



# Victoria NIKKEI FORUM

Volume 24 Issue 3 May/June 2016

[www.vnccs.ca](http://www.vnccs.ca)

## President's Message - May 2016

Tsugio Kurushima

Translation by Mieko Fedrau

In my previous President's message I mentioned that I wanted to address two areas where I thought that the VNCS needed improvement:

1. Engage youth and young adults.
2. Expand our membership.

With regards to objective #1, I am pleased to report that Jeff Tanaka will be holding an event in May that is geared for young adults. He is calling the event **"'yung' nikkei stories** – an evening of food and performances". It is commonly recognized that eating together builds relationships and community. So Jeff is using a communal meal as a vehicle to foster relationships among young Nikkei and hopefully with the VNCS.

To address objective #2 one of the strategies we will employ is to make our VNCS newsletter bilingual. Starting with this issue our newsletter will include articles in Japanese. Initially only some of the articles will be translated into Japanese with the long term goal of having it totally bilingual. It is hoped that a bilingual newsletter will attract more Shin Issei.

The recently held Udon Lunch Spring Social attracted 9 new memberships. I think that one of the reasons why this event was so popular was that it was a free meal and people could attend without any obligation or pressure. It was strictly a social gathering. Once again eating together was the main attraction. So possibly another way to address objective #2 is to have more community meals. Food for thought. :)

As mentioned before, I welcome your input or feedback on any aspect of the VNCS. Email me at [tsugukurushima@gmail.com](mailto:tsugukurushima@gmail.com)

## 2016年5月 会長のメッセージ ツギオ・クルシマ

前回のニュースレターで、ビクトリア日系文化協会(VNCS)には努力すべき点が二つあるのではないかということをお話ししました。それは次の二点です。

1. もっと若者たちの参加を促すこと
2. メンバーシップを拡大すること

一点目について嬉しいニュースがあります。5月にジェフ・タナカが若者を対象にイベントを企画しているのです。ジェフはこのイベントを「若い世代の日系人ストーリー 食事とパフォーマンスのタベ」と題しました。共に食事することで人と人との親しくなり、コミュニティが築かれると言いますが、このイベントで若い彼らと同じ食べ物を分かち合い、メンバー同士の絆、そしてVNCSとの繋がりを深めてくれることを願っています。

二点目の目標に対して、我々がやってみようと思っていることは、VNCSのニュースレターをバイリンガルにすることです。今号から和訳記事を幾つか掲載し始めますが、長期的には、完全にバイリンガルなニュースレターを目指します。これによって、より大勢の新一世がVNCSの活動に参加してくれることを願っています。

最近開催された「春のうどんランチの集い」で、9名の新メンバーが加わりました。このイベントは義務もプレッシャーも全くないフリーランチのイベントで、とにかくメンバーが集うことを意図したものだったからでしょうか、大変好評でした。我々の第二目標にはこのようなコミュニティの食事会が効果的なものかもしれません。"Food for thought"(考えるべきこと)ですね ☺

以前にもお願いしましたが、VNCS全般について、皆様のご意見、又はご感想をお待ちしています。Eメール: [tsugukurushima@gmail.com](mailto:tsugukurushima@gmail.com)

# Udon Lunch Spring Social

Tsugio Kurushima

Translation by Mieko Fedrau

The Udon Lunch Spring Social which was held on April 23 was a resounding success. It was so popular that we thought we might have to put out the 'Sold Out' sign. In the end over 60 people attended the gathering to have a savoury bowl of udon, be entertained with Okinawan and Japanese songs and to socialize with one another. The udon meal was prepared by Hiroshi and Tamae Shibata. They not only prepared a delicious bowl of udon but also provided a variety of toppings including some special ones - kakiage (tempura style mixed vegetables), renkon suage (lotus root in rice vinegar) and aburaage nimono (tofu). The Shibatas also served an Okinawan dessert called Sata Andagi (Okinawan doughnuts).



*Letitia, Hiroshi, Tamae and Jeff in the kitchen.*



*Hitomi, Patti, Grace and Paul enjoying the delicious garnishes for their udon.*

Hiroshi entertained the gathering with two Okinawan melodies, Ojii Jiman no Orion Biiru (Orion Beer theme song) and Asadoya Yunta (a traditional folk song from Taketomi Island in Okinawa). He accompanied himself on the sanshin, an Okinawan three stringed instrument. He then led a sing along of well known Japanese songs: Haru Ga Kita, a children's song about spring, Shiretoko Ryojo, a song about the loss of the Kuril Islands to Russia after WW II and Furusato, a song about Japanese people abroad yearning for their homeland. Adding to the Okinawan theme was a display of artifacts from Okinawa which Yukari Peerless organized.

