



THE SANGHA STREAM

April 2023

MINISTER ARTICLE

Spring has arrived and with its arrival we enjoy the numerous sounds associated with the stirring of nature after a long winter's slumber. As the weather gradually gets warmer and the snow slowly fades away there is a noticeable increase in people enjoying activities outdoors. It is a time that is usually met with enthusiasm and a renewed sense of energy for many people.

The month of April has been designated as Global Volunteer Month and perhaps this may have something to do with the symbolism of spring. Spring is associated with hope and new beginnings and the act of volunteering is based on the hope of building stronger communities and making the world a better place. By volunteering, we freely offer our services without the need to receive payment. Volunteering is a form of generosity; we do something for others without expecting anything in return. Volunteering and generosity are ways that we try to make our communities and the world a better place but how do we respond to something that is being offered to us which may be toxic such as anger?

A simple and powerful story to remind us of the power that we all have within us comes from the story of "The Buddha and the angry man". After many days of travel, the Buddha arrived at a small town to give a speech. Everyone was happy to see him and to hear his teachings, except one young man. While Buddha spoke, the young man stood in front of him shouting insults. But the Buddha did not pay any attention, he was unfazed and continued speaking. This enraged the young man even more. He walked directly in front of Buddha and continued to ridicule him. You have no right to teach others. You're stupid and you're a fraud! The crowd began to react to this young man's harsh and rude behavior. But the Buddha stopped the crowd from turning against the young man and said, it is not always necessary to respond to aggression with aggression. Instead, he turned to the young man and asked, if you buy a gift for someone and that person does not take it, to whom does the gift belong? The young man was surprised by the question, thought for a moment and answered, it would belong to me because I bought the gift.



MINISTER ARTICLE

The Buddha said, correct. It's the same with your anger. If you become angry with me and I don't feel insulted nor accept your anger, the anger falls back on you, as it was initially yours to give. You are then the only one who becomes unhappy, not me. All you've done is hurt yourself. The young man understood the Buddha's teaching, joined his palms together in gassho, and slowly bowed to the Buddha. This outward gesture of respect was an acknowledgment that the young man learned a valuable lesson that day. The Buddha ended his talk with this teaching, as a mirror reflects an object, as a still lake reflects the sky, take care that what you say or what you do is for good. For goodness will always cast back goodness and anger will always cast back anger.

Namo-Amida-Butsu

Robert Gubenco Sensei



Calgary Buddhist Temple

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Calgary, Alberta

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cwww.calgary-buddhist.ab.ca



TEMPLE SERVICE REMINDERS

APRIL SERVICES

- Saturday, April 01, 2023 – Meditation and workshop with Bishop Aoki from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
- Sunday, April 02, 2023 - Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service and Sarana Affirmation Ceremony at 10 am
- Sunday, April 9th – Hanamatsuri/Buddha's Birth Service at 10 am
- Tuesday, April 11th and 25th - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7 to 8 pm
- Sunday, April 16th – Sunday Family Service and Dharma Time at 10 am
- Sunday, April 16th – Calgary Buddhist Temple AGM at 11:00 am

MAY SERVICES

- Saturday, May 06, 2023 – Half Day Meditation Retreat from 9 am to 1 pm
- Sunday, May 07, 2023 - Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service at 10 am
- Tuesday, May 09th and 23rd - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7 to 8 pm
- Sunday, May 21st – Sunday Family Service and Dharma Time at 10 am
- Sunday, May 28th – Shinran Shonin Birth (Gotan-e) Service at 10 am
- Sunday, May 28th – Keirokai lunch after service in honor of our seniors

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 7th - Spring Cleaning
- April 9th - Hanamatsuri - Buddha's birthday
- May 28th - Keirokai - Senior Appreciation day

APRIL 2023 MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI) SERVICE LIST

Keiko Gomyo
Butch Hayashi
Marion Ishii
Rev. Susumu Ikuta
Amy Kitagawa

Roy Nagata
Margaret Rice
Prince Shotoku Taishi
Ronnie Takeda
Ronald Tamaki
Yoshiko Teshima



TEMPLE SERVICE REMINDERS

SARANA AFFIRMATION CEREMONY

Sunday, April 02, 2023

A long-standing ritual of all Buddhist traditions going back to the time of the Buddha is having followers of the Buddha formally commit to a Buddhist way of life. Originally this ceremony was only for adherents also willing to follow the strict monastic codes of the group.

