



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

Our bi-monthly newsletter, "From Japan to the Northwest," is intended to share important and interesting information related to Japan, our region, and the Consulate's activities. You can find current and past issues of the newsletter [here](#).

1. [The Second Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Summit Meeting](#)

On September 24, Prime Minister SUGA Yoshihide of Japan attended the Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Summit Meeting with the Hon Scott Morrison, MP, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia; H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India; and The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States of America. Topics included the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific," COVID-19, technology/climate change, and current issues in and around the region. Their joint statement can be found [here](#).

2. [Address by Prime Minister Suga at the United Nations General Assembly](#)

On September 24, at the General Debate, PM Suga expressed his condolences to those who lost loved ones due to COVID-19 and spoke of the unity that the Tokyo Olympics symbolized to the world. He hopes to overcome this pandemic and notes the initiatives taken towards doing so. In guiding the world towards a better future, PM Suga spoke on four points: resilient global health systems, a green and sustainable society, a free and open international order, and a more peaceful and secure international community. PM Suga closed his address by speaking of the importance of international collaboration and multilateralism.

3. [Prime Minister SUGA Yoshihide's attendance to the UN Food Systems Summit](#)

On September 24, PM Suga delivered a video message at the UN Food Systems Summit, which was held virtually from September 23 to 25 (JST). This summit was held for the first time this year. PM Suga welcomed the Summit as a timely event in the midst of increasing food insecurity due to multiple factors, including the spread of COVID-19. He stated that Japan will work towards establishing better global "food systems," focusing on driving innovation, digitalization and the utilization of science and technology, maintaining and strengthening free and fair trade, and considering each country and region's climate, nature, and food culture. Japan is determined to host the "Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit" in December, lead international efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, and improve nutrition for people around the world.

4. [Japan-U.S. Foreign Ministers' Meeting](#)

On September 22, Mr. MOTEGI Toshimitsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, met with the Honorable Antony Blinken, Secretary of State of the United States. They shared the view to continue to strengthen the Japan-U.S. Alliance and will further cooperation among allies and like-minded countries through various frameworks. The two ministers also exchanged their views on Afghanistan, China, and North Korea, and discussed the international order in the Indo-Pacific region, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Mr. Motegi encouraged the U.S. to return to the TPP.

5. Updates on the COVID-19 Situation in Japan

Beginning October 1, 2021 at 0:00 a.m. (JST), travelers and returnees to Japan from the State of Washington, Montana, and Idaho are still subject to the 14-day self-quarantine, but those who have a valid Vaccination Certificate, voluntarily take a COVID test (PCR or Quantitative Antigen Test) after 10 days of self-quarantining after entry into Japan, and submit the negative test result to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan are not required to self-quarantine for the remainder of the 14 days.

More information can be found [here](#).

- [Daily COVID Data Updates](#)

- [Declaration of State of Emergency](#)

For the latest info on how travel to Japan has been impacted by COVID-19, please see [this page on the Consulate's website](#).

6. Consulate Activities

[Consul General's 400th Crane](#)

Last Friday, Consul General Inagaki folded his 400th crane, praying for everyone's health and for peace.



[JET Application - Now Open: Apply by November 12](#)

Applications for the 2022 Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program are now live. Click [here](#) for the application and more information, and be sure to follow our Facebook page for information on upcoming JET info sessions.

The JET Program is a competitive employment opportunity that allows young professionals to live and work in cities, towns, and villages throughout Japan. Most participants serve as Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) and work in public and private schools throughout Japan; some work as Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs) as interpreters/translators. Founded in 1987, The JET Program has sent more than 70,000 participants from around the globe and is the only teaching exchange program managed by the Government of Japan.

[Japan Week](#)

On Saturday, October 9, Japan Week at Bellevue College will be celebrating its 5th year. You can celebrate by participating in their [five contests](#) (deadline is today) and live-streamed Zoom workshops/sessions such as Rakugo and a Buddhist vegetarian cooking demonstration. Anyone can join but registration is required!

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

View past issues of "From Japan to the Northwest" here: https://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/08182021_e-newsletter.html

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