

Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center

2022 Annual Report

Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center
(HIECC)

History of HIECC

The northern regions concept and the establishment of the Northern Regions Center

The northern regions concept was first introduced in 1971 in the Third-term Hokkaido Comprehensive Development Plan (- 1977), a long-term road map for the development of Hokkaido. This concept aimed to improve Hokkaido's industrial economy, the lives of Hokkaido residents and its culture and advance local development suitable to the northern region through exchanges with the United States, Canada and Northern European countries with highly developed cultures in the same snowy cold climate as that of Hokkaido. As a body to promote this concept, the Northern Regions Research Council was established along with the aforementioned comprehensive development plan. The council was approved as an incorporated body in January 1972, and the Northern Regions Information Center was also established in November 1976. These organizations were developmentally reorganized, and the Northern Regions Center (NRC) was launched in April 1978. NRC developed wide exchange activities that focus on northern regions as a unique international organization with think tank, data bank and exchange functions. In July of the same year, the Northern Regions Exchange Foundation was also established to provide financial support to private exchange programs with northern regions.

During the ordinary General Assembly meeting in May 2011, the proposal to revise its articles of corporation for the transition into a public interest incorporated association was approved, and the Northern Regions Center transitioned into such an association on August 1 of the same year, with the approval of the Hokkaido Governor. The name Northern Regions Center was also changed to the Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center (HIECC for short) to kick off the new organization.

Currently, HIECC is actively developing its programs to realize a rich, vigorous regional society through international exchanges and cooperation with countries around the world, while fulfilling its social responsibility as a public interest incorporated association.

Expansion of international exchange and cooperation activities

The marked progress of globalization from the 1990s onward further intensified interdependent relationships in the international community, and raised expectations for international cooperation in local communities. While maintaining existing relationships with northern countries, NRC also partly revised its articles of incorporation in June 1995 to expand the scope of its activities to other regions. In line with this revision, NRC was entrusted, in April 1996, with the management and operation of Hokkaido International Centers (Sapporo, Obihiro), which were established by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to accept technical trainees from developing countries. NRC also took charge of the Hokkaido Government's project to accept technical trainees. In March 1998, NRC was recognized as a Local International Exchange Association (one organization for each prefecture or government-designated city) by the Ministry of Home Affairs (the present Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications) to assume a comprehensive and important role in international exchanges/cooperation in Hokkaido. In April 1998, the Hokkaido International Exchange Center for Youth and Women was incorporated into NRC, also the Hokkaido Overseas Association in July 2006 and the North Pacific Region Advanced Research Center (NORPAC) in April 2010, thus expanding and promoting the function of the organization. To help increase the number of foreign workers, the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center was also established in August 2019. It is entrusted by the Hokkaido Government as a Multicultural General Information Consultation One-stop Center for Foreigners to obtain the necessary information, and have consultations, on immigration procedures and various matters relating to living, including employment, etc.

As a comprehensive center for international activities

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of its foundation in April of 2008, NRC established a committee to consider the future direction of NRC. The committee then compiled a report on future goals and activities in response to current demands to position NRC as a comprehensive center for international activities in Hokkaido.

In the ordinary General Assembly meeting in May 2010, the Northern Regions Exchange Foundation was changed into the International Exchange Foundation to expand the target areas of exchange programs eligible for financial support from northern regions to the entire world. In addition, a member system for students was newly established to expand the membership.

In 2018, to commemorate its 40th anniversary, HIECC hosted various kinds of memorial events, including lectures on international understanding, symposiums and concerts.

History

Apr. 1971:	Northern Regions Research Council established
Jan. 1972:	Approved as an incorporated body by the Prime Minister
Apr. 1978:	Reorganized into the Northern Regions Center
Apr. 1996:	Entrusted with the management and operation of Hokkaido International Centers
Mar. 1998:	Recognized as a Local International Exchange Association by the Minister of Home Affairs
Apr. 1998:	Incorporates the Hokkaido International Exchange Center for Youth and Women
Jul. 2004:	Incorporates the Northern Regions Exchange Foundation
Jul. 2006:	Incorporates the Hokkaido Overseas Association
Apr. 2010:	Takes over the operations of the North Pacific Region Advanced Research Center
Aug. 2011:	Transitions into a public interest incorporated association and changes its name to the Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center
Aug. 2019:	Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center established

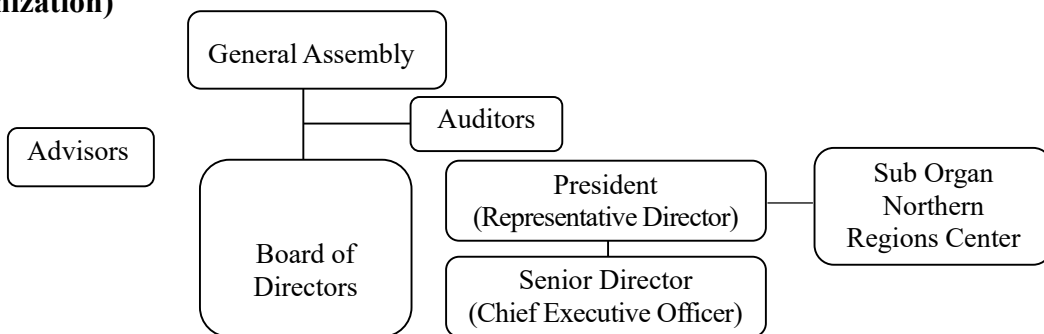
Organization

HIECC is a public interest corporation consisting of members. It has a General Assembly consisting of members and a Board of Directors who are selected by the General Assembly. (Number of corporate and individual members as of March 31, 2022: 553)

