

Kelowna Buddhist Temple

The New Dharma Express

PO. Box 22092, RPO Capri Centre Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 9N9 phone 250-763-3827
www.kelownabuddhisttemple.org



Special points of interest:

- Sunday May 5, Dharma School 10am
- Sunday May 12, Dharma School and Parents Day 10am, Dharma Shotsuki 1pm
- Thursday May 16, Temple Executive Meeting 7pm
- Sunday May 19, Dharma School 10am
- Sunday May 26, Dharma School 10am, Gotane Service 1pm

Lawn Cutting Schedule:

- May 4—Harry Tonn
- May 11—Jim Nishi
- May 18—Tim Tahara
- May 25—Rob Eikenaar
- June 1—Ken Yamada

Monthly Memorial

- Master Masaharu Terai
- Mr. Kinai Kita
- Mr. Shichigoro Hayashi
- Mrs. Tomeno Oikawa
- Mrs. Mitsu Hayashi
- Miss Yukiko Yokota
- Mr. Iwajiro Yoshikawa
- Mr. Bunzo Sakamoto
- Mr. Shojiro Yamaoka
- Mr. Suekichi Koga
- Mr. Katsuzo Hayashi
- Mr. Kuniyoshi Tamura
- Mr. Yazo Atagi
- Mr. Robert Kawaguchi
- Mr. Roy Tanemura
- Mrs. Takeko Kimura
- Mr. Masaichi Terai
- Mr. Masaru Tamaki
- Mr. Shuo Yamaoka

Reflections on Spring

I don't have an agricultural background but I find spring an interesting time. As I look at the trees budding and plants beginning to grow from the snowdrops poking their heads through the snow to the blooms of daffodils later on, I am reminded of impermanence. Without it, we could be stuck in permanent winter! I find it funny that we human beings crave to make the good things permanent, wanting the warm lazy days of summer to continue, not realizing that impermanence can be viewed in a positive light. With spring comes the hope of renewal and rebirth. Many religions have celebrations of spring and the passing of winter. In addition spring brings return to longer periods of daylight. Again, many religions make use of the imagery of light. We Shin Buddhists refer to Amida Buddha as the Buddha of infinite light. I am struck by the thought that light is also responsible for the life that

Clean-up Altar Toban

Group #1
Mr. Rick Suzuki
M/M Alec Pelletier
Ms. Peggy Tanaka
Mr. Jack Ueda
Mrs. Carol Koga
Mrs. Florence Terada
Ms. Karen Stewart
Mr. Harry Tonn
Mrs. Janice Richardson
M/M Rob Eikenaar
Mrs. Julie Johnson
M/M Minoru Mori
M/M Morio Tahara
Mr. Terry Hikida
Mr. Brad Diduck
Ms. Naoko Nakamura
Mr. Alex Sen

Inside this issue:

Sensei's Report	2
Ministerial Update	3
Calendar	4
Kid's Shanga	5
Bishops Report	6
Financial Report	8

Introduction to Buddhism

Tuesday Morning
11am

The Evening Sessions are full however, we are taking names for a morning session due to the high demand. Please contact the Temple to add your name.

we see emerging in the spring. Without light, there would be little or no life. This leads me to reflect on the second aspect of Amida as the Buddha of infinite Life. These thoughts lead me to express gratitude for the springtime. It also helps me to take a break from the busy

Continued on Page 5

From Sensei

The Roots of Our Spirituality

Spring has arrived in the Okanagan. The trees are in blossom and people have begun working in their gardens. This is a wonderful time of year. We have just celebrated Hanamatsuri with our children and families. We are reminded of the Buddhist traditions that our parents and grandparents established for us. Although we may tend to take this for granted, when we reflect on it, we come to realize the value and meaningfulness of our Buddhist heritage.

Our forefathers came to Canada with dreams for a better future, and few possessions. Through sheer hard work and determination they built their assets, nurtured their families, helped one another and together they built a strong and vibrant community.