All in all, it was a most enjoyable afternoon for all who attended. Many thanks to the volunteers who helped to put on this event – Jeff Tanaka, Yukari Peerless, Karen Kobayashi, Patti Ayukawa, Hitomi Harama, Joyce Pearlstone, Paul Pearlstone, Grace Kamitakahara, Tony Ibaraki and Amy Kawano. And of course a very special thank you to Hiroshi and Tamae Shibata for preparing such a delicious meal and for providing the entertainment.



*Part of the large gathering.*

## うどんランチ - 春の集い

4月23日に「うどんランチ - 春の集い」が開催され、大好評を博しました。あまり好評で、「売り切れ」の看板をかけようかと心配した程でした。60名以上が参加し、一緒に美味しいうどんを食べながら、沖縄の郷土歌や日本の歌を余興に楽しいひとときを過ごしました。うどんランチはヒロシ、タマエ・シバタ夫妻が準備してくれました。美味なうどんだけでなく、かき揚げやレンコンの素揚げ、油揚げの煮物など、特別なトッピングも作ってくれました。シバタ夫妻はサーターアンダギーと言う沖縄のドーナツもごちそうしてくれました。

ヒロシ氏は「オジー自慢のオリオンビール」（オリオンビールのコマーシャルソング）と「安里屋ユンタ」（沖縄・竹富島の民謡）という二曲を、沖縄の三線の弾き語りで披露してくれました。その後彼のリードで、参加者全員が「春が来た」、「知床旅情」、「故郷」を合唱しました。ユカリ・ピアレスは沖縄のテーマに因んで、沖縄の工芸品の展示会を運営しました。

この日の午後は参加者全員にとって、最も楽しいひとときでした。企画・運営に携わったボランティアのジェフ・タナカ、ユカリ・ピアレス、キャレン・コバヤシ、パティー・アユカワ、ヒトミ・ハラマ、ジョイス・パールストーン、ポール・パールストーン、グレース・カミタカハラ、トニー・イバラキ、エイミー・カワノに感謝します。そして勿論、ヒロシ、タマエ・シバタ夫妻に心よりお礼申し上げます。美味しい食事の準備と、余興の披露を大変ありがとうございました。



*Hiroshi playing the Sanshin*



*Dick Nakamura, Roy Katsuyama and Sus Tabata.*

## **“Yung” Nikkei Stories**

Jeff Tanaka

Translation by Kana Mercer



This past month a group of young people came together to organize “Yung Nikkei Stories” an evening of free food and performances. The event was held on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Quadra Village Community Centre and was a great success. The room was crowded with people and we enjoyed chicken karaage/agedashi tofu bentos alongside a freshly cooked bowl of yakisoba. There was also hot tea from Silk Road, plantains cooked by Boma Brown and plenty of mochi to go around. During the evening people were able to catch up with friends while also making connections with new people.

After dinner Erica Isomura and Angela Kruger (both visiting from Vancouver) joined me in telling stories about our relationships to the Nikkei community. We talked about beloved grandparents, the inheritance of the memories of internment and the ways we find healing within ourselves. It was an honour to be able to share our words and be witnessed in such a good way by the audience.

A sincere thank you goes out to Chef Tish and Chef Ogi-San for visioning the meal, Katie Zalazar for creating the poster image of the kawasemi (kingfisher) and the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society for sponsoring this event. Also a big thanks to Pravina Annamalai, Yukari Peerless, Dion Smith-Dokkie, Mieko Fedrau and all the other people who helped cook, set-up and clean.

Please stay on the lookout as we intend to continue gathering together to share food + art. If you are interested in helping out in the future, don't hesitate to contact me at [jrtanaka@gmail.com](mailto:jrtanaka@gmail.com).





Photos: Jeff Tanaka and Yukari Peerless

先月、ユースグループが集まり、食事とパフォーマンスを楽しんで頂く”若い世代の日系人ストーリー“の企画、運営が始まりました。イベントはクアドラビレッジコミュニティセンターにて5月14日土曜日に行われ、大盛況となりました。会場にお集まり頂いた大勢の皆さんと、唐揚げ/揚げ出し豆腐弁当や焼きそばを堪能しました。また、シルクロード様から頂いた温かいお茶、ボマ・ブラウンさん調理のプランテン、たくさんのお餅も食卓を彩りました。おいしい食事を楽しみながら、メンバー同士の交流や新しい出会いに満ちたタベとなりました。

食事の後、この日バンクーバーから参加して下さったエリカ・イソムラさん、アンジェラ・クルーガーさんによる、日系ユースと日系コミュニティとの関わりについての語らいがありました。大切な祖父母達のこと、伝え聞いた戦時中の強制収用キャンプでの祖父母達の経験、そしてそういった悲しい歴史や経験から自身の力で前進する術などについて語り合いました。こういったことを、参加された皆さんと共有できたことに大変感謝しています。

