

Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC)



Fall 2017

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Hello JSAC Members,

It was great to see so many of you at the fantastic 30th anniversary JSAC conference held at the Munk School at the University of Toronto in October. Many, many thanks to David Welch and Eileen Lam for all their hard work in pulling together this excellent conference. Those of us fortunate enough to be in attendance were treated to many fascinating keynote and regular presentations on a broad range of Japan-related topics.

We also heard a beautiful Koto presentation and enjoyed a delicious sake tasting and banquet dinner. As always, JSAC 2017 was a wonderful opportunity to meet with colleagues from across Canada, Japan, Europe and the United States. At our banquet, Fumiko Ikawa-Smith was announced as the first recipient of the Japan Studies Association of Canada Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations, Fumiko, and thanks for your many and wonderful contributions to JSAC over the years!

The next JSAC conference will be at the University of Alberta, October 11- 14, 2018. The theme will be "Japan's World/The World's Japan: Images, Perceptions and Reactions". Thank you so much to Aya Fujiwara and X. Jie Yang for taking on the organization of JSAC 2018. Planning is already well underway and some

terrific and high profile keynote speakers have already been selected.

A special thank you is due Norio Ota for his tireless work on behalf of JSAC. As well as being JSAC treasurer, Norio manages the JSAC website and has gone to great efforts to put all our current and past conference programs and publications online along with other items of interest and recognition. Thank-you, Norio! Thanks also are due to the rest of our JSAC Board: David Edgington, David Welch, Jim Tiessen, Tom Waldichuk and Shige Matsui.

Thanks so everyone who has submitted material to the newsletter. It is great for all of us to find out what each other has been doing!

Wishing you all a wonderful (and not too cold!) winter!

Carin Holroyd, JSAC President

Award for Lifetime Service to the Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC)

This award is made to honour an outstanding contribution to the mission of the Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC). Initiated in 2017, the award recognizes exceptional service and commitment to JSAC and to the study of Japan in Canada. The award acknowledges and publicly celebrates these outstanding contributions and the integrity and dedication the recipient has brought to the association.



David Edgington, past president of JSAC, presenting Fumiko Ikawa-Smith with the JSAC Lifetime Achievement Award at the JSAC 2017 banquet.

Commendation for Fumiko Ikawa-Smith for Lifetime Service to the Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC) 2017

Fumiko Ikawa-Smith is Professor Emerita of McGill University where she has had a distinguished career in both Anthropology and East Asian Studies. She is a specialist in Early Palaeolithic research in Japan and East Asia, and she has served as Associate Vice-Principal (Academic) of McGill University from 1991 to 1996. In 2005 Professor Ikawa-Smith was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Golden Rays with Rosette from the Government of Japan. Professor Ikawa-Smith was a founding member of the Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC) (formerly the Japan Social Studies Association of Canada) 30 years ago. She has attended almost every JSAC meeting in its 30 years even long after her retirement from McGill. She served as President of JSAC from 2004-2007 and was Chair of the JSAC Conference Committees that hosted JSAC at McGill University in 1988 and 1999. People who know Fumiko appreciate her wry sense of humor. We at JSAC are grateful for her long service to Japanese studies in Canada.

Fumiko's Award was made by David W. Edgington at the JSAC 2017 Annual Meeting in October. David noted that he had known Fumiko for nearly 30 years, and that his first contact with Fumiko was when she phoned him directly from McGill University back in 1988 when he was living in Melbourne, Australia. The purpose of the early morning phone was to summon him to present a paper at the JSSAC 1988 meeting in Montreal. And of course, he had to attend!

Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC) 2017

The 2017 annual meeting of the Japan studies Association of Canada was held at the Munk School of global affairs at the University of Toronto, October 12-15 (cosponsored by the University of Toronto's Centre for the Study of Global Japan, the Faculty of Arts and Science, and the Japan Futures Initiative, with generous support from the Japan Foundation, Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto, Asian Institute, Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union, and Ryerson University). There were 63 participants from Canada, the United States, Japan, and Great Britain, and 14 excellent sessions, including six keynote addresses by prominent speakers and a session organized by undergraduate students. Participants also enjoyed a traditional koto performance by Grandmaster Linda Kako Caplan and a banquet sake tasting presented by Greg Newton of Ontario Spring Water Sake Co. A highlight of the banquet was the presentation of the first JSAC Lifetime Achievement Award to Fumiko Ikawa-Smith. Participants also had the opportunity to welcome Japan's new Consul-General to Toronto, Takako Ito. Participant feedback on the annual meeting was extremely positive, and we look forward to an equally successful event in 2018 in Edmonton.

JSAC Graduate Student/ Junior Faculty Workshop

Ken Coates, with assistance from Maria Toyoda, David Welch, Andrew DeWit and Carin Holroyd, led a three hour graduate student and junior faculty workshop prior to the start of the JSAC conference. The workshop focused on academic and non-academic career planning and was attended by about 20 University of Toronto students, some of whom have a Japan or East Asia focus to their research. JSAC has hosted such workshops in the past.

Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC) 2018

The 31 Annual Conference for the JSAC will be hosted by the Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research, University of Alberta in collaboration with the University of Calgary in Edmonton on 11-14 October 2018. Its theme, "Japan's World / World's Japan: Images, Perceptions and Reactions," covers a broad area and a wide variety of disciplines. Images, perceptions, and reactions define the political directions that nations might take. In recent years, the world has produced a set of political and cultural discourses of Japan, ascertaining the role that it could play in this world. Many global leaders and scholars view Japan with pessimism as a country in decline, with few options in the future due to its dwindling population, aging society and increasing territorial and military threats from its neighbours. To counter-balance this view, others see Japan with a glimmer of hope, expecting the rise of new scientific and technological inventions to offset these crises. There is also a historical trend to stress Japan's soft power, focusing on its rich traditional cultural heritage, literature, and language as well as popular culture such as manga, anime, and games. Japan, for its part, has reacted and responded to such images and perceptions created by the rest of the world by reorienting and reinventing its self-images and responses. The keynote speakers include prominent scholars such as Professor John Treat (Yale University), Professor Steven Vogel (University of California Berkeley), and Professor Teruki

Tsunemoto (Hokkaido University). The goal of this conference is to bring together interdisciplinary and international Japan Studies researchers to produce a new set of knowledge regarding the state of Japan and Japan studies. We will send a message to all of you when call for papers is out. We encourage all members to participate and support this important annual event.

Winners of the Klaus Pringsheim Prize

Congratulations to the two graduate students whose presentations won awards in the 'Klaus Pringsheim Student Award Competition'. The first prize was awarded to Natasha Fox, Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Geography at the University of British Columbia (supervisor Dr. David Edgington) for her paper "Emerging Solidarities and Spatialities in Post 3.11 Japan: Gender, Sexuality and Transformative Resilience". The second place (runner up) prize was awarded to Evan Koike, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia (supervisor Dr. Millie Creighton) for his paper "'If the Top Changes': Nonprofit Organizations' Attempts to Raise Japan's Low Birthrate by Educating Company Managers".

The UBC Meiji at 150 Project

To mark the 150th anniversary of the Meiji Restoration, the Centre for Japanese Research, the Department of History, the Department of Asian Studies, the Asian Library, and the Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia are partnering to present a year-long series of events promoting the study of modern Japanese history on campus. With 7 public lectures, 3 workshops, a digital teaching resource, and a podcast series, the UBC Meiji at 150 Project draws together nearly 50 scholars of Japanese history, literature, art, anthropology, geography, and religion from universities throughout North America to interrogate Japan's position in global history along with the place of the Meiji Restoration in Japanese historical and cultural pedagogy. For a more detailed description of the Project, along with a full list of events, see: <https://meijiat150.arts.ubc.ca/>.

Tristan Grunow (Assistant Professor without Review, Department of History, University of British Columbia)

Member News

X. Jie Yang (Professor, Department of Linguistics, Languages and Cultures, University of Calgary)

Publications:

A Digital Exhibit: Tale of Lady Karaito

<http://digital.culturalresources.jp/omeka-yang/exhibits/show/karaito>

A special webpage to introduce a medieval picture book "Karaito Soshi". It is a showcase to demonstrate classical Japanese document available at National Institute of Japanese Literature, Tokyo, Japan in the IIIF standard. (Released on Oct. 21, 2017)

Canada Japanese Video Contest

<https://sites.google.com/view/canadajapanesevideo/contest-application?authuser=0>

Professors and instructors from seven universities are working together on the very first Video Contest. The deadline has passed, and we received a good number of submissions. The final result of the contest will be announced in early 2018.

Millie Creighton (Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of British Columbia)

Publication:

Creighton, Millie. 2017. 'A Tree House in Tokyo: Reflections on Nikkei, Citizenship, Belonging, Architecture, and Art on the 75th Anniversary of Japanese American and Japanese Canadian Architecture, and Art on the 75th Anniversary of Japanese American and Japanese Canadian Internment.' *Contemporary Japan*. 29.2: 246-260. Internment.' *Contemporary Japan*. 29.2: 246-260. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18692729.2017.1354752><http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18692729.2017.1354752>

Presentations:

Creighton, Millie. 2017. "Japan, The Land of the Rivers Dammed," invited/sponsored presentation for workshop entitled: Damned by Dams: Artefacts of Modernization and Conflicts of Transformation, held by the Centre for Global Cooperation Research of the University of Duisburg (Germany). Presented Friday, October 27, 2017.

Creighton, Millie. 2017. "Contents Tourism Surrounding Japan's Seto Inland Sea Triennial International Art Festival: From Shodoshima's Movie Park, to Art and Architecture Guides, and Modern Magazines," paper presented at the American Anthropological Association annual conference in Washington, DC on Friday, December 1, 2017.

Millie Creighton (University of British Columbia) and Nelson Graburn (UC Berkeley) co-organized the panel, “Contents Tourism in East Asia: Japan, Mainland China, Taiwan, Korea,” for the American Anthropological Association annual conference in Washington, DC. Panel presented on Friday, December 1, 2017.

Koike, Evan. 2017. “The Contributions of Japanese Nonprofit Organizations to Engaged Fatherhood,” paper presented at the American Anthropological Association annual conference in Washington, DC on Thursday, November 30, 2017.

Noriko Yabuki-Soh (Associate Professor, York University)

Publications

日本語学習者の談話における視点表現—日本語母語話者との比較から— [Expressions of viewpoint in written narratives: Comparing L2 learners and native speakers of Japanese]. *Journal CAJLE* (Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education) 18, 90-112.

Conference presentations:

Deictic expressions found in written narratives in English and Japanese. Paper presented at the annual conference of Association canadienne de linguistique appliquée/Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics (ACLA/CAAL 2017), Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, May 29-31, 2017.

