



KJICA



NEWSLETTER

Published monthly by the Kamloops Japanese Canadian Association
to give you news and happenings of interest to the Japanese Canadian Community



**Volume 49
Number 8**

Upcoming Events for October & November 2025

Wednesday, October 1, 8, 22, 29.

Japanese Class (Intermediate 1&2)
6:30PM-8:00PM

Thursday, October 2, 16.

Craft Group / 10:00AM-2:00PM

Friday, October 3, 10, 17, 24.

Raiden Taiko / 6:30PM-8:00PM

Monday, October 6, 20, 27.

Raiden Taiko / 6:30PM-8:00PM

Tuesday, October 7, 14, 21, 28.

Museum / 10:00AM-2:00PM

Tuesday, October 7, 21, 28.

Japanese Class (Beginner & Advance)
6:30PM-8:00PM

Saturday, October 18.

Keirokai

Friday, October 24.

Udon Lunch / 11:30AM & 12:15PM

Monday, November 3, 10, 17, 24.

Raiden Taiko / 6:30PM-8:00PM

Tuesday, November 4, 18, 25.

Museum / 10:00AM-2:00PM

Tuesday, November 4, 18.

Japanese Class (Beginner & Advance)
6:30PM-8:00PM

Wednesday, November 5, 12.

Japanese Class (Intermediate 1&2)
6:30PM-8:00PM

Thursday, November 6, 20.

Craft Group / 10:00AM-2:00PM

Friday, November 7, 14, 21, 28.

Raiden Taiko / 6:30PM-8:00PM

Saturday, November 22.

Craft & Bake Sale / 10:00AM-2:00PM

Friday, November 28.

Udon Lunch / 11:30AM & 12:15PM

Editor

Kaori Sorokopud

President

Lance Yamada

**Kamloops Japanese
Canadian Association**

160 Vernon Avenue,
Kamloops, BC,
V2B 1L6

TEL. 250-376-9629

Email

kjca@telus.net

Website

<https://kjca.ca>



National Association of Japanese Canadians

KJCA President's Report

Well, the Bunka Center is up and running for the fall season, and a lot is going on.

We just had our Volunteer Appreciation BBQ social. We had about 60 members join us for a great dinner & social. I want to say thanks to all the board members for putting on a great event. The steaks were fantastic, and the weather was great once again.

I would also like to thank all our members who volunteered and couldn't be at dinner; without your continuing support, the center won't carry on. We had a bunch of signup sheets for different activities and events out on the table. We need everyone's support with the future of the KJCA, which we must not take for granted.

Congratulations to Kazuto Uyeda for winning the KJCA Scholarship for 2025.

KJCA's new, improved Website

I'm still seeking testimonials from our members to feature on the new site, as your voices are important to us.

I'm hoping to launch it shortly after I get back in early October. Watch for the announcement. Your feedback is crucial for the growth and betterment of our community. kjca.ca

With several core board members stepping down, this is a pivotal moment for our youth and other members to take on greater responsibilities in shaping the future of our center. Starting in 2026, we'll be losing 5-6 key contributors to the KJCA board for years. I would love to be proactive and see if any members would like to be a board member and take us into the future. We always welcome new ideas and fundraising opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support!

~ Lance Yamada
KJCA President

Hello KJCA members,

The next NAJC Japan Tour takes place in October 2025 and then in the spring and fall of 2026. If interested in these guided tours of Japan, I would recommend checking the NAJC website on a periodic basis. Here is a link to information about the Japan tour:

<https://najc.ca/programs/japan-tour/>

The annual NAJC Conference is taking place in Lethbridge, Alberta September 26 to 28. Our President Lance Yamada and myself as the NAJC Liaison will be attending. Some of the workshop topics are:

- Strategic Planning - mapping the road ahead
- Building Leadership Capacity - Train the Trainer Approach
- Stronger Together - Building Partnerships and Collaboration
- Money, Tech & Security: Smart Practices for Non-profits
- Membership and Volunteer Engagement

I will be providing highlights from the conference in the November newsletter.

Thank you,

~ Lana Tomiye
NAJC Liaison





Udon Lunch

Friday, October 24th, 2025.

We require that you phone **250-376-9629** or email kjca@telus.net your udon and sushi order and any reservation.

Please note: Cutoff for orders is **October 23rd at 2:00pm.**

We will have 2 sittings, **11:30 am** and **12:15 pm.** Or **Takeout.**

Eat in Udon \$15.00 and Sushi \$13.00
Take out Udon \$13.00 and Sushi \$13.00

*If you have mobility issues, please let us know when placing your order or reservation — we will be happy to open the back gate for easier access.



Thank You for Your Generous Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the following people for their donations for August 25, to September 25, 2025.