食事の監修をして下さったティッシュさん、オギーさん、カワセミがイメージとなったポスターをデザインして下さいましたケイティ・ザラザーさん、そして本イベントのスポンサーとなって下さったビクトリア日系文化協会に心よりのお礼を申し上げます。また、調理、会場準備、後片付けに携わって下さったプラヴィナ・アナマライさん、ユカリ・ピアレスさん、ディオン・スミズードッキーさん、ミエコ・フェドロウさん、他多くの方々、ご協力を頂きどうもありがとうございました。

今後も、本イベントのように食事とアートを共に楽しむ機会を作っていきたいと思っています。お手伝いをしてくださるという方がいらっしゃいましたらジェフ・タナカ [jrtanaka@gmail.com](mailto:jrtanaka@gmail.com) までどうぞご連絡ください。

# 海鳴り太鼓

## Uminari Taiko Update

Jacob Derksen

As the weather warms up our performance schedule starts to heat up, too. Uminari Taiko played the Victoria Times Colonist 10K on April 24 and that seems to have become our unofficial season opener. Upcoming performances around town that are already scheduled include St Aidan's United Church June 12 and the annual Dragon Boat Festival Aug 12 – 14 but it's a fair bet that there will be others in short order. We will also be performing up-Island in Courtenay on July 1 and in Port Hardy on July 17. Our other big road trip will be over to Vancouver in August for this year's Regional Taiko Gathering. The RTG affords us an opportunity to study taiko with skilled teachers, watch performances by some of our favourite North American performers and, equally important, meet old friends and make new ones.

Uminari Taiko is partway through our second series of classes for this year and we have some very keen participants who show tremendous potential. We have already picked up at least two apprentice hopefuls and I believe we have several others who may join us before the year is out. It may only still be spring as I write this but I'm already looking forward to the VNCS Fall Fair in October. It's my hope that you'll see a few new faces in our lineup by then. I also hope that we'll see many familiar faces at our performances between now and then.

### **NAJC And Suzuka University (Suzuka, Mie, Japan) Application for Japan Study Scholarship Program 2016**

The National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC) and Suzuka University (SU) have established a scholarship program for university students to participate in a 4 month program of study at Suzuka University in Japan to improve their Japanese language proficiency and to experience Japanese culture and education. This opportunity will also strengthen NAJC relationships with Japan to develop greater understanding of Japan and for Japan to understand the Japanese Canadian history and culture.

The selection criteria are as follows:

- A university student of 18 years or older
- Studying Japanese Language at a level 3 or higher
- Interest in Japan and Japanese Canadian history, culture, and education
- Provision to follow up with NAJC on return to Canada after the completion of the program

The Japan Study Scholarship Program includes:

- Return airfare upon completion of the program
- Accommodations nearby the Suzuka University campus
- Admission to Suzuka University from September to December 2016
- Land transfer from airport to Suzuka and return

The recipient will be responsible for:

- Student VISA
- Medical and Travel Insurance
- Meals
- Books if you wish to keep them
- Travel between accommodations and Suzuka University
- Personal expenses

Directions are given on the application form to complete and return to [nationaladministrator@najc.ca](mailto:nationaladministrator@najc.ca) by: June 15, 2016 Click link for [Scholarship Program Information](#) and [Application Form](#) or visit: [www.najc.ca](http://www.najc.ca)

## Senior's Safety Living Guide

Vancouver's Tonari Gumi would like to invite you to our Senior's Safety Living workshop at Cornett Bldg. Room A225, University of Victoria on Saturday, June 11, 2016 1:30-3:30 pm.

The purpose of the workshop is to promote healthy aging by providing education and resources for seniors. The workshop will be in both English and Japanese.

Please register through email so we have enough refreshments for everyone!

Thank you.

Map

<https://goo.gl/maps/ESsmKbGp1VL2>

Yuki Tani

Senior's Safety Living

Tonari Gumi - Japanese Community

Volunteers Association

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## シニア安全生活ガイド

### Senior's Safety Living Guide

健康、医療、詐欺に関する知識など、シニアライフを安全なものにする為の役立つ情報を提供しています。

#### The safety information session for Seniors

日時: 6月11日(土) 1:30pm - 3:30pm

場所: ビクトリア大学 Cornett A225

Date: June 11 (Sat) 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Location: Cornett A225, University of Victoria

- ・ 転倒防止 Fall Prevention Tips
- ・ 医療事前指示書 Advance Care Planning
- ・ 高齢者虐待について About Elder Abuse
- ・ オンライン安全知識 Online Safety Tips

参加費: 無料 Free Admission

予約・お問い合わせ Registration: [eap@tonarigumi.ca](mailto:eap@tonarigumi.ca)

! Please mention "Victoria" in the email subject line.

