

Fur Manufacturers

Appel Fur Co.  
Balfour Fur  
Bender-Gordman  
L. Bender Fur Co.  
Bergman " "  
E. Creed " "  
Fainer " "  
Ginsberg " "  
Gordon " "  
Green Bros " "  
Hi Fashion " "  
Jordan & Schenker "  
Kreim Fur  
S. Kuretsky "  
Malton "  
J. A. Miller "  
National "  
New Western "  
New York "  
North American "  
N. Rogul "  
Scholnick "  
Silberberg "  
Top "  
H. Wall "  
Wolfe & Diamond  
Yutor Fur

RETAIL FURRIERS

Axon Furs  
Andre "  
Bassakynos "  
Broadview "  
Embassy "  
Famous "  
Four Season "  
Frango "  
Imperial "  
Kallinikos "  
Kingsway "  
Leslie "  
Lakeriew "  
Madison "  
Parkdale "  
Victory "

## Jewish Business Men associates

Charles Appel	Al Rapoport
Sam Baer	Izzie Rotterman
Louis Bender	Phil Scherker
Nymie Bergman	Sid Shapiro
Hert Bimbaum	Arnold Shear
Moe Bimbaum	Norman Rogul
Nenny Bockner	Saul Shiner
Jeddy Caplan	Mendy Shuman
Howard Cooper	Nari Greenberg
Edmond Creed	Zou Silverberg
Marty Wolfman	Fred Singer
Joe Fainer	Harry Swantz
Mani Fleshman	Moe Starr
Harold Ginstberg	Joe Wolfe
Jerry Green	Henry Zagdanski
(w) Sylvia Hartman	Zou Zeifman
Arthur Jordan	Nari Goodman
Harry Kretm	
Jack Kuretsky	
Paul Magder	
Percy Mendlebaum	
Jay Marin	
Joe Mason	
Irvix Miller	



## HONOREE BIOS

The 2014 Sakura Gala will posthumously honour Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community of Toronto, as represented by Honorary Recipient, the late Henry Zagdanski, ל"ט. This year will also mark the first time the Sakura Award is being given to dual recipients, evoking a wonderful synergy. This year's honourees are caring people who, in the truest sense of the Hebrew phrase *Tikkun olam*, made extraordinary efforts to heal, repair and transform the world. Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community's actions in Europe and at home in Canada, respectively, demonstrate extraordinary altruism, humanity and greatness, bringing the Jewish and Japanese people closer together.



**Chiune Sugihara**

in his saving over 6,000 lives. The Japanese government closed the consulate, but he continued writing visas from the train platform where his train was to depart.

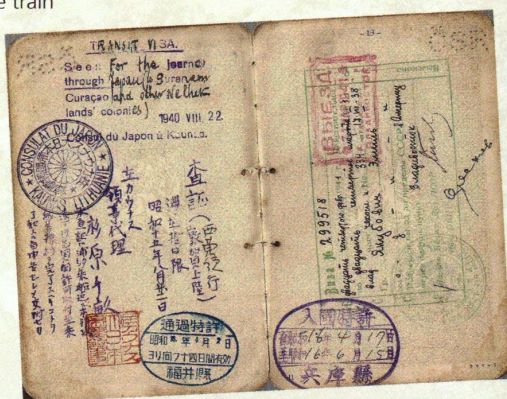
It is estimated that there are 80,000 Jewish living descendants that attribute their lineage to Sugihara's courageous deed of saving their relatives. In 1946, Sugihara was dismissed from the Japanese Foreign Service. He understood the reason for this dismissal was his issuing of the transit visas. He took odd jobs for several years following this.

Representing and accepting the Sakura Award on Chiune Sugihara's behalf is his son, Nobuki Sugihara. Henry Zagdanski's, ל"ט children, Barry Zagdanski, Ian Zagdanski and Felicia Posluns are representing their father at the Sakura Gala and accepting the Sakura Award on his behalf.

### Chiune Sugihara

Chiune Sugihara was a Japanese diplomat who served as Vice-Consul in Lithuania during World War II. He defied direct orders of the Japanese government and issued visas to Jewish refugees so they could travel to Japan and escape the Nazi onslaught that was engulfing Europe at the time.

In less than one month during the summer of 1940, he issued over 2,000 visas, resulting



*Transit Visa signed by Chiune Sugihara*

In 1968, a survivor finally located Sugihara after many years of searching. 28 years after his good deed, Sugihara realized that the Jewish refugees he saved actually survived. In 1984, Sugihara was recognized by the State of Israel, receiving the Righteous Among the Nations award from the Yad Vashem, the only Asian recipient of this honour. In July 1986, Sugihara passed away in his home near Tokyo. Today he is considered a hero in Japan.

The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre recognizes Chiune Sugihara for this courageous deed that saved so many lives. His actions showed incredible humanity, kindness and self-sacrifice. Visas for Life Foundation was founded in 1997 by Hiroki Sugihara, oldest son to perpetuate the legacy of his father, that of caring for humanity and the dignity of life.

### The Jewish Community of Toronto

Following the years of Japanese Canadian internment and forced relocation during World War II, the Jewish Community of Toronto provided Japanese Canadians with friendship and support during a dark period of Canadian history.