日本語教材に見られる授受表現・受身表現—認知言語学の観点から— [Donatory and passive expressions found in JFL instructional materials: A cognitive linguistic approach]. Paper presented at the 23rd Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum (PJPF 23), Princeton University, Princeton, USA, May 13-14, 2017.

Expressions of viewpoint found in written texts in Japanese: Exploring a cognitive linguistic approach. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC 2016), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, October 13-16, 2016.

Expressions of viewpoint made by English-speaking learners of Japanese. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Second Language Research Forum (SLRF 2016), Columbia University, New York, USA, September 22-25, 2016.

大学日本語コース用漢字教材の開発—学習者からのフィードバックを基に—

Development of Kanji learning materials for university JFL courses: Focusing on learner feedback]. Paper co-presented with K. Inutsuka at the annual conference of the Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education (CAJLE 2016), Crowne Plaza, Niagara Falls, Canada, August 17-18, 2016.

Tom Waldichuk (Faculty of Arts, Thompson Rivers University)

Kamloops Geography Students Visit Japan

Tom Waldichuk led 12 students on a ten day Geography field course to Japan from May 15 to 25. We stayed at Bunkyo Gakuin University in Tokyo while we took day trips around the metropolitan area. We also took the local train along the Tokaido line from Tokyo to Kyoto – a full-day adventure that included a lunch stop and wonderful ocha at San Grams restaurant (www.san-grams.jp) in the tea producing town of Kikugawa. Our group stayed two nights in homestay accommodation in Uji City, next to Kyoto, which is the sister city of Kamloops and home to Byodoin -- the temple on the 10 yen coin and a UNESCO World Heritage site. On the way back to Tokyo we used the speeder Kodama shinkansen, which allowed us to stop in Tokyo it was dark, but some of the diehard students and I walked to Nihonbashi – the bridge where all roads start from in Japan. We sat outside Starbucks drinking coffee while watching the lamps on the bridge, sadly realizing that our trip to Japan was almost over, but looking forward to a few more hours together before going our separate ways.



"Guess where this is?"

Photo provided courtesy of Tom Waldichuk

David W. Edgington (Past JSAC President, Professor, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia)

David W. Edgington (Professor Emeritus) has retired from the Department of Geography, University of British Columbia. David was President of JSAC in 2012-2016. He will continue his research on Japan, and looks forward to working with his present and former graduate students.

Publications:

- D.W. Edgington (2017) 'Comprehensive Planning in Japanese Large Cities', Planning Perspectives, in press.
- D.W. Edgington (2017) 'Building Back Better' along the Sanriku Coast of Tohoku, Japan: Five Years After the '3.11' Disaster', Town Planning Review, volume 88(6).
- D.W. Edgington (ed.) (2017) "Globalizing Japan: Issues In Language, Linguistics and Japanese Society". A Collection Of Papers From The Japan Studies Association Of Canada (JSAC) 2016 Annual Meeting Held at The University Of British Columbia, http://buna.yorku.ca/jsac/jsac_web_pub/jsac2016_pub_global.pdf.

Presentations:

March 2017: "A Day Out in Fukushima", Paper presented at 'The Politics of Invisibility: Fukushima, 6 Years After 3.11', Centre for Japanese Research, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

April 2017: "The Road Back: Arrangements for Recovery of Population and Jobs in the Futaba District of Fukushima Prefecture", Paper presented to the American Association of Geographers meeting, Boston.

April 2017: "Fukushima Dai-ichi at 5, Chernobyl #4 at 30: A Comparison of Cultural, Geographical and Political settings in Risk and Crisis Management", Presentation to the Graduate School of East Asian Studies, The Free University of Berlin.

May 2017: "Fukushima Dai-ichi: Cultural, Geographical and Political Settings in Risk and Crisis Management", Presentation to the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, Vancouver.

Brian Pendleton (Professor Emeritus, Asian Studies, Langara College)

- Brian attended the UK Japanese Garden Society (JGS) Conference at Cambridge University, England, in September, followed by visits to several gardens in the region.
- He continues to serve as Editor of the Journal of the North American Japanese Garden Association (NAJGA). The focus of the next Journal: "Japan's Gift to the World: Japanese Gardens as Global Phenomenon" will be a special issue to parallel the theme of the NAJGA 2018 Biennial Conference to be held at the Portland Japanese Garden.



'Garden of Peace' from 1910 Japan-British Exhibition at White City, London (now Hammersmith Park, restored in 2010)

Photo provided courtesy of Brian Pendelton

James H. Thiessen (Associate Professor, Director, School of Health Services Management, Ryerson University)

James (Jim), with colleague Ken Kato of Fujita Health University, published an article *Japanese healthcare: Fostering competition and controlling costs* in *Healthcare Management Forum* (30, 4: 175-80, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0840470417698485>) in June 2017. Jim conducted a sold out webinar on the paper in early July to an audience of Canadian healthcare managers.

The article identifies two (of many) good healthcare policy ideas from Japan. One is Japan's competitive hospital sector that includes public, not-for-profit and for profit providers. The second idea is the Chuikyo, a national council comprising providers, payers (insurers), government and third party experts who set health service prices nationally and publicly on a biannual basis, a process that brings private sector stakeholders into negotiations. Though like all countries, Japan faces healthcare challenges, these two approaches help curb costs while fostering competition for patients. It must be noted that OECD figures show that Japanese healthcare spending comprises about 11% of its GDP, 84% which is publicly financed by social insurance and government spending. In Canada these numbers are about 10.5% and 70%, respectively.

