

Zeinabova, Blanka

From: Parent, Geraldine
Sent: January 28, 2015 4:20 PM
To: Zeinabova, Blanka
Subject: Letter of support request

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi Blanka,

Sherri has just followed up with me regarding this request. I don't have the authority to write a letter of support. Can you advise who can, or what the process might be to get a support letter. The Nikkei Centre deadline for this is January 31.

Please advise.

Geraldine

From: Sherri Kajiwarra [<mailto:skajiwarra@nikkeiplace.org>]
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 6:04 PM
To: Parent, Geraldine
Subject: Question for you

Happy New Year Geraldine.

I have a new question for you. In addition to Nikkei Matsuri, we are on deadline for a grant application with Canadian Heritage for a special 2016 Community Anniversaries grant. It's a whole year away, but the grant deadline is Jan 31, 2015 for 2016 anniversaries, and they require a letter of support from our municipal government. Support can be in-kind.

We are planning on telling the story of Japanese Canadians in World War I with commissioned re-enactment performances, a museum exhibition, a book project, and a historical bus tour covering the War Memorial in Stanley Park, Forest Lawn where Nikkei WWI vets are buried, and the Powell Street/Alexander Street neighbourhoods where training took place.

Can you advise me on how we might get a letter of support from the City of Burnaby? Even if it's for example \$5,000 in-kind marketing support, it's acceptable proof of municipal support.

I am happy to give you more information on our anticipated 2016 project. Can I give you a call on Monday or Tuesday?

Thank you,

Sherri

Sherri Kajiwarra
NNMCC Project Manager
Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre
6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby BC V5E 4M7
T 604.777.7000 ext.108 F 604.777.7001
nikkeiplace.org

Zeinabova, Blanka

From: Sherri Kajiwarra <skajiwarra@nikkeiplace.org>
Sent: February 05, 2015 4:34 PM
To: Zeinabova, Blanka
Subject: Re: 2016 project
Attachments: Hokori - Japanese Canadians in the First World War.doc

Hi Blanka, sorry for the delay in responding to your question.

Attached is an overview of our proposed commemorative project for 2016. Our request for in-kind support from the City of Burnaby is because it is a requirement of the main grant we've applied for from Canadian Heritage. We truly appreciate all of the past and ongoing support of the City of Burnaby for our arts & cultural events at the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre and we don't want this ask to jeopardize any other requests we have into your Executive, but this is a very special anniversary.

The in-kind support can be modest. Even for example, \$500 worth of promotional assistance. Putting posters up or leaving our event information cards out (which we would produce/provide), or adding a link to our commemorative events on your social media or website could suffice.

We were invited to submit an application by the Canadian Heritage offices and they have been very enthusiastic about our proposed project. While that is not a guarantee of grant support, we will be disqualified if we can't prove some municipal support.

I am happy to review our budgets and project plan with you in more detail if you have time. I can come to your office or you are welcome to come visit us at the Nikkei National Museum. The Museum is open 6 days/week (closed Mondays). Either myself, or Beth Carter, Museum Director | Curator are here Tues - Friday.

Let me know if I can provide further details.

Best regards,

Sherri Kajiwarra

Sherri Kajiwarra
NNMCC Project Manager
Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre
6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby BC V5E 4M7
T 604.777.7000, ext.108 F 604.777.7001
nikkeiplace.org

Magic Hour As The Sunsets. The artist collective Instant Coffee creates an exhibition from the Nikkei National Museum's Collection. Jan 17 - April 5, 2015 <http://centre.nikkeiplace.org/magic-hour/>

On Wed, Feb 4, 2015 at 11:03 AM, Zeinabova, Blanka <Blanka.Zeinabova@burnaby.ca> wrote:

In 2016, the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre will present *Hokori : Japanese Canadians in the First World War* to commemorate the 100th anniversary of participation in the First World War by Japanese Canadian Soldiers. *Hokori* refers to their pride and desire to fight for Canada. The telling of this little-known slice of Canadian history is a story that is long overdue. Beginning in early 1916, over 200 Japanese Canadian recruits began military training in Vancouver. This was a time when the Japanese in Canada had no right to vote, and yet they felt called to serve the country they identified as their home. On April 19, 1916, the request for the acceptance of a Japanese Canadian battalion was officially declined by the Military Council of Prime Minister Borden. Despite obstacles of racism, refusal, and rebuke, the Japanese Canadian military volunteers persisted and made the effort to travel to Alberta where they were finally able to enlist.

