Our programs have been very active this year, including our Seniors program, Kids Club, our many user groups, Manitoba Kendo Club, Winnipeg Budokai Shotokan Karate, Hinode Taiko, Aikido. Other groups include Aurora Dancers, Manitoba Karaoke Club, Japanese tea ceremony. Japanese calligraphy shodo. In addition, we have a very active Japanese Language School Program which runs from September to June. Our food prep group did donburi as a fund-raising program every month.

This year JCAM participated in many activities. In February JCAM, the Consul General of Japan and the Jewish Federation hosted a talk from Akira Kitade Visas of Life and the Epic Journey at the Canadian Human Right Museum. Mr. Kitade related the story of Vice Consul Chinue Sugihara, who provided travel Visas to Jewish Refugees in Lithuania, which would provide safe passage from Lithuania to Japan. Mr. Kitade's research was to find these refugees, or descendants of these refugees so many years later. The event was well attended with more than 100 persons in attendance. Also, in the 2025 Keirokai-122025 Keirokai-12 audience was a direct descendent of one of the Sugihara survivors who came to Canada and settled in Winnipeg.

Birchwood Lexus celebrated 35 years in Canada. In June, JCAM was invited to participate in this celebration. Hinode Taiko performed 3 musical numbers, and their performance was very well received.

Bon Odori Matsuri or "Festival of Folk Dance" has been celebrated in Japan for more than 500

years. It is a Japanese custom to honor one's ancestors through group dance. Participants are taught various folk dances as well as join in the karaoke singing. This year JCAM celebrated this event in June. In attendance at this event were Nelly Kennedy, Minister of Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Sport of Manitoba, and Malaya Marcelino, MLA for Notre Dame. The event featured Japanese food, and beverages, as well as games and Japanese dance for all the participants.



In August, JCAM participated in the Folklorama 54 in Winnipeg. Over 7 days with over 400 volunteers, we hosted 4,000 attendees during the week.

From Japanese Canadian Legacies Society, we received a grant for infrastructure improvements. With this grant JCAM is currently renovating the Gymnasium, the Administration office, the library, and the Mark Koga room. In addition, we created a new display case for our Japanese Artifacts in the main hall. The exterior of the building will be refinished with new cladding. And to complete the renovation, the parking lot was repaved.

I wish to thank all the volunteers and our staff for the countless hours they sacrifice away from their families, in order to organize and run these many events. Just over the last few months, when the renovations were taking place, 3 rooms were totally emptied of their contents by a few volunteers, so the contractor could totally renovate these rooms to add functionality going into the future. Please consider becoming a volunteer if you haven't helped out already.

Our dedicated volunteers are what makes our cultural centre a living, breathing entity, and without this group, we could not continue to provide the services and programs which we bring to our community. Domo Arigato, Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Suzuki, President



JCAM DONATIONS

(May 1 to September 30, 2025)

In memory of Amy Kaita

Michele Lei

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JCAM is now able to receive donations through e-transfer – etransfer@jcamwpg.ca





Setagaya Delegation Visit 2025

The City of Winnipeg welcomed officials from Winnipeg's oldest sister city, Setagaya, Japan during the week of October 20 to 26. The visit marked the 55th Anniversary of the Sister City Agreement between the two cities. During this visit, the two mayors – Mayor Nobuto Hosaka and Mayor Scott Gillingham – signed agreements of Re-Affirmation of the Sister City Relationship at a ceremony at Winnipeg City Hall on Thursday, October 23.



On Wednesday, October 22, JCAM had the pleasure of welcoming the Setagaya delegation of 12 city officials for dinner at the centre. Guests enjoyed a delicious bento prepared by Chef and Mrs. Ono. The evening was a wonderful time to renew friendships, share sister city history, and to re-affirm the support of our Japanese Canadian community. The delegation took home a memento of our Setagaya-

dori garden with an original print by Mr. Sam Matsuo. The framed print, presented by Sam's daughter, Kim Paulicelli, will hang in the Setagaya City Office.



The evening finished with a presentation of a new 55th anniversary video of the sister city relationship. The video, produced by JCAM and created by 47 Filmworks, was a big hit with the Setagaya delegation. The video will be added to JCAM's YouTube channel for all to enjoy.



Photo Credit: Sandra Shibata



The following are the participants in the ceremony at City Hall.