Following this ancient rite of passage, our Jodo Shinshu tradition, going back to the time of Shinran Shonin, has for nearly 800 years conducted a Sarana ceremony that is in keeping with this tradition. The ceremony is only allowed to be conducted either by the Gomonshu, the spiritual head of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji, or his designated representative.

Traditionally, a person participating in such a ceremony would have been subjected to the ritual of their head hair being shaved in its entirety. However, as time has passed, in Jodo Shinshu this has been modified to only a symbolic shaving of the hair.

Participants are asked to verbally confirm that they are willing to take refuge in the Three Treasures; the Buddha, the Dharma, the Sangha and to be a follower of Jodo Shinshu and live according to the teachings of the Buddha.

Each Sarana participant receives a Homyo, a Buddhist name that is unique and specific to their character and attributes. Each Buddhist name will begin with the term Shaku. This is in reference to Shakyamuni Buddha who was a muni (sage) of the Shakya clan, his extended family. For example, the Buddhist name Shaku Nyu Shin. Nyu Shin can be translated as Entering the Realm of True Reality.

As this service must be conducted by the Socho (Bishop), the spiritual head of Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada, we have only held these on irregular occasions as he must take time off from his regular duties at the headquarters in Vancouver and travel to Calgary.



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All Sangha members of the temple are advised that the annual general meeting of the members of the Calgary Buddhist Temple will take place in-person or virtually via Zoom as follows:

- Time: 11:00 am
- Date: Sunday, April 16, 2023
- Place: Calgary Buddhist Temple

Zoom invitation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81766317259?pwd=K0E4OVFoZXNr bmpRVDA3a0RsOTAzZz09>

Purpose of the annual general meeting

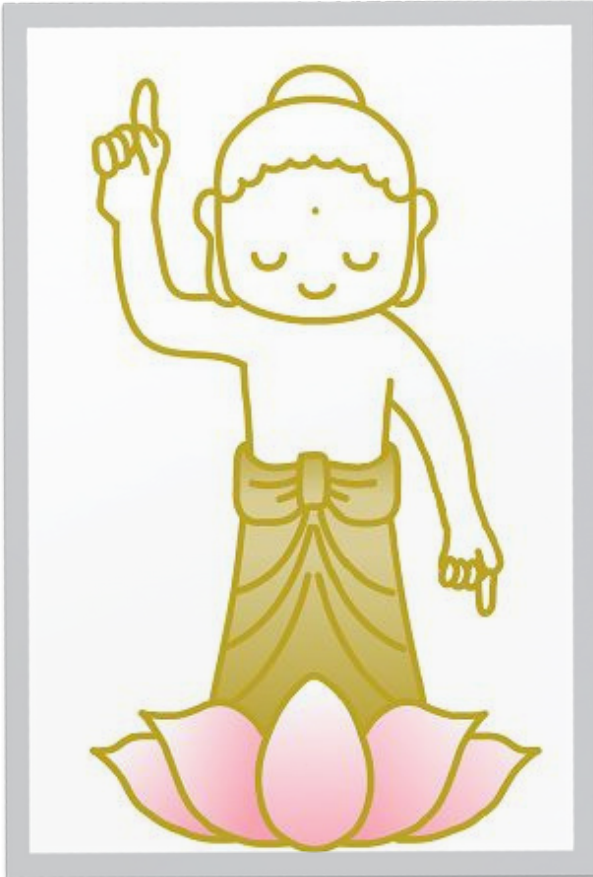
- The yearly gathering of the temple's interested members.
- Temple financial performance is presented. Temple Board President's report is presented. Temple Minister's report is presented.
- Installation to the Temple's Board of Directors is presented.
- Opportunity for members to ask questions to the directors of the temple.



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

HANAMATSURI LUNCHEON

Sunday, April 9, After service



On this day, the Temple will be celebrating Hanamatsuri in recognition of the birth of Siddhartha Gautama (The Buddha). The service starts at 10:00am and after service there will be a luncheon which we're hoping you'll be staying for

and might like to contribute towards as well. Chow mein, rice and beverages will be made at the temple and then it's nice to have everyone pitch-in so we have a variety brought from our sangha.

Kindly sign up at <https://bit.ly/Hanamatsuri-lunch> to let us know what you are bringing for the luncheon. Please bring your item(s) to the kitchen area downstairs prior to the service.

We know that not everyone is able to make or bring something so don't feel obligated - everyone is welcome regardless!

Seniors are not asked to contribute as they've already worked hard enough over the years. Thank you!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN APRIL

Sunday, April 23rd, 2023 from 11:30am to 1:00pm

In April, the Calgary Buddhist Temple Sangha Engagement has made arrangements for us to continue to support the interdependence of life by providing a lunch service.