This was the pattern for many immigrant families, not only those from Japan, but for those from other European countries as well. For these early settlers, Canada was a vast and relatively unexplored land. Self-reliance was an important quality. Families worked and acquired land, and there was a sense of pride and ownership. Many families have photographs of their forefathers and mothers from these early days. These are living testaments to their endeavours and resilience. Most pioneer families offered support and understanding to one another, sharing the ups and downs, life and death, joy and sorrow, abundance and need.

We face many challenges in this journey of life. As we look around us, we can notice the changes in our lives - physical changes, social changes, relationship changes, some of them happy, but also some of them unhappy. Regardless of who we are, we cannot avoid the physical and external changes that are thrust upon us with the passage of time. Often the most difficult challenges for us are those involving our human relationships. Our relationships with our families, parents, in-laws, co-workers, friends and acquaintances can become strained by our words, attitudes or behaviors. What we say, how we act, with or without conscious intent, can sometimes hurt those who are important to us, and can bring about misunderstandings.

In describing human relationships, I recall the

famous words of the Japanese novelist, Soseki Natsume (1867-1916), *“Let intellect be your sole guide and you will become harsh and rigid. If you put a pole in a river of emotion, you will be swayed by it. If one persists in one’s will, it will become stiff. It is hard for people to live in this world. When one feels extreme hardship in one’s life he will move to a better place. When you realize it is the same wherever you go, a poem will be created and a picture may emerge.”*

Although some might claim that the world has changed since Natsume wrote these words, the main aspects of life have remained the same. Similar kinds of issues continue to challenge successive generations. How can we avoid the difficulties or impasses that may arise? What skills or wisdom

do we need to have? Some experts have identified the importance of traits like loyalty, self-control, fairness, generosity, gentleness, friendliness, truthfulness, integrity, open-mindedness, kindness. Others feel that in addition to these, we need to develop good practical wisdom, and to learn how and when to use it. I believe

“Regardless of who we are, we cannot avoid the physical and external changes that are thrust upon us with the passage of time.”

that many of our early pioneer forefathers had good practical wisdom, influenced by their deep and underlying Buddhist values. These were values and principles learned from their own parents.

Nishida Kitaro, the influential Japanese philosopher in describing religious consciousness said *“religious consciousness does not arise out of our own selves; it is simultaneously the call of God or Buddha welling up from the bottomless depths of the soul.”* In the final stages of his life, Nishida was deeply influenced by the following words of Shinran *“My pronouncing the name of Amida is also the design of Amida himself.”*

The roots of our spirituality are within us. Let us live our lives in the Nembutsu, saying the name of Amida Buddha. Namo Amida Butsu.

In Gassho, Rev. Yasuhiro Miyakawa

行事案内

5月	5日(日)	午前10時	日曜学校
	12日(日)	午前10時	日曜学校
		午後1時	祥月法要
	16日(木)	午後7時	仏教会役員
会			
	19日(日)	午前10時	日曜学校
	26日(日)	午前10時	日曜学校
		午後1時	降誕会

Message from the Editor

In the last couple of years we have received generous donations from across Canada and in the United States via our Internet Donor Service. It is unfortunate however that most of the donations were in memory of someone. Wouldn't it have been nice to receive donations without having to have a reason... sure there is the usual services, about one every other month or so and then the monthly memorials for sure, but I challenge the readers of this publication to look beyond the usual and please don't wait for a loved one to pass on. We can only have so many of us pass on and then what... we run out of members? Don't get me wrong, I feel that the gesture of koden is a fantastic tradition and a wonderful gesture to support the charity of the deceased, but I'm talking more about Dana, giving. The Temple cannot be supported without the generosity of its members and friends. I'm always reminded of what someone said to me once, when I asked him how much should we give, his reply was "give until you feel it is too much... generosity is giving more than you can". Sort of like the glass is half empty or half full... more than you can or not enough. Just something for you to think about next time you are thinking about making a donation to the Temple... for no reason at all. I finish with a short quote by Debbie Macomber: "Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can."