Setagaya Delegation

Name(English)	Name(Japanese)	Position
Hosaka Nobuto	保坂 展人	Mayor of Setagaya Ward
Odaira Mitsunori	大平 光則	Chief of the Mayor's Office, Setagaya Ward
Watanabe Kenkichi	渡邊 謙吉	Director of the Department of Living and Cultural Policy, Setagaya Ward
Iwata Satoshi	岩田 悟史	Section Chief, International and Multicultural Coexistence Section, Culture and International Affairs Division, Department of Living and Cultural Policy, Setagaya Ward
Ishikawa Naomi	石川 ナオミ	Chairperson of the Setagaya Ward Assembly
Kohno Toshihiro	河野 俊弘	Member of the Setagaya Ward Assembly
Sakaguchi Kenichi	坂口 賢一	Member of the Setagaya Ward Assembly
Nakatsuka Sachiyo	中塚 さちよ	Member of the Setagaya Ward Assembly
Harada Ryoma	原田 竜馬	Member of the Setagaya Ward Assembly
Okamoto Nobuto	岡本 のぶ子	Member of the Setagaya Ward Assembly
Mizutani Atsushi	水谷 敦	Deputy Director, Setagaya Ward Assembly Secretariat
Takahashi Ryo	高橋 亮	Setagaya Ward Assembly Secretariat

Consulate General of Japan in Calgary

Consul General Takehiko Wajima
Vice Consul Yoshiko Okada

Winnipeg officials

Mayor Scott Gillingham
Deputy Mayor Janice Lukes
Councillor Jeff Browaty
Councillor Markus Chambers







Folklorama 2025

Another successful year for the Japanese Pavilion! Nearly 8,000 guests visited the Japanese Pavilion at Petrus Hall this year! The Japanese Pavilion was one of 43 pavilions featured during the second week of Folklorama 2025, from August 10 to 16, 2025.

Guests to the Japanese Pavilion enjoyed a dynamic and varied stage show which included Hinode Taiko, the Aurora dance group, the children's Kaede dance group, the Fuurin koto ensemble, martial arts including kendo, karate and iaido, and solo vocalists. Hinode Taiko was celebrating 40 years of performing at Folklorama and many alumni returned to perform. The alumni wore a variety of happi coats from over the years. The show was wrapped up with the audience participating in Tanko Bushi.

The food menu included Japanese curry, teriyaki chicken, niku don, tuna and salmon onigiri and miso soup prepared by our kitchen volunteers, and a sushi assortment catered by Edokko Japanese Foods.

Thank you to the many dedicated volunteers who helped to make this event a success!

Photo Credit: Sandra Shibata



We have lots more photos on the website. Please visit the link below!
<https://www.jcamwpg.ca/gallery/2025-folklorama-petrus-hall/>



Message from A Folklorama Ambassador

As an adult ambassador, I learned many valuable things through Folklorama. I realized the importance of cultural interactions, supporting the community, and promoting inclusion.

Without paying for expensive airplane tickets, I was able to experience many countries by visiting the pavilions and discovering new things such as traditional dances, foods, and languages.

I also met many wonderful people who volunteered to support each pavilion. At the Japanese Pavilion, many thanks to the dedication of volunteers, visitors were able to enjoy exciting shows. We all worked very hard to make the Japanese Pavilion a success.

One of my best memories was using American Sign Language on stage as part of the ambassador introduction. Through this, we were able to warmly welcome all the guests who came to see the Japanese Pavilion.

Working as an adult ambassador allowed me to learn, grow, and connect with many amazing people throughout the summer. And I would love to keep volunteering for the Japanese community.

Nobuko Diaz Tsuzuki

Chiiki Koukenn, A crucial component of Japan's culture, A way of living everyday

地域貢献 , 日本の文化の大切な一つ、 毎日の生き方

Chiiki means area, and koukenn means to put in effort and contribute. Together, they form the backbone of Japanese culture, something that we live by. A backbone that lets us stand tall, proud. Chiiki Kouken means to give back to the community, to work tirelessly, and with joy, for others.