We can leave after the service around 11:15am and walk over to the DI together or meet there at 11:30am. An online signup has been created.

Ten volunteers are required and the minimum age is 16 years old. Sign up using QR code or at <https://bit.ly/volunteer-23Apr23> ((if this is full, watch for future opportunities to participate in the fall!))





VOLUNTEERING WEAVES US TOGETHER

April 16 - 22, 2023

The Calgary Buddhist Temple as a non-profit organization, relies on volunteers to achieve our goals and missions. Volunteers enhance and extend services, and assist to accomplish mutual objectives.

Appreciation and gratitude are conveyed to all the volunteers who support the Calgary Buddhist Temple.

THANK YOU, MERCI, DOMO ARIGATO どうもありがとう

“Let’s celebrate our individual and collective actions in creating a strong, interconnected and vibrant community! Volunteering weaves us together, strengthening the fabric of our community by sharing our time, talent and energy to support one another.

“The National Volunteer Week theme for 2023 is Volunteering Weaves Us Together. This reveals the importance of volunteering to the strength and vibrancy of our communities through the interconnected actions we take to support one another. These diverse forms of sharing our time, talent and energy strengthen the fabric of our community.

Through volunteering we experience our interconnectedness, making our lives more meaningful. Getting involved in various ways, we find friendship, develop trust, and link our relationships. Threading these connections, we come to belong as we contribute towards the same goals.” Source:
<https://www.volunteer.ca/index.php?MenuItemID=477>

Temple Volunteer Participation Opportunities

- Temple Cleaning and Maintenance (Inside) - Washrooms, floor, dusting, vacuuming, etc.
- Temple Cleaning (Outside) - Picking up trash, snow clearing, tree trimming, etc.
- Fundraising Events - Dough making, Mein Making, Gyoza, Chow Mein Dinner, Garage Sale...
- Sangha Engagement Events - Classes, volunteering, etc.
- After Service Lunches - Toban (organizers), potluck dishes
- Service Help - Greeting and handing out books, Chairperson, tea making, other
- Sangha Engagement Committee - organizing events for the Temple
- Fundraising Committee - organizing fundraising events for the Temple
- Omatsuri- All Things Japanese sale
- Temple Board - Managing the Temple, committees and employees
- Library- Assisting librarian with inventory and library days

Volunteering exemplifies some principles of the Eightfold path

- Intention - shapes our thoughts and actions.
- Action - acts of kindness and love show compassion and care towards others
- Livelihood- practice kindness, dutifulness and good conduct
- Effort - combines action and Intention





JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT (IKEBANA) CLASSES

April 23rd, May 7th and 28th, June 11th and 25th

1:30 PM to 4 PM

Classes will be held on Sunday afternoons at The Calgary Buddhist Temple from 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm.

The 5 classes are a series and the cost is \$225 total including flower material and instruction for Temple members or \$250 for non-members. No refunds for missed classes.

Students must supply their own containers (please ask Rika for a suitable size and shape), scissors and kenzan (frog). Contact Rika if you need help selecting your items but these are not supplied as part of the lesson.



Rika Saruwatari trained under Ms. Takako Yokoyama, and became a certified Shihan (teacher) in 2012.

Rika's contact info: rikaandshiro@gmail.com or call 403-701-0390

FUTOMAKI WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 27th, 2023 at 2:00pm

Join the Sangha at the Temple for a demonstration on how to make Futomaki which is a rolled sushi characterized by its large size and filled with a number of different ingredients. You'll learn about the types of things that can go inside this sushi as well as how to roll the maki.



Cost is \$12 (temple member) and \$17 (non-temple member) – taxes and event service fee included. LIMITED registration - open to the first 10 people who register and pay online. Also included in the cost is that each participant will make one futomaki that they can take home to enjoy!

Green tea and an opportunity to get to know each other will follow.