軽いスナックを用意しています!

Refreshments will be served!

当日参加も可能ですが、事前予約することをおすすめします。

Pre-registration recommended. Walk-ins are also welcome.

[www.tonarigumi.ca](http://www.tonarigumi.ca)



**TONARI GUMI**  
Japanese Community Volunteers Association

101 - 42 West 8th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1M7

Tel: 604.687.2172 ext. 202

Fax: 604.687.2168

Email: [eap@tonarigumi.ca](mailto:eap@tonarigumi.ca)

## A New Consul General, Ms Asako Okai/岡井朝子新総領事

### Report and translation by Hitomi Harama

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, several members of the Victoria Nikkei community had the opportunity to meet the new Consul General of Japan, Vancouver office, Asako Okai and her husband, Mr Tomoaki Okai on a pleasant afternoon in Victoria. Just having moved to Vancouver on April 26<sup>th</sup>, Consul General Okai has a great vibrant presence, like the bright summer sky of Sri Lanka, her previous post. The exchange in the meeting was inspiring. We are all looking forward to working together with the new Consul General of Japan in Vancouver to create opportunities that reinforce the relationship between Japan and Canada and that will continue to bring benefit to our community.

5月17日の晴れた午後、ビクトリア日系の会員数名はビクトリア訪問中の在バンクーバー日本国総領事館の 岡井朝子総領事とご主人の岡井知明氏にお目にかかる機会に恵まれました。4月26日にバンクーバーに着任された岡井総領事は、前赴任地であられたスリランカの輝く空を思い起こさせるような活力に満ちた存在感の方でした。会での話は弾み、岡井総領事と共に、日本とカナダの絆を強め且つ地元にも好機をもたらす志で活動続ける意欲を新たに致しました。





L-R Tomoko Okada, Hitomi Harama, Michael Abe, Consul General Atsuko Okai, Mr. Tomoaki Okai, Michiko Sakamoto-Senge, Tamaki Calder

Photograph by Ms. Ikue Matsumoto, Consulate Researcher/Advisor

写真: 松本育恵(在バンクーバー日本国総領事館 専門調査員) 報告文: 原馬仁美

## Consul General Atsuko Okai

Ms. Atsuko Okai assumed the position of Consul General of Japan in Vancouver in April 2016. Previous to this she was Minister, Deputy Head of Mission in the Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka and to Maldives from March 2014-April 2016.

From Sept. 2012-March 2014 she served as Minister Counsellor (Deputy Head of Political Section), Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations.

Consul General Okai joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan in April 1989. She has held posts that oversaw relations in Western Europe, Pakistan, Australia and Africa.

CG Okai attained her Bachelor's Degree in Law in 1989 from Hitotsubashi University in Japan. She received her Master of Arts in History of Art from Emmanuel College, Cambridge University, UK in 1992.

## 略 歴

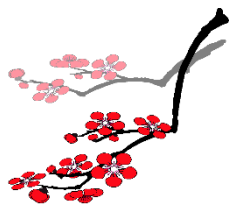
### 岡 井 朝 子

1989年3月	一橋大学卒業
1989年4月	外務省入省
1990年-92年	英国ケンブリッジ大学留学
1992年7月	文化交流部文化第二課
1994年8月	経済協力局政策課、同局調査計画課併任
1996年2月	内閣官房安全保障危機管理室参事官補
1998年7月	欧亜局西欧第二課首席事務官
2000年9月	在パキスタン大使館一等書記官（経済班長）
2002年11月	在豪州大使館一等書記官（経済担当）
2005年8月	経済協力局政策課首席事務官
2006年6月	経済協力局政策課企画官
2006年8月	国際協力局政策課企画官
2007年3月	国際協力局人道支援室長
2009年2月	中近東アフリカ局アフリカ第二課長
2010年8月	国連日本政府代表部公使参事官（政務担当）
2011年7月	第66会期国連総会議長室上席政策調整官
2012年9月	国連日本政府代表部公使参事官（政務担当）
2014年3月	在スリランカ大使館公使（館次席）モルディブ兼轄
2016年4月	在バンクーバー日本国総領事

## Sakura Fujinkai

Susan Kurushima

Translation by Mieko Fedrau



Our dinner group met at Shiki Sushi in February and then in April we had a change of pace. Joyce Pearlstone hosted a potluck dinner at her home in North Saanich where the group enjoyed her ocean view and a tour of her wonderful garden. In May we will meet at Chikara Sushi and in June at Yoshi Sushi.