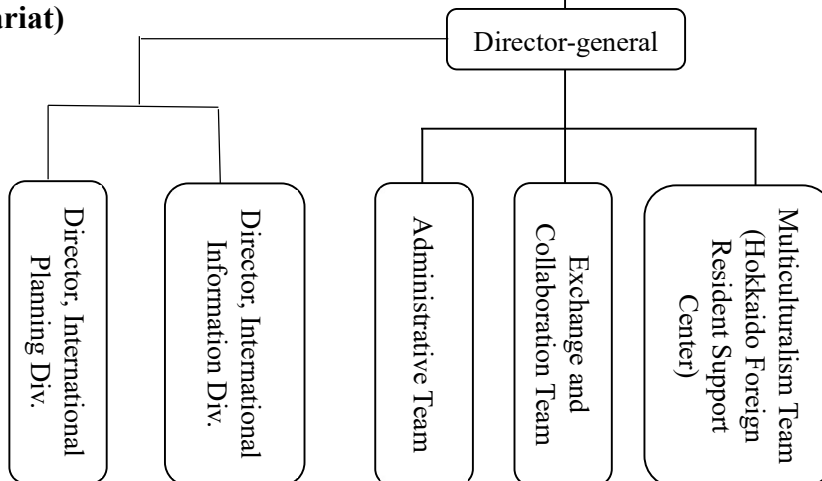
President (Representative Director), Vice Presidents and Senior Director (Executive Director) are selected by the Board of Directors. In the system to execute the operations of HIECC, the President controls the operations as a representative of HIECC and the Senior Director takes his/her share of the operations and executes it.

The Secretariat that executes operations consists of the directors of the International Planning and the International Information divisions as well as the Administrative, Exchange and Collaboration and the Multiculturalism teams. The Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center belongs to the Multiculturalism Team.

(Organization)



(Secretariat)



International Exchange Salon

This salon is available for international exchanges, and commemorative gifts and other articles from overseas visitors are exhibited in this space.



Advisors and Executive Officers

(As of July 1, 2022)

Advisors

Shuji Ishizuka	Director-general, Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
Naomichi Suzuki	Hokkaido Governor
Yasunori Obata	Speaker, Hokkaido Legislative Assembly
Kotaro Yamaguchi	President, Hokkaido Association of City Mayors
Takao Tanano	President, Hokkaido Association of Towns and Villages
Yoshiro Ito	Director-general, United Nations Association of Japan, Hokkaido Head Office

Executive officers

President

Yasuhiro Tsuji	Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center
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Vice Presidents

Masahiro Sasahara	Chairman, The Hokkaido Bank, Ltd.
Minoru Nagano	Deputy President, North Pacific Bank, Ltd.

Vice President and Senior

Director

Kenichi Takehana	Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center
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Directors

Hiroyuki Itagaki	Director, Hokkaido Branch, The Mainichi Newspapers Co., Ltd.
Takeshi Inoue	President, Sapporo Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (STV)
Susumu Egashira	Trustee and Vice-President, Otaru University of Commerce
Shuji Ochiai	President, Paraguay Association of Hokkaido
Naoki Katsuta	President, Hokkaido Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (HBC)
Yoshinori Kato	President, Hokkaido Cultural Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (UHB)
Koyu Kishi	Executive Director, Sapporo International Communication Plaza Foundation
Ichiro Kuwata	President, Television Hokkaido Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (TVh)
Toru Kobayashi	Managing Director, The Hokkaido Shimbun Press Co., Ltd.
Sueki Sato	President, Hokkaido Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry
Seiyuki Sato	Executive Director, Hokkaido Tourism Organization
Tatsuo Shibata	Executive Director, Hokkaido Association of Towns and Villages
Tadahiko Shimizu	Director, Hokkaido Branch, The Mainichi Newspapers Co., Ltd.
Toshiya Shimosawa	President, Hokkaido Cultural Organization Council
Miho Suzuki	Adviser, Hokkaido International Women's Association
Toru Tsurui	President, Hokkaido Cultural Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (UHB)
Hiroyoshi Dei	Director-general, Hokkaido Association of City Mayors
Tatsuro Terauchi	President, Hokkaido Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (HTB)
Satoru Nakamura	Executive Director, Hokkaido Tourism Organization
Osamu Mizuno	Senior Managing Director, Hokkaido Economic Federation
Tomoyoshi Michishita	President, Hokkaido Japan-Brazil Association
Toshimasa Yasukata	Chairman, Hokkai-Gakuen
Atsushi Yokota	Executive and Vice-President, Hokkaido University
Takashi Yokoyama	President, Hokkaido Sweden Society

Auditors

Keiichi Ueda	Ueda Keiichi Certified Public Accountant Office
Mizuhiro Takano	Senior Director, Hokkaido Sports Association

FY 2021 Business Outline

Holding of Board of Directors and Ordinary General Assembly Meetings

1. 1st Board of Directors meeting, FY 2021

It was deemed completed based on the documentation.

Proceedings:

- Approval of the FY 2020 business report and financial statements
- Adoption of a resolution calling for an ordinary General Assembly meeting

2. Ordinary General Assembly meeting, FY 2021

Date: June 28 (Mon.), 2021

Place: Keio Plaza Hotel Sapporo

Proceedings:

- Approval of the FY 2020 business report and financial statements
- Approval of the FY 2021 business plan and budget
- Appointment of directors and auditors
- Partial revision of the articles of incorporation
- Revision of the regulations for directors' compensation

3. 2nd Board of Directors meeting, FY 2021

Date: June 28 (Mon.), 2021

Place: Keio Plaza Hotel Sapporo

Proceedings:

- Appointment of the president, vice presidents and senior director

4. 3rd Board of Directors meeting, FY 2021

Date: March 24 (Thu.), 2022

Held online (Zoom)

Proceedings:

- Approval of the FY 2022 business plan and budget
- Approval of discretionary disposition regarding budget amendments
- Keeping of reserve funds for specific expenses
- Approval of delegation of the position of advisor

Promotion of Multiculturalism Community Development

Development of Foreigner-Friendly Communities

1. Operation of the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center (This project was contracted by the Hokkaido Government.)