For Japanese Canadians – many of whom had been born in Canada, and knew of no other life – enduring the hardships of forced relocation, internment, ghost towns, and

*Continued on next page*



*Honest Ed's Nisei Baseball Team 1956, Western City Senior Baseball Champions, Toronto. Ed Mirvish, a Jewish entrepreneur, sponsored the team.*

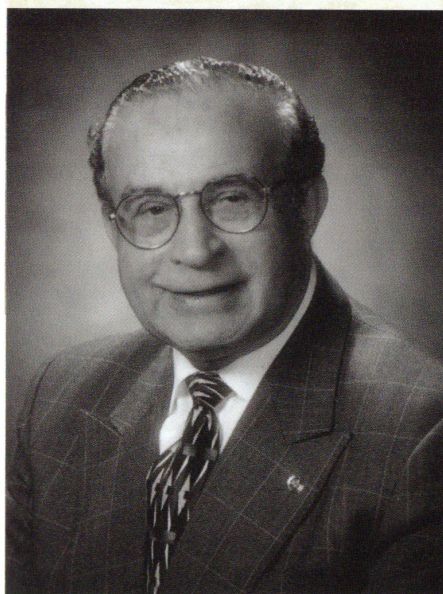


## HONOUREE BIOS (CONTINUED)

POW camps, and then facing deportation were forced by government decree to build a new life east of the Rockies with all of their property having been confiscated and sold by the federal government was an incredibly daunting and frightening challenge.

Rising above the common prejudices of the day, many Japanese Canadians were given the chance to start their lives afresh with the assistance of Jewish Canadian business and property owners who offered employment and rental housing. This aspect of the narrative common to many Japanese Canadians who experienced postwar Canada has gone largely unacknowledged on a community scale. In fact, many Canadians in and outside of the Jewish Canadian population have little knowledge of this time period nor this historical gem of Canadian multicultural acceptance.

The JCCC understands that the garment industry was particularly open to Japanese Canadian employees – often to those who had been turned away from other possible avenues of employment.



**Henry Zagdanski, י"ט**

speak highly of what an extraordinary man Henry Zagdanski, י"ט was. Henry Zagdanski, י"ט is representative of the extraordinary humanity and greatness of spirit shown to Japanese Canadians by the Jewish community in Toronto following the Japanese Canadian internment.

### **Henry Zagdanski, י"ט, Representative Honouree**

Nu Mode Dress Company, owned by Henry Zagdanski, י"ט and Fred Singer, employed many Japanese Canadians following the internment. At all levels, from the union shop to homeworkers, from designers to senior managers, many Japanese Canadians found a means of making a living without the fear of discrimination and racism at Nu Mode Dress Company.

In fact Roy Shin became a key manager under Henry Zagdanski, י"ט at Nu Mode Dress Company and Roy Shin was also one of the founders of the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre. To the Zagdanski family credit, many former Japanese Canadian employees who are still with us have fond recollections of working at Nu Mode Dress Company and

## THE JCCC SAKURA AWARD

The Sakura Award is presented once a year at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre's annual Sakura Gala. In the spirit of the JCCC's vision, the award recognizes exceptional contributions made by individuals to the promotion and exchange of Japanese culture and enhancing awareness of Nikkei heritage within Canada and abroad.

The first recipient of the Sakura Award was the Right Honourable Martin Brian Mulroney, the eighteenth Prime Minister of Canada, recognizing his participation in the Japanese Canadian Redress settlement on September 22, 1988.

In 2010 the second recipient was world-renowned Japanese Canadian architect Raymond Moriyama. As a respected leader and valued community member, Raymond's visionary architecture has helped shape the landscape of our community, our country, and the world.

The 2011 recipient was internationally acclaimed Japanese Canadian scientist, broadcaster, author, and environmentalist, Dr. David Suzuki. In 2012, the fourth recipient was George Takei for his accomplishments as a film and television performer and tireless human rights and Nikkei community activism.

The 2013 recipient was internationally acclaimed conductor, Seiji Ozawa, recognizing his accomplishments in leading the top orchestras and opera companies around the world and his leadership of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in the 1960s.

This year we honour Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community of Toronto. Their humanity, greatness of spirit and selfless acts independently saved lives and helped rebuild communities. This year's Honourees' actions truly embody the spirit of the Sakura Award.





## ABOUT THE JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE AND COMMUNITY

### Our Mission Statement:

*The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC) is a not-for-profit organization which offers programs, services and a gathering place to celebrate Japanese and Japanese Canadian culture. In executing our mission we take pride in our heritage, creating a lasting tribute to the unique history and contributions of past generations; we bridge generations as the means for the continuing evolution of our community and we demonstrate the importance of tolerance and acceptance of cultural diversity for the benefit of all Canadians.*

The history of the Japanese Canadians encompasses a story of courage, determination, pride and resilience, as well as striking incidents of persecution and ultimate redress. Our history is one that contains valuable lessons for new generations of Japanese Canadians, for Canadians of all heritages, and for visitors wishing to benefit from the lessons learned in the world's most culturally diverse nation.

The first Japanese Canadian – Manzo Nagano – arrived in Canada in 1877. He, like so many other Japanese immigrants, came to Canada looking for new opportunities and these they found in the oceans, fields and forests of the west coast of British Columbia. Their families and business thrived and even a “Japan Town” was born in the Powell Street area of Vancouver. These victories, however, sparked envy and distrust in other communities. Those negative feelings exploded at the outbreak of the Second World War: Canadian citizens of Japanese heritage, many of whom were born in Canada, had their property taken away, their families divided and were sent to internment camps as enemy aliens. Following the war they suffered the further indignity of forced resettlement east of the Rockies. They had lost everything – no property or possessions

were returned and they were not allowed to return to their homes.

In the fifty years that followed, the Japanese did something exceptional. The Nikkei community thrived: creating leaders in fields such as business, medicine, politics, architecture and the performing arts. They won ultimate vindication, redress and an apology from the Government of Canada for their mistreatment. Five generations after the arrival of the first Japanese immigrant, the Nikkei have created one of the largest and most vibrant Japanese cultural centres in the world, they have made innumerable contributions to Canadian society and remain one of the most respected communities in the Canada. An important symbol of this resurgence of the community was the creation of this Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC).