The Ikebana group is almost finished the Spring term. We are continuing to learn and enjoy each other's arrangements. We may have room for 1 new person in September, so please let me know if you are interested.

The schedule for the arrangements at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria is as follows:

May 8 to May 21	Michiko Seguev
May 22 to June 4	Shizue Simmons
June 5 to June 18	Sue Rubin
June 19 to July 2	Debbie Ibaraki



Arrangement by Sue Rubin, April 2016

For more information about any of our activities please contact Susan by phone (250) 384-2654 or email [sukurushima@gmail.com](mailto:sukurushima@gmail.com)

## 桜婦人会

ディナー・グループは2月に四季寿司で夕食会を行い、4月は趣向を変えて、ジョイス・パールストンがホストとなり、ノース・サニッチの彼女の自宅でポットラック・パーティーを行いました。参加者は海を眺め、ジョイスの素晴らしい庭を散歩して楽しいひと時を過ごしました。5月にはちから寿司で、6月にはよし寿司で夕食会を計画しています。



生け花グループはもうすぐ春期の稽古を終了しますが、メンバーはお互いのアレンジメントを見ながら、楽しく学び合っています。9月からの稽古には新メンバー1人分のスペースがありますので、興味のある方はご連絡ください。

グレーター・ビクトリア・アートギャラリーでの生け花展示スケジュールは下記の通りです。

5月8日	5月21日	Michiko Seguev
5月22日 - 6月4日		Shizue Simmons
6月5日 - 6月18日		Sue Rubin
6月19日 - 7月2日		Debbie Ibaraki

桜婦人会の活動についてのお問い合わせは Susanまで。

電話: (250)384-2654 又は、メール:  
[sukurushima@gmail.com](mailto:sukurushima@gmail.com)



# 故郷 ダンサーズ

Furusato Dancers

Tsugio Kurushima

Translation by Yukari Peerless

April was a busy month for our group. We performed in the Ethnic Dance Festival again this year and once again we were invited to perform in the Highlights Concert where we were presented with an award for best fusion dance. No we did not do a hip-hop odori. We performed 2 dances at the festival, Tokyo Ondo, a very traditional odori and Yume Bijin a dance to a contemporary tune with non-traditional choreography. Because of the contrast in styles we were given the fusion award.

April 29 is the International Day of Dance. This designation was established in 1973 by the International Dance Council of UNESCO. This April 29 we participated in the inaugural Victoria celebration of this occasion. Nine ethnic dance groups gathered together to share their ethnic dances. Each group performed a couple of dances and then taught a dance to the other participants. The Furusato Dancers performed Hanagasa Ondo and Soran Bushi and taught Tanko Bushi. It was both fun and a challenge to try other ethnic dances.

Our next performance will be on May 29 at the Asian Heritage Month Celebration which will be held at UVic in conjunction with the Aga Khan Foundation's World Peace Walk. The Furusato Dancers will be performing in the afternoon. That will be followed by an appearance at the Heritage Dance Fest which takes place on June 18 at the Cameron Bandshell in Beacon Hill Park.

Also in June we are planning on having another Dance Workshop with our Sensei. Speaking of Hirano Sensei I mentioned last newsletter that I would provide an article on our Sensei and it appears on the next page.

## 故郷ダンサーズ

故郷ダンサーズにとって、四月は忙しい月でした。今年も民族舞踊祭に出場し、再びハイライト・コンサートに招かれて、フュージョン・ダンスの最優秀賞を受賞したのです。いいえ、ヒップホップは踊りませんでした。舞踊祭では、「東京音頭」というとても伝統的な踊りと、現代的な曲に合わせた「夢美人」というモダンなダンスを踊りました。二つの踊りが対照的だったので、フュージョン賞を受賞したのです。

4月29日は「国際ダンスの日」です。この日はユネスコの国際ダンス協会（International Dance Council）によって1973年に制定されました。この4月29日には、国際ダンスの日を祝う第一回目の「ビクトリア舞踊祭」が開催され、これにも参加しました。9つの民族舞踊団体が参加し、それぞれの民族舞踊を披露しました。各グループがダンスを2つ踊り、もう1つを他のグループに教えるという趣向です。故郷ダンサーズは「花笠音頭」と「ソーラン節」を踊って、「炭坑節」を教えました。違う民族の踊りを踊ってみるのは楽しいですが、難しいものですね。

次は5月29日の午後、ビクトリア大学の「アジア・ヘリテージ月間」のお祝いに参加する予定です。「アジア・ヘリテージ月間」はアガ・カーン財団の「世界平和ウォーク」とともに行われるイベントです。6月18日には、ビーコンヒル・パークのCameron Bandshell（ステージ）で行われるヘリテージ舞踊祭に参加します。

6月にはまた平野先生をお招きして、ダンス・ワークショップを行います。先号のニュースレターでお伝えしたように、今月号のニュースレターには平野先生の紹介を掲載しました。これをご覧下さったら、平野先生に教えて頂けることがどれだけ幸運なことであるか、お分かり頂けると思います。



## Odori Sensei Chiyoko Hirano

Tsugio Kurushima

Translation by Yukari Peerless

Chiyoko Oura Hirano, the second daughter of Yoshikazu and Miyoko Oura, was born in Steveston, B.C. in 1941. When she was very young she loved to listen to music and dance.