Register using QR code or on Eventbrite at: <https://bit.ly/Futomaki-27May23>



“STAMP” OUT WASTE WITH THE WOMEN’S FEDERATION

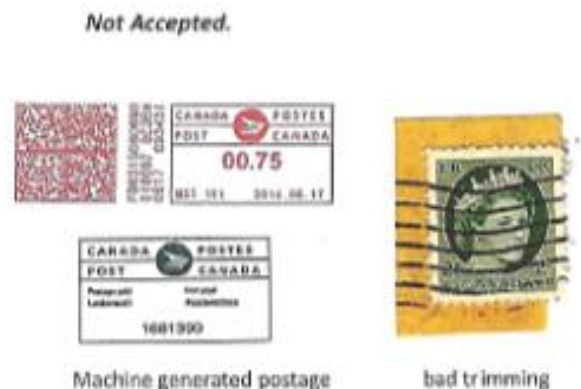
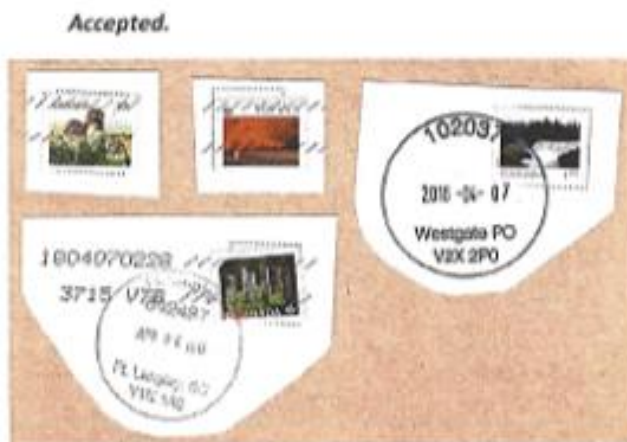
Month of March || Deadline: April 16th

Save the Children-Canada collects used postage stamps for resale to dealers and collectors. Money raised by this method of fundraising is used to help provide a better life and a brighter future for children around the world and in Canada.

The JSBTC Women’s Federation takes ALL stamps, foreign and Canadian. Please remember to put your stamps in the container at the entrance to the Temple by April 16th as they will be taken to the next WF Annual Meeting in Steveston for national consolidation.

These stamps are sold to stamp collectors by the stamp store so the condition of the stamps is important!

- Please cut with scissors (do not tear!!) and leave a 1/3 to 1/2 inch border around the stamp.
- Stamps with postmarks showing the location and date are worth more so please cut around the postmark. Leave multiple stamps together.
- If you have a postcard with the postmark showing the date and location, please turn in the whole postcard – do not cut it.
- If it does not show the town or city, just trim around the stamp with border as above.
- Stamps without enough border trim and machine-generated business postage are not usable.





MATINEE AT THE TEMPLE

Saturday, June 17th, 2023 at 2:00pm

Join us for an afternoon movie matinee! The Calgary Buddhist Temple is pleased to host a FREE showing of "Sleeping Tigers: The Asahi Baseball Story" presented by High Summitt Immigration. Everyone is welcome!

This feature-length documentary, made in 2003, tells the story of the Asahi baseball team. This team became a symbol of the Japanese Canadian struggle for equality and respect, and despite being disbanded and interned, left a legacy of inspiration for future generations of all Canadians.



This remarkable story is told with a combination of archival footage, interviews, and dramatic re-enactments.

Discussion to follow and then stick around to watch "Our Beloved Otera" from 2009 which is a tribute to the Raymond Buddhist Temple narrated by Reyko Nishiyama and Harry Sugimoto. It was the first Buddhist temple established in Alberta and functioned until 2006.

Popcorn will be popping and if you'd like, bring snacks to share - let's make this afternoon informative, engaging and enjoyable for all!

Register so we know the number of people to expect by going to <https://bit.ly/Matinee-17Jun23> or via QR code.

SPRING TEMPLE CLEANING

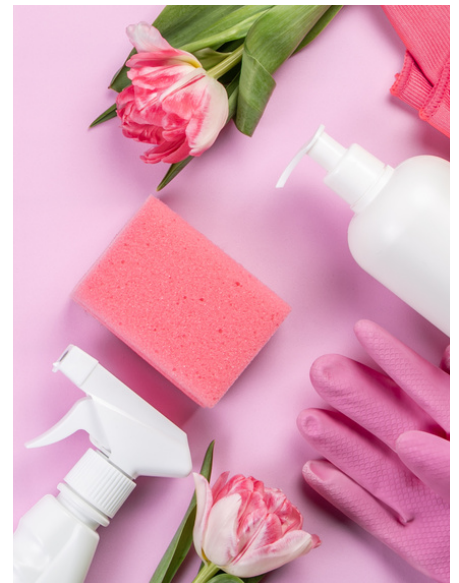
Sunday, May 7th, After service

Dear Beautiful Temple Sangha, we are planning an outdoor temple spring cleaning on Sunday May 7th after service. If you have 30-60 minutes and would like to participate all volunteers are welcome.