Stephen R. Nagy (Senior Associate Professor, Department of Politics and International Studies, International Christian University, Tokyo)

Publications:

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "Japan's Choice", in *The World Commerce Review*. Vol. 11, Issue 3. Autumn. pp.10-17.

2017 Nagy, S. R. 2017. "Japan's Grand Strategy?: Chinese Interpretations of Japanese Foreign Policy in the post -Cold War Era," in *Prospects for Peace and Prosperity in the New Age*. Chih-mo Cheng (ed.). Taiwan: Department of Diplomacy & International Relations, Tamkang University. pp. 71-97.

Authored editorials, commentary

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "Japan faces a consequential decision in possible snap election", in *The Japan Times*. September 22, 2017. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2017/09/22/commentary/japan-commentary/japan-faces-consequential-decision-possible-snap-election/#.WciapVuCyUk>

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "Quieting the language of war: Diplomacy struggles as Washington and Pyongyang ramp up the rhetoric", in *Policy Forum Asia and the Pacific Policy Forum*. (August 16th, 2017)

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "PM Abe's position casts shadow", in *Kyodo News*. (June 15, 2017)

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "The problem of pacifism: The road to revising Japan's Constitution", in *Policy Forum Asia & the Pacific Policy Society*. (May 11th, 2017)

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "Solutions beyond Sabre Rattling: Compromise and diplomacy, not military might, has the greatest potential to bring peace to the Korean peninsula," in *Policy Forum, Asia and Pacific Policy Society*. April 14th, 2017. <https://www.policyforum.net/solutions-beyond-sabre-rattling/>

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "Can Tillerson tackle a tense East Asia?: North Korea has ramped up regional anxieties ahead of US Secretary of State visit," in *Policy Forum, Asia and Pacific Policy Society*. March 15th, 2017. <https://www.policyforum.net/can-tillerson-tackle-tense-east-asia/>

2017 Nagy, S.R. 2017. "Southeast Asia pins its hopes on US-Japan alliance: Much at stake in Trump and Abe's upcoming meeting," in *Policy Forum, Asia and Pacific Policy Society*. February 10th, 2017. <https://www.policyforum.net/southeast-asia-pins-hopes-us-japan-alliance/>

Conference Papers, Invited Lectures and Workshops

2017 "G-Zero World realities and Canada as a Middle Power," *The Era of Uncertainty Leadership: East Asian responses to a G-Zero World and the role of Middle Powers Symposium*, International Christian University, Tokyo. October 20th, 2017 (Conference organizer and speaker)

2017 Symposium on the Role of Middle Power Countries in an Era of Uncertainty, Co-hosted by the Canadian Embassy, Tokyo and the Social Science Research Institute, International Christian University, Tokyo. October 19th, 2017. (Organizer and round-table speaker)

2017 “Security Challenges around Japan: How Canada can help”, Hosted by Deputy Commander RCN, RAdm Gilles Couturier aboard the HMCS OTTAWA , Tokyo. July 13th, 2017 (Closed panel session)

2017 “A new model of Great Power Relations and sources of insecurity in the region: Third country perspectives,” at the 14th Annual East Asia Security Symposium: Conference, China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing, 30 June 2017

2017 “Proactive Pacifism under PM Abe: Chinese perceptions of Japan’s Foreign Policy Trajectory,” in the International Studies Association, University of Hong Kong, June 15-17, 2017.

2017 “Japan’s Grand Strategy? Chinese interpretations of Japanese Foreign Policy in the post-Cold War Era,” at the International Conference on Prospects for Peace and Prosperity in the New Age, organized by Tamkang University, Republic of Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, March 27th, 2017 (Invited)

Recent Media Interviews:

1) Title: Shinzo Abe wins landslide victory in snap Japanese election

Media: The World, ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/programs/the-world/2017-10-23/shinzo-abe-wins-landslide-victory-in-snap-japanese/9078664>

2) Title: Re-elected Japanese PM Shinzo Abe to meet with Donald Trump next month

Media: ABC Radio. <https://audioboom.com/posts/6419037-re-elected-japanese-pm-shinzo-abe-to-meet-with-donald-trump-next-month>

3) <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/videos/2017-10-22/icu-says-abe-s-party-represents-pragmatic-policy-video>

Norio Ota (Associate Lecturer, Japanese & Korean Studies Programme, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, York University)

Publication:

Ota, N. (2017) 'Standardization vs. innovation in language education':

http://www.jsac.ca/jsac_web_pub/jsac2016_pub_global.pdf

Presentation:

Ota, N. (2017) 'Uncertainties of the future of the Japanese language – a case study of conditionals', JSAC2017 annual conference held at University of Toronto, October 12-15, 2017.

Event:

Hosting the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT2017-2) at York University for 586 registrants on December 3, 2017.

Project:

Creating a database for the students in the Japanese Studies Program at York University.
Setting up a Virtual Centre for Japanese-Canadian Studies.
Revamping the web instructional material.

Norio is on sabbatical leave until June 30, 2018.

Ken Coates (Professor and Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan)

Carin Holroyd (Associate Professor, Political Studies, University of Saskatchewan)

Carin was one of the two keynote speakers in the Suntory Foundation's seminar series in Osaka in May. She spoke on "Technological Developments in contemporary Japan: possibilities and challenges". Ken Coates participated as a discussant.

