

Resolution

Whereas: The National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC) has not properly acknowledged nor made satisfactory responses to our resolutions of July 9th, July 16th, and Nov. 21st, 1984. Nor have they made any sincere effort to consider the opinions of the majority of the Survivors of the Evacuation which we believe are represented by the opinions expressed by our Committee.

And Whereas: We fear that the confrontational and unrealistic demands of the NAJC will jeopardize all chances for a meaningful redress package from the government. Furthermore we fear that the impractical and exorbitant demands of the NAJC will badly erode the carefully nurtured good reputation of the Japanese Canadians.

And Whereas: We have always supported the objectives as set out in the original resolution of the Toronto JCCA Issei-bu.

And Whereas: We believe that the majority of survivors who were incarcerated by the Canadian government are in favour of:

1. A proper formal acknowledgement of injustices from the federal government.
2. Compensation in a group form, as opposed to compensation on an individual basis, after taking into consideration the government's view of no individual compensation and the difficulty of assessing same freely.
3. Emphasizing the importance of having the War Measures Act repealed, rescinded, or modified to ensure that no Canadian will suffer the same fate, they are also sensitive to the difficulties of achieving this end. They do not wish therefore, to include this matter in their request to the Government.

Therefore: Be it resolved that the Toronto JCCA Redress Committee join with other Japanese Canadian survivors either groups or individuals of like mind and make a submission to the government of Canada for the following:

1. A proper formal acknowledgement from the Parliament of Canada for the injustices imposed upon all Canadians of Japanese ancestry during and after the Second World War until 1949.
2. A Japanese Canadian memorial trust -- a historical legacy -- with sufficient funds to provide income for:
 - a. research deemed desirable to make a submission to the government that in future no Canadian will be subject to the same fate suffered by us.
 - b. any matters in the quest for racial justice for all Canadians.
 - c. programs for Survivors, particularly the elderly who have special needs.
 - d. research to compile records for historical purposes on matters pertaining to Japanese Canadian victims of the injustices during and after the Second World War up to 1949.
 - e. an Issei Human Rights Award in memory of all the Issei who suffered the most from the injustices -- to be awarded to those individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions in the field of human rights.

We recommend that the foundation be administered by a Board of Trustees consisting of nine members, five of whom to be Japanese-Canadians representing a cross-section of the beliefs and aspirations common to all Canadians.

We would urge the Government to reconsider and, if feasible, rescind specific orders-in-council that incarcerated the Japanese Canadians during and after the Second World War and denied them their civil rights, which led to their exile.

We are extremely pleased to hear that Prime Minister Mulroney has stated that the government would review the War Measures Act in the very near future.

We are grateful that the Government, together with all opposition members, are agreeable to acknowledging the injustices, and we wish to bring the redress matter to a speedy end with honour and dignity.

TORONTO JCCA REDRESS COMMITTEE

AS OF MARCH 11TH, 1985

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED

Committee of Japanese Churches
Credit Union
15+ Investment Club
Fukuoka-ken
Garden Club
Hiroshima-ken
J. C. Professional & Businessmen
Karate Canada
Kisaragi Club
Kikanisei
Konko Church
Kumamoto-ken
Kotobukikai
New J. C. Association
Okayama-ken
Saiseikai
Seikokai
Shiga-ken
Toronto JCCA
Toronto JCCA Isseu-bu
Tottori-ken
United Church Issei
United Church Nisei
Wakayama-ken
Wynford Seniors

10 Independents

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