In Gassho, Jiro

Update on Ministerial Assignments

Rev. Christina Yanko-Ringle:

As of the end of April, Rev. Christina will have completed her studies at the IBS in Berkeley and will be ready to be assigned to the Toronto Buddhist Temple to be a resident minister for Toronto, as well as being responsible for temples in Montreal, Hamilton and the fellowship in Ottawa. Currently, Rev. Christina is in the process of applying to the Hongwanji for her Kaikyoshi Assignment and will be ready to begin her orientation at the beginning of May.

Rev. Michael Hayashi:

In conjunction with the appointment of Rev. Christina Yanko-Ringle to Toronto, we will have the ministerial transfer of Rev. Michael Hayashi, from Toronto to Winnipeg, Manitoba. The transfer of Rev. Michael will be contingent on a subsidy being provided from the Socho's Special Fund; therefore, I believe it would be appropriate for the JSBTC to draw up a Memorandum of Agreement between the JSBTC and the Manitoba Buddhist Temple regarding this subsidy.

Appointment for 2013 Youth Cultural Exchange Tour of Japan:

Following our last conference call meeting, I contacted Rev. Aoki of the Vancouver Buddhist Temple and have confirmed that Aoki Sensei will be able to lead the Youth Tour to Japan for this year.

In Gassho, JSBTC, Grant Ikuta, Bishop

Buddhism of the Heart

It's common to fear exposing our faults, so we may wear a mask of false-selflessness. But what we need to do is develop trust in the embracing ocean of the Dharma. Hiding oneself is ultimately a crisis of faith, an action that says "I don't really trust that things will be alright unless I pretend to be something I'm not." But Amida accepts us just as we are. If we have confidence that the process of Dharma will work out our liberation naturally, we can let go of the mask and let ourselves be worn down through the working of Other Power, which is the active expression of Dharma.

May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	4 <i>Lawn Cutting—</i> Harry Tonn
5 <i>Dharma School</i> 10am	6 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	7	8	9	10 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	11 <i>Lawn Cutting—</i> Jim Nishi
12 <i>Dharma School</i> & Parents Day 10am, <i>Dharma</i> <i>Shotsuki</i> 1pm	13 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	14	15	16 <i>Temple Execu-</i> <i>tive Meeting</i> 7pm	17 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	18 <i>Lawn Cutting—</i> Tim Tabara
19 <i>Dharma School</i> 10am	20 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	21	22	23	24 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	25 <i>Lawn Cutting—</i> Rob Eikenaar
26 <i>Dharma School</i> 10am, <i>Gotane</i> <i>Service</i> 1pm	27 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	28	29	30	31 <i>Taiko Practice</i> 7pm	

From the Kelowna Women's Association:

For sale: I believe we still have a limited number of white Canada T-shirts left for sale at \$10 each as part of our 2015 Women's Conference fundraiser in Kyoto. Please see Shirley Tanemura if you wish to purchase any. Chow mein: Although we did not have as many orders for this sale, we still did fairly well. Unfortunately we do not know if holding this fundraising event a little later than usual had anything to do with the lower sales or not, but everything went smoothly. This year, we did particularly well, as we seemed to be very organized and our work parties ended earlier in the evening and we were finished cooking early thanks to the many volunteers who came out to help, and to the Fujinkai ladies who prepared meals for the volunteers. Our yard clean-up in preparation for Hanamatsuri also went well. Laurie, Barb, Peg and Joyce prepared breakfast on that cold morning. A delicious dinner was also prepared for Hanamatsuri, followed by Bingo with prizes donated by Jerry/Laurie Takeda and Barb/Kent McCarl. Thank you for your generosity. In Gassho, Barb

Just Rambling

This was the second time in the last 17 years as a member of the Kelowna Temple that I missed attending the Hana-matsuri service and celebrations. My grand daughter whose grand mother came from Ireland had entered an Irish dancing competition that was held on the same week end this year. That was an event that I did not want to miss. The first time that I was unable to attend was a dozen years ago was when I was a patient in the Kelowna General Hospital. The Sensei on that occasion and the Dharma School girls made their annual visit to the hospital and brought some lovely flowers. Today, I extend to them my belated thank you. The other day on the TV news, I was watching some of the residents living close to the Red River in Minnesota and North Dakota getting sand bags ready in preparation for an expectant flooding of the river.