Last December, the Japan Futures Initiative and the European Japan Advanced Research Network (EJARN) hosted a one day workshop on "New Meiji," built around the issue of how Japan should respond to the challenges of the 21st century. Fifteen participants in the conference submitted papers based on their presentation at the workshop. Carin Holroyd, Kimie Hara, Marie Soderberg and Ken Coates are in the final stages of editing a book based on these papers.

Japan figured significantly in a Ditchley Conference on the Future of the Arctic, held in Whitehorse in May. Ken Coates and Atsushi Sunami, the latter from GRIPS in Tokyo, participated at the workshop. In comparison to early conferences of this nature, there was a deliberate effort to include more Asian specialists at the meeting, in recognition of the growing roles of Japan, China and South Korea in the Far North.

Linking Past and Present While Visiting Sites of Injustice on the 75th Anniversary of Japanese Canadian and Japanese American Internment

by Millie Creighton, Basant Ahmed Sayed, and Francesca Pegorer

Millie Creighton: Reclaiming Histories and Identities While Reconnecting with Internment Sites

This year, 2017, marks the 75th anniversary of the uprooting and internment of people of Japanese descent in the Americas. The Internment began in 1942 in the context of heightened feelings in North America following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA in December 1941, with approximately 22,000 people in Canada and 120,000 in the USA being uprooted and interned or sent to labour camps for years because of their ethnicity. In the United States people remained incarcerated in these camps until 1945, and in Canada it was often even longer, in many cases until 1946. Even after Internment Japanese Canadians were prohibited from returning to the west coast, where most of them had been living, had their homes, and communities, until 1949 under a specific exclusion act aimed at this ethnic group, while others were ‘sent back’ to Japan--a country many of those “repatriated” had never actually even been. At the time, people frequently referred to the process as the ‘Japanese Internment’ an unfortunate labeling that deflected from full recognition that the majority of those interned in Canada were Canadian citizens and those from the USA were American citizens and the rest legal residents of Canada or the USA. Thus, in both countries they were (or had until then been) fully recognized with citizenship and residency status, thus members of an ethnic grouping within Canada and the United States, and neither ‘foreign’ nor ‘alien’ until they were re-defined as such by the governments of those countries. The Internment also had a major impact on Nikkei (people of Japanese descent) in other countries of the Americas, because Nikkei from 13 Latin American countries were brought up and interned in US camps based on agreements between the United States and those Latin American countries at that time (Creighton, 2010).



Christina Lake

Those on the journey to re-connect with former Japanese Canadian Internment sites visit the Christina Lake site, one of the so-called self supporting Internment camps, and have the chance to commune with the beauties of nature there. As for many of these sites, the beauty of the locations stands in contrast to the injustices and denial of freedoms for which they were used. (Photo by Millie Creighton)

Following WWII Japanese Canadians attempted to regain lives and livelihoods. Their property had been seized, and by the end of Internment in Canada rather than kept for them under the government's supposed custodial guardianship of it, sold by government decision to pay for the costs of interning them. Thus those who experienced the injustices of having their property seized, their communities destroyed, and their uprooting and loss of freedom for years, had to also pay for this process. Although busy trying to regain lives and a sense of normalcy, many would begin to meet in discussion type sessions to discuss what had happened. Much later this would bloom and lead to the Redress movement, particularly in the 1980s. The Redress movement was led by many 'third generation' or Sansei Japanese Canadians on behalf of their parents (second generation out of Japan or Nisei) and grandparents (first generation out of Japan or Issei). Many of those in the first and second generations who had been interned felt reluctant to speak up publicly about their experiences or themselves had been burdened with a sense of it as shameful, but the younger generation tried to rectify this, and along with their parents and grandparents began to break the silence on the injustices that had been done. The goal of the Redress movements in both Canada and the United States was to gain a clear recognition that the process had been unjust and illegal in terms of violating the human rights of Canadian and American citizens and the two countries' other legal residents. After years of struggle, this was acknowledged officially and legally in both countries in 1988 with the official Redress statements that it had been wrong, along with those of apology and/or regret on the part of the two governments, and a payment to survivors, which at \$20,000 US for those from the States, and \$21,000 Cdn for those from Canada (the amounts were set to be roughly equivalent given exchange rates of the time) were considered a token payment in relationship to what had been lost or taken from those interned.

The Internment along with the subsequent Redress struggle to gain recognition of it as wrong, remain pivotal aspects of Nikkei history in the Americas. The two processes also influence Japanese Canadian and Japanese American activities in the present along with the value statements made by their organizations. In many cases, it has been Japanese Canadians and Japanese Americans and the organizations they have formed or been involved in, that have been most vocal about speaking out against other perceived injustices directed at specific groups within their societies or the potential for people to again be targets of such injustices based on their ethnicity, cultural background or heritage, perceived religion, etc. This has been extremely important in the current climate in which divisive tensions among different groups within North American societies seem potentially on the rise again. Japanese Canadians have also been linking with other groups in Canada, such as Aboriginal groups, and groups with other immigrant histories, who have experienced injustices, to try to gain a stronger voice for acknowledging and remembering such histories, as well as overcoming such histories to build a truly more inclusive society.

