

# Anti-Racism Speaker Series

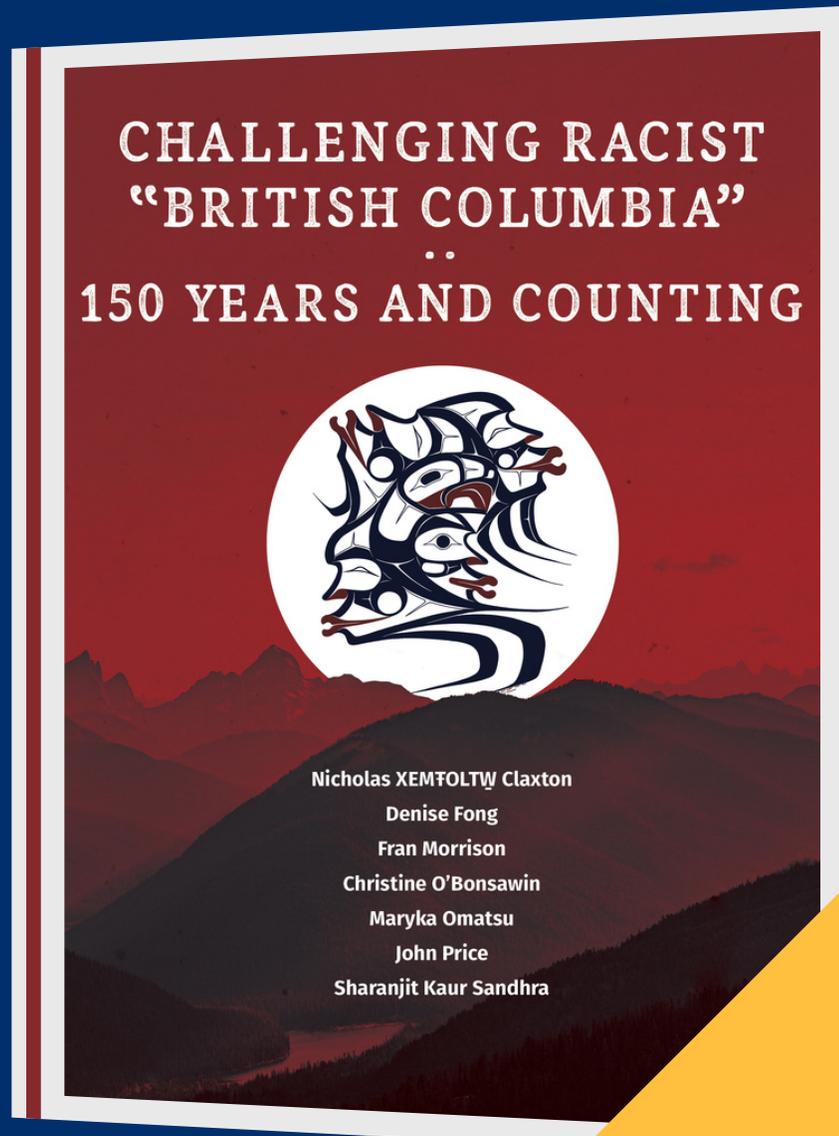
## Wednesday, August 25 | 12-1pm

Join us virtually for the FREE sixth session in the series. Relevant to any adult interested in racism issues.

John Price and Maryka Omatsu will discuss their book- Challenging Racist “British Columbia” 150 Years and Counting

Their presentation will be told from a settler and Japanese Canadian perspective.

Registration is free but required. A link to the Microsoft Teams meeting will be sent the morning of the presentation.



Nicholas XEMFOLTW Claxton  
Denise Fong  
Fran Morrison  
Christine O'Bonsawin  
Maryka Omatsu  
John Price  
Sharanjit Kaur Sandhra

**MUSEUM**  
**of SURREY**

**FREE**

Register at  
604.592.6956  
museum@surrey.ca

# About Judge Maryka Omatsu

In 1993, when Maryka Omatsu was appointed a judge, she was the first East Asian woman to hold this position in Canada. Before this honour, she practised criminal and administrative law for 16 years in Toronto. Judge Omatsu was on the National Association of Japanese Canadians' (NAJC) strategy and negotiation team that won Redress for her community in 1988. Her book, *Bittersweet Passage* documents that struggle and won the Prime Minister's Award for Publishing and the Laura Jamieson Prize for "best feminist book". Her 2018 video, *Swimming Upstream*, sets out the Japanese Canadian case for Redress from the British Columbia government and received the MADA (Making a Difference Award) from the Toronto Community Film Festival (2019).

Most recently Judge Omatsu has been named to the: Canadian Race Relations Foundation: Special Advisory Council (2018); NAJC's Steering Committee for B.C. Redress (2019). She has been awarded an Honourary Doctor of Laws (2019), the Order of Ontario (2015); the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Trail Blazer of the Year (2013); and the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers' Lifetime Achievement Award (2010).



# About John Price

John Price comes from a settler family who took land in Langley from the Kwantlen Nation over 100 years ago. He is professor emeritus in history at the University of Victoria, where he taught for 21 years before retiring in 2018. For close to two decades his research focused on Canada-East Asian relations and transpacific migration. Research in Korea, China, Canada and Japan culminated in the publication of his second book, *Orienting Canada: Race, Empire and the Transpacific* (Vancouver, UBC Press, 2011). This was later followed by *A Woman in Between: Searching for Dr. Victoria Chung* (Vancouver: Chinese Canadian Historical Society of B.C./INSTRC, 2019), co-authored with Dr. Ningping Yu of Nanjing University. His first book was on the history of the labour movement in postwar Japan, *Japan Works: Power and Paradox in Postwar Industrial Relations* (Ithaca, ILR/Cornell University Press, 1996).

For the past ten years he has focused on settler-Indigenous relations as director of a major research project, *Asian Canadians on Vancouver Island: Race, Indigeneity and the Transpacific*.

He is co-editor with Christine O'Bonsowin of the special issue of *BC Studies*, *(Un)Settling the Islands: Race, Indigeneity and the Transpacific* (Winter 2019/2020). He was a co-author with Nicholas XEMFOLTW Claxton, Denise Fong, Fran Morrison, Christine O'Bonsawin, Maryka Omatsu, and Sharanjit Kaur Sandhra of the new anti-racist history, *Challenging Racist "British Columbia": 150 years and Counting* (Vancouver: University of Victoria and Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (BC Office), 2021). He is currently working on another book, *Beyond White Supremacy: Race, Indigeneity and Pacific Canada*.

His commentaries are published regularly in the *Victoria Times Colonist*, the *Georgia Straight*, the *Tyee* and *Canadian Dimension*.

