



## JAPANESE CANADIAN LEGACIES

Before, during and after World War II, 22,000 Japanese Canadians living in British Columbia were forcibly uprooted, permanently stripped of their homes, businesses, and belongings, and relocated to internment camps outside the coastal BC area. Most were born in Canada. Overnight, lives were shattered and entire communities eradicated. Japanese Canadians trusted they would one day return to their homes. Instead, their properties and possessions were sold without their consent. After the war ended in 1945, the majority of Japanese Canadians were prevented from returning to the coast. They were ordered to either move east of the Rockies or to war-torn Japan. When the community was allowed to return to the coast in 1949, it had nothing to return to. The history of what happened to Japanese Canadian communities in BC is still relatively unknown. In recognition of this loss of identity, the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society has created the Community Fund. This fund seeks to support community-led projects that promote Japanese or Japanese Canadian culture or opportunities for Japanese Canadians to connect with each other and/or their culture or identity.



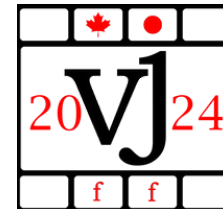
## VERNON JAPANESE CULTURAL SOCIETY (VJCS)

A Japanese cultural organization was first established in the 1930s in the Bella Vista area, when Japanese immigrants established farms in Vernon. The mission of the VJCS is to foster fellowship amongst members, assist in community activities for the benefit and welfare of the community, and participate in the furtherance of Japanese heritage through cultural, educational, artistic and sporting activities. Currently, the Japanese Cultural Centre hosts the Fujinkai (Vernon Japanese Women's Auxiliary), Judo Club, Taiko group, Buddhist Temple and the Vernon Japanese School.



## JAPANESE CANADIAN LEGACIES

# VERNON JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL



**Saturday Nov. 2**

***Raiden Taiko and Perfect Days***

**Sunday Nov. 3**

***Tampopo and The Zen Diary***

**Sunday Nov. 10**

***Tokyo Drifter and First Love***

**Saturday Nov. 16**

***Summer Days With Coo and Demon Slayer***

**Sunday Nov. 17**

***Yamabiko Taiko and Evil Does Not Exist***

**\$10 per day or \$40 Festival Pass**

**Tickets online or at the theatre**

**Doors open at 1:30**

**Program starts at 2:00**

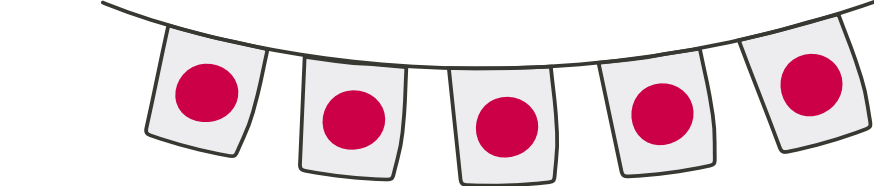
**The Towne Theatre**

**2910 30th Ave, Vernon**

**Instagram @VJ.FILMFEST**

**FaceBook: Vernon Japanese Film Fest**

**The Vernon Japanese Film Festival  
gratefully acknowledges support from the  
Japanese Canadian Legacies Society**



## Saturday November 2nd - Opening Day

### Perfect Days (2023) Dir. Wim Wenders



A treat for both the eyes and the ears, this remarkable Japan-Germany coproduction follows the quiet but profoundly meaningful daily life of Hirayama, a Tokyo public toilet cleaner. Lead actor Yakusho Kōji received the Best Actor Award at Cannes for his outstanding performance, and the film was nominated for Best International Feature at the Academy Awards.

The evening will start with a joint performance by Raiden Taiko of Kamloops, and the Vernon Taiko Group. Bonus! Enjoy a live performance of classical Japanese Gagaku music!



Photo: Jim Motokado

## Sunday November 3rd - Food Theme

### PREMIUM TICKETS FOR JAPANESE FINGER FOOD AT J-DON

### Tampopo (1986) Dir. Itami Jūzō



Laugh out loud at the exploits of an eclectic group of ramen aficionados as they work together to create the ultimate ramen shop in this Japanese "spaghetti" Western. Other food-oriented side stories interweave with the main plot, resulting in a sharp and funny satire that both celebrates and critiques Japanese food culture.

### The Zen Diary (2022) Dir. Nakae Yūji



A quieter look at traditional food culture as practiced by a reclusive writer who lives in the mountains following the rhythms of the seasons. His life is punctuated by visits from his editor/lover who loves to eat his culinary creations, but a life-changing event leads him to contemplate his future.



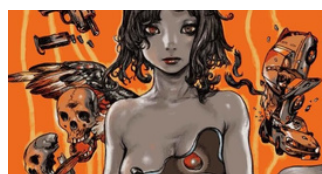
## Sunday November 10th - Yakuza Theme

### Tokyo Drifter (1966) Dir. Suzuki Seijun



A classic yakuza film with an avant-garde spin delivered by a director recognized for his over-the-top approach to film-making. A former gang member gets unwillingly drawn back into yakuza turf wars and is forced to roam Japan in order to stay alive.

### First Love (2019) Dir. Miike Takashi

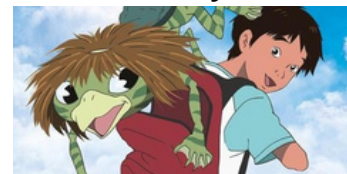


A young boxer and a prostitute unwittingly get caught up in a yakuza crime group's drug smuggling operation. Indiewire describes this film by Miike, a frequent collaborator with Quentin Tarantino, a "violently hilarious Yakuza romp." Bonus! Learn about the connection between Japanese tattoo and the yakuza.

## Saturday November 16th - Anime Theme

### ORIGAMI | COSPLAY | PHOTOBOOTH

### Summer Days with Coo (2007) Dir. Hara Keiichi



A delightful anime about a young boy who discovers and befriends a kappa river sprite named Coo. The film touches on issues like bullying and obsessive fandom in a way that kids will relate to. Bonus! Paul Bryden, film subtitler, will talk about his role in the production.

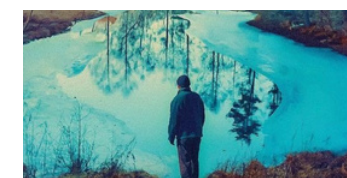
### Demon Slayer:Hashira (2024) Dir. Sotozaki Haruo



The most recent release in this exciting anime series. Teenage demon-slayer-in-training Kamado Tanjiro continues to seek vengeance for the massacre of his family, and to save his sister Nezuko from a tragic fate after being turned into a demon. Come dressed up as your favourite anime character and enjoy origami!

## Sunday November 17th - Closing Day

### Evil Does Not Exist (2023) Dir. Hamaguchi Ryūsuke



A big-city corporation attempts to develop a glamping operation near a quiet mountain village, but the residents resist because of the environmental damage that will result. The corporation tries to buy the cooperation and influence of a widowed local woodsman who is raising his daughter in harmony with the natural environment. From the director of the Academy Award winning film, Drive My Car. The film festival concludes this afternoon with a performance by Vernon Taiko and Yamabiko Taiko of Kelowna.