Growing up in the city of Yokohama, Japan, I got to experience this with a man who shaped who I am today. This man, who woke up in the morning not for himself. This man, who at 75 delivered newspapers at 5:00 am. This man, who joined community clean ups. This man, who organized and volunteered every summer at Bon Odori, a Japanese summer festival of spirit. This man, who lived everyday and passed, selflessly doing what he loved. My grandfather, 都筑正志 (Masashi Tsuzuki), embodied this moral and I kept this part of him with me, and when I moved to Canada, I held it closer to my heart. In a place where I was a minority, where I was lost at times, this moral grounded me to my Japanese heritage. From walking the greying streets of downtown Winnipeg, to the neighborhood of Charleswood where I live now, I wanted to share the color that my grandfather brought to my life. Although I have been continuously involved at the Japanese Cultural Center at various volunteering events for several years now, I first began to be involved at the Japanese Pavilion three years ago where I was a part of the cleaning crew. I wiped tables, cleared plates, and emptied the trash. Folklorama was my opportunity to not only contribute to my Japanese culture, but to share it to the world. To share our values, our culture, our morals, and to share the color that my grandfather brought into my life. Two years later, the summer of 2025, I was presented with the opportunity to become a youth ambassador for the Japanese Pavilion. As an ambassador, I deeply understood the effort that goes into holding this celebration. At the Japanese Pavilion, we are built on volunteers. Volunteers whose ages range from elementary school students, all the way to the elderly. Furthermore, our volunteers are diverse. To list a few, I met Canadians, Colombians, and Vietnamese volunteers. We all come together, to give back to the community. As ambassadors who act as the face of our pavilions, it is our duty to recognize the work that goes on behind the scenes, and to tie that to something we can share to others. Moreover, being an ambassador allowed me to share, but at the same time, learn. While visiting other pavilions, my perspective was opened up. Each pavilion had something new to teach me, and initiated thoughtful conversations where mutual understanding was sparked. It is needless to say that the girl I was last summer, is not who I am now. Through Folklorama, I met people like my grandfather. People who gave my life a new color, and added to my palette

Zahlia Karin Diaz Tsuzuki

Congratulations to Zahlia Karin Diaz Tsuzuki for her appointment as Folklorama Ambassador General 2026!



HORIZON CLUB NEWS

The Horizon Club began its weekly get togethers after our summer break on Wednesday, October 1st. We had our summer windup on “Natsu no Atsumari” on June 18th where seventy of us enjoyed an ‘oishii’ bento lunch prepared by Chef and Mrs Ono.

The Horizon Club had a busy spring and summer.

The JCAM Horizon Club held an Intergenerational Family History gathering at the cultural centre on Sunday May 25, 2025. Approximately 40 people attended, bringing together multi generations Japanese Canadians and post war issei and more recent arrivals from Japan, as well as students in the Japanese Language program. Thank you to speakers Florence Mitani, Yayoi Brandt, Rhea Teranishi and Yuhito Adachi who shared their stories about the internment and their experience about coming to Canada. Many thanks to the enthusiastic participants who came to learn and share their history and experiences, and the individuals who stepped forward to help. This event was made possible with support from JCAM and the Japanese Canadian Legacy Society Intergenerational Wellness Fund.

May 28th was a busy day. We started at 11 am with a lively “Drums Alive” exercise class led by guest instructor Brenda Moberg. At lunch we had guests Terry Watada and his wife Tane Akematsu. Terry Watada is an accomplished novelist, poet, playwright and singer songwriter who lives in Toronto. He contributed a monthly column to the Nikkei Voice for twenty-five years. He has written for the Vancouver Bulletin since 2012. After lunch Terry spoke to us and there were some of his signed books for sale.

On August 5th, 44 Horizon Club members, and family and friends, went on a Folklorama bus tour. Our first destination was the Hungarian-Pannonia Pavilion at the RBC Convention Centre. We enjoyed a generous dinner and lively traditional dancing and entertainment. Then we went to the Franco-Manitoban Cultural Centre to the Caribbean Pavilion. We enjoyed a yummy dessert while watching the entertainment, steel drumming, lively dancing and limbo performers. Everyone had a great time!

Are you 55 plus? Please come and join us on Wednesdays.

Benefits:

- Lunches are \$7 for members: \$10 for guests
- Weekly fitness classes included in membership
- Participation in activities, events and programs, such as outings to Folklorama
- Friendly company, fun and laughs

Membership is open to JCAM members and fees are \$5 for the year. Fitness classes start at 11 am. Lunch served at noon.

Come out and give us a try.



