

Dear friends of the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle,

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter: From Japan to the Northwest!

Our goal with this newsletter is to share important and interesting information related to Japan, our region, and the consulate's activities. In the future, <u>previous</u> issues of the newsletter will be archived here.

1. Japan-U.S. Relations

Japan-U.S. Summit Telephone Talk

On August 10, Prime Minister Suga and President Biden held a summit telephone talk, during which they discussed the success of the Tokyo Olympic Games, the achievements of U.S. and Japanese athletes, and reaffirmed their commitment to enhance the Japan-U.S. Alliance.

Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Consultations

On August 12, senior officials from Japan, Australia, India, and the United States met via videoconference. The officials agreed to advance cooperation among the four countries in several areas in working toward the achievement of a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific."

2. Haiti Earthquake

Following the severe earthquake that struck Haiti on August 14, the Government of Japan announced it will <u>provide emergency relief goods</u> to Haiti through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). <u>Prime Minister Suga</u> and <u>Foreign</u> <u>Minister Motegi</u> also offered condolences to their counterparts in Haiti.

3. Foreign Minister Motegi's Visit to the Middle East

FM Motegi is <u>visiting the Middle East</u> from August 15 to 24. So far, the Minister has met individually with leaders in <u>Egypt</u>, <u>Palestine</u>, <u>Israel</u>, and <u>Jordan</u>. With the leaders, the Minister was able to exchange views on the Middle East Peace Process, the Free and Open Indo-Pacific vision, and cooperation toward the eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD8), which is to be held in Tunisia in 2022.

4. Tokyo Paralympic Games

The Tokyo Paralympic Games are set to begin on August 24 and run through September 5. You can follow the latest news from the Games <u>here.</u>

5. Updates on the COVID-19 Situation in Japan

- Daily COVID Data Updates
- Declaration of State of Emergency

For the latest information on how travel to Japan has been impacted by COVID-19, please see <u>this page on the consulate's website</u>.

6. Consulate Activities

Foreign Minister's Commendation presented to the Seattle Japanese Garden

On August 12, a presentation ceremony for the Foreign Minister's Commendation was held at the Seattle Japanese Garden during its Garden Party celebrating its 60th anniversary. Read more about the event <u>on our Facebook page.</u>

What is a Consulate? (Video)

Here at the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle, we are often asked: "What does your consulate do?" To help answer that question in a fun and informative way, our media team has put together this Youtube video. <u>Please watch it!</u>



That's it for this issue of "From Japan to the Northwest."

Until next time, thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

Read past issues of "From Japan to the Northwest" here.

Visit the consulate's Homepage here:

- <u>Homepage</u> (English・英語)
- <u>Homepage</u> (Japanese · 日本語)

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