This brings to mind the summer of 1948 when my girl friend and her sister visited their aunt and their family who had evacuated to Emerson on the banks of Red river. That was the year that flooding up to that date apparently set a number of records in Manitoba. It must have been quite a scary moment for the girls although their hosts seemed to handle the situation quite well. In B.C. they were fishermen whose former home in Delta on the Fraser river was built on piles driven into the ground and they were always surrounded by water.

Ironically, also in 1948, Mary who later on became my wife, was attending a business college in Kelowna and was house working at a doctor's home beside Okanagan lake. The water level of the lake rose so high that hundreds of sand bags had to be piled around the house to keep the water out. Fortunately, there was no basement, but the furnace room under ground suffered some damage.

During the following years, the Provincial Government dredged the Okanagan River between Okanagan and Skaha Lakes and constructed a gate to control the water levels.

Mission Creek also had to be dredged from its mouth all the way back almost to the Belgo district. When the snow pack on the mountains was above normal, there would be flooding of low lying areas in Okanagan Mission, especially around the Capital News Centre and where my condo is presently located. On more than one occasion, I have seen Benvoulin Road under water and even saw a car left abandoned for days, stuck in the mud in the middle of the unpaved road near where the old, renovated heritage church stands today. Mill Creek would also over flow its banks quite often until a large pipe was installed under ground from Mill to drain the surplus water into Mission Creek

near the park on Springfield Road. The construction of several dams especially at the source of Mission Creek certainly helped to control the excessive amount of spring run off water.

Recently it has kept me so busy watching sports events such as hockey, baseball, golf, football, curling, skiing and basketball on TV and on-line. Since 1970 I have lived and died with the Canucks, mostly died. Sometimes I felt like a cat, having 9 lives and just bouncing back to life after being struck down again and again.

It's just a game, you say.

In Gassho, Suey



Reflections on Spring—continued

human activities which usually involve the calculating mind and just take time to look at what is happening in the world without any of my activity. Nature's work happens all by itself, arising naturally. So, I feel it is important for me to take time to reflect on nature and express gratitude. I become more aware of the interconnectedness of all life. Namu Amida Butsu. In Gassho, Michael Martin

Kids' Sangha



This is an article especially for the Dharma School kids and their families.

Dharma school kids at the Kelowna Buddhist Temple have been learning and growing in Buddhist teachings by leaps and bounds! It is inspiring to all of us to see all that you have accomplished together this year. One of the central teachings that many of you have now memorized is the Eightfold Path. The first step in the Eightfold Path, as you know, is Right Views. As stated in the Jodo Shinshu Shogyo, Right Views means “to keep ourselves free from prejudice, superstition, and delusion, and to see aright the true nature of life”. Sakyamuni Buddha taught us a way to decide whether we are looking at life with Right View. This teaching is called the Four Marks of Existence. In the next four Kids' Sangha articles we will be exploring each of the Four Marks of Existence.

Reverend Kenneth Tanaka, a very well-known Sensei in the United States, has a great way to remember the Four Marks of Existence. He says, “Think B.I.I.G.” (“Think big”). These four letters stand for the Four Marks. They are:

Life is a **B**umpy road
 Life is **I**nterdependent
 Life is **I**mpermanent
 Life can be **G**reat

When we look at life this way it helps us to keep our minds free of ideas (views) that cause us to suffer. I encourage you to memorize the Four Marks of Existence using Reverend Tanaka's teaching. This month, talk to your parents about examples that you notice of the Four Marks when you see them in your own life. We will explore each of the Four Marks of Existence in Kids' Sangha articles to follow.

