

Haiku Canada Region: British Columbia and Territories

The coordinator for the region is Sandra St-Laurent.

The contact address is bc-territories@haikucanada.org

This region comprises British Columbia, the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

New in fall 2022: a seasonal newsletter that aims to connect members and promote the work of members from our region. It will also promote local initiatives and training/mentoring opportunities around haiku and other short forms (haiga, haibun, tanka, etc.). Members will receive the newsletters automatically, but can be removed from the distribution list by contacting the coordinator.

Note: The Pacifi-kana email list has been retired.

Haiku Groups Active in the Region

Haiku Arbutus – Victoria, BC, since 2014; meets quarterly; facilitated by Terry Ann Carter. For more information, contact Dan Curtis at dancurtis8@gmail.com

Solstice Haiku – Whitehorse, YT, since 2014; meets monthly to share and discuss haiku; facilitated by Katherine Munro (kjmunro). Contact kjm.1560@gmail.com

Vancouver Haiku Group – Since 2010; meets monthly. Contact vancouverhaikugroup@gmail.com, or visit the Vancouver Haiku Group Facebook page.

Affiliations

Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival – Haiku Canada members participate in, and contribute to, the haiku components of the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival. This includes the Sakura Days Japan Fair and establishment, in 2006, of the **VCBF Haiku Invitational**, an annual, international haiku contest. Haiku Canada has, many years, published a trifold brochure featuring the top Invitational winners, which is distributed to members.

• www.vcbf.ca

Historic Joy Kogawa House – A number of haiku-related events have been presented at the Historic Joy Kogawa House featuring, or in partnership with, members of Haiku Canada. These have included: a workshop with Michael Dylan Welch (2011); a poetry reading with members of the Vancouver Haiku Group titled “Breaking the Ice: from winter into spring,” a haiku workshop, and a bookmaking workshop with Terry Ann Carter, all thanks to Jacquie Pearce (2017); “An Evening of Japanese Poetic Forms” as part of Word Vancouver, with readings by Terry Ann Carter, Rachel Enomoto and Kozue Uzawa (September 2017); and “An Evening with Marco Fraticelli” (October 2019). Isabella Mori, during a residency (March-April 2021), gave an online “Haiku & History” workshop and posted “The Rougher Side of Cherry Blossoms.”

• www.kogawahouse.com

Regional Activity History

Haiku North America Virtual Conference

2021: Victoria, BC (Terry Ann Carter and Lynne Jambor)

Haiku Canada Conferences and Chairs

2022: Virtual conference regional reading

2021: Virtual conference regional reading

2019: Vancouver, BC (Lynne Jambor and Vicki McCullough)

2016: Whitehorse, YT (Katherine Munro)

2015: Victoria, BC (Terry Ann Carter and Carole MacRury)

2009: Vancouver, BC (Alice Frampton)

2006: Vancouver, BC (Alice Frampton)

Gabriola Haiku Gathering (2002–2013) – An annual weekend gathering held in July on Gabriola Island in British Columbia. It was hosted and organized by Naomi Beth Wakan, assisted over the years by subsequent regional coordinators Alice Frampton, then Vicki McCullough. The first 10 years of the gathering were celebrated in *Tidepools: Haiku on Gabriola*, edited by Michael Dylan Welch (2011).

Pacifi-kana Regional Haiku Group (2002–2009) – The group name, *pacifi-kana*, was suggested by Anna Vakar and adopted by the members in 2003. In addition to the Gabriola gatherings, Alice Frampton facilitated meet-ups in the greater Vancouver area, including a lunch meeting at a Japanese restaurant (October 2002); a lively-into-the night meeting at the Frampton house (2004); and ginkos to the Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Deas Island Park, and VanDusen Botanical Garden. Alice also organized two Haiku Canada conferences in Vancouver (2006, 2009). Another member, Elehna de Sousa, organized a weekend meeting on Salt Spring Island, featuring Michael Dylan Welch and Naomi Beth Wakan (April 2005).

Alice Frampton published the hard-copy *pacifi-kana haiku news* for members (2003–2005). In 2003, a website was in place—“Pacifi-kana: The BC & Territories Chapter of Haiku Canada” (www.bc.haiku.ca)—designed by Raoul Fernandes, who was also webmaster. Edward Zuk was the poetry editor. The website was initially hosted on a domain owned by Carolanne Reynolds and George Pajari and, later, on Raoul’s own then website until roughly 2012. The **Pacifi-kana email list**, open to all who wished to join it, was set up by Jim Swift, also in 2003. This list service ended in September 2022.

Regional Coordinators

2022– Sandra St-Laurent

2010–2022 Vicki McCullough

2004–2009 Alice Frampton

2002–2003 Naomi Beth Wakan

1995–1999 Edward Zuk