In addition to Japan, I have tried to do research on Nikkei (Japanese descent groups), particularly in the Americas (including North, Middle, and South America) and have published on these topics before (Creighton 2010), and very recently to commemorate this year as the 75th anniversary of internment (Creighton 2017). This year I also had the opportunity to participate on a five day bus trip to re-connect with the Japanese Canadian internment sites in British Columbia. The 'tour' was largely orchestrated by Nichola Ogiwara, Museum Programmer for the Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre, who was Canadian born and grew up in Japan as a child of a Japanese and British parent, assisted by Karah Goshinmon and Lisa Uyeda. Even though it has been 75 years since the commencement of Japanese



Tashme Site Scenery

This photo, taken on October 27, 2017, the day of the former Tashme Japanese Canadian Internment site signage ceremony, highlights the natural beauty of the surrounding area and shows how locations of great beauty have nonetheless been used for sites of injustices and the restrictions of human rights and freedoms. (Photo by Francesca Pegorer)

Canadian internment, keeping in mind that internment went on for years, there were several Japanese Canadians, mostly in their 70s and 80s and on occasion 90s who had been interned along on this five day journey visiting the sites or meeting up with us. This time they, sometimes accompanied by family members, were traveling to the internment camps by choice, to remember and commemorate Nikkei history and experience, not by coercion as had characterized the original expulsion of Japanese Canadians from their communities and into these sites.

Internment sites we visited included the Pacific National Exhibition at Hastings Park in Vancouver (the site of initial gathering and holding of many Japanese Canadians before being sent to other camps), Tashme in Sunshine Valley (the last camp to be built and one with the largest number of internees), Greenwood (the first camp to be populated in April 1942), New Denver (where Japanese Canadians helped erect the 275 shacks in which they would live, along with a new TB sanatorium for the 100+ patients relocated to it from Hastings Park), Bay Farm, Popoff Farm, and Lemon Creek (four sites in the Slocan extension area near New Denver), Roseberry (with the smallest number of school children, 100, at any of the camps), Sandon (a nearly completely abandoned silver mining town until the Japanese Canadian internees were sent there), and the so-called 'self-supporting sites' (meaning that economically better off Japanese Canadians of the time paid to go there and supported the costs of being there themselves) of East Lillooet, Minto, and Christina Lake. (Although those interned paid the cost of

their internment in these camps their seized assets were nonetheless sold to pay off general costs of the Internment). We also went to Kamloops and had a community dinner at the Kamloops Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre. I wish to share here reflections on some of the specific sites we all explored together.

The Hastings Park: Pacific Northwest Exhibition (PNE) Site

Beginning in April 1942, the Pacific Northwest Exhibition (PNE) grounds, buildings, and livestock stalls in Hastings Park, were used to hold Japanese Canadian internees, in many cases for months, and accommodate the Internment, until internees were relocated to internment camps. The PNE had become a designated National Defense ‘holding area’ which resulted in the actual PNE fair not being held in 1942 although it had been held since 1888 and remains an annual event for Vancouver now. Internees, particularly those in areas of British Columbia outside Vancouver were first housed at this Hastings Park site. Many had to stay there for months, and about 8,000 Japanese Canadians experienced being there. At the height of its population 3,866 Japanese Canadians were residing in the park on September 1, 1942 after which numbers of them were sent daily to the camps in the interior or to work projects (Kawamoto Reid, Carter, and Greenaway 2012:7). Men, whether married or not, stayed in the transformed arena of the Forum Building sleeping on side by side cots numbering about 1,000.

Adulthood was defined by those running the Internment as 18 (meaning that males as young as 18 who were initially in the men’s dorm, would then be separated from their families and sent to the work projects as were other adult men). Initially male youth aged 13-17 also slept and remained in the men’s dormitory, until those operating the Internment perceived possible problems with such youth being ‘influenced’ by the surrounding men, and made a separate barracks for them. Remaining family members and non-married women were housed in the PNE livestock stalls which had for years been used for cattle and horses, etc. Each woman with a family was allotted one livestock stall for herself, all her daughters and her sons up to 12 years old. The stalls stunk of livestock and allowed little privacy, so the first activity of the women involved attempts to put sheets or curtains between stall areas. The conditions were grim and difficult. Raymond Moriyama, who was interned as a child and youth and who would later go on to become one of Canada’s foremost architects designing buildings that include the current Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, remembers with bitterness how his mother suffered a miscarriage while they were living in these livestock stalls, and in addition to his parents’ loss of a child he lost what he felt would have been his younger sibling (Creighton 2017).

Along on our 2017 journey to these Internment sites was a Japanese Canadian woman who had spent time at the PNE stalls as a girl. Her biggest memory was the overwhelming stench of the livestock throughout the building they were housed in and permeating every moment of their lives within the livestock stalls.



For many Japanese Canadians the first location they were interned was the Pacific Northwest Exhibition (PNE) fairgrounds at Hastings Park. Men were separated from their families and all slept on side by side cots filling the floor of the Forum Building. ‘Families’ defined as women with all their daughters (without their own children) and sons up to age 12 were housed in livestock stalls at the PNE, with each family allotted one stall which had for years been utilized for cattle and horses. This photo shows a line of such stalls that still remain at the Hastings Park site. (Photo by Millie Creighton)

The Slocan Extension Sites (Slocan City, Bay Farm, Popoff, Lemon Creek)

Many of the sites in the Slocan extension had been farms taken over for use for the Internment. Raymond Moriyama, who would go on to later become one of Canada's most renowned architects, David Suzuki, who would go on to later become one of Canada's most renowned environmentalists, and Joy Kogawa, who would go on to later become one of Canada's most renowned novelists, all at some point attended the Pine Crescent School located at the Bay Farm site. All three would later be recognized with the Order of Canada award, Raymond Moriyama and David Suzuki as Officers of the Order of Canada, and Joy Kogawa as Member of the Order of Canada (Kawamoto Reid, Carter, and Greenaway 2016: 19), their personal trajectories reflecting the resilience of the human spirit which can sometimes rise beyond such experiences.