We will be picking up the winter foliage debris around the building and in the window wells and weather permitting we may even clean the windows. Should we get enough volunteers we will also do some sanitizing and cleaning inside.

We would love for you to join and will provide some snacks and tea. It would be wonderful if a few people bring gardening or work gloves and a rake.

Many Thanks,
Tracee





LIBRARY NEWS

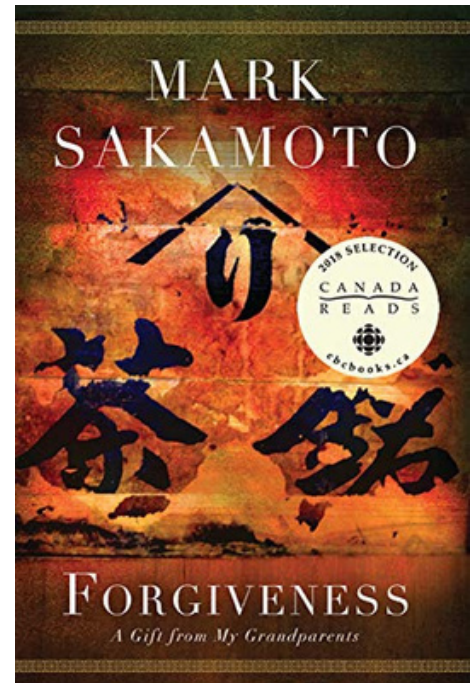
The library is open the third Sunday of every month. We will be open APRIL 16 after service and the AGM. Our library is downstairs. Tea will be served.

New books to library: Thanks to Misae Masuda and Doug Cruikshank for donating copies of the following book:

FORGIVENESS by Mark Sakamoto. Publisher: Harper Collins. 2014

In 2018 the book won CBC'S BOOK reads competition.

Mark Sakamoto's book *Forgiveness* tells the story of two different Canadian families, the MacLean's and the Sakamoto's. Ralph MacLean his maternal grandfather, was incarcerated as a Japanese prisoner of war during the Second World War while Mitsue (Oseki) Sakamoto his paternal grandmother and her Japanese-Canadian family were forcibly removed from their home in Vancouver by the BC government and interned in Alberta. Ultimately, both Ralph MacLean and Mitsue Sakamoto find forgiveness. *Forgiveness: A Gift From My Grandparents* has been adapted to a play presented at Max Bell Theatre in Calgary during March 2023.



Over the next several months, we will be following up on overdue books. Please return any overdue books that may be sitting around your home, by June 18, 2023.

FEBRUARY DONATIONS

Temple Donations

Anonymous
Matsumoto, Susan
in memory of Hideo Matsumoto
Auld, Belle
Dahlen, Caroline
Kimura, Alice
McCormack, Daniel

McNeill, Lorraine
in memory of Kerry Nagata
Miquelon, Dixie
Oishi, Suts
in memory of Kerry Nagata
Orlesky, Kim

Pittman, Craig and Cathy
Robb, Barrie & Jackie
Sakamoto, Tobie
Sugimoto, Laura & Tom
Tanaka, Masaye
Trollope, Christopher

Canada Helps Donations

Anonymnous
Ghann, Jameela
Giggs, Melanie
Martin, James

McCullagh, Bob
Miyانشi, Kiyoko
Nhume, Rose
Robson, Tomiko

Stewart, Matthew
Sugimoto, Laura
Sugimoto, Sumire
Wright, Charlene



2023 MEMBERSHIP

Please take a few moments to complete the attached form and return it to the temple. Cheques can be made out to The Calgary Buddhist Temple. Mailing address: 207-6th St N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E 3Y1. Tel: (403) 263-5723. Alternately, membership fee payments can be made online through [Canada Helps](https://canadahelps.org/en/dn/39361) (canadahelps.org/en/dn/39361) or via e-transfer (calgarybuddhisttemple@gmail.com). Just make sure to write "membership" in the message field. PDFs of completed forms can then be emailed to calgarybuddhisttemple@gmail.com.

Name:

Name:

Address: Line 1

Address: Line 2

City, Province,

Postal Code:

Telephone:

E-mail:

- ☐ Full Membership (\$100 per member)
- ☐ Student (Under 18) Membership –No Charge
- ☐ Honorary Senior (65 & over) Membership – Complimentary

Check to receive the CBT newsletter if you do not already receive it

___ by email

___ by mail

___ Please contact me regarding volunteering



CALGARY BUDDHIST TEMPLE
www.calgary-buddhist.ab.ca