



The Nikkei and the LARA Postwar Relief Efforts to Japan

Professor Masako Iino, Tsuda College, Tokyo

Date | **Friday, September 19**

Time | **7:00 - 8:30pm**

Location | **UBC Robson Square
(Theatre, C300)**

Address | **800 Robson Street**

Monday, September 22 | Date

12:00 - 1:30pm | Time

UBC Asian Library (Room 506) | Location
1871 West Mall | Address

*Special Webinar Talk on the Nikkei in Canada and the USA.

REGISTRATION

To register for either one or both talks please RSVP [here](#). For further information, please contact Dr. David Edgington, President, Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC) at david.edgington@ubc.ca.

Note: Seating is limited to 20 for the talk on Monday.

ABSTRACT

Immediately after the Pacific War ended in 1945, many Nikkei in Canada and the U.S. suffered from the after effect of such experiences during the war, such as forced removal from their homes, relocation and internment, as well as the government's inquisitions concerning their loyalty. A sense of shame, or guilt of their Japanese origins had caused many of them to eliminate ties to Japan in order to survive in their adopted country. Some Nikkei, however, regarded the Japanese in Japan as "fellow Japanese," and tried to find a way to help them after their defeat in the war. Twenty percent of the relief supplies sent to Japan by an organization called LARA (Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia) between 1946 and 1952 were collected by Nikkei in Canada, the U.S., and South America. These Nikkei reaffirmed their ties to Japan by becoming engaged in relief activities for defeated Japan. The talk will examine this fascinating period and compare the situation of Nikkei communities in these three regions.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Masako Iino is past President and Professor of American History and Immigration Studies at Tsuda College in Tokyo. She has also taught at McGill University and Acadia University and was a visiting professor at UC Berkeley. She was a member of the Executive Committee of the Japanese Association for American Studies, President of the Japanese Association for Canadian Studies, and was awarded with the Governor General's International Award for Canadian Studies in 2001.

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