On our 2017 journey to these Slocan extension sites, was a man who had been interned in one of them with his mothers and sisters from when he was about 8 years old, who spoke about his experiences while we were at the site. In his case his father had died a few years earlier when he was three, and a sister had died shortly before they were interned in what should have been a routine tonsillectomy. He was thus aware even as a child of his mother's sadness over these deaths, and separation from his two older brothers, who being 18 or older were sent to work projects. He recalled some happy moments about being a child in the situation, such as playing outdoors, catching gophers in the fields, and fishing (mentioning that they did eat the fish caught). He also provided his initial memories of moving into the camp. He said that two men came by and asked him to chop wood. He was not able to do it, so the two men showed him how to do it and had him try it until he was finally able to chop some wood. For a bit he felt some pride at being able to finally do it. Then the two men told him that now he was, 'the man of the household' and thus would have to chop the wood for warmth and cooking. The two men then left, and it began to dawn on him that he really was, at the tender age of about 8, now responsible for getting and chopping the wood needed for his family consisting of his mother, his sisters, and himself.

New Denver

The New Denver camp was situated near Slocan River. Initially about 350 internees were sent to the sparsely populated area, and this increased to 1,505 by the end of 1942. What had been a farm orchard was used for their dwellings, and the Japanese Canadian internees participated in constructing the 275 shacks they would live in. These small shacks housed two families each, with one family sleeping on each side of a central area that was used for tasks such as cooking and eating. Some of these shacks remain and have become personally owned cabins by people spending vacation time in the area. They serve much better as short-term cabins for vacationing by choice, than they did for housing two families consisting of several people at the time of Internment.

A tuberculosis sanatorium was also built at the New Denver site, and the more than 100 TB patients who were at the Hastings Park site were later sent to it. This TB sanatorium is still a medical installation in operation in British Columbia. A museum has been built at New Denver and visitors can see a residential shack, and artifacts of the Internment displayed. The museum also exhibits news and other articles from the period. One I found interesting discussed those who were proposing a 'round up' of people of Japanese descent published prior to the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, drawing into question that it really was or purely was the Pearl Harbor attack that prompted the Internment of Japanese Canadians.



The New Denver Museum site maintains some of the shacks used for Japanese Canadian Internment. (Some of these also still exist in the area where they are now owned privately.) Each shack, such as the one shown here, had three adjacent areas. The area in the middle was used jointly for things like cooking, eating and hanging up laundry, and an entire family was allotted to the areas on either side of this such that each shack contained two families and housed several people. (Photo by Millie Creighton)

The Self-Supporting Sites Such as East Lillooet, Minto, and Christina Lake

There were seven authorized ‘self-supporting’ sites. This meant those Japanese Canadians who had the means to do so paid the costs of the sites from the beginning. Nonetheless in such cases by the end of the war their seized assets would be used to pay off costs of overall Internment along with other Japanese Canadians. The main reason given for why people did this was that it allowed families to stay together. In East Lillooet those who came to reside there built the 55 tar paper shacks used for this. The Christina Lake site used an area that had once been a prosperous resort area but when the resort business declined became largely an abandoned area. The site reveals how places of natural beauty can be used for non-beautiful purposes in terms of constraining human beings and limiting their freedoms.

While we were in Lillooet and later at Kamloops we were met by a former member of the famous Asahi baseball team, Kei (Kaye) Kaminishi (who at 95 is the last remaining Asahi team player), which was operating until Internment. The Asahi baseball team had not only been extremely popular among the Japanese Canadian community but also an incredibly successful team, winning the Northwest Championship for five straight years before being forced to disband due to the war. Mr. Kaminishi indicated that one negative aspect of Internment for him was that it coincided with his prime years as a baseball player, thus making his baseball career short-lived. He appears in a film made about the team (Osborne 2003) and in 2009 he threw out the opening ball for a special tribute to the Asahi team held during a game at Nat Bailey stadium in Vancouver.

Tashme

The Tashme site was one of the last populated, one of the most isolated, and also the one that held the largest population once internees were settled in. The name of the site was invented utilizing the first two letters of the names of three of the British Columbia Security Commission's officers, Taylor, Shirras, and Mead. Tashme also maintains a museum related to Japanese Canadian Internment (Sunshine Valley Tashme Museum). It was the first site of nine to have new signage installed as part of these sites being recognized as having historic importance for Canada on the commemorative year of Canada's 150 years as a country in 2017. Two of the graduate students with whom I work, Basant Ahmed Sayed, an MA student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, and Francesca Pegorer, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, visited the Tashme site and attended the signage ceremony on October 27, 2017. Their reflections are rendered below.

Basant Ahmed Sayed: An Unforgettable Day at the Tashme Japanese Canadian Internment Camp

On Friday October 27th, I had a very special and memorable day at the Sunshine Valley Tashme Museum. It was the 75th anniversary of the Japanese Canadian Internment camp that was built at Tashme during the Second World War, and the Tashme Museum was chosen for the official unveiling of the first of nine B.C. Historic Place signs recognizing the history of the Japanese Canadian Internment Sites of 1942-1946. I had no idea it would be such an emotional event. I learned about the Tashme Museum event from my UBC MA supervisor, Dr. Millie Creighton, who is a Japan specialist, and who visited all the Japanese Canadian Internment camp historic sites in British Columbia. She recommended that Francesca Pegorer, her PhD student, and I go witness this special historic event.