In Gassho, Geneva

If you have thoughts and stories to share with the Kids' Sangha and Dharma School, you are invited to correspond with us at KidsSanghaKelowna@gmail.com

2013 Bishops Report

May this report find everyone doing well within the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha. I'd like to begin by thanking everyone for your support over the past two years. To the Board and members of the Steveston Buddhist Temple thank you for your understanding and patience in allowing me to fill the role of both the resident minister as well as the Bishop of Canada. To the National Board, thank you for your cooperation in trying to carry on the needs of the organization on a national scale.

As I reflect on the past two years, by no means was it an easy period. Following my selection as the Bishop at the 2011 AGM in Toronto, one of my first duties was to go to Japan to inform the Hongwanji that Toronto would not be able to host the 2015 World Buddhist Women's Convention. Having some strong apprehension to cancel out at such a late stage in planning, I was extremely relieved to know that I was not alone in feeling this way. Thanks to Susan Huntley, the president of the JSBTC Women's Federation, it was decided that we would try to host the 2015 World Buddhist Women's Convention, in Calgary.

Because of this decision, today, we are united in our efforts to host the convention in 2015. A special thank you to Susan for agreeing to accept the responsibility, your dedication and leadership has inspired others to get on board. The JSBTC Women's Federation National Board along with the Convention committee are well on their way in preparing for the 2015 World Buddhist Women's Convention. Please keep up the excellent work.

Other than assisting in the preparation for the 2015 WBW Convention, over the course of the past two years, I am proud to have been able to oversee our JSBTC Ministerial Candidate, Ms.

Christina Yanko, as she completed her doctorate studies at the Institute of Buddhist Studies down in Berkeley, California. Overseeing Rev. Christina's studies has meant helping her coordinate her ministerial training so that she would receive the proper certification before she returned to Canada as a Kaikyoshi Minister. I am happy to report that Rev. Yanko has completed both her necessary educational studies as well as her ministerial training and will be assigned as a resident minister of the Toronto Buddhist Temple and responsible for Eastern Canada effective as of May 1st, 2013. We are all looking forward to welcoming Rev. Christina and her family to Canada.

Another highlight during my term as Bishop was promoting the number of Minister Assistants who received their Tokudo Ordination. Thank you to Aoki Sensei, Fujii Sensei, Hayashi Sensei and Martin Sensei for helping train the Minister Assistants and thank you to all of the Minister Assistants; Bob Akune Sensei, Roy Akune Sensei, Joanne Yuasa Sensei, Ken Madden Sensei, Jeff Wilson Sensei, for taking on a new depth of commitment towards spreading the Jodo Shinshu teachings. May I also encourage Mr. Dennis Madokoro to continue with your studies in Toronto as you train towards your Tokudo certification.

I have enjoyed visitations with all of the temples across Canada during my term and was privileged to have conducted the Sarana Affirmation for 64 individuals throughout our temples. We have hosted international guests as Governor General Tachibana came from the Hongwanji two years in a row, first in the summer of 2011 to have a look at the possible venue for the 2015 Convention in Calgary and last year he returned for the Jodo Shinshu World Coordinating Council Meeting in May. We welcomed the Bishops and Presidents from the various Overseas Districts as well as dignitaries from the Hongwanji. A special thank you to our JSBTC President, Mr. Dave Otori, who helped me organize and coordinate the meetings at our headquarters. All who attended could not say enough about our generous hospitality during the meetings.

As we entered this year, a couple of committees I was involved with were the development of the LDC Advisory Committee as well as the Ministers' Retirement Committee.