At six years of age she moved with her family to Japan where she received her primary education and at the same time studied the traditional odori at the Wakayagi Dance School in Wakayama-ken. Her innate self-discipline made her a natural for this form of artistic expression. The family returned to Canada in 1952 where she continued her training for two more years with the Hanayagi Dance School in B.C.

In 1970 she founded the Tatsumi School of Dance in Vancouver under the direction of Tatsumi Kiminobu, headmaster of the Tatsumi School in Japan. Once a year, for many years, she traveled to Japan to upgrade her teaching technique. She earned her professional teacher's name of Tatsumi Yoshikiyo and was the first Canadian to receive an odori teacher's certificate from Japan. She later received the Senior Instructor's award from Mai-no Kai International of Japan as the Canadian representative for this organization.

Her continued research and study of this beautiful art form, odori, has made her an exceptional teacher and artist. Her students have performed publicly on more than 1,000 occasions and in the past 40 years, she has conducted hundreds of workshops in Lethbridge, Calgary, Victoria and Toronto.

Chiyoko has proven her talent as a choreographer by adapting the traditional Japanese odori to suit her Canadian students and creating a uniquely Japanese-Canadian form of the odori. She was the choreographer for the Nikka Festival Dancers during the Japanese Canadian Centennial in 1977. She trained twenty-five dancers chosen from across Canada to form a touring dance troupe. She and her students performed her dances in major centres of Canada. These dances were video-taped for television and have been seen by millions of viewers across Canada. This troupe has had the honour of participating in a Command Performance for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Ottawa during the Centennial year.

Chiyoko has contributed greatly to Japanese-Canadian culture through her dedication to the perpetuation of odori in Canada.

### VNCS welcomes New Members

Yoko Sekiya  
Wanda Hurren  
Tim Ebata

Jim and Michele Tanaka  
Sherry Wang  
Boma Kim

Jeff Tanaka  
Kirsti Uruie

平野先生

故郷ダンサーズ

オウラ平野千代子は1941年にBC州スティーブストンで、ヨシカズとミヨコ・オウラ夫妻の次女として生まれた。小さい頃から音楽を聴くこととダンスを踊ることが大好きだった。

6才の時、家族は日本に移住し、千代子はそこで初等教育を受ける。同時に和歌山県の若柳流舞踊教室で日本舞踊を学んだ。千代子は生まれながらの努力家で、この芸術表現に早くから才能を発揮した。家族は1952年にカナダに戻る。千代子はBC州の花柳流舞踊教室で更に2年間、稽古を続けた。

1970年、彼女は日本の辰巳流家元、辰巳キミノブの指導の下で、バンクーバーに辰巳流舞踊教室を創立。指導技術の向上のため、毎年一度は日本へ赴いて修行を重ねた。千代子は名取り（辰巳ヨシキヨ）となり、カナダ人日本舞踊師範の第1号となる。その後日本の「舞の会インターナショナル」より、上級師範の資格を授与され、この会のカナダ支部代表となった。

弛まぬ研究と修行の結果、千代子はこの美しい芸術、「踊り」の優れた指導者、芸術家となった。過去40年間、彼女の弟子たちは1000回以上の公演をし、彼女もレスブリッジ、カルガリー、ビクトリア、トロントで何百回にも上るワークショップを開催している。

カナダの弟子たちの踊りスタイルに合うように、伝統的な日本舞踊とカナダ的要素を取り入れて、新しい踊りの振り付けでもその才能を発揮している。千代子は1977年の日系カナダ人100周年記念の日加フェスティバル・ダンスの振り付けを手がけた。カナダ全国から25人のダンサーを選抜してトレーニングし、巡業ダンス団を創立。千代子と彼女の弟子たちはカナダ建国100周年にオタワで、エリザベス女王2世への御前上演に参加した。

平野千代子先生は日本舞踊の継続に務め、カナダ文化に多大な貢献を続けている。



10<sup>th</sup> annual  
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information: [www.veselkadancers.com](http://www.veselkadancers.com)