After the indignities of internment and the exile from the Pacific Coast that followed, between 8,000 and 10,000 Japanese Canadians were relocated to the Toronto area and began the process of rebuilding their lives. As Toronto's new JC community grew and lives regained stability, many social rituals also returned.



As early as 1948, the idea of a hall to support the dances, performances and Japanese lessons already taking place in the community, began to grow. In 1954, a committee was struck to seriously address the creation of a community centre. The search for a suitable site concluded in 1961 with the purchase of a very rural 3-acre property in Don Mills. Because the JCCC was a new organization, no bank was willing to give a mortgage secured just by the building and land, so 75 members of the community risked their own financial security in order to guarantee the repayment of the mortgage. The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre was officially opened on June 7, 1964 by then-Prime Minister, the Honourable Lester B. Pearson.



The original JCCC was designed by a young Nisei architect, Raymond Moriyama who has subsequently become world renown for his work. The building was and remains an architectural landmark in Toronto. In the decades that followed, the JCCC prospered in ways many could never have imagined.

It eventually became apparent that the Centre facility simply was not large enough to contain the enthusiasm and energy it generated. The Board was torn between expansion on site, or relocation. In the mid-1990's the difficult decision was made by the Board to relocate the JCCC to its new home at 6 Garamond Court in a 114,000 square foot building that was previously a printing plant. Bruce Kuwabara, the sansei principal of the prestigious architectural firm Kuwabara, Payne, McKenna and Blumberg (KPMB) was retained to create the rebirth of the Centre. The new JCCC's first phase opened in 1999; the second, which included the Kobayashi Hall and the Japanese Information Centre, in 2004; and the final phase which opened our second floor, in 2008.

Today, the JCCC offers a broad spectrum of Japanese cultural programs for its 4,400 members and 200,000 annual visitors: film screenings, traditional and contemporary Japanese performance, festivals, art and history exhibitions, Japanese language classes and a wide range of courses and workshops in traditional Japanese cultural arts and music. The JCCC also boasts a state-of-the-art martial arts dojo where over 600 members pursue 8 different martial arts disciplines. The JCCC houses numerous community partners including the Ikebata Daycare Centre, Japanese Social Services, the Nikkei Voice newspaper and one of North America's finest Japanese restaurants, Kaiseki Yuzen Hashimoto.

In the summer of 2009, Their Majesties, The Emperor and Empress of Japan visited the JCCC. His Majesty commented on how impressed he was by our facility and the activities that take place here. He asked us to work hard to continue this good work and we said we would. With the support and hard work of the community and its many friends, it is a promise we know we can keep.

In 2013 the JCCC celebrated its 50th anniversary of the most vibrant Japanese cultural centre in the world. In its 50th year the JCCC opened the Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre. Named in honour of past Sakura Gala recipient, Raymond Moriyama, the Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre is an interactive exhibit space and archive, which tells the history of Japanese Canadians and showcases volumes of content around the years of internment. The Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre will collaborate with cultural centres, archives and organizations around the world to create a network of archived research material.

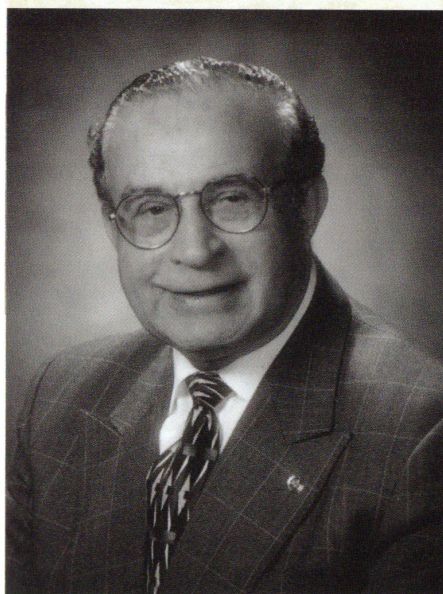


## HONOUREE BIOS (CONTINUED)

POW camps, and then facing deportation were forced by government decree to build a new life east of the Rockies with all of their property having been confiscated and sold by the federal government was an incredibly daunting and frightening challenge.

Rising above the common prejudices of the day, many Japanese Canadians were given the chance to start their lives afresh with the assistance of Jewish Canadian business and property owners who offered employment and rental housing. This aspect of the narrative common to many Japanese Canadians who experienced postwar Canada has gone largely unacknowledged on a community scale. In fact, many Canadians in and outside of the Jewish Canadian population have little knowledge of this time period nor this historical gem of Canadian multicultural acceptance.

The JCCC understands that the garment industry was particularly open to Japanese Canadian employees – often to those who had been turned away from other possible avenues of employment.



**Henry Zagdanski, י"ט**

speaking highly of what an extraordinary man Henry Zagdanski, י"ט was. Henry Zagdanski, י"ט is representative of the extraordinary humanity and greatness of spirit shown to Japanese Canadians by the Jewish community in Toronto following the Japanese Canadian internment.

### **Henry Zagdanski, י"ט, Representative Honouree**

Nu Mode Dress Company, owned by Henry Zagdanski, י"ט and Fred Singer, employed many Japanese Canadians following the internment. At all levels, from the union shop to homeworkers, from designers to senior managers, many Japanese Canadians found a means of making a living without the fear of discrimination and racism at Nu Mode Dress Company.

In fact Roy Shin became a key manager under Henry Zagdanski, י"ט at Nu Mode Dress Company and Roy Shin was also one of the founders of the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre. To the Zagdanski family credit, many former Japanese Canadian employees who are still with us have fond recollections of working at Nu Mode Dress Company and

## THE JCCC SAKURA AWARD

The Sakura Award is presented once a year at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre's annual Sakura Gala. In the spirit of the JCCC's vision, the award recognizes exceptional contributions made by individuals to the promotion and exchange of Japanese culture and enhancing awareness of Nikkei heritage within Canada and abroad.