With the aim of realizing “Hokkaido chosen by foreigners as foreigner-friendly for work and living,” the center was established in August 2019 as a Multicultural General Information Consultation One-stop Center that played an active role as an overall desk in Hokkaido and provided foreigners with the necessary information and opportunities to have consultations on immigration procedures and various matters relating to living, including employment. The staff consults foreign residents in Hokkaido on various matters of living. In particular, since 2020, information on the COVID-19 situation has been updated from time to time while providing counseling on unemployment and benefit applications amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

System: 4 full-time staff (Director of the Center, Manager, Chief Counselor and Counselor [English])

Shifts: 17 (Multilingual Counselors [Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog])

Corresponding languages: 11 languages utilizing the telephone interpreting system (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Nepali, Thai, Indonesian, Tagalog, Russian, Burmese)

Business hours: 9:00 – 12:00, 13:00 – 17:00 only on weekdays

URL: <http://hiecc.or.jp/soudan>

Corresponding social media: Facebook, WeChat, Skype, LINE, KakaoTalk, WhatsApp

Number of consultants: 2,366, number of consultations: 2,935 cases

Major countries of consuler

Country	Total number	Country	Total number	Country	Total number
China	150	Brazil	5	European countries (U.S.A, Canada, etc.)	814
Taiwan	19	Peru	2	Oceania	70
Korea	11	Thailand	31	Japan	308
Philippines	124	Viet Nam	273	Others (Malaysia, India, etc.)	138
Indonesia	17	Myanmar	5	Unknown	256
Nepal	25	Mongolia	9	Total	2,366
Sri Lanka	17	African countries	92		

Maior contents of consultations

Fields	Total number	Fields	Total number	Country	Total number
Immigration procedures (extension, change, etc.)	605	Birth and childcare	37	Status (marriage, DV, etc.)	34
Employment and labor	334	Education (schools, universities, etc.)	31	Transportation, driver's licenses	186
Social insurance and pension	233	Japanese learning	33	Interpretation, translation	253
Taxes	126	Disaster prevention, disasters	2	Others	831
Medical treatment	165	Housing	65	Total	2,935

(1) Holding remote consultation meetings

Consultation services were provided a total of 10 times in various subprefectures in Hokkaido.

Okhotsk General Subprefectural Bureau	Kitami City	October 24 (Sun.)		
Kamikawa General Subprefectural Bureau	Ebetsu City	October 31 (Sun.)		
Shiribeshi General Subprefectural Bureau	Kutchan Town	November 6 (Sat.)		
Iburi General Subprefectural Bureau	Muroran City	November 7 (Sun.)		
Kushiro General Subprefectural Bureau	Kushiro City	November 13 (Sat.)		
Nemuro General Subprefectural Bureau	Nakashibetsu Tow	November 14 (Sun.)		
Oshima General Subprefectural Bureau	Yakumo Town	December 11 (Sat.)	Hakodate City	December 12 (Sun.)
Tokachi General Subprefectural Bureau	Obihiro City	December 18 (Sat.)		
Ishikari Subprefectural Bureau	Ebetsu City	December 19 (Sun.)	Eniwa City	December 26 (Sun.)
Shiribeshi General Subprefectural Bureau	Kutchan Town	January 25 (Tue.)	Online meeting	

*Under the influence of COVID-19, remote consultation meetings were canceled from April to September and after January, and holiday consultation meetings were held instead.



Remote consultation meeting (Hakodate)



Remote consultation meeting (Kushiro)

(2) Holding of holiday consultation meetings

Instead of remote consultation meetings, a total of 17 holiday consultation meetings were held to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection.

April 18, (Sun.), 25 (Sun.) / May 16, (Sun.), 30 (Sun.)

June 12, (Sat.), 27 (Sun.) / July 11 (Sun.), 31 (Sat.)

August 22 (Sun.) / September 12 (Sun.), 26 (Sun.)

January 20 (Sun.) / February 5 (Sat.), 19 (Sat.), 20 (Sun.)

March 12 (Sat.), 27 (Sun.)

(3) Taking the Ukrainian situation into consideration, the Ukrainian-related One-stop Support Desk was established at the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center on Friday, March 11, to consult with Ukrainians living in Hokkaido.

2. Emergency support project for foreigners residing in Hokkaido

As one type of consultation and support by the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center, this project was implemented for foreigners residing in Hokkaido whose living conditions have been affected by the spread of COVID-19 by utilizing the dormant deposit accounts utilization promotion project. The remote consultation meetings were linked to support with Japanese language, employment, food, and so on, of the project in cooperation with the members of the Multicultural Network Promotion Council.

(1) Support for Japanese language

To prevent isolation of foreign residents in their communities, Japanese classes were held for

foreign residents so that they can learn the Japanese required in their daily lives.

- October – February: a total of 4 events, 20 participants (cumulative total number) in cooperation with Ryugakusei Friendship (Muroran)
- September – December: a total of 24 events, 96 participants (cumulative total number) in cooperation with Hokkaido International Foundation (Hakodate)

(2) Support for employment

Since the COVID-19 pandemic also affected employment in Hokkaido, seminars were held for foreign residents looking for jobs in Hokkaido and companies considering to recruit foreigners, respectively.

- Seminar for foreigners (Muroran): November 7 (Sun.), 13 participants
- Seminar for foreigners (Hakodate): December 12 (Sun.), 20 participants
- Seminar for companies and interviews (Muroran): December 7 (Tue.), seminar: 46 participants, interview: 8 participants (including 5 foreigners)
- Seminar for companies and interviews (Hakodate): February 25 (Fri.), seminar: 25 participants, interview: 80 participants (including 60 foreigners)



Support for employment and seminar for foreigners (Muroran)



Support for food (Kushiro)