Since the fall JSBTC Board Meeting in Calgary, Greg Chor and I were to work on a presentation for the LDC which could be taken to the 2013 Annual General Meeting in Lethbridge. Although during the 2012 AGM in Winnipeg, it was agreed upon that we would try to implement a new structure for the LDC with regional representation through temple liaisons with Roy Akune Sensei acting as the facilitator to coordinate activities. Unfortunately, due to a culmination of reasons, this new structure was not progressing as we had planned.

In January of this year, Dr. Jeff Wilson of the University of Waterloo was invited as the guest minister for the Steveston Buddhist Temple Hoonko. Since the previous structure was not forming as planned, I took this opportunity to call a special ad hoc meeting with Greg Chor, Jeff Wilson, Jessica Main of UBC, Joanne Yuasa, Bob Akune and Roy Akune (Rev. Aoki was also invited, however was unable to attend due to his schedule). The goal of this ad hoc committee was to create a new vision and proposal which could be presented to the National Board of Directors and subsequently to the AGM. Since the original meeting, we have met a number of times using Skype as the medium to hold the meetings.

The committee has created a document which will be presented to the Annual General Meeting to receive approval from the delegates. Roy Akune Sensei will make a presentation on behalf of the committee at the AGM.

I believe through the efforts of the committee members that we have created a structure which will enable the LDC to move forward and be a true outreaching vehicle for the JSBTC.

As for the Ministers' Retirement Fund, the trustees of the fund now have the necessary tools and directives to move forward and should be in a position of being able to provide subsidiary income to any minister who is retiring from the JSBTC. Thank you to David Major and Greg Chor for developing the initial model to figure out how to allocate the funds to the retiring ministers. Using this original formula, the trustees and ministerial association made modifications creating a working model that they are satisfied with. I hope a report from the trustees will be made at the AGM.

Finally, may I once again thank all of you for your support and cooperation during my two year term in office as the Bishop of the JSBTC. It has been a fulfilling experience and I wish the national organization all the best in the future.

In Gassho,
Grant Ikuta, Bishop Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada

カナダ開教区 総長室便り

2012年10月11日、年に二回開催されるカナダ開教区の開教使会議がカルガリーにて行われました。各仏教会の報告や新しいプロジェクト等について話合いました。その一つは、開教使のアシスタント、開教使養成プログラムのパンフレット作成。また、開教使の大きな不安の一つである退職後の補助が主に話し合われました。数年前に開始された開教使引退基金も定額に未だ達していません。各仏教会において開教使の給与が一般的な平均所得よりも低くなっているにも関わらず、開教使が退職した後の保障が全くないのが現状です。この件については、開教使会が教団理事と慎重に準備を進めている段階です。新しい計画として、新しい英語の聖典編纂。そして、リビング・ダルマセンターの活動一環として開教方法交流会を2013年に二度開催する予定です。

10月12日には、開教使会と教団理事の双方の意見交換や、今後の展開等について活発に意見交換されました。司会には、カルガリー仏教会所属のトゥルーディーさんが行ってくれました。

10月13日は教団理事会が開催されました。会議には教団理事、婦人会会長、開教使会議長が出席し、様々な教団の活動に関して話し合いが行われました。リビング・ダルマセンターの活動内容、来年の本山への仏青ツアー、英語での浄土真宗パンフレットの増刷、そして、次年度の総会への準備が主な会議の内容となりました。

10月14日にはカルガリー仏教会にて13名の帰依式と、今年9月に得度を受式したケン・マデン先生のアシスタント任用式を行いました。

2012年も残すところ僅かとなりました。年末、年始と忙しい時期となりますが、皆さまにはどうぞご法体お大事にされますよう念じています。

合掌
開教総長
生田グラント



Visitation to Vernon and Kelowna in January

On the weekend of January 26th & 27th, I was invited to attend services in Vernon and Kelowna, spending the first day visiting the Vernon congregation and the Sunday in Kelowna. On Saturday, the gathering with the Vernon congregation began with a public lecture from 2 pm to 4 pm followed with the service from 4 pm. The day concluded with a potluck dinner. It was a nice gathering with the members of the temple as well as a few first time attendees who came for the public lecture.

