



GOMONSHU ARTICLE

Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over the last year, innumerable people worldwide have been affected by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and forest fires. I was particularly shocked by the wild fires that devastated the island of Maui in the state of Hawaii. This disaster completely destroyed the temple hall of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission and one temple member was reported to have lost his life. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to all who have perished in those calamities. I would also like to express my sympathies to those who are still coping with the dire situations. It is my sincere hope that all who have been affected will soon be able to return to a normal daily life. The Russian invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022 is still continuing. Not only that, conflict between Israel and Palestine has once again flared up from October 2023, embroiling nations concerned with victimizing a large number of people many of whom are civilians. Looking at the appalling state of the world, the following words of Sakyamuni Buddha come to mind. “Everyone fears violence and is scared of death. In consideration of all life, do not kill and do not make others kill.”

Every one of us who has received life as a human being, no matter the reason, must be ensured equally of human rights, and no one’s life should be threatened. In reality, however, conflicts and terrorist attacks have occurred everywhere in the world and for many people, their right to live and exist has been threatened. As Buddhists who aspire for peace, we must keep Sakyamuni Buddha’s words seriously in our hearts and pursue our endeavor of contributing toward world peace and security.



GOMONSHU ARTICLE

During the last year, we observed the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching at Hongwanji, Kyoto for a total of 30 days, divided into 5 sessions during the period from March 29 to May 21. On this occasion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who came to Japan to attend, as well as those who supported it in various ways. This celebratory event could be realized only because our predecessors have cherished the Jodo Shinshu teaching as their spiritual foundation for many years no matter when or where they were, and carefully transmitted it to us today.

Let us, too, continue listening to the teaching as the center of our life while cherishing each day.

January 1, 2024

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

JANUARY 2023 MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI) SERVICE LIST

Clay Broen-Giggs
Thich Nhat Hahn
Marshall Hironaka

Barbara Kerry
Heizo Kitagawa
Shinran Shonin

Tomeo Takahashi
Selene Tse
Asaye Yamamoto



TEMPLE SERVICE REMINDERS

JANUARY SERVICES

- Monday, January 01, 2024 – New Year's Day Service at 12:30 am
- Sunday, January 7th - Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service at 10:00 am
- Tuesday, January 9th - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Thursday, January 11th – Buddhism 101 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Sunday, January 14th – Ho-onko Service and Lunch
- Thursday, January 18th – Buddhism 101 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, January 23rd - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Thursday, January 25th – Buddhism 101 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



HERE MOCHI, MOCHI, MOCHI

Sunday, January 21st, 2024 after service



Mochi is a traditional Japanese rice cake made from glutinous rice. It is a popular treat throughout the year, but it is most commonly associated with New Year celebrations.

Mochi is considered a symbol of good luck and prosperity, and it is believed to bring longevity and overall wellness for the New Year. We wish to embrace those symbols and hope you and your loved ones have a happy, healthy, and wonderful 2024.

Everyone is invited to join the sangha and the Dharma Time class as we use the modern method (mochi machines) to make the mochi and shape it with our own hands. Or, just come to sample this tasty traditional treat.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sunday, February 4th, 2024

CALGARY
DROP-IN
CENTRE

We'll be providing lunch service at the Calgary Drop-In (DI) Centre.

We leave after the Sunday service around 11:15am and walk over to the DI together or meet there at 11:30am. Ten volunteers are required, and the minimum age is 16 years old.

Go to <https://bit.ly/community-04Feb24> to register and support the community!



WOOL YOU BE MINE?

Sunday, February 13th, 2024 at 2pm

The Calgary Buddhist Temple Sangha Engagement is proud to offer this introductory workshop where participants will have fun learning and working with wool. There will be some hands-on components as well!

We have an engaging presenter who is excited to bring her aptitude to share with us. Come join this wool discovery session and find out what wool can do. Be inspired and learn together with the Sangha!

Everyone is welcome to attend this free workshop but please register at <https://bit.ly/wool-u-b-mine> so we know how many people to expect.

And to go along with the theme and guaranteed to make you smile (or groan):

- What's the sheep's motto? All's wool that ends wool.
- What did the sheep parent say to the lamb? It's pasture bedtime.
- What do you call two sheep who are dating? A relationsheep.
- Accidents wool happen. 😊



JSBTC WOMEN'S FEDERATION DANA DAY

Sunday, March 24, 2024



All donations made at the temple this day or donations made online which are identified "WF Dana Day" will go to the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) Women's Federation. The Dana Day donations are consolidated with Temples across Canada and are directed specifically to national organization(s) promoting social welfare.

Last year, an impressive \$4000 was given out: \$2000 went to Indspire (<https://indspire.ca>), to support Indigenous education, and \$2000 went to the CareMakers Foundation (<https://caremakers.ca>), to empower and assist family caregivers in Canada.

For anyone unfamiliar with the word "Dana", it refers to giving without thought of receiving something in return. The JSBTC Women's Federation sincerely thank you all for thinking of those who may be experiencing challenges, and for supporting each other.



SPRING IKEBANA CLASS

March 16 and 30, April 13 and 27, and May 11
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

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

The 5 classes are a series and the cost is \$250 total including flower material and instruction for Temple members or \$300 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

PAST WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our Give the Gift of Joy over the Holidays collections for Make a difference one toy at a time/Women's Centre of Calgary AND Warm Pieces for Peace/Calgary Drop-In Centre were a huge success thanks to this wonderful Sangha. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

Thank you to ALL the people who kindly volunteered and served at the Calgary Drop-In Centre throughout the year.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUSITY!