The first recipient of the Sakura Award was the Right Honourable Martin Brian Mulroney, the eighteenth Prime Minister of Canada, recognizing his participation in the Japanese Canadian Redress settlement on September 22, 1988.

In 2010 the second recipient was world-renowned Japanese Canadian architect Raymond Moriyama. As a respected leader and valued community member, Raymond's visionary architecture has helped shape the landscape of our community, our country, and the world.

The 2011 recipient was internationally acclaimed Japanese Canadian scientist, broadcaster, author, and environmentalist, Dr. David Suzuki. In 2012, the fourth recipient was George Takei for his accomplishments as a film and television performer and tireless human rights and Nikkei community activism.

The 2013 recipient was internationally acclaimed conductor, Seiji Ozawa, recognizing his accomplishments in leading the top orchestras and opera companies around the world and his leadership of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in the 1960s.

This year we honour Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community of Toronto. Their humanity, greatness of spirit and selfless acts independently saved lives and helped rebuild communities. This year's Honourees' actions truly embody the spirit of the Sakura Award.





## Fur Manufacturers

Appel Fur Co.  
Balfour Fur  
Bender-Gordman  
L. Bender Fur Co.  
Bergman " "  
E. Creed " "  
Fainer " "  
Ginsberg " "  
Gordon " "  
Green Bros " "  
Hi Fashion " "  
Jordan & Schenker "  
Kreim Fur  
A. Kuretsky "  
Malton "  
J. A. Miller "  
National "  
New Western "  
New York "  
North American "  
N. Rogul "  
Scholnick "  
Silberberg "  
Top "  
H. Wall "  
Wolfe & Diamond  
Yutor Fur

## RETAIL FURRIERS

Axon Furs  
Andre "  
Bassakynos "  
Broadview "  
Embassy "  
Famous "  
Four Season "  
Frango "  
Imperial "  
Kallinikos "  
Kingsway "  
Leslie "  
Lakeriew "  
Madison "  
Parkdale "  
Victory "



## Jewish Business Men associates

Charles Appel	Al Rapoport
Sam Baer	Izzie Rotterman
Louis Bender	Phil Scherker
Nymie Bergman	Sid Shapiro
Hert Bimbaum	Arnold Shear
Moe Bimbaum	Norman Rogul
Nenny Bockner	Saul Shiner
Jeddy Caplan	Mendy Shuman
Howard Cooper	Nari Greenberg
Edmond Creed	Zou Silverberg
Marty Wolfman	Fred Singer
Joe Fainer	Harry Swantz
Mani Fleshman	Moe Starr
Harold Ginstberg	Joe Wolfe
Jerry Green	Henry Zagdanski
(w) Sylvia Hartman	Zou Zeifman
Arthur Jordan	Nari Goodman
Harry Kretm	
Jack Kuretsky	
Paul Magder	
Percy Mendlebaum	
Jay Marin	
Joe Mason	
Irvix Miller	



## HONOREE BIOS

The 2014 Sakura Gala will posthumously honour Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community of Toronto, as represented by Honorary Recipient, the late Henry Zagdanski, ל"ט. This year will also mark the first time the Sakura Award is being given to dual recipients, evoking a wonderful synergy. This year's honourees are caring people who, in the truest sense of the Hebrew phrase *Tikkun olam*, made extraordinary efforts to heal, repair and transform the world. Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community's actions in Europe and at home in Canada, respectively, demonstrate extraordinary altruism, humanity and greatness, bringing the Jewish and Japanese people closer together.



**Chiune Sugihara**

in his saving over 6,000 lives. The Japanese government closed the consulate, but he continued writing visas from the train platform where his train was to depart.

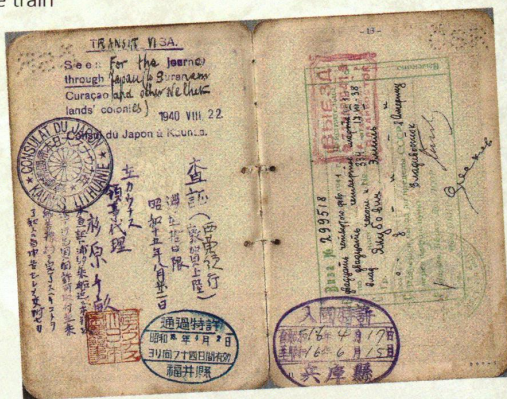
It is estimated that there are 80,000 Jewish living descendants that attribute their lineage to Sugihara's courageous deed of saving their relatives. In 1946, Sugihara was dismissed from the Japanese Foreign Service. He understood the reason for this dismissal was his issuing of the transit visas. He took odd jobs for several years following this.

Representing and accepting the Sakura Award on Chiune Sugihara's behalf is his son, Nobuki Sugihara. Henry Zagdanski's, ל"ט children, Barry Zagdanski, Ian Zagdanski and Felicia Posluns are representing their father at the Sakura Gala and accepting the Sakura Award on his behalf.

### Chiune Sugihara

Chiune Sugihara was a Japanese diplomat who served as Vice-Consul in Lithuania during World War II. He defied direct orders of the Japanese government and issued visas to Jewish refugees so they could travel to Japan and escape the Nazi onslaught that was engulfing Europe at the time.

In less than one month during the summer of 1940, he issued over 2,000 visas, resulting



*Transit Visa signed by Chiune Sugihara*

In 1968, a survivor finally located Sugihara after many years of searching. 28 years after his good deed, Sugihara realized that the Jewish refugees he saved actually survived. In 1984, Sugihara was recognized by the State of Israel, receiving the Righteous Among the Nations award from the Yad Vashem, the only Asian recipient of this honour. In July 1986, Sugihara passed away in his home near Tokyo. Today he is considered a hero in Japan.