On Sunday, January 27th, I attended the morning service at the Kelowna Buddhist Temple. Although Miyakawa Sensei had told me it would be a service for the Dharma School, I was very impressed with the depth of the readings done during the service. There were many more adults in attendance than there were children. In the afternoon, we held the regular Sunday service from 2 pm. Following the service, I conducted a Sarana Affirmation Ceremony for 8 of the members of the Kelowna temple.

Participating in the Opening of the New Hamilton Buddhist Temple

During the weekend of April 13 & 14, I was invited by the Hamilton Buddhist Temple to join them in the opening of their new temple within the Canadian Japanese Cultural Centre in Hamilton, Ontario. From the spring of 1967, the Hamilton congregation was meeting at their own temple at 671 Tate Ave. on the east end of Hamilton. In recent years, with the aging and declining membership they were finding it harder and harder to maintain the upkeep of the temple building. Last year, discussion of amalgamation began in earnest between the members of the Canadian Japanese Cultural Centre and members of the Hamilton Buddhist Temple. On April 14th the plans came to fruition with the opening service at the new site. It was a great honor for me to participate in the opening and it was nice to see the room filled with members and friends coming together with wishes of a new start for the Hamilton Buddhist Temple. Congratulations, again to the Hamilton membership for this new start.

2012 Fall Ministerial Association Meeting (The notes on the fall meetings were taken by James Martin Sensei and Tatsuya Aoki Sensei)

A semiannual Ministerial Association (MA) meeting was held in Calgary on Thursday, October 11. The meeting was chaired by MA chair, Rev. James Martin, with reports from all temple ministers as well as our Bishop, Rev. Grant Ikuta. The ministers endeavor to work harmoniously with their assigned Sangha and also to serve the extended community.

Presently, there are two ongoing projects.

Ministerial Training Pamphlet – This pamphlet provides guidelines and resources for becoming a Minister Assistant. We are hoping to finalize this at the next MA meeting in April 2013.

Ministerial Retirement Benefits – There are currently inadequate retirement benefits for JSTBC ministers. The JSBTC board is working in conjuncture with the MA in devising a plan that will improve retirement benefits to our ministers. It is hoped to have a framework developed for implementation in the near future. New Business: there are two main new projects which will be launched.

New Canadian Seiten – BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples' Federation is working with Rev. Aoki to develop and publish a new Seiten (service book). Rev. Aoki is currently gathering information and material from ministers so that the new Seiten will more effectively reflect how Jodo Shinshu is practiced in Canada. Rev. Aoki has asked each minister to submit their local temple(s) standard service order plus suggestions for the new Seiten by the end of Dec. 15, 2012.

LDC Temple Coordination – Bishop Grant Ikuta, who is also a director of the Living Dharma Centre (LDC), proposed to hold a Jodo Shinshu Symposium in 2013, the location yet to be determined. The symposium will provide an opportunity to share (and then implement) information of each temple's/minister's practice that may improve participation at all temples. Bishop Ikuta is inviting all the ministers of JSBTC plus lay representatives from each of the temples to participate.

In Gassho, JSBTC, Grant Ikuta, Bishop (for your copy of the full Update see any Executive Member)

With Gratitude the Temple and all of its Affiliated Organizations
Acknowledge Your Generous Contribution and Apologies
for any Errors or Omissions.