**Stage performances  
start at 12:15 pm**

**12:15-1:00 pm**

Victoria Japanese  
Heritage Language  
School perform during  
this section

**1:20-2:30 pm**

Furusato Dancers  
perform during this  
section

**Family tent activities  
start at 10:30 am**

**Shodo:**

**10:30-12:30**

Takehiro and Mitsuko  
Uranaka

**12:30-2:15**

Keiko Alkire and Wylie  
Thomas

**Origami:**

**10:30-2:15**

(various times)  
Chika and Haruka Shin  
Kanae Habu  
Akiko Fraser  
Yuka Baumbach

**Kimono:**

**11:00-1:00**

Yuka Baumbach

**1:00-2:15**

Yuri Pomeroy



## JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF CULTURE AND HERITAGE

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2016 | UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

WORLD PARTNERSHIP WALK | 11:00AM

ASIAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION | 12:15PM



Stay to celebrate after the World Partnership Walk for:  
Cultural performances, Food kiosks. Family tent, Bouncy castle...

And much, much more !!!

### FREE PUBLIC EVENT

**CELEBRATION STAGE 10:30am – 2:30pm**

(In front of McPherson Library at the University of Victoria)

**Rum Kala**

Thai Folklore Dance

**Spring in Children's Eyes**

Traditional Chinese Dance

**SORAN DANCE**

Traditional Japanese Dance,

**TINIKLING**

Philippine Folk Dance

**BHARATANATYAM, KATHAK & ODISSI**



**Kangkaaw Kin Kluay**

A dramatic style Thai dance

**Dance of the Peacocks**

Traditional Chinese Dance

**SAKUTING**

Philippine Traditional Dance

**ODORI**

Traditional Japanese Dances

**INSPIRED by BOLLYWOOD**

**Bollywood Flash MOB**

Tap your feet and move your hips to a fusion of this multi-spiced energetic Bollywood number !!!

**Presented by:**

Victoria Canadian Filipino Association, Society for Indian Classical Arts, Victoria Japanese Heritage Language School, Furusato Dancers, Victoria Chinese Cultural Club, Thai Kids Club and Bollywood Beats.

<https://www.worldpartnershipwalk.com/en/walk-cities/victoria>

## Children's Cherry Blossom Program Sidney/North Saanich Public Library

On a beautiful spring day in March, Mike and Natsuki Abe along with volunteer assistants, Grace Kamitakahara, Joyce Pearlstone and Rieko Gurney presented the play, *The Man Who Swallowed a Cherry Pit* to an attentive and engaged audience of about 20 kids and parents. Following the play and snacks, the children had the chance to create their own cherry blossom crafts, using origami to make an ornamental candy dish and ink and crepe paper to make a cherry blossom branch, each as unique as the children themselves. The children were delighted to have their name written in Japanese in the corner of their masterpiece.

***Atto iu ma ni***, in the wink of an eye, the workshop was over and the kids departed, happy with their treasures and the opportunity to learn a little bit of Japanese culture.

A note from Virginia McLeod at the Sidney/North Saanich Library:

*Hi Michael, Natsuki and fabulous helpers:*

*Thank you for delivering a wonderful Sakura Storytime yesterday! We are so honoured that you came all the way to Sidney/North Saanich. You have a lovely way of interacting with the kids. Everyone had such a good time! Sharon told me lots of people stopped by the desk to say how happy they were to attend this program. I know the kids (and their adults) were delighted with their blown ink cherry blossom pictures and origami creations. I have attached a few photos from the event. Thanks to Joyce for sharing hers too. Unfortunately, the lighting in the library can be a bit tricky (at least for my camera skills). I hope you found a nice place to have lunch in Sidney and that you might consider visiting us again someday. Thanks again,*

*Virginia*



Editor's note: Mike and Natsuki developed this interactive play for the Public Library in 2009 and have now performed it 35 times.

Photos: Virginia McLeod and Joyce Pearlstone



## 茶道裏千家淡交会 ビクトリア協会 発会式

### Chado Urasenke Tankokai Victoria Association Inauguration



On April 10th, the Victoria Japanese tea ceremony group, previously known as Nagomi, gathered together in the Japanese Garden at the Inn at Laurel Point to celebrate their membership into the Urasenke Tankokai Association, headquartered in Kyoto, Japan. Pictured above are invited guests from the San Francisco and the Vancouver Tankokai chapters, along with Victoria students and executive.

Officially now known as the Chado Urasenke Tankokai Victoria Association, the Victoria Association becomes the 107<sup>th</sup> Tankokai branch based outside of Japan. It began in 2002 with only a few students interested in learning Chado (The Way of Tea), and now comprises 11 executive members and 30 students, ranging in age from 11 to 84. “We were very fortunate that Mrs. Kazuko Mito (Sowa), a long-time student and practitioner of the Urasenke method, offered to be our leader,” said Aiko Sutherland, one of the original students.