(3) Support for food

Support for food was implemented in cooperation with the members of the Multicultural Network Promotion Council for foreign residents whose lives have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Host	Date	Total number of foreigners to whom food was distributed	Venue	Cooperative organization
Muroran	September 8 (Wed.)	120	Classrooms in the university	Center for International Relations, Muroran Institute of Technology
Takikawa	September 12 (Sun.)	50	Takikawa Tourism and International Square	Takikawa International Exchange Association
Kitami	October 24 (Sun.)	90	Classrooms in the university	International Center, Kitami Institute of Technology
Asahikawa	October 31 (Sun.)	50	Asahikawa International Center	Asahikawa International Center
Kutchan Town	November 6 (Sat.)	50	Chushokigyo Center	Niseko Promotion Board
Muroran	November 7 (Sun.)	50	4 th floor Yoko no Ma, APA Hotel	Ryugakusei Friendship
Kushiro	November 13 (Sat.)	200	Kushiro Tourism and International	Kushiro International

			Relations Center	Friendship Association
Hakodate	December 12 (Sun.)	300	Hakodate Community Design Center	Hokkaido International Foundation
Ikeda Town Obihiro	December 18 (Sat.)	80	1. Ikeda Denen Hall 2. Tokachi Plaza	Tokachi International Association
Ebetsu	December 19 (Sun.)	80	Ebetsu International Center	Ebetsu Intercultural Exchange Committee
Muroran	December 21 (Tue.)	100	Classrooms in the university	Center for International Relations, Muroran Institute of Technology (second)
Eniwa	December 26 (Sun.)	70	Eniasu	Eniwa Kokusai Koryu Plaza
Kushiro	January 19 (Wed.)	40	Kushiro International Plaza	Kushiro International Friendship Association (second)
Sapporo	January 21 (Fri.) 22 (Sat.)	540	Sapporo International Communication Plaza	Sapporo International Communication Plaza
Kutchan Town	January 25 (Tue.)	50	Chushokigyo Center	Niseko Promotion Board (second)
Ishikari	January 30 (Sun.)	250	Hanakawa Kita Community Center	Ishikari International Association
Tomakomai	February 5 (Sat.)	100	Cocotoma	OTis, etc.
Takikawa	February 13 (Sun.)	30	Takikawa Tourism and International Square	Takikawa International Exchange Association (second)
Muroran	February 19 (Sat.)	50	Mizumoto-cho Kaikan	Ryugakusei Friendship (second)
Kitahiroshima	February 19 (Sat.)	70	Kitahiroshima City Arts Hall	Social Welfare Corporation EPOCH
Chitose	February 20 (Sun.)	80	Minakuru (4th floor, Chitose Citizens Gallery)	Chitose International Friendship City Exchange Association
Hakodate	February 25 (Fri.)	200	Hakodate Kokusai Hotel	Hokkaido International Foundation (second)
Total number of foreigners distributed		2,650		

3. Activities as the Multicultural Network Promotion Council

HIECC has strived to strengthen a network of international exchange organizations in Hokkaido and implemented various projects to realize multicultural symbiotic societies through the network.

Affiliated organizations (9 organizations): Hokkaido International Foundation, Muroran Institute of Technology Center for International Relations, Takikawa International Exchange Association, Asahikawa International Center, Kushiro International Friendship Association, International Center, Kitami Institute of Technology, Tokachi International Association, Ryugakusei Friendship, Niseko Promotion Board

(1) 1st online meeting: July 1 (Thu.), 18 members of 8 organizations

HIECC explained the details of the projects related to multiculturalism scheduled to be implemented in this fiscal year and asked for the support of the affiliated organizations.

Theme: • Emergency support project for foreigners residing in Hokkaido
• Multicultural key persons network promotion project

(2) 2nd online meeting: February 2 (Wed.), 16 members of 9 organizations

HIECC explained the formulation of the support structure in times of disaster and asked for the members' cooperation.

4. Support projects for foreigners in times of disaster

Since the number of foreign residents who are not fluent in Japanese, including foreign workers, is expected to increase in Hokkaido in the future, HIECC promoted efforts to provide multilingual support in times of disasters to improve the environment for foreigners to live safely and securely.

(1) Project of multilingual support of foreigners in times of disaster (commissioned by Hokkaido Government)

a. Participation in a disaster prevention drill

• Hokkaido nuclear disaster prevention drill: October 28 (Thu.)

Dissemination of multilingual disaster information, evacuation site patrol drill

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, participation in the on-site drill was canceled.

• Establishment of a multilingual disaster support center in times of disaster and its operation drill: December 16 (Thu.) - 17 (Fri.), Hakodate

Establishment and operation of a multilingual support center in times of disaster, evacuation site patrol drill

*Co-hosted with the Recognized Local International Exchange Associations Liaison Committee's training sessions

• Initial training for the multilingual support center in times of disaster: February 8 (Tue), office of HIECC

Initial training for the multilingual support center in consideration of the 2018 Hokkaido Eastern Iburi earthquake

Initial training to disseminate disaster information

b. Formulation of the support structure for foreigners

HIECC promoted cooperation with the Multicultural Coexistence Network Collaboration Promotion Council.

c. Preparation of a manual to establish a multilingual support center

(2) "Hokkaido Multicultural Coexistence Multilingual Supporter" online seminar

For "Hokkaido Multicultural Coexistence Multilingual Supporters" who support foreigners in the event of a disaster, HIECC held an online lecture on what the supporters do, and a case study to demonstrate an actual situation.

"Vulnerability of Foreigners in Times of Disaster" "Support for Foreign Victims in the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake"

Date: February 6 (Sun.) online

Lecturer: Hiromitsu Yagi, Chairman of the Kumamoto International Foundation
Tomomi Katsuya, vice-chairman of the foundation

Participants: 19



Evacuation site patrol drill



Online training sessions attended by supporters across Hokkaido

(3) Multicultural key persons network promotion project

To build a network of key persons who are involved with foreign residents in Hokkaido, HIECC listed 29 key persons recommended by international organizations, etc. to hold training sessions.