In my efforts to assemble this newsletter remotely from Calgary, I missed in last months issue (my sincere apologies): Membership donations from Mr. Terry Hikida \$200, Mr. Derek Mayeda \$200 and M/M Sam Suggie \$300

Dharma School: Luke Mitton \$20, Carol Koga (In memory of Morio Koga) \$50

FujinKai: Tainaka, M/M. Ken (In Memory of Albert Tainaka) \$300

Dharma Shotsuki	Memorial	Special
Yamaoka, M/M Alan (In Memory of Carl Nishi) \$30	Brown, Mrs. Gail (In Memory of Toshio Yamaoka) \$20	Hatanaka, Sugino (In Appreciation from Chow Mein) \$20
McCarl, M/M Kent \$50	Kitaura, Mr. Barney (In Memory of Albert Tainaka) \$50	Delpont, Jeanette \$20
Hanamatsuri	McCarl, M/M Kent \$50	Kitaura, Mr. Barney \$30
Yamaoka, Mr. Kevin \$20	Tainaka, Mr. Ken (Eitaikyo in Memory of Albert Tainaka) \$200	Yamaoka, Mrs. Chiyoko (In Appreciation from Chow Mein) \$30
Ewuk, M/M Greg \$20		Tanaka, M/M Shig \$50
Nishi, Ms. Geri \$20		McCarl, M/M Kent \$50
Koga, Mrs. Carol \$25	Newsletter	Tainaka, Mr. Ken (Dharma School - In Memory of Albert Tainaka) \$200
Ishikawa, Mr. James \$25	Hatanaka, Sugino \$20	Tainaka, Mr. Ken (In Memory of Alberta Tainaka) \$200
Favell, Ms. Lindsay \$25	Uemoto, Mr. John \$30	Fujinkai - Tainaka, Mr. Ken (In Memory of Albert Tainaka) \$300
Kitaura, Mr. Barney \$30	McCarl, M/M Kent \$50	Tainaka, Mr. Ken (In Memory of Albert Tainaka) \$600
Yamaoka, M/M Nob \$30	Yamaoka, M/M Alan \$100	Membership
Hatanaka, Sugino \$30	Yamaoka, Mrs. Chiyoko \$100	Hatanaka, Sugino \$100
Yamaoka, Ms. Carrie \$30	Ohiganye & Eitaikyo Service	Wakano, Mrs. Misuyo \$150
Mori, M/M Min \$40	Terai, M/M Isao \$20	Yamaoka, Carrie \$150
Suzuki, M/M Tosh \$40	Suzuki, M/M Tosh \$20	Yamaoka, Lisa \$150
P. Tanaka/R. Suzuki \$40	Murata, T.A. \$20	Tanaka, Mrs. Chiyoko \$150
Uyeyama, Mrs. Pegi \$40	Kitaura, Mr. Barney \$20	Yamaoka, M/M Nob \$300
M. Hatanaka/M. Agassiz \$40	Ishikawa, Mitsuko \$25	Suzuki, M/M Tosh \$300
Yamaoka, M/M Alan \$50	Mori, M/M Min \$30	Uemoto, M/M Kaichi \$300
Yamaoka, Mrs. Chiyoko \$50	Yamaoka, Mrs. Chiyoko \$30	Gilbert, M/M Mark \$300
Tanaka, M/M Herb \$50	Yamaoka, M/M Alan \$30	
Richardson, Mrs. Janice \$50	Tanaka, M/M Herb \$30	
Takeda, M/M Jerry \$50	Tahara, M/M Morio \$40	
Omae, Shizue \$50	Martin, Mr. Michael \$50	
Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley \$50	Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley \$50	
Favell, M/M Don \$50	Koga, Mrs. Carol (In Memory of Morio Koga) \$75	
Hayashi, Mrs. Shizue \$50	Terada, Mrs. Flo & Family \$100	
Terada, Mrs. Flo \$50		
Martin, M/M Michael \$60		
Gilbert, M/M Mark \$75		

Recent legislation enacted by the Provincial Government restricts organizations from divulging personal information without the approval of the individuals affected. The donations generously made by Temple members and friends fall under the realm of personal information. Therefore, if you object to your donations being published in the Temple Newsletter, please let us know and we will cease doing so (Mail or Email your wish to be omitted from the published list). In Gassho, Temple Board of Directors