General

Irene Desrocher

In Memory of Len Tateyama

Dr. S. R. Ebata
Dave & Pat McDonald

In Memory of Emiko Mochizuki

Emiko Mochizuki Family

In Memory of Tak Kitamura

Jim & Alice Tateishi

Condolences

Our sincere condolence to Shelley Tateyama and family on the passing of Len Tateyama on September 5, 2025.

Dates to Note

Saturday, December 27.
餅 Mochi Sale (A package of 12 for \$5)

Sunday, January 18, 2026.
新年会 Shin-nen-kai (Tentative date/Subject to change)

Saturday, February 7, 2026.
寿司 Sushi Dinner
(Cocktails 6:00PM/Dinner 7:00PM,
\$100 per person)

Volunteer Appreciation BBQ

Over 60 members attended the annual BBQ dinner, thanking our many volunteers! Our community depends on the skills and efforts of volunteers, and while one dinner will never be enough to show all our gratitude, it is fun to spend a night in great company! If you volunteered this year but could not make it to the dinner, we hope to see you there next year!

~ Morgan Elander



Kamloops Japanese Canadian Association Scholarship



At the dinner, we were also honoured to award the annual scholarship to Kazuto Uyeda. Kazuto grew up around the center, participating in Green Beans and the Children's Choir in his younger years, to volunteering countless times including event setup with his grandfather George. Beyond what we saw at the center though, he's also been a dedicated volunteer for the Kamloops Judo Club, and somehow also maintained an excellent high school grade average. Kazuto told us that he is currently working toward pre-pharmacy, but is also considering switching to a math degree. Whatever he ends up doing, we are sure he will make our community proud!

~ Morgan Elander

KJC Museum & Archives

Autumn is here!

Usually at this time of the year, we are looking forward to the Things Japanese Sale. Last year the sale was held in June to reduce items stored as we prepared to move everything out of the museum and storage areas. We are grateful to all the wonderful and hard-working volunteers who made the Sale a huge success. Due to scheduling conflicts, the Things Japanese Sale will be postponed until next spring. We look forward to receiving all your donations and contributions in the spring. If you are not able to store the items for donations until then, please, drop them off at the Centre.

~ Shirley Nakashima



Kamloops
Japanese Canadian
Museum & Archives

COMING SOON

EXADON-Inspired Taiko Exercise for seniors

Exciting New Programming Coming to KJCA in the New Year!

Thanks to a grant provided under the NAJC's Capacity Building Initiative, Les Tabata of Raiden

Taiko attended an intensive workshop presented by the KODO Cultural Foundation. The

workshop, a first for North America, was presented under the "EXADON" banner. It is a collection of exercise and wellness principles developed for seniors living on Sado Island in Niigata Prefecture, Japan. The joyous program focuses on health and wellness using taiko drums. Over time, it is common to experience a reduction in physical and social activity, which can contribute to declining health, a loss of self-confidence and reduced enjoyment of life.

These trends can be slowed and even reversed with appropriate physical activity that engages the body mind and spirit. "I am thrilled to introduce the EXADON concepts to our senior members," reports Tabata. "EXADON uses taiko as a pathway that touches many aspects of one's life, including coordination, strength, endurance, self-confidence, balance and socialization all in a playful, non-threatening environment."

It is necessary to develop a few KJCA members interested in supporting program delivery.

Anyone interested in assisting is encouraged to contact Les Tabata at ltabata@shaw.ca as soon as possible.

Watch for further updates on the EXADON-inspired program. For a backgrounder on EXADON,

please see The Exadon Initiative: Taiko Drumming for Health Promotion + Preventive Healthcare (Short Intro)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19-18QAa1rg> and be sure to turn on

the English captions. The first wellness session is expected to launch in early 2026.

~ Les Tabata
Raiden Taiko



Raiden Taiko

Happy autumn!

Raiden ended the summer with members from the adult and kids' groups getting together for a work party. We mopped the floors, shined the mirror, waxed the stands and conditioned the drums. Thank you to everyone who helped that day!



A few months ago, Lana took the lead on a grant application. Because of this hard work, we were able to purchase two new drums! However, it gets better - Lance found a Canadian taiko company! We really appreciate the NJCA for the grant opportunity and Moku Studio for making such beautiful drums.

Our first performance with the new drums was at the Kamloops powwow grounds for an event called Music for the People. This event started as a way to unite Indigenous and non-Indigenous music and culture. Now, it also serves as tribute to its co-founder Rod ("Little Sky") Bandura. It was such an honour to be a part of this amazing evening.

The next weekend we were at the Tapestry Festival. While we all love this event, we did not have much time to enjoy it.



After we played, we packed the drums up and headed out to Chase for the Golden Ears Farm's Corn Roast. This is an annual community dinner and variety show that Michelle's family hosts. Playing on the front porch, among the trees was a very cool experience.