HINODE TAIKO NEWS

This summer Hinode Taiko was busy performing at outdoor festivals and running outreach workshops for various children's summer programs across the city. We were glad to be back to open Winnipeg's annual anime convention, Aikon, and to join the Winnipeg Chinese Cultural and Community Centre for their Canada Day celebration.

If you've been watching Hinode perform over the years you will have noticed a number of new faces in the group. This summer has marked the first public performances of our four new apprentices! We are so glad to welcome them onto the stage and are excited to see what the next year will bring for them.

In addition to new faces, Hinode Taiko also had the joy of bringing back eleven alumni drummers to celebrate our 40th year performing at the Japanese pavilion. We were thrilled to bring back a classic piece of HT repertoire, Uma, to open the show with a bang. Since we had such a large roster of talented drummers to pull from, Folklorama audiences had the chance to experience a different set of drumming solos almost every night. Complete with a three conch call opening and the piece's infamous "gumby arms" we hope that our anniversary celebration was a performance to remember!

Over the summer our drum maintenance team has also been hard at work repairing drums for our upcoming performances. As a result of these efforts, HT now has six new drum heads to bring into our playing rotation. (One of which is made out of Manitoba bison—a first for our group!) In order to re-head the drums, extensive work had to be done to reinforce the drum shells. Drum maintenance is both labour intensive and expensive in terms of

raw materials, so we would also like to extend a big thank you to everyone who bought tickets to our wine raffle fundraiser this year which supported drum repair. Without your support Hinode Taiko would not be able to operate.

If you are interested in keeping up to date on Hinode Taiko's performances and events, we can check out our website or join our mailing list at hinodetaiko.ca.

Wishing everyone all the best for Fall 2025!



Photos Credits:

Canada Day - Tommie Au 柯

Folklorama - Ellie Ocampo, Blink 1A2 Photography

2025 JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri

It was another fun filled afternoon at the Bon Odori Matsuri on June 21. Despite the smokey air about 345 participants attended and 130 volunteers helped throughout the afternoon. The Hon. Nellie Kennedy, Minister of Sport, Culture, Heritage and Tourism gave greetings on behalf of Premier Wab Kinew and MLA for Notre Dame, the Hon. Malaya



Planning Committee Chairpersons. They attended numerous meetings and organized the whole event. Without them, the JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri wouldn't be such a success.

Jeff Agapito, Niina Dubik, Sara Ebata, Kevin Houle, Sarah Keating Sangalang, Tomoko Kehler-Yokobori, Kelly Koga, Todd Koga, Kyla Letkemann, Joy Letkemann, Geoff Miki, Aiden Muller, Roy Nishimura, Hazel Saito, Hiroe St Louis, Margaret Suzuki, Drew Symbol, Jordan Takenaka, Satoshi Takeuchi, Lucy Yamashita.

Marcelino also attended and gave greetings. 5 bon dances were taught and participants joined in as well karaoke singing, the suika wari watermelon hit, various kids games and taiko workshops were other activities everyone could enjoy. Festival food included pork karaage, Japanese style chow mein, Spam musubi, inari sushi, taiyaki, edamame, and of course our signature green tea kakigori was available. This year the bar was outdoors and participants could enjoy the entertainment while having a cold drink.



Special thanks to Margaret and Jim Suzuki, Roy Nishimura and the other individuals that made donations to fund the

Matsuri. Also thanks to Edokko Japanese Foods, Innovair Group, Corporate Source, Erickson Motors for their support and vendors Yuka's Bakery and Wutong Tree Gift Shop for their participation.

I would like to take this opportunity to give a **Big Thank You** to the following Food Committee and

Submitted by: Caroline Yamashita, Bon Odori Matsuri Coordinator





JCAM Cleaning Day!

On Sunday, October 5th, JCAM conducted a thorough cleaning of the entire facility. Unfortunately, it rained that day, but about 50 volunteers gathered and supported the event. Every corner of every room was polished. Furniture like tables, chairs, and shoji screens was carefully cleaned piece by piece, and windows and display cases were also made spotless. Visitors who have already come to the centre may have noticed that the exhibits have also been renewed. Japanese traditional dolls, Kabuto, and Katana are now displayed in the showcases.

After the big cleanup, Mr./Mrs. Ono and the chefs prepared ramen for all the volunteers, which everyone enjoyed together. Cleaning the entire facility was a major undertaking, and it was completed thanks to the cooperation of all the volunteers. We would like to express our deepest appreciation here.