Attending the celebration were honored guests Ms. Christy Bartlett Soei; Director, Urasenke Foundation San Francisco Branch 茶道裏千家サンフランシスコ出張所所長クリスティー・バートレット・宗榮 駐在講師 and Mr. Keith Snyder Sozui; Director, Urasenke Foundation Vancouver Branch 茶道裏千家バンクーバー出張所所長 キース・スナイダー・宗随 駐在講師. Ms. Bartlett brought best wishes on behalf of Iemoto Sen Soshitsu, 16th descendant of Sen Rikyu, the founder of the Urasenke School. Pictured here from left to right are Ms. Bartlett, Kazuko Mito, Victoria Association Chief Administrator Norimi Inai, and President Masayuki Fukushima.



The Victoria Association was pleased to welcome members of the Vancouver Tankokai branch who made the journey to Victoria to help celebrate this occasion. Prior to the formation of the Victoria Association, Sensei Snyder would regularly invite Nagomi members to take part in many of the Tankokai events being held in Vancouver. The Victoria Association is very pleased that this relationship will continue and that both groups will be able to share in many future celebrations together.

Since 2002, the Victoria Association has provided dozens of tea ceremony demonstrations at the annual Victoria Nikkei Cultural Fair, as well as at school programs, private functions, and special events such as weddings. The Victoria Association teaches the two styles of Chado. The traditional method, which requires participants to kneel on a tatami for the length of the ceremony, dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The more modern western style is known as Ryurei, and employs a table and stools for the host (teishu) and the host's assistant (hanto), while guests are seated on chairs.



At the inauguration on April 10<sup>th</sup>, Sensei Mito performed the Ryurei ceremony with Ms. Inai acting as hanto. The highly lacquered table (misono-dana) pictured on the left belongs to Mito who brought it from Japan and is used only for very special occasions. The hanto answers any questions from the guests during the ceremony.

In total over 50 invitees were served a sample of sweet (omogashi) and usucha (thin) tea, which is matcha hand whisked to produce nice frothy bubbles on top. Several Victoria students worked in the kitchen (mizuya) preparing sweets and whisking tea while other students dressed in traditional kimonos served the guests.



Mr. Michael Abe, Vice President of the Victoria Association and Mrs. Tomoko Carrington, Vice Administrator, acted as masters of ceremony for this occasion. The Victoria Association would like to express its appreciation to the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society for their continuing support and program grant received last year to help share “peacefulness through a bowl of tea” with the community.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Harris. Photos by Julia Milton

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News from long time supporter, Silk Road Tea

Later this spring (towards the end of May), I'm opening a store in Vancouver on West 4th St. in Kitsilano. We'll be on the south side of West 4th Avenue, east of Arbutus Street and west of Maple Street.

I've had customers clamoring for us to open a Vancouver Silk Road Tea for many years. The new store will offer our Vancouver retail and wholesale clients the same product selection as the flagship Chinatown store, along with an extensive selection of tea tastings, wellness workshops and other classes. Due to space limitations, the spa will not be brought over to Vancouver, so there will still be reasons for out of towners to visit the original store :) In celebration of the launch, I have some exclusive new products and collaborations of teaware in the works, and these unique products will be available in Victoria as well as Vancouver.

I'm also excited to be debuting a new look for the interior of the new store which is different from our original Chinatown shop, but very true to who we are and what we are about. In Victoria, our Chinatown flagship is a tranquil space that reflects the charm and heritage of the area. It's important to me to be authentic to the neighbourhood we're in, as well as to reflect, through the design, our purpose of offering a wonderful and educational client experience, and as an escape from the bustle and stresses of modern life. The new space uses eco-friendly, sustainable materials and is designed to feel like a calm sanctuary and oasis, with a contemporary, urban, Asian influenced look. Our production facility, where we handcraft our fresh, organic, tea, skin and bodycare products will remain in Victoria.

Please feel free to share the news to your contacts in the Vancouver area - in fact, I'd love it and would appreciate it very much if you helped spread the word!

As well - we are looking for a fantastic team of staff for the new location, from sales staff to stock positions, workshop/tea tasting leaders and managers. If you know of anyone who you think would be a great fit, please encourage them to apply by emailing [silkroad@silkroadtea.com](mailto:silkroad@silkroadtea.com) with a resume and "Vancouver hires" in the subject heading.

Cheers,  
Daniela

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*Canada's Queen of Tea - Globe & Mail*

*Canada's Tea Master - Vancouver Sun*