- First online training session
 - Date: January 26 (Wed.)
 - Lecture: “Roles of Multicultural Key Persons in Hokkaido”
 - Participants: 15
- 2nd online training session
 - Date: February 22 (Tue.)
 - Lecture: “What Key Persons can Do”
 - Lecture: Zi Yang, Expertise Researcher, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution
 - Participants: 12
- Regional training session
 - Date: February 20 (Sun.), at a hotel in Sapporo
 - Lecture: “Basic Information on Disasters and Evacuation Sites”
 - Workshop: “Use of Evacuation Sites (Simulation)”
 - Participants: 7

5. Regional collaboration network project (regional multiculturalism meetings)

To promote collaboration between each region and international exchange bodies, HIECC co-sponsored online workshops on multiculturalism with the Hokkaido Government.

2021 Regional Skill-up Workshop

- 1st event: “How to Establish a Multicultural Society”
 - Date: July 27 (Tue.)
 - Lecturer: Yoshihito Kinoshita, Executive Director, Kanagawa Educational Development Center
 - Participants: 21
- 2nd event: “Communication Techniques in Simple Japanese”
 - Date: September 9 (Thu.)
 - Lecturer: Ayako Shikibu, Researcher, Hokkaido University
 - Participants: 25
- 3rd event: “Role-play of Support Counters for Foreign Residents”
 - Date: November 5 (Fri.)
 - Lecturer: Noriko Muramatsu,, Hyogo International Association
 - Participants: 10
- 4th event: “Information Dissemination to Foreigners – Communication Leading to Behavior Modification”

Date: January 11 (Tue.)

Lecturer: Taro Tamura, Representative Director, Institute for Human Diversity
Japan

Participants: 30

- 5th event: "Techniques to Communicate with Indian People"

Date: February 14 (Mon.)

Lecturer: Vikash Paliwal, Film producer

Participants: 22

- 6th event: "Introduction of Actual Situation and Case Examples of the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center – promotion of multicultural coexistence in the community"

Date: March 8 (Tue.)

Lecturer: Michiaki Odajima, Manager, HIECC Exchange and Multiculturalism
Division

6. Hokkaido Multicultural Award commendation program

With the aim of creating a society where foreign residents in Hokkaido can contribute to regional development and revitalization with Hokkaido residents, HIECC commended organizations that had been engaged in outstanding activities in various fields, including personnel training, living environment improvement, disaster prevention, education and community development.

Organizations selected for excellence awards: Kitami YMCA Iroha no Kai (Kitami)

The organization contributed to develop an environment where foreign residents can live comfortably through the project of support for foreign residents' problems by providing individual consultations without setting up any classrooms for Japanese language learning for foreigners living in a wide area across Hokkaido.

Awards Ceremony: March 25 (Fri.), at a hotel in Kitami



Managing Director Takehana of HIECC awards a certificate to Ms. Ito, major organizer of Iroha no Kai



Members of Kitami YMCA Iroha no Kai

Global human resource development for the future

Human resource development to connect with the world

1. Overseas training project

The event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Project for High School Students to Build Bridges in the world

(1) The Project for High School Students to Build Bridges in Asia was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

(2) Nordic Youth Exchange Program (online)

The exchange project was held online between high school students of Cathedral School in Linköping, Sweden, and high schools in Hokkaido.

Date: January 29 (Sat.), February 12 (Sat.), March 12 (Sat.)

Participants: 5 and 4 high school students from Hokkaido and Sweden, respectively

Themes: environmental issues, gender equality, etc.

Sessions: 2 preliminary training sessions, 1 follow-up training session and a briefing session



Online introduction on their own culture



High school students reporting what they have learned and found through the online exchange event

(3) Jeju Youth Forum 2021

High school students in Hokkaido attended the forum hosted by Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, South Korea, a region having a friendship tie-up relation with Hokkaido, to foster future global leaders with an international perspective and build a youth network. (Held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic)

Period: November 12 (Fri.) – 14 (Sun.)

Participants: 5 high school students in Hokkaido (a total of 201 students from 43 regions in 12 countries worldwide)

Sessions: 2 preliminary training sessions, 2 follow-up training sessions and a briefing session



High school students introducing bon-odori in yukata through the online exchange project



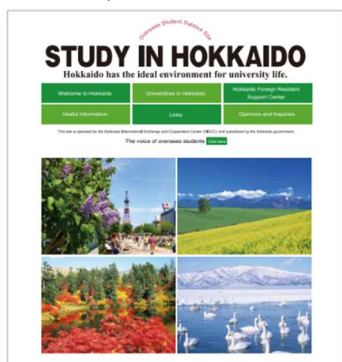
High school students reporting what they have learned and found through the online exchange event

3. Project to help increase the number of international students

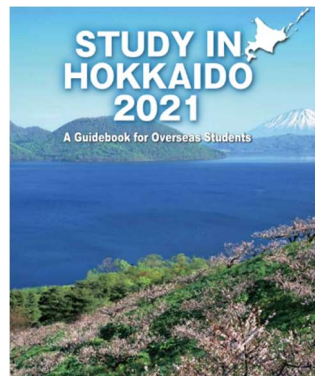
To help increase the number of international students, HIECC conducted promotions aimed at related international organizations, universities and students.

- (1) Operation of the promotion website “STUDY IN HOKKAIDO” (<http://study-hokkaido.com>)
- (2) Publication and distribution of guidebooks for studying in Hokkaido
- (3) Publication of e-mail newsletters to international students who had returned home and scholarship recipients

For international students who have studied in Hokkaido, HIECC published the e-mail newsletter HIECC Newsletter to provide various kinds of information, such as the present situation in Hokkaido and employment, and to further promote an understanding of Hokkaido. (Issued three times a year)



Promotion website “STUDY IN HOKKAIDO”



Guidebook for international students

4. Implementation of regional exchanges with international students

Local events and exchange activities were held so that participating foreign students could interact with residents and to promote a better understanding of Hokkaido and disseminate information on the appeal of Hokkaido through social media, etc.

Hokkaido Foreign Student Exchanges in Shiribeshi

Date: October 16 (Sat.) – 17 (Sun.)