The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre recognizes Chiune Sugihara for this courageous deed that saved so many lives. His actions showed incredible humanity, kindness and self-sacrifice. Visas for Life Foundation was founded in 1997 by Hiroki Sugihara, oldest son to perpetuate the legacy of his father, that of caring for humanity and the dignity of life.

### The Jewish Community of Toronto

Following the years of Japanese Canadian internment and forced relocation during World War II, the Jewish Community of Toronto provided Japanese Canadians with friendship and support during a dark period of Canadian history.

For Japanese Canadians – many of whom had been born in Canada, and knew of no other life – enduring the hardships of forced relocation, internment, ghost towns, and

*Continued on next page*



*Honest Ed's Nisei Baseball Team 1956, Western City Senior Baseball Champions, Toronto. Ed Mirvish, a Jewish entrepreneur, sponsored the team.*



## ABOUT THE JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE AND COMMUNITY

### Our Mission Statement:

*The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC) is a not-for-profit organization which offers programs, services and a gathering place to celebrate Japanese and Japanese Canadian culture. In executing our mission we take pride in our heritage, creating a lasting tribute to the unique history and contributions of past generations; we bridge generations as the means for the continuing evolution of our community and we demonstrate the importance of tolerance and acceptance of cultural diversity for the benefit of all Canadians.*

The history of the Japanese Canadians encompasses a story of courage, determination, pride and resilience, as well as striking incidents of persecution and ultimate redress. Our history is one that contains valuable lessons for new generations of Japanese Canadians, for Canadians of all heritages, and for visitors wishing to benefit from the lessons learned in the world's most culturally diverse nation.

The first Japanese Canadian – Manzo Nagano – arrived in Canada in 1877. He, like so many other Japanese immigrants, came to Canada looking for new opportunities and these they found in the oceans, fields and forests of the west coast of British Columbia. Their families and business thrived and even a “Japan Town” was born in the Powell Street area of Vancouver. These victories, however, sparked envy and distrust in other communities. Those negative feelings exploded at the outbreak of the Second World War: Canadian citizens of Japanese heritage, many of whom were born in Canada, had their property taken away, their families divided and were sent to internment camps as enemy aliens. Following the war they suffered the further indignity of forced resettlement east of the Rockies. They had lost everything – no property or possessions

were returned and they were not allowed to return to their homes.

In the fifty years that followed, the Japanese did something exceptional. The Nikkei community thrived: creating leaders in fields such as business, medicine, politics, architecture and the performing arts. They won ultimate vindication, redress and an apology from the Government of Canada for their mistreatment. Five generations after the arrival of the first Japanese immigrant, the Nikkei have created one of the largest and most vibrant Japanese cultural centres in the world, they have made innumerable contributions to Canadian society and remain one of the most respected communities in the Canada. An important symbol of this resurgence of the community was the creation of this Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC).

After the indignities of internment and the exile from the Pacific Coast that followed, between 8,000 and 10,000 Japanese Canadians were relocated to the Toronto area and began the process of rebuilding their lives. As Toronto's new JC community grew and lives regained stability, many social rituals also returned.



As early as 1948, the idea of a hall to support the dances, performances and Japanese lessons already taking place in the community, began to grow. In 1954, a committee was struck to seriously address the creation of a community centre. The search for a suitable site concluded in 1961 with the purchase of a very rural 3-acre property in Don Mills. Because the JCCC was a new organization, no bank was willing to give a mortgage secured just by the building and land, so 75 members of the community risked their own financial security in order to guarantee the repayment of the mortgage. The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre was officially opened on June 7, 1964 by then-Prime Minister, the Honourable Lester B. Pearson.



The original JCCC was designed by a young Nisei architect, Raymond Moriyama who has subsequently become world renowned for his work. The building was and remains an architectural landmark in Toronto. In the decades that followed, the JCCC prospered in ways many could never have imagined.

It eventually became apparent that the Centre facility simply was not large enough to contain the enthusiasm and energy it generated. The Board was torn between expansion on site, or relocation. In the mid-1990's the difficult decision was made by the Board to relocate the JCCC to its new home at 6 Garamond Court in a 114,000 square foot building that was previously a printing plant. Bruce Kuwabara, the sansei principal of the prestigious architectural firm Kuwabara, Payne, McKenna and Blumberg (KPMB) was retained to create the rebirth of the Centre. The new JCCC's first phase opened in 1999; the second, which included the Kobayashi Hall and the Japanese Information Centre, in 2004; and the final phase which opened our second floor, in 2008.

Today, the JCCC offers a broad spectrum of Japanese cultural programs for its 4,400 members and 200,000 annual visitors: film screenings, traditional and contemporary Japanese performance, festivals, art and history exhibitions, Japanese language classes and a wide range of courses and workshops in traditional Japanese cultural arts and music. The JCCC also boasts a state-of-the-art martial arts dojo where over 600 members pursue 8 different martial arts disciplines. The JCCC houses numerous community partners including the Ikebata Daycare Centre, Japanese Social Services, the Nikkei Voice newspaper and one of North America's finest Japanese restaurants, Kaiseki Yuzen Hashimoto.

In the summer of 2009, Their Majesties, The Emperor and Empress of Japan visited the JCCC. His Majesty commented on how impressed he was by our facility and the activities that take place here. He asked us to work hard to continue this good work and we said we would. With the support and hard work of the community and its many friends, it is a promise we know we can keep.