The first volunteer to enlist in Alberta was Iku Kumagawa on May 19, 1916. In the end, 226 soldiers fought in the Japanese Canadian Volunteer Corps. They participated in the major battles of the Somme, Vimy Ridge, Lens, Avion, Hill 70, Passchendaele, Amiens, Arras, Cambrai, Denain, Valenciennes, Mons. Fifty-five were killed or died of their wounds. Only six came home uninjured. Letters from the front describe the exemplary and fearless fighting of all Japanese Canadian units. They won 13 military medals for bravery. Despite demonstrated loyalty to Canada, these veterans were still denied the vote until 1931. As well, during the Second World War, their military service was ignored and they were included in the mass internment of Japanese Canadians.

In this commemoration, we want to tell the story of loyalty, dedication, courage, and commitment to a better Canada from the early community of Japanese in Canada. Our events and activities will include a commemorative ceremony in the spring, a commemorative book project, historical re-enactments, historical walking tours, a museum exhibition, several special events and a commemorative plaque. We wish to recognize May 19, 1916 as the date around which the WWI Japanese Canadian soldiers' war stories revolve. This was a turning point – when the government of Canada refused Japanese Canadian participation as a battalion, the individual volunteers made a commitment to join the military through other means. Their willingness to travel to Alberta to enlist shows the Japanese Canadian volunteers perseverance and commitment to Canada. Our project partners are the Powell Street Festival Society, the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival, the Surrey Museum, Tonarigumi, the BC Genealogical Society, the Vancouver Heritage Foundation and the Japanese Canadian Citizens Association.

We proposed the following events to take place throughout 2016:

- A commemorative ceremony and reception at the Japanese Canadian War Memorial in Stanley Park in late April. This will honour the soldiers, their story, and celebrate the beautiful cherry trees that were planted in their honour. Descendents of the soldiers will be invited.

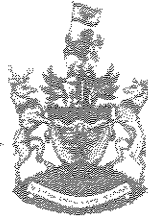
- Bus and walking tours of special sites related to the Japanese Canadian Volunteer Corps, including Powell Street where they trained, Stanley Park, and other key locations around Vancouver.

- Re-enactment performances by professional actors of key figures in the Japanese Canadian community – including Zennosuke Inouye, Masumi Mitsui, Yasushi Yamazaki, Kumakichi Oura.

- Mini-exhibit, walking tours, performances will take place during the Powell Street Festival in August. Preparation of a book telling the stories of the 226 Japanese Canadian volunteers, with several essays outlining the context of their involvement. Book launch in October 2016.

- Museum exhibit at the Nikkei National Museum to highlight the Japanese Canadian community and their involvement in 2016. This will open in October 2016.

Special programs, including a panel discussion, writing workshop and gallery tours/presentations will take place in the fall/winter of 2016.



CITY OF BURNABY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DEREK R. CORRIGAN
MAYOR

January 30, 2015

To whom it may concern,

The City of Burnaby has a long history of supporting the efforts of the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre. Notably, in March 2014, the City issued a Large Scale Event grant over \$23,000 to the Museum and Cultural Centre to support the Nikkei Place Matsuri Family Festival.

The City is excited at the prospect of a 2016 Community Anniversary featuring the story of Japanese Canadians in World War I. Our understanding is there will be commissioned re-enactment performances, a museum exhibition, a book project, and a historical bus tour covering the War Memorial in Stanley Park, Forest Lawn where Nikkei WWI vets are buried, and the Powell Street/Alexander Street neighbourhoods where training took place.

Thank you for your consideration of support for this project.

Sincerely,


Derek Corrigan

MAYOR