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Thank you to everyone who contributed!



JC LEGACIES UPDATES



JAPANESE
CANADIAN
LEGACIES

jclegacies.com



Message from the Chief Executive Officer

by Susanne Tabata

Twelve months after we began rolling out our legacy initiatives with the announcement of the Teacher Education team and the JC Legacy Monument Database project, our office has been very busy implementing programs. As we close the year we reflect on the purpose of this work, and are mindful that we walk in the shadows of our elders past and present, and those many individuals who persevered for decades to advance social justice and build communities throughout the country.

In our travels to meet with communities in and outside of BC this past year, we were welcomed by communities large and small, sharing our work and listening to stories that speak to the importance of community and connection. We were also reminded time and again that the BC Government policies of the 1940s forcibly uprooted, dispossessed and drove Japanese Canadians from BC's coast. The impacts of these actions continue to be felt throughout the country.

Our elders are our survivors, and it was their perseverance that paved the way for us to be able to do this work. We think of the 75 families who mortgaged their homes in the 1960s to purchase land for the first Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto, or going back further, Tomekichi Homma, who some hold up as Canada's first civil rights activist. In 1900 Homma challenged racist provincial voting laws, demanding his full rights as a Canadian citizen – to vote, to serve on a jury, to run for office, to work in any field he chose – in the face of constant, sometimes violent racist opposition. This is the legacy we have to stand on.

It pains us, then, that the Japanese Canadian Survivors Health and Wellness Fund is opening behind schedule. We can assure you that this will open in the New Year, with an easy-to-navigate website so that survivors can receive health support grants for their medical needs. Outreach workers have been hired in BC, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario and community engagement will begin in January. We acknowledge the frustration of survivors and their families and we look forward to sharing the news that the fund will be open soon.

The Community Fund is the most forward-looking of our legacy initiatives, providing Japanese Canadians with grant opportunities to strengthen and reset community through scholarships, infrastructure, community projects, arts & sports, and intergenerational wellness. We are overwhelmed at the response from across the country. The Intergenerational Wellness stream in particular is at the heart of all we do, providing funding opportunities for families to connect across generations and share and capture their family histories, and we are strengthening capacity in this area to serve this stream of funding.

As a team we continue to learn, and are adapting to the increasing scope of our programs. We aim to keep clarity and fairness as our focus. The JCLS has no ties to any one organization, and we see accessibility as one of our key directives so that individuals, groups and organizations regardless of their perceived 'status' in the community, have a chance to develop a project.

Thank you to all at the NAJC who kept the wind in the sails of this work for four years, taking all the risk to support the political advocacy and the three-year build out of the historical wrongs framework. The Japanese Canadian Legacies Society (JCLS) was created to be responsible for the funds, and support the implementation of a predetermined set of legacy initiatives carried forward from the NAJC. We strive to remain true to that vision, and thank the JCLS Board of Directors – Paul Kariya, Karen Nishi, Larry Okada, Brian Tsuji, Fred Yada, and Les Kojima – for keeping a steady governance over our project office. A very special thanks to Paul Kariya with whom I have journeyed for over three years in seemingly endless talks with the Province as we collectively strive to close out the remaining balance of payment set for the monument and the community pillar. And our staff – Larissa Higo, Linda Kawamoto Reid, Lane McGarrity Yumi Kawaoka, Eleanor Clarke, Mike Ogawa, Taylar Ball, Rebecca Boschman, Chiaki Yamada, John Endo Greenaway, and Ella Law – for their dedication to this work. For some it is their first time working in community. Most of all we thank the many community members of all generations who have reach out to us to online, by phone and in person. You are why we are doing this very important and deep work.



JC Legacies office staff, from left to right: John Endo Greenaway, Ella Law, CEO Susanne Tabata, Mike Ogawa, Eleanor Clarke, Larissa Higo, Rebecca Boschman, Yumi Kawaoka, Chiaki Yamada

jclegacies.com | jclegaciesfund.com



JC LEGACIES UPDATES



A Message to Community

As 2023 draws to a close, the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society
sends out holiday greetings across Canada.

Thank you to our community for your support
over the past year. We couldn't do this work without you.

Intergenerational Wellness Update

The Japanese Canadian Legacies Society is pleased to announce that a second intake
of the Intergenerational Wellness stream will open in February, 2024.

Details will be shared with the community early in the New Year.



LIBRARY NEWS

Our library is organized! Thanks to those volunteers who helped – especially Kim, who input all the new books into our library spreadsheet.

Belle and Masaye



NOVEMBER DONATIONS

Temple Donations

Anonymous
Aiello, Rio
Cooper, Laurie
Csiki, Julianne
Delisle, Yuri

Evans, Kyle
Fitch, Chris
Greenleaf, Jessica
Huntley, Susan
in memory of Keiko Hinatsu
Kitagawa, Susan
in memory of Mike Kitagawa
McCormack, Dan

Minamide, Elsie
in memory of Keiko Hinatsu
Ota, Fumi
Pittman, Craig and Cathy
Sano, Tracee
Tanaka, Harvey

Canada Helps Donations

Giggs, Melanie
Haddon, Samantha
Howard, Leslie
Martin, James

McCullagh, Bob
Miyanishi, Kiyoko
Robson, Tomiko

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



TEMPLE MEMBERSHIP



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

2024 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