

ACT for Japan
Third Memorial Event for the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster
March 9, 2014

On Sunday, March 9, the Consulate together with the Japan-America Society of the State of Washington (JASSW) co-hosted “ACT for Japan,” the Third Memorial Event for the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster at the University Temple United Methodist Church in Seattle.

At the event, JASSW chair Sam Shepherd moderated a panel discussion, featuring Seattle Times science reporter Sandi Doughton, Peace Winds America CEO Chuck Aanenson, Loki Fish Company founder and Seattle Central Community College professor Peter Knutson, and Fukushima Friendship Club and Graham Hill Elementary School teacher Patsy Yamada. The informative and engaging discussion touched on topics that included the current status and challenges of recovery, food safety, people-to-people ties between Washington State and Japan, and the lessons that the State can learn from Japan’s experience with disasters.

From the panelists the audience had an opportunity to learn about Japan’s strict standards help to ensure the safety of food supplies, the importance objective data for understanding the effect on the ocean by the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station incident, how the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster has opened new opportunities for coordinating disaster response between local governments in Japan and the U.S., and how Japan is open for business, travel and study despite still facing many challenges from the disaster.



Moderator and Panelists

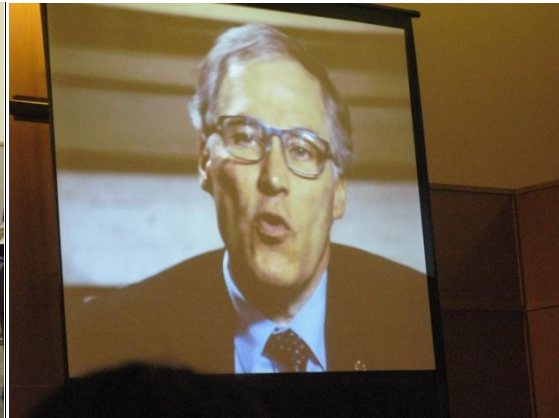


Panel Discussion

Seattle Mayor Ed Murray and a representative from the Washington State Government were in attendance and messages from both Governor Jay Inslee and Fukushima Prefecture Governor Yuhei Sato were prepared especially for the event. Also, major Northwest companies participated as sponsors, and the event truly demonstrated the friendly relations between Japan and the U.S. on many levels both public and private.



Greetings by Seattle Mayor Ed Murray



Video Message from Governor Jay Inslee