In 2013 the JCCC celebrated its 50th anniversary of the most vibrant Japanese cultural centre in the world. In its 50th year the JCCC opened the Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre. Named in honour of past Sakura Gala recipient, Raymond Moriyama, the Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre is an interactive exhibit space and archive, which tells the history of Japanese Canadians and showcases volumes of content around the years of internment. The Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre will collaborate with cultural centres, archives and organizations around the world to create a network of archived research material.



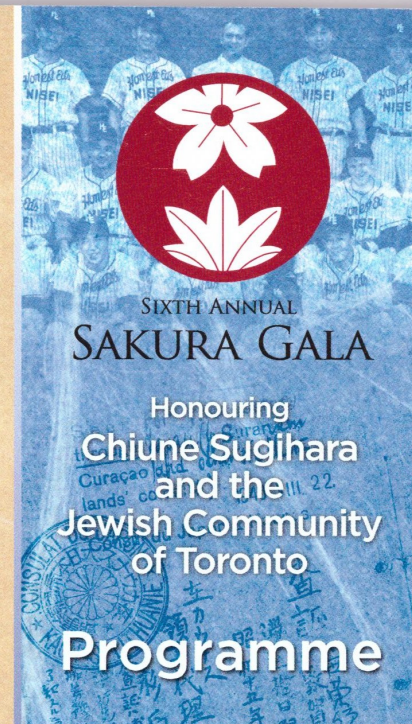
## Fur Manufacturers

Appel Fur Co.  
Balfour Fur  
Bender-Gordman  
L. Bender Fur Co.  
Bergman " "  
E. Creed " "  
Fainer " "  
Ginsberg " "  
Gordon " "  
Green Bros " "  
Hi Fashion " "  
Jordan & Schenker "  
Kreim Fur  
A. Kuretsky "  
Malton "  
J. A. Miller "  
National "  
New Western "  
New York "  
North American "  
N. Rogul "  
Scholnick "  
Silberberg "  
Top "  
H. Wall "  
Wolfe & Diamond  
Yutor Fur

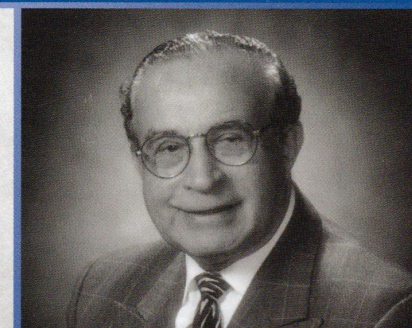
## RETAIL FURRIERS

Axon Furs  
Andre "  
Bassakynos "  
Broadview "  
Embassy "  
Famous "  
Four Season "  
Frango "  
Imperial "  
Kallinikos "  
Kingsway "  
Leslie "  
Lakeriew "  
Madison "  
Parkdale "  
Victory "





SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2014  
JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE





## HONOREE BIOS

The 2014 Sakura Gala will posthumously honour Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community of Toronto, as represented by Honorary Recipient, the late Henry Zagdanski, ל"ט. This year will also mark the first time the Sakura Award is being given to dual recipients, evoking a wonderful synergy. This year's honourees are caring people who, in the truest sense of the Hebrew phrase *Tikkun olam*, made extraordinary efforts to heal, repair and transform the world. Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community's actions in Europe and at home in Canada, respectively, demonstrate extraordinary altruism, humanity and greatness, bringing the Jewish and Japanese people closer together.



**Chiune Sugihara**

in his saving over 6,000 lives. The Japanese government closed the consulate, but he continued writing visas from the train platform where his train was to depart.

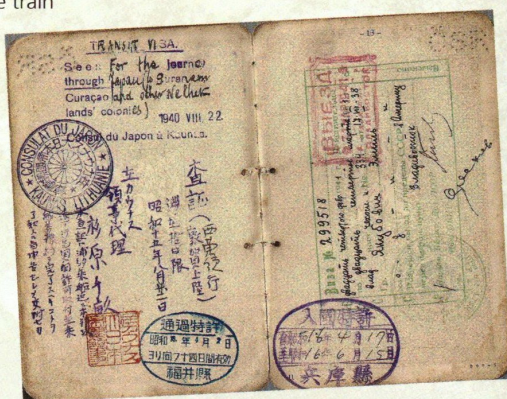
It is estimated that there are 80,000 Jewish living descendants that attribute their lineage to Sugihara's courageous deed of saving their relatives. In 1946, Sugihara was dismissed from the Japanese Foreign Service. He understood the reason for this dismissal was his issuing of the transit visas. He took odd jobs for several years following this.

Representing and accepting the Sakura Award on Chiune Sugihara's behalf is his son, Nobuki Sugihara. Henry Zagdanski's, ל"ט children, Barry Zagdanski, Ian Zagdanski and Felicia Posluns are representing their father at the Sakura Gala and accepting the Sakura Award on his behalf.

### Chiune Sugihara

Chiune Sugihara was a Japanese diplomat who served as Vice-Consul in Lithuania during World War II. He defied direct orders of the Japanese government and issued visas to Jewish refugees so they could travel to Japan and escape the Nazi onslaught that was engulfing Europe at the time.

In less than one month during the summer of 1940, he issued over 2,000 visas, resulting



*Transit Visa signed by Chiune Sugihara*

In 1968, a survivor finally located Sugihara after many years of searching. 28 years after his good deed, Sugihara realized that the Jewish refugees he saved actually survived. In 1984, Sugihara was recognized by the State of Israel, receiving the Righteous Among the Nations award from the Yad Vashem, the only Asian recipient of this honour. In July 1986, Sugihara passed away in his home near Tokyo. Today he is considered a hero in Japan.

The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre recognizes Chiune Sugihara for this courageous deed that saved so many lives. His actions showed incredible humanity, kindness and self-sacrifice. Visas for Life Foundation was founded in 1997 by Hiroki Sugihara, oldest son to perpetuate the legacy of his father, that of caring for humanity and the dignity of life.