Place: Kyogoku, Kutchan and Kuromatsunai towns

Participants: 22 international students (from 16 countries or regions)



Mochi-tsuki (pounding steamed rice) experience taught by the residents of Kuromatsunai Town



International students gathered for a commemorative photo after taking a stroll in the Utasai Beech Forest

5. International exchange support project for international students

HIECC has selected 90 international students enrolled in universities and graduate schools in Hokkaido as International Student Supporters to disseminate information on studying in Hokkaido to students in their home countries, and make it possible to accept many international students who come to study in Hokkaido (An annual fee of 50,000 yen is provided to each International Student Supporter as payment for information dissemination activities.).

- Number of posts: 835 (available on the website of HIECC)

Promotion of International Exchanges

Implementation of various exchange programs with other countries

1. Youth exchange program between Japan and China

Although exchanges based on the “Heilongjiang-Hokkaido Youth Exchange Agreement” made and entered into by Heilongjiang, China and Hokkaido in 2008 have been conducted between the two regions, the event was canceled in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Japan-South Korea exchange program

Exchanges involving “mini volleyball,” a unique local sport based on its aging society, have been conducted under the agreement with Gyeongsangnam-do Athletic Association. In 2021, the program was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Grants-in-aid project for international exchanges

HIECC provided grants-in-aid that were used by international exchange bodies in Hokkaido for exchange programs with various other regions in the world to develop the industrial economy and living conditions in Hokkaido.

FY 2021 Grants-in-aid

Target for grants-in-aid	Organizer	Amount (1,000 yen)
Hokkaido Russia Far East Exchange Program	Executive committee	300
The 160th Anniversary of the Japan-Germany Relationship, The Sapporo-Munich sister city 50th anniversary project, “The moment to admire ballet while listening to stories about German- Japan exchanges and listening to music related to the stories”	Japanisch-Deutsche Gesellschaft	200
Total: 2 programs		500

4. Hosting of international delegations in Hokkaido

Although HIECC was scheduled to host a visiting group of descendants of emigrants from Hokkaido to Brazil, the event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. Support program for emigrants

To support the operation of associations representing people who had emigrated from Hokkaido abroad, HIECC provided grants-in-aid.

- Associação Hokkaido de Cultura e Assistência (Hokkaido Association of Culture and Assistance) (Brazil), Argentina Association of People from Hokkaido (Argentine), Paraguay Federation of Associations of People from Hokkaido (Paraguay), Sakhalin Association of People from Hokkaido (Russia), Hokkaido Overseas Emigrants Family Association (Japan)

6. Project to host international students who are descendants of former emigrants from Hokkaido abroad

The event was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

7. Exchange programs in collaboration with other organizations

(1) Culture Night

Participation in the program was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

(2) All Japan Chinese Speech Contest, Hokkaido Tournament

Date: October 9 (Sat.)

Place: Kaderu 2.7

Co-host: Hokkaido Youth Foundation for Science and Culture

(3) Sapporo International Night

This project was held as a place for international students from all over the world to give presentations to Japanese high school students on the history, culture, nature, society,

educational circumstances, etc. of each country to promote mutual understanding.

Date: December 12 (Sun.)

Place: Kaderu 2.7, Keio Plaza Hotel

Participants: 43 international students from 30 countries and 166 Japanese students

Co-host: Hokkaido Youth Foundation for Science and Culture



Presentation by a student from Finland



Presentation of summaries by representatives of each group

(4) International DAY program

To expand exchanges between Hokkaido and overseas sister/friendship tie-up regions, HIECC hosted culture introduction events relating to the relevant regions in collaboration with the Hokkaido Government on each date of commemoration of their friendship tie-up.

- Chiang Mai province, Thailand (April 11, Sapporo Dome)
- Hawaii, U.S.A. (May 1 – June 30, Sapporo Prince Hotel)
- Heilongjiang, China: (November 25, January 27 – 28, Sapporo University)
- South Korea: (December 16, 2F, Sapporo TV Tower)

*The event was jointly implemented with the areas below.

Gyeongsangnam-do (South Gyeongsang Province) / Seoul / Busan Metropolitan City / Jeju Special Self-Governing Province South Korea,

- Alberta, Canada (canceled)
- Massachusetts, U.S.A. (canceled)
- Sakhalin State, Russia (canceled)

(5) Regular international exchange lectures

Regular lectures co-hosted with the Hokkaido International Women's Association were held.

- 1st lecture: "Activities by the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in Developing Countries"
Date: July 29 (Thu.)
Participants: 21
- 2nd lecture: Introduction of England – British English and American English"
Date: November 11 (Thu.)
Participants: 28
- 3rd lecture: "What is Multiculturalism? – situation of acceptance of foreigners in Hokkaido"
Date: March 29 (Tue.)
Participants: 30



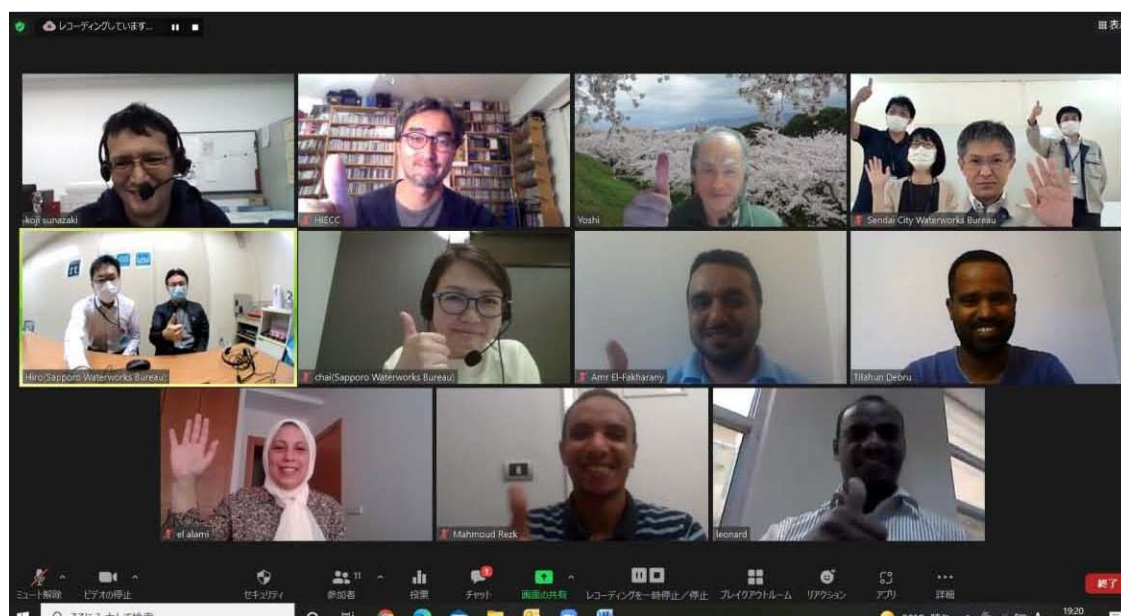
The 3rd lecture "What is Multiculturalism?"
(Kaderu 2-7)

