



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. ASEAN and East Asia Summit Meetings

On October 27, Prime Minister Kishida attended the 24th ASEAN-Japan Summit, the ASEAN Plus Three (Japan-China-Republic of Korea) Summit, and the East Asia Summit meetings.

During the meetings, the Prime Minister discussed Japan's support for countermeasures against the COVID-19 pandemic, including increasing access to vaccines, as well as cooperation on trade, and both regional and international issues. Kishida stated his intention to continue to work closely with the participating countries to ensure that the Indo-Pacific region will remain a free, open, peaceful, and prosperous region.

Read the full press releases below:

[The 24th ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting](#)

[The 24th ASEAN Plus Three \(Japan-China-Republic of Korea\) Summit](#)

[The 16th East Asia Summit \(EAS\)](#)

2. [The Japan-United States Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange \(CULCON\)](#)

On October 18 Japan Time, the 29th Plenary Meeting of the Japan-United States Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON) was held online.

Discussions focused on topics such as the impact of COVID-19 on Japan-U.S. exchanges, global roles that Japan and the U.S. play in response to the pandemic, and multilayered diplomatic relations between Japan and the U.S. including local governments.

3. [Joint Press Release: The 11th Meeting of the Japan-UK Joint Committee on Cooperation in Science and Technology](#)

The eleventh meeting of the Japan-United Kingdom Joint Committee on Cooperation in Science and Technology took place online on October 20, 2021.

The aim of the Joint Committee was to deepen partnership by exchanging information on the developing shape of research, technology and innovation. Speakers from both sides presented on the various new activities developed to maximize the value of such cooperation. They shared information on new priorities, seeking opportunities to build on the strength of the scientific communities of Japan and the UK.

4. [4th Meeting of the Japan-Philippines Maritime Dialogue](#)

The fourth meeting of the Japan-Philippines Maritime Dialogue was held on October 22, 2021, in a teleconference format. Both sides confirmed progress on bilateral cooperation in the maritime domain and affirmed the importance of rules-based, free and open maritime order.

5. Updates on the COVID-19 Situation in Japan

- [Daily COVID Data Updates](#)

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

6. Consulate Activities

[JETs Depart for Japan](#)

This month, 66 people departed from Seattle to Tokyo to participate in the Japan Exchange & Teaching (JET) Program. They will work in classrooms as Assistant Language Teachers or in government offices promoting international understanding as Coordinators of International Relations. Interested in the JET Program? [Learn more here](#).

[Voting for Japan Election](#)

Last week, the Consulate provided expatriate voting for the 49th Election of the House of Representatives in Japan. Consul General and Mrs. Inagaki were first in line to cast their ballots.

[Consulate Jack-o-Lanterns](#)

Consul General Inagaki and Consulate staff carved pumpkins to celebrate Halloween. You can [see photos of all the jack-o-lanterns here](#). (Unfortunately, the pumpkins are no longer on display.)

We also just posted a fun [video of Consul General's pumpkin carving](#) to our Youtube channel.



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

Visit the Consulate's Homepage here:

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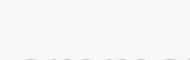
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