

MEMORANDUM: PROPOSALS FOR A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

APRIL 7, 1946

1. Purposes of a national organization have been stated as:

- a) to promote the welfare of Japanese people in Canada,
- b) to secure all rights of citizenship,
- c) to assume all responsibilities of citizenship,
- d) to promote cultural assimilation, and
- e) to co-operate with all organizations working for the betterment of J. in Can.

2. Functions of the National Headquarters

- a) while the objectives of the organization, and those affiliated, are stated above, from the experience of the past three months, it is apparent that the organization must have a headquarters or secretariat to perform the following functions:
  - i) to supply up to date information to all Japanese organizations,
  - ii) to receive up to date information from all organizations,
  - iii) to carry on a continuous research program into:
    - government policy and legislation
    - economic and social conditions amongst Japanese
  - iv) to provide speakers guides to Japanese who have been asked to speak to various organizations
  - v) to publish articles, leaflets, and pamphlets on Japanese in Canada, for the general public, newspapers and journals,
  - vi) to assist all organizations in developing strong and active programs, to keep up their membership and carry out their work efficiently
  - vii) to assist in local problems: sugar beet contracts, employment negotiations
  - viii) to open up new opportunities for employment
  - ix) to co-ordinate the political action work of Japanese
  - x) to raise funds to carry on its work and other campaigns needing money
  - xi) to carry on a public relations program

3. Structure

- a) Federation of Citizenship Defense Committees
- b) Federation of all organizations
- c) single organization with branches
- d) combination of a) and b)

Discussion of Advantages and Disadvantages:

The existing organizations were set up to meet the needs of the people by persons having the most initiative and have the support of the people. When selecting the desired structure, it should be kept in mind that the type will have to assist in performing the functions efficiently and adequately.

The formation of additional organizations may cause confusion, and should be discouraged. Existing local organizations, where possible, should carry on with the work.

The use of Citizenship Defense Committees will require new organization, and furthermore, their membership is limited. The financial campaigns will need organizations which take in all people.

Federation of all organizations will have large membership, will use existing organizations, allow local initiative, and will assist in finance campaigns.

Single organization will require new organization.

Combination of A) and B) will be feasible where it is thought Defense Committees are needed. This proposal is like b).

4. Finances

An annual personal canvass should be carried out in all local areas.