Promotion of International Cooperation

1. Participation in the training projects of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

HIECC was entrusted with partial training projects with JICA Hokkaido International Center (Sapporo), and coordinated curriculums and training courses with training implementation organizations. Since the training in Japan was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic this fiscal year, video training materials were created, and online remote training was conducted.

Period	Training course name	Trainee
Aug. 13 – Sep. 17	Issue-specific training, “Comprehensive Engineering on Water Supply Systems (B)-1” – held online	7 trainees
Nov. 1 – Dec. 10	Issue-specific training, “Road Maintenance Management (E)” – held online	14 trainees
Jan. 13 – Mar. 1	Issue-specific training, “Comprehensive Engineering on Water Supply Systems (B)-2” – held online	8 trainees
Feb. 2 – Mar. 15	JICA Partnership Program (implemented to establish the business structure required to manage tap water in Pokhara, Nepal)	—



Commemorative photo during online remote training for Comprehensive Engineering on Water Supply Systems (B)-2 course

2. Hosting trainees from overseas

The scheduled hosting of trainees was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. International information dissemination project

The endeavors for multiculturalism and international exchanges and cooperation in Hokkaido were introduced on the HIECC website.

Promotion of International Mutual Understanding

1. Convening a lecture on international understanding

The lectures were delivered to promote international understanding among the members and Hokkaido residents.

Theme: “Learn from Measures Achieve Gender Equality in Iceland”

Date: December 3 (Fri.), Zoom online seminar

Lecturer: Brynhildur Heiðar- og Ómarsdóttir, Secretary General, Icelandic Women’s Rights Association
Natsuki Yasuda, Vice President, Dialogue for People

Participants: approx. 70

The lecture was separately released on YouTube.



Ms. Brynhildur delivering a keynote speech

2. Convening northern regions seminars

To learn the accumulated information of the industrial economy and living culture of northern countries and to exchange information on community development, HIECC held online seminars this fiscal year taking prevention of the spread of COVID-19 into consideration.

(1) 1st Seminar: “Seminar to Understand Russia – Sakhalin -”

Theme: “What is the longed for vacation at dacha? Charm of Sakhalin, which is too close to know well”

Lecturer: Mika Orihovic, Japanese language teacher living in Sakhalin

Hiroaki Nishina, Chief, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Bureau, The Hokkaido Shimbun Press

Tetsuya Urata, Head, Hokkaido Government Sakhalin Representative Office

Participants: approx. 100

The seminar was separately released on YouTube.

Co-hosts: Hokkaido Government

Sponsor: Hokkaido Prefectural Board of Education, City of Sapporo, Sapporo City Board of Education, The Hokkaido Shimbun Press

Lecturers in discussions
Urata (upper left), Orihovic (lower left), Nishina (upper right), coordinator Takada (upper right)



(2) 2nd Seminar: “Seminar to Understand Russia - Primorsky Krai and central Russia -”

Theme: “Russia, a place full of diversity! Talk about Primorsky Krai and central Russia”

Date: November 19 (Fri.), Zoom online seminar

Lecturer: Nao Takatsuka, Chief, Sakhalin Office, NHK Vladivostok Bureau

Feshina Alena, Coordinator, International Relations of the Hokkaido Government

Rika Doi, full-time Japanese language teacher, Novosibirsk State Pedagogical University

Participants: approx. 90, The lecture was separately released on YouTube.

Co-hosts: Hokkaido Government

Sponsor: Hokkaido Prefectural Board of Education, City of Sapporo, Sapporo City Board of Education, The Hokkaido Shimbun Press



Ms. Doi delivering a keynote speech

(3) 3rd Seminar: “Environment-friendly Community Development Learning from Northern Europe”

Theme: “Thinking about a carbon neutral society in Hokkaido”

Date: January 21 (Fri.), Zoom online seminar

Lecturer: Kanau Takahashi, Energy Adviser, Royal Danish Embassy in Japan

Manabu Kubota, Deputy Secretary-General, Hokkaido Environment Foundation

Participants: approx. 60, The lecture was released on YouTube separately.

Sponsor: Hokkaido Government, Association of Hokkaido Denmark



Mr. Kubota delivering a keynote speech

(4) 4th Seminar: “Seminar to Understand Russia – Moscow, Sanit”

Theme: “Learning about life in the wider Moscow area”

Date: March 4 (Fri.), Zoom online seminar [postponed]

*Although preparation for the event was conducted, it was postponed due to the change in the Ukraine situation.

3. North Pacific Region Advanced Research Project

Online seminars were held by related domestic and foreign researchers on important themes related to politics, economy and diplomacy in Northeast Asia.

The 10th “International symposium on the Northeast Asia situation in consideration of Hokkaido”

Theme: “The U.S.-China conflict and impact on Northeast Asia – consider the diplomatic policy of Japan -”

Date: March 17 (Thu.), Zoom online seminar

Lecturer: Haruka Matsumoto, Director & Senior Research Fellow, East Asian Studies Group, Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

Toshihiro Nakayama, Professor, Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University

Participants: approx. 60, The lecture was separately released on YouTube.

