

MOTION ON NOTICE

Submitted by Councillor Green for consideration at the Regular Council meeting on September 20, 2005.

1. Commemoration of the Japanese Canadian experience during the Second World War

MOVER: Councillor Green

SECONDER: Councillor Louie

WHEREAS Joy Kogawa's novel *Obasan* is one of the most powerful books ever written about the experience of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War;

AND WHEREAS the story of *Obasan* and its message about the consequences of war and prejudice are as relevant today as they were when the book was first released in 1981;

AND WHEREAS the house of *Obasan* still exists in Marpole, with the cherry tree that Joy Kogawa remembers as a child "propped up and bandaged, but still very much alive";

AND WHEREAS cherry blossoms have deep significance in Japanese culture, and are sometimes offered to other nations as a symbol of friendship;

AND WHEREAS, this year marks the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Asia;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver plant a cutting of Joy Kogawa's cherry tree on the City Hall campus in the fall of 2005 as a way to commemorate the experience of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War.

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