

October 11, 2025

Dear Community Members,

The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre is aware of recent news reports concerning serious criminal allegations against Mark Kunji Ikeda. Many in our community are familiar with this individual through his past involvement in arts and cultural initiatives, including projects and events supported by the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre.

The JCCC Board and management are closely monitoring the situation. At this time, we do not believe there is any impact on current programming or operations.

We understand that this news may be difficult for those who have worked with this individual, or who feel personally affected.

Our thoughts are with anyone who may be impacted by these allegations. We encourage anyone who needs support to reach out to available mental health, law enforcement and community resources for assistance.

If you or someone you know is in immediate crisis, connect to a responder in English or French via call or text at 9-8-8, 24/7. For someone under the age of 19 years old, they can call the Kids Help Phone free at 1-800-668-6868 (24/7) or Text CONNECT to 686868. For mental health services, find Canadian Mental Health Association in your area at cmha.ca.

The JCCC remains committed to fostering a safe environment of respect, care, and accountability.

While these reports are deeply troubling, we ask all members to avoid speculation, and to allow the legal process to proceed with fairness.

Thank you for continuing to look out for one another.



Chris Hope, President
On behalf of the JCCC Board

Founded in 1963, the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC) is a not-for-profit organization that strives to enrich lives globally through the celebration of Japanese culture and Japanese Canadian heritage. The JCCC's motto is *friendship through 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.