Sponsors: Hokkaido Economic Federation, The Hokkaido Shimbun Press, Association for Northeast Asia Regional Studies



Lecturers in discussions

Mr. Nakayama (upper right), Ms. Matsumoto (lower), coordinator Takada (upper left)

4. Consular Exchange Promotion Projects

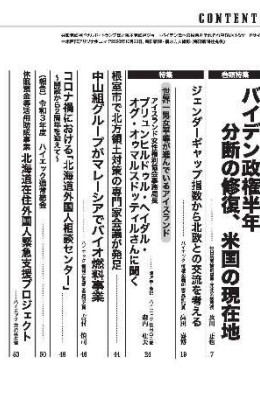
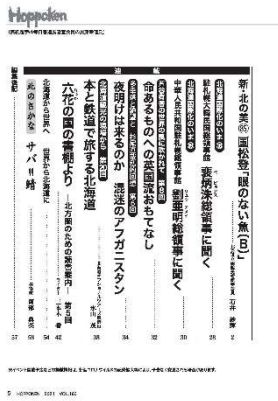
All events, excluding the general meeting, were canceled to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- Date of the general meeting (held online): October 1 (Fri.)

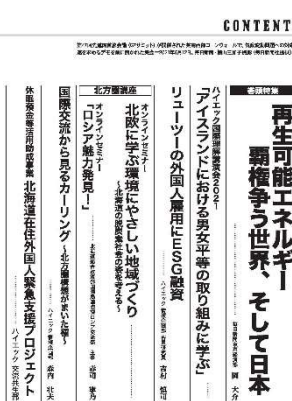
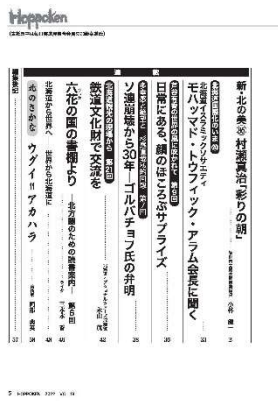
5. Hoppoken magazine, annual report, Hoppoken special edition

HIECC published this edition of its magazine with a timely international theme relating to Hokkaido and distributed it to members and international exchange bodies in and outside Hokkaido.

“Hoppoken” Vol. 190, published in September 2021

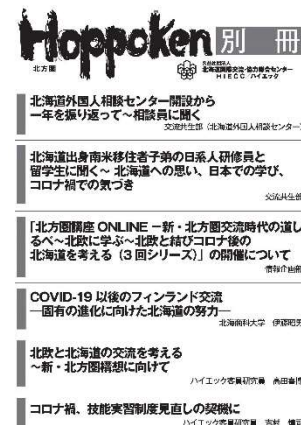


“Hoppoken” Vol. 191, published in March, 2022



Hoppoken extra edition of the annual report 2021

The Hoppoken extra edition jointly carried the annual report for FY 2021 to publish business reports, etc.



6. International information network system

Information on international exchanges and the like was collected and accumulated via the internet and widely disseminated. The businesses of HIECC and related organizations were announced and reported on-time on Facebook.

- Access number to the website: April – March, monthly average: 7,200
URL: <https://www.hiecc.or.jp/index.html>



Top screen of the HIECC website



Top screen of Facebook of HIECC

International Sister/Friendship Partners with Municipalities in Hokkaido

Municipality

- (1) Partner municipalities
 - (2) Country / Region
 - (3) Affiliated year
 - (4) Type of partnership
- (As of April 1, 2022)

Sapporo

- (1) Portland
- (2) U.S.A. / Oregon
- (3) November 17, 1959
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Munich
- (2) Germany / Bayern
- (3) August 28, 1972
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Shenyang
- (2) China / Liaoning
- (3) November 18, 1980
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Novosibirsk
- (2) Russia / Novosibirsk State
- (3) June 13, 1990
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Daejeon
- (2) Korea
- (3) October 22, 2010
- (4) Sister city

Hakodate

- (1) Halifax
- (2) Canada / Nova Scotia
- (3) November 25, 1982
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Vladivostok
- (2) Russia / Primorsky Region

(3) July 28, 1992

(4) Sister city

(1) Lake Macquarie

(2) Australia / New South Wales

(3) July 31, 1992

(4) Sister city

(1) Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk

(2) Russia / Sakhalin State

(3) September 27, 1997

(4) Sister city

(1) Tianjin

(2) China

(3) October 18, 2001

(4) Friendship exchange city

(1) Goyang

(2) Korea / Gyeonggi-do

(3) August 1, 2011

(4) Sister city

Otaru

(1) Nakhodka

(2) Russia

(3) September 12, 1966

(4) Sister city

(1) Dunedin

(2) New Zealand

(3) July 25, 1980

(4) Sister city

(1) Gangseo-gu, Seoul

(2) Korea

(3) July 22, 2010

(4) Sister city

Asahikawa

(1) Bloomington

(2) U.S.A / Illinois

(3) October 11, 1962

(4) Sister city

(1) Normal

(2) U.S.A / Illinois

(3) July 7, 1987

(4) Sister city

(1) Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk

(2) Russia / Sakhalin State

(3) November 10, 1967

(4) Friendship city

(1) Suwon

(2) Korea / Gyeonggi-do

(3) October 17, 1989

(4) Sister city

(1) Harbin

(2) China / Heilongjiang

(3) November 21, 1995

(4) Friendship city

Muroran

(1) Knoxville

(2) U.S.A / Tennessee

(3) January 16, 1991

(4) Sister city

(1) Rizhao

(2) China / Shandong

(3) July 26, 2002

(4) Friendship city

Kushiro

(1) Burnaby

(2) Canada / British Columbia

(3) September 9, 1965

(4) Sister city

(1) Kholmsk

(2) Russia / Sakhalin State

(3) August 27