BROKEN PROMISES

PROMESSES BRISÉES

The Dispossession
of Japanese Canadians

La dépossession
des Canadiens japonais



The exhibition “Broken Promises,” at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

The “Broken Promises” exhibition, featuring pivotal history for Japanese Canadians and the founding of the JCAM, opened at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights on September 23. This traveling exhibition, jointly organized by the Japanese Canadian National Museum and the Royal BC Museum, explores history through the stories of seven narrators and shares stories of loss, resilience and strength that continue to have an impact in Japanese Canadian communities today. This exhibition sheds light on this betrayal, highlighting the ongoing impact of these broken promises and the resilience of those who endured them. Museum visitors will learn about life for Japanese Canadians in Canada before, during and after the war, and how the legacy of their dispossession continue to this day.

● Period

September 23, 2025 - April 25, 2026.

● Location

The Level 6 Expressions gallery at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights

● Related Articles

<https://humanrights.ca/exhibition/broken-promises>

<https://humanrights.ca/news/forced-their-homes-and-left-nothing>

<https://humanrights.ca/story/japanese-canadian-internment-and-struggle-redress>

<https://www.jcamwpg.ca/japanese-canadians-in-manitoba/>

<https://www.jcamwpg.ca/mural-japanese-in-manitoba/>

Photos Credits:

CMHR, Aaron Cohen

Introduction to JCAM Administrative Members

Pamela Okano

Office Administrator

Pamela was first hired by JCAM precursor organization, MJCCC, way back in 1993 as the first administrator in our current location. After leaving MJCCC in 1996 for a 28 year teaching career in Winnipeg, Japan, and Brazil, Pamela was hired once more in 2021 as the Office Administrator. The title may be the same but the job has certainly changed over these decades!



Pamela is a sansei who grew up within the Manitoba JC community. For over 25 years, she was the Artistic Director and performer with Hinode Taiko and served on international boards for KODO (Japan) and the North American Taiko Conference Advisory.

Sara Ebata

Event Coordinator

Sara has been a member of the cultural centre since she was a child. As an adult she has been very involved with the centre (pre-JCAM) and since becoming JCAM.



She is very active with the Japanese Pavilion, Bon Odori, and Kids Club. Over the years she has helped to put on the children's picnic, kids Halloween parties, kids back to school parties, Oshougatsu and previously sat as a board member.

Currently, Sara is employed by JCAM as the event coordinator. During week days you'll find her at her day job in the law firm she has worked at for many years as a legal assistant.

Sara's children and husband often join her in her volunteering roles. Her daughter, Danica, and son, Aiden have both sat on the Japanese Pavilion committee with her, as well as helped with Bon Odori, and all the other events she has had a hand in. Her family is very dedicated to helping her with a lot of behind the scenes stuff when it comes to her event coordinator position, or regular volunteering roles.

Ryunosuke Yamaguchi

Administrative Assistant

Ryunosuke recently joined as an Administrative Assistant, in charge of Saturday operation on Saturday and is the new editor of Outlook/Tembo.

After graduating from university and working for a year in Japan, he came to Winnipeg in this year, from Chiba Prefecture, Japan.



He likes driving, movies, and music. Having recently purchased an old car, he now enjoys visiting CD shops for musics while diving. He has also started studying accounting/finance so he feels fulfilled everyday. He looks forward to meeting everyone.

Future Events

- 11/23 : Annual General Meeting
- 11/28 : Donburi Lunch
- 12/5 : Manju Making
- 12/6 : Udon Lunch
- 12/13 : Children's Christmas Party

***Schedule subject to change,
So please stay tuned for updates.***
<https://www.facebook.com/jcam.inc.org/>



JCAM Annual General Meeting

Sunday, November 23, 2025
1pm - 3pm

To pre-register for the AGM or to provide your proxy vote, please register [HERE](#)

Volunteer Appreciation

Sunday, November 23, 2025
3:30pm - 5:30pm

If you have volunteered for JCAM events this past year, please join us for a light meal, door prizes, and live entertainment!

Anyone planning to attend the Volunteer Appreciation, please RSVP [HERE](#).

RSVP deadline for Volunteer Appreciation is **Wednesday, November 19, 2025**.
We hope you can join us!





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