### The Jewish Community of Toronto

Following the years of Japanese Canadian internment and forced relocation during World War II, the Jewish Community of Toronto provided Japanese Canadians with friendship and support during a dark period of Canadian history.

For Japanese Canadians – many of whom had been born in Canada, and knew of no other life – enduring the hardships of forced relocation, internment, ghost towns, and

*Continued on next page*



*Honest Ed's Nisei Baseball Team 1956, Western City Senior Baseball Champions, Toronto. Ed Mirvish, a Jewish entrepreneur, sponsored the team.*

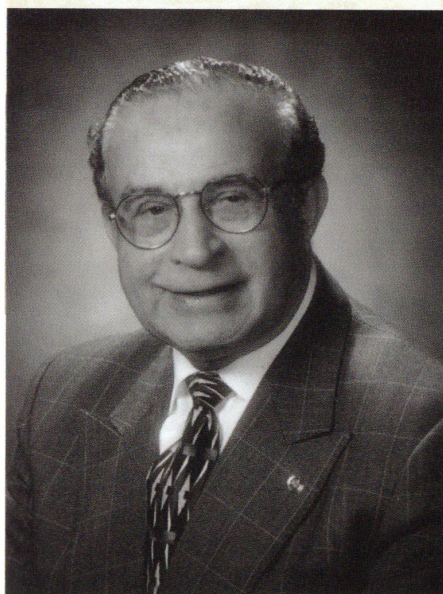


## HONOREE BIOS (CONTINUED)

POW camps, and then facing deportation were forced by government decree to build a new life east of the Rockies with all of their property having been confiscated and sold by the federal government was an incredibly daunting and frightening challenge.

Rising above the common prejudices of the day, many Japanese Canadians were given the chance to start their lives afresh with the assistance of Jewish Canadian business and property owners who offered employment and rental housing. This aspect of the narrative common to many Japanese Canadians who experienced postwar Canada has gone largely unacknowledged on a community scale. In fact, many Canadians in and outside of the Jewish Canadian population have little knowledge of this time period nor this historical gem of Canadian multicultural acceptance.

The JCCC understands that the garment industry was particularly open to Japanese Canadian employees – often to those who had been turned away from other possible avenues of employment.



**Henry Zagdanski, י"ח**

speaking highly of what an extraordinary man Henry Zagdanski, י"ח was. Henry Zagdanski, י"ח is representative of the extraordinary humanity and greatness of spirit shown to Japanese Canadians by the Jewish community in Toronto following the Japanese Canadian internment.

### **Henry Zagdanski, י"ח, Representative Honouree**

Nu Mode Dress Company, owned by Henry Zagdanski, י"ח and Fred Singer, employed many Japanese Canadians following the internment. At all levels, from the union shop to homeworkers, from designers to senior managers, many Japanese Canadians found a means of making a living without the fear of discrimination and racism at Nu Mode Dress Company.

In fact Roy Shin became a key manager under Henry Zagdanski, י"ח at Nu Mode Dress Company and Roy Shin was also one of the founders of the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre. To the Zagdanski family credit, many former Japanese Canadian employees who are still with us have fond recollections of working at Nu Mode Dress Company and

## THE JCCC SAKURA AWARD

The Sakura Award is presented once a year at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre's annual Sakura Gala. In the spirit of the JCCC's vision, the award recognizes exceptional contributions made by individuals to the promotion and exchange of Japanese culture and enhancing awareness of Nikkei heritage within Canada and abroad.

The first recipient of the Sakura Award was the Right Honourable Martin Brian Mulroney, the eighteenth Prime Minister of Canada, recognizing his participation in the Japanese Canadian Redress settlement on September 22, 1988.

In 2010 the second recipient was world-renowned Japanese Canadian architect Raymond Moriyama. As a respected leader and valued community member, Raymond's visionary architecture has helped shape the landscape of our community, our country, and the world.

The 2011 recipient was internationally acclaimed Japanese Canadian scientist, broadcaster, author, and environmentalist, Dr. David Suzuki. In 2012, the fourth recipient was George Takei for his accomplishments as a film and television performer and tireless human rights and Nikkei community activism.

The 2013 recipient was internationally acclaimed conductor, Seiji Ozawa, recognizing his accomplishments in leading the top orchestras and opera companies around the world and his leadership of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in the 1960s.

This year we honour Chiune Sugihara and the Jewish Community of Toronto. Their humanity, greatness of spirit and selfless acts independently saved lives and helped rebuild communities. This year's Honourees' actions truly embody the spirit of the Sakura Award.





## ABOUT THE JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE AND COMMUNITY

### Our Mission Statement:

*The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC) is a not-for-profit organization which offers programs, services and a gathering place to celebrate Japanese and Japanese Canadian culture. In executing our mission we take pride in our heritage, creating a lasting tribute to the unique history and contributions of past generations; we bridge generations as the means for the continuing evolution of our community and we demonstrate the importance of tolerance and acceptance of cultural diversity for the benefit of all Canadians.*

The history of the Japanese Canadians encompasses a story of courage, determination, pride and resilience, as well as striking incidents of persecution and ultimate redress. Our history is one that contains valuable lessons for new generations of Japanese Canadians, for Canadians of all heritages, and for visitors wishing to benefit from the lessons learned in the world's most culturally diverse nation.

The first Japanese Canadian – Manzo Nagano – arrived in Canada in 1877. He, like so many other Japanese immigrants, came to Canada looking for new opportunities and these they found in the oceans, fields and forests of the west coast of British Columbia. Their families and business thrived and even a “Japan Town” was born in the Powell Street area of Vancouver. These victories, however, sparked envy and distrust in other communities. Those negative feelings exploded at the outbreak of the Second World War: Canadian citizens of Japanese heritage, many of whom were born in Canada, had their property taken away, their families divided and were sent to internment camps as enemy aliens. Following the war they suffered the further indignity of forced resettlement east of the Rockies. They had lost everything – no property or possessions

were returned and they were not allowed to return to their homes.