~ Heather Gooch

Kamloops Judo Club

Kamloops Judo Club Hits the Mats in Vernon

From September 26–28, the Kamloops Judo Club headed to Vernon for Judo BC Fall Inter-Provincial Camp. Seven competitors and three instructors made the trip, and it was a great chance for our members to learn, grow, and connect with the judo community.

The highlight of the weekend was training with two-time World Champion Joshiro Maruyama. Having the chance to learn from someone at that level was an inspiring experience, and our team picked up plenty of new techniques and insights. On top of that, the camp gave our judoka the opportunity to get in some friendly practice with athletes from all over Western Canada. It was the perfect mix of hard work, learning, and fun on the mats.

We're excited to bring what we learned back home to Kamloops and keep building on the momentum this season!

~ Sensei - Bryan Uyeda



KJCA Members Survey



Please take this opportunity to complete our anonymous survey. We would like to give everyone the chance to have their voice heard.

Scan the QR code with your camera on either your smart phone or tablet. Tap the pop-up link, which will direct you to a Google Form. For more help, please contact the office.

Paper copies of surveys are available at the centre.

Please support our sponsors.



KAMLOOPS JUDO CLUB

Mailing Address:
c/o Kamloops Sports Council
Unit 101 - 1550 Island Parkway
Kamloops BC V2B 0H7

Phone: 250-554-1742

kamloopsjudoclub@gmail.com
www.kamloopsjudo.ca

Dr. S. R. Ebata, BSc., O.D.
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY



12-1380 Summit Drive, Kamloops, BC V2C 1T8

Call or Text: 250-377-8875 | Fax: 250-377-7707
info@ebataeyecare.com
www.ebataoptometry.com



Lance Yamada
(The Samurai)
Owner/Operator



Cell: 250-319-7779
1992 Raven Crescent
Kamloops, BC, V2B 8P5
encoremusic@telus.net

Interactive Dj's * Mobile Entertainment * Event Planning * Promotions
Karaoke * Weddings * Equipment Rentals * Live Entertainment Bookings
AV Installs * AV Consultant * Networking

Westsyde
SERVICE

Auto Repairs
Government Certified Inspection Facility

BILL & MIKE LINDSAY



Ph: 250-579-5532

Fax: 250-579-5852

Email: westsydeservice@shaw.ca

3475 Westsyde Road, Kamloops, BC V2B 8C5

Please support our sponsors.




Real Estate (Kamloops)
Independently Owned and Operated

Rie Takahashi
Personal Real Estate Corporation

258 Seymour Street
Kamloops, B.C. V2C 2E5, Canada
Phone: (250) 851-2000
rzhou@remax.net
www.inKamloops.com




Phone (250) 372-1234
Fax (250) 828-6697
Chase Office (250) 679-3180
Toll Free 1 (800) 949-3362 (BC)

Morgan R Elander*
B. Comm., JD
Partner

Email melander@cfselaw.ca
Website www.cfselaw.ca

*DENOTES LAW CORPORATION



Eastuff Grocery Wholesale Ltd.

Kevin & Katie Yeung

Tel: 250-828-6288
Fax: 250-828-0266
Cell: 250-320-0002

1023A McGill Road
Kamloops, BC, Canada
V2C 6H4

www.eastuffgrocery.com
Email: eastuffgrocery@gmail.com

CATES FORD SOLL & EPP
I.L.P.
LAWYERS & MEDIATORS

Wills & Estate Planning 遺言 & 代理委任状
Estates 相続・遺産分割
Real Estate 不動産
Business Law 企業/事業法・商法



Brenda H. Sawada
CFP, RHU
Certified Financial Planner

731 Victoria Street
Kamloops, BC V2C 2B5
Bus: (250) 851-2727
Fax: (250) 851-2728
bsawada@telus.net

Jackie Hilliard, Administrative Assistant
jackie_hilliard@telus.net

Manulife Securities
INVESTMENT SERVICES INC.

www.manulife.ca



Phone (250) 372-1234
Fax (250) 828-6697
Chase Office (250) 679-3180
Toll Free 1 (800) 949-3362 (BC)

Hisako Takahashi
BBA, MIB, JD
Barrister & Solicitor

Email htakahashi@cfselaw.ca
Website www.cfselaw.ca

#300 - 272 Victoria Street, Kamloops, BC V2C 2A2




Chelsea Dufficy
250.318.6660
exp REALTY



VIKEREALESTATE.CA
CHELSEA@VIKEREALESTATE.CA

1000 CLUBHOUSE DRIVE
KAMLOOPS BC
V2H 1R4



Darryl Tateishi CPA, CA
partner
Income Tax Preparation and Consulting
Personal and Corporate Returns

250.319.4642
dtateishi@infinite-finance.ca
WWW.INFINITE-FINANCE.CA

