



Japan Now

V.12 #3

Dear Friends,

From August 27, Japan will co-organize the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) in Nairobi with the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the African Union Commission (AUC), and the World Bank. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is currently visiting Kenya for this conference.

TICAD
NAIROBI 2016



In light of TICAD VI, we are pleased to announce that the Japanese Government has published on its website (<http://www.japan.go.jp/tomodachi/>) the Autumn 2016 issue of "We Are Tomodachi," a digital publication that introduces initiatives by the Japanese Government and attractions of Japan.

This issue introduces Japan's activities in Africa.

- Fighting Infectious Diseases in West Africa

/tomodachi/2016/autumn_2016/fighting_infectious_diseases.html

- Improving East Africa's Inland Logistics

/tomodachi/2016/autumn_2016/improving_inland_logistics.html

- Supporting Kenya's Human Resource Development

/tomodachi/2016/autumn_2016/supporting_human_resource.html

- Addressing Poverty in Africa by Promoting Growth of "Miracle Rice"

/tomodachi/2016/autumn_2016/contributing.html#miracle

- Improving the Nutritional Status of Infants in Ghana

/tomodachi/2016/autumn_2016/cuttingedge_technologies.html

I hope you will enjoy reading this publication.

Sincerely,

Masahiro Omura

Consul General of Japan in Seattle





Signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Japan and the State of Washington

Signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Japan and the State of Washington

On June 28, Ambassador Sasae and Governor Inslee signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on Economic and Trade Relations. Japan and Washington State have a long history of strong relations and exchange, and the MOC is sure to enrich this great partnership. The Ambassador said that he was happy to be in the beautiful town of Seattle and hopes the MOC will increase mutual investment and trade.

Read our full event information here:

http://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00_000163.html



37 new JET Program participants

Japan Fair, September 3-4

Japan Fair 2016 will debut at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, WA, on September 3rd and 4th as the newest Eastside Japan-related event. Continuing the legacy of Aki Matsuri, Japan Fair will feature Japanese arts, performances, traditional crafts, and refreshments, as well as introduce the latest products and technology from Japan. Admission and parking are free. Please visit the Consulate's booth to learn more about interesting places

to visit in Japan and information about studying in Japan, scholarships offered by the Japanese government and working in Japan on the JET Program! PARO, the therapeutic harp seal robot, will also be waiting at our booth to greet you!

Read our full event information here:

<http://japanfairus.org/>



"HOKKAIDO DRIVING COUPONS" are available to foreign visitors driving in the Eastern Hokkaido area. You can save money on dining, shopping and activities at over 100 facilities. Why not make the most of your holidays in Hokkaido with these special coupons!

Visit the following link for more information:

<http://hokkaido-driving-coupons.com/>

Minister for Foreign Affairs to Honor Burton E. Bard Jr., President, Seattle Sister Cities Association

On July 20, 2016, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan announced the recipients of the Foreign Minister's Commendation for 2016, including Burton E. Bard Jr., President of the Seattle Sister Cities Association, for his contributions to deepening relations between the United States and Japan.

Read more here:

http://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00_000172.html

JET Pre-Departure Orientation and Sendoff Reception

On July 22, a Pre-Departure Orientation was held for Seattle's 2016 JET Program participants. The JETs heard a lecture by Professor Mikiko Ludden of University of Puget Sound, outlining expectations placed on the participants, as well as their roles in grassroots internationalization and English language education.



37 new JET Program participants

Read our full event information here:

http://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00_000169.html



Keidanren delegation with Congressman David Reichert

Keidanren in Seattle

In May, a major delegation by Keidanren, Japan's largest business and economic organization, paid a visit to the Seattle area to promote ties with Japan. Their busy schedule included meetings with U.S. Representative Dave Reichert, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray and City Council President Bruce Harrell, a reception with members of the local Japanese-business community and Japan-America Society, a lunch hosted

by the Port of Seattle, and a tour of Boeing's Everett factory. Keidanren appreciates Seattle's wonderful hospitality and looks forward to building on these new connections.

Moses Lake: The MRJ's New U.S. Hometown

To commemorate the successful first flight of the second MRJ test flight aircraft, a Consulate staff member wrote an article in the Japanese language online publication Jungle City that highlights the deep relations between Japan and Moses Lake, which will be the U.S. base for MRJ flight



First MRJ Flight Test Aircraft is scheduled to arrive in Moses Lake this summer at the earliest (Courtesy of Mitsubishi Aircraft)

testing starting this year. We welcome
the MRJ to Washington!

Current (Courtesy of Mitsubishi Aircraft
Company)

Read a full English translation of the
article here:

http://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00...



Consul General with Navy Personnel

Tomodachi Reception for Navy Personnel Stationed in Japan

On June 2, Consul General Omura welcomed over 60 U.S. Navy personnel to the Official Residence for a Tomodachi Reception. Rear Admiral Jeffrey Ruth, Commander of Navy Region Northwest, spoke of the importance of Japan's security alliance with the U.S. Navy, and Washington

State Senator Karen Fraser gave a kanpai to Japan-US relations.

Read our full event announcement here:

http://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00_000158.html

The 41st Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival

The 41st Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival was held from Friday, April 22 to Sunday, April 24, 2016, at the Seattle Center. Various aspects of Japanese culture were demonstrated and exhibited by groups from around the region. This year included a special performance of English rakugo from Master Kanariya Eiraku, in addition to booths where participants could play the Japanese game of go, try on yukata, or purchase imagawayaki.



*Consul General Remarks at Opening
Ceremony*

Read our full event information here:

http://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/00_000146.html

The Consulate has joined Facebook

Follow us for the latest news about Japan and events in the Seattle area.

<https://www.facebook.com/JapanCons.Seattle/>



Japan Now is the official newsletter of the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

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