In the fifty years that followed, the Japanese did something exceptional. The Nikkei community thrived: creating leaders in fields such as business, medicine, politics, architecture and the performing arts. They won ultimate vindication, redress and an apology from the Government of Canada for their mistreatment. Five generations after the arrival of the first Japanese immigrant, the Nikkei have created one of the largest and most vibrant Japanese cultural centres in the world, they have made innumerable contributions to Canadian society and remain one of the most respected communities in the Canada. An important symbol of this resurgence of the community was the creation of this Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC).

After the indignities of internment and the exile from the Pacific Coast that followed, between 8,000 and 10,000 Japanese Canadians were relocated to the Toronto area and began the process of rebuilding their lives. As Toronto's new JC community grew and lives regained stability, many social rituals also returned.



As early as 1948, the idea of a hall to support the dances, performances and Japanese lessons already taking place in the community, began to grow. In 1954, a committee was struck to seriously address the creation of a community centre. The search for a suitable site concluded in 1961 with the purchase of a very rural 3-acre property in Don Mills. Because the JCCC was a new organization, no bank was willing to give a mortgage secured just by the building and land, so 75 members of the community risked their own financial security in order to guarantee the repayment of the mortgage. The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre was officially opened on June 7, 1964 by then-Prime Minister, the Honourable Lester B. Pearson.



The original JCCC was designed by a young Nisei architect, Raymond Moriyama who has subsequently become world renown for his work. The building was and remains an architectural landmark in Toronto. In the decades that followed, the JCCC prospered in ways many could never have imagined.

It eventually became apparent that the Centre facility simply was not large enough to contain the enthusiasm and energy it generated. The Board was torn between expansion on site, or relocation. In the mid-1990's the difficult decision was made by the Board to relocate the JCCC to its new home at 6 Garamond Court in a 114,000 square foot building that was previously a printing plant. Bruce Kuwabara, the sansei principal of the prestigious architectural firm Kuwabara, Payne, McKenna and Blumberg (KPMB) was retained to create the rebirth of the Centre. The new JCCC's first phase opened in 1999; the second, which included the Kobayashi Hall and the Japanese Information Centre, in 2004; and the final phase which opened our second floor, in 2008.

Today, the JCCC offers a broad spectrum of Japanese cultural programs for its 4,400 members and 200,000 annual visitors: film screenings, traditional and contemporary Japanese performance, festivals, art and history exhibitions, Japanese language classes and a wide range of courses and workshops in traditional Japanese cultural arts and music. The JCCC also boasts a state-of-the-art martial arts dojo where over 600 members pursue 8 different martial arts disciplines. The JCCC houses numerous community partners including the Ikebata Daycare Centre, Japanese Social Services, the Nikkei Voice newspaper and one of North America's finest Japanese restaurants, Kaiseki Yuzen Hashimoto.

In the summer of 2009, Their Majesties, The Emperor and Empress of Japan visited the JCCC. His Majesty commented on how impressed he was by our facility and the activities that take place here. He asked us to work hard to continue this good work and we said we would. With the support and hard work of the community and its many friends, it is a promise we know we can keep.

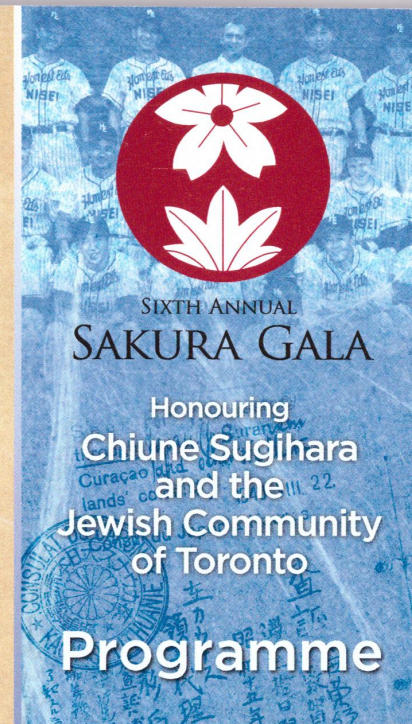
In 2013 the JCCC celebrated its 50th anniversary of the most vibrant Japanese cultural centre in the world. In its 50th year the JCCC opened the Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre. Named in honour of past Sakura Gala recipient, Raymond Moriyama, the Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre is an interactive exhibit space and archive, which tells the history of Japanese Canadians and showcases volumes of content around the years of internment. The Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre will collaborate with cultural centres, archives and organizations around the world to create a network of archived research material.



## Jewish Business Men associates

Charles Appel	Al Rapoport
Sam Baer	Izzie Rotterman
Louis Bender	Phil Scherker
Nymie Bergman	Sid Shapiro
Hert Bimbaum	Arnold Shear
Moe Bimbaum	Norman Rogul
Nenny Bockner	Saul Shiner
Jeddy Caplan	Mendy Shuman
Howard Cooper	Nari Greenberg
Edmond Creed	Zou Silverberg
Marty Wolfman	Fred Singer
Joe Fainer	Harry Swantz
Mani Fleshman	Moe Starr
Harold Ginstberg	Joe Wolfe
Jerry Green	Henry Zagdanski
(w) Sylvia Hartman	Zou Zeifman
Arthur Jordan	Nari Goodman
Harry Kretm	
Jack Kuretsky	
Paul Magder	
Percy Mendlebaum	
Jay Marin	
Joe Mason	
Irvix Miller	





SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2014  
JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE

