

Najc Endowment Fund Cultural Development Programme

Information for Applicants

Background

After many years of a struggle to seek redress for the unjust treatment of Japanese Canadians by the Canadian government during and after World War II, the Japanese Canadian redress agreement was signed by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Najc president, Art Miki, on September 22, 1988.

The redress agreement acknowledged the unjust actions of the Canadian government and provided as symbolic redress for those injustices \$12 million to the Japanese Canadian community through the Najc. The Najc is to undertake educational, social and cultural activities or programs that contribute to the well being of the community or promote human rights.

The Najc established the Japanese Canadian redress foundation (the redress foundation) for the purpose of allocating the \$12 million community redress payment on behalf of the Japanese Canadian community.

In furtherance of this purpose and the purpose of the community redress payment, the redress foundation entrusted the Najc to administer a Cultural Development sports, education, arts development programme of \$350,000. The interest accumulated from this fund will be used to provide direct contributions to individuals within the Japanese Canadian community.

Purpose Of Cultural Development Programme

- To provide financial assistance to community and cultural organisations, and individuals, for projects and activities
- To promote and develop Japanese Canadian culture and heritage

Applicant Eligibility

- **Organisations**
 - preference will be given to organisations with a history of *Japanese Canadian* community involvement or of promoting or developing Japanese Canadian culture
- **Individuals**
 - Should be of Japanese Canadian heritage.
 - Must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant.



Project or Activity Eligibility

- ◆ must be a project or activity which promotes or develops Japanese Canadian culture

Examples of projects or activities which may be funded:

- start-up costs, pilot projects or project costs on a one-time only or short term basis
- workshops, competitions or festivals

Examples of what **will not** be funded:

- core budgets of established organisations or costs to maintain ongoing operations
- repayment of debt
- after the fact activities (i.e. projects or activities completed prior to application deadline)
- purchase of prizes or awards

Examples which may be funded:

- commercial or for-profit projects

Selection Criteria

The sole base for establishing the various criteria is the information provided by the applicant. It is imperative the applicants fully complete all information requested in the application form.

- merit of proposed project or activity
- contribution to promotion or development of Japanese Canadian culture or heritage
- Applicant's previous achievements and ability to successfully complete project
- Applicant's history of community involvement or of promoting or developing Japanese Canadian culture
- project or activity should not duplicate an existing or similar project or activity
- impact and benefit to Japanese Canadian community

Allocation of Funding

- funding will be in the nature of a contribution used to supplement financial support from local community and other sources - 100% funding for a project or activity *may not* be provided
- The **maximum** amount of funding available to an individual or organisation will be \$10,000.



Evaluation Process

- any award or funding recipient from a previous application round with outstanding reports or activities shall be ineligible for the current, or any future, assessment until the activity is completed and a report is received by the NAJC
- applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of 4 individuals elected by NAJC Council and the director of the NAJC Executive Committee responsible for the Endowment Funds
- a member of the selection committee may contact a representative of an applicant organisation or the individual to review or clarify the details of its or his/her application-no other personal representation will be required by the applicant organisation or individual
- members of the selection committee may consult other individuals or organisations in order to obtain information and a better understanding of the project or activity proposed by the applicant
- All applications must be complete and self-contained, regardless whether the applicant is submitting a new application or reapplying. Selection committees will not refer to earlier applications for information, and will deem such applications as incomplete
- the selection committee will assess all applications submitted and recommend successful applicants to the NAJC Executive Committee for approval
- the final determination of successful applicants should be made within 8 to 12 weeks following a deadline date
- there is no appeal process available-final decisions on grants awarded rest with the NAJC and access to decisions will be restricted

Application Forms

- applications must be submitted on the form provided by the NAJC (or on a photocopy of such form)
- application forms must be forwarded to the attention of:

NAJC Endowment Fund
NAJC National Executive Office
404 Webb Place
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 3J4
204-943-2910 phone
204-947-3145 fax

- deadlines for applications are March 31 and September 30

