



www.vjls-jh.com

VANCOUVER JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL & JAPANESE HALL  
バンクーバー日本語学校並びに日系人会館

475 Alexander Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6A 1C6  
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## MEMBERSHIP GUIDE / INFORMATION SHEET

Dear Applicant:

We appreciate your interest in the Vancouver Japanese Language School & Japanese Hall (VJLS-JH). This application has information and supplemental documents to support your understanding of who we are as an organization, your rights and obligations as a member, and the process of application.

### GENERAL BACKGROUND:

VJLS-JH is structured using a governance model that is fully compliant with the Societies Act of British Columbia. Under this model, strategic oversight is managed by the Board of Directors with operations delegated to staff under the direction of the Executive Director. For a visual representation of how this works, please review the governance chart [here](#).

In implementing this structure, VJLS-JH transitioned its membership model from one where membership was required to receive services to one where membership is entirely optional and opt-in. This change was made in recognition that there is a difference between being a student/participant in a program/class and being a member of the society with an interest in the overall governance of the organization, its constitution, its mission, and its fiduciary concerns.

### CURRENT MEMBERSHIP & FEES:

The membership term begins at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and run until the conclusion of the following AGM. The AGM is typically held in late November or early December of each year. Notice will be publicly posted on the VJLS-JH website and social media.

The current membership fee is \$20.

For an explanation from our current bylaws about membership and our past practice, please click [here](#).

### VJLS-JH CONSTITUTION (filed June 27, 1994):

- 1) To promote and foster the study of the Japanese language and culture;
- 2) To provide adequate physical facilities and academic instruction for the study and understanding of the Japanese language and culture;
- 3) To advance multi-cultural and multilingual understanding
- 4) To assist interested persons or groups in encouraging all of the above;
- 5) To pursue any other objective that may be incidental to any of the above.



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## VJLS-JH's LONG-STANDING HISTORY

It is important for our members to understand our resilient and venerable history. We have faced and overcome many diverse challenges and had many victories since our founding in 1906, which is a testament to our resilience and strength as a community organization.

Please read a brief version of our history, from a governance perspective, [here](#).

## APPLICATION PROCESS:

- 1) Review the VJLS-JH Constitution (as above) and Mission:

### MISSION:

To support the development of the next generation of diverse, young leaders who will promote and carry-on Japanese language and Japanese Canadian history and culture through intercultural programs, events, and activities.

- 2) To support your participation in the governance of VJLS-JH, we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with key documents, including the bylaws, and the latest updates on our programs by browsing our website at [www.vjls-jh.com](http://www.vjls-jh.com). The current bylaws can be found under: About – Accountability tab.
- 3) Download or submit an Application form [here](#).
  - If you have chosen to fill out a printed or PDF form, please email the completed form to the Board Secretary at [membership@vjls-jh.com](mailto:membership@vjls-jh.com). You may also hand deliver your application to our office at 475 Alexander Street, Vancouver, BC, attention: Board Secretary.
- 4) Your completed application will be reviewed and a member of the Governance committee will contact you regarding the status of your application and next steps, if any.

Thank you for your time and interest. We appreciate your support and interest in the governance of VJLS-JH.

Sincerely,

The Governance Committee

- 1) [Organization chart](#)
- 2) [Current bylaw membership info & past practice](#)
- 3) [Governance Perspective Brief History](#)
- 4) [Membership Application](#)