It was a beautiful sunny day, and yet cold at the Tashme camp site. The first part of the event was held in open air near the Tashme Museum. It started by us all singing the Canadian national anthem, followed by two emotional and powerful speeches made by the Consul General of Japan to Vancouver, the Honourable Ms. Asako Okai, and the Minister of Transportation, the Honourable Ms. Claire Trevena. Both speakers commented on how cold we all felt standing in the sun at Tashme in October, and how hard and very cold it must have been for the Japanese Canadians that were displaced and moved to Tashme during the Second World War. There were tears and yet smiles in the eyes of everyone in the crowd. I felt overwhelmed and confused. There were mixed feelings of happiness and sadness; it seemed confusing for everyone in the crowd. The second part of the Tashme event, took place at the great hall close to the Museum. It included a few speeches that recognized the efforts of the Sunshine Valley community members in helping with the event preparations. I took the chance to talk to some of those community members about their volunteer work at Tashme, while eating the lunch that they had prepared specially for the event. It was wonderful to see how excited they were talking about all the work they had been doing to renovate the old camp site, and prepare for the event. I ended our meeting by thanking them for their wonderful work, and by promising them to come visit the Tashme Historic Site again with my family.



This photo was taken in September 2017 at the dinner held in Kamloops, BC at the Japanese Canadian Community Hall. Pictured left to right are: Thomas Takemura who was interned in one of the camps as a child during WWII, Millie Creighton, a Japan specialist and Anthropologist based in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia and also one of the founders of the Centre for Japanese Research there, Kei (Kaye) Kaminishi who at 95 is the last remaining player from the Asahi Baseball Team in Vancouver that won five straight championships before it had to be disbanded due to the war and the Internment. (Photo courtesy of Millie Creighton)

Francesca Pegorer: The Tashme Signage Ceremony and Re-Building Community for the Future

When we arrive at the site of the former Tashme internment camp it's almost noon. The sun is shining, but the cold is unrelenting. We seek refuge in the little, but very informative Sunshine Valley Tashme Museum.

The Tashme internment camp was created in 1942, to accommodate the Japanese Canadian citizens and their families, who had been forcibly displaced after the outbreak of war with Japan. The 500 families who were forced to leave their homes and settle in Tashme had to build their own shelters, only having a limited amount of time to do so. Those people weren't trained in carpentry, most of them being middle class office workers and housewives, and they had to work in the freezing cold, probably dreading not being able to provide a safe enough shelter for their families, and especially the children. Right beside the museum we discover a one storey black building. At first sight it looks pleasant to the eye, a simpler version of the wooden cottages in North Vancouver. To a closer look, however, it's clear that the walls are covered in dark plastic foil, and that the building is little more than a hut. It is, in fact, a replica of the original shacks, and as such it is invaluable in helping envision the camp in this otherwise idyllic setting.



Shown attending the historic signage ceremony on Friday, October 27, 2017 at the former Tashme Japanese Canadian Internment site (as the first of nine locations to receive such signage as locations of historic importance to Canada) in front of one of the newly erected signs are, left to right: Francesca Pegorer, Ph.D. student focused on Japan in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, and Basant Ahmed Sayed, MA student focused on Japan in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia. (Photo courtesy of Francesca Pegorer)

On this day (October 27, 2017) on the lawn in front of the museum, a tent covers half a dozen rows of chairs that face the podium, and the plaque behind it. Some former internees, all of them in their seventies, or older, are already sitting there, waiting.

The ceremony begins with the acknowledgment that we are guests on the ancestral land of the First Nations, and with the salute of the chief. This moment reminds us of the other histories, and tragedies, intertwined with this land. At the same time, it carries the potential for new connections to be created, among people who have very different heritage, and yet, by being here, alongside the Japanese Canadian community, are sharing the burden. This moment of remembrance of a tragic past is also a moment of community, of bonding, and of learning.

The voice of Laura Saimoto, Chair of the Japanese Canadian Legacy Committee, cracks while she is recounting the tragedy, and our eyes go to the elderly former internees sitting in front of us. Their silence, and the speaker's tears, resonate with the audience, just like the cold that makes us all shiver, and feel in our bodies the terrible experience of those families forcibly and abruptly dislocated here, seventy-five years ago.

After the unveiling ceremony we move to the community building, where we are offered home-made Japanese or Japanese Canadian food, and celebrate the locals (among them Ryan Ellan, curator of the museum), and the former internees, who have made this day possible. We also meet one of Sunshine Valley's few, but engaged residents who expresses her pride at the success of today's event, and invites us to come back, both to check the progress of the Tashme Museum's outdoor installations, and to enjoy the natural beauty of the place. We feel that this is precisely the message that today's celebrations want to convey: remembering the past as a way to build a more interconnected present and future.



Speakers and participants in the Friday, October 27, 2017 signage ceremony at the former Tashme Japanese Canadian site on the 75th anniversary of Internment and the celebration of Canada's 150th birthday as a country. Shown left to right: James Burton, heritage architect with Birmingham and Wood, Laura Saimoto, Chair of the Japanese Canadian Legacy Committee, Linda Kawamoto Reid, Nikkei National Museum Archivist, Lorene Oikawa, Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association, the Honourable Asako Okai, Consul General of Japan in Vancouver, the Honourable Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Basant Ahmed Sayed, MA student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia. (Photo by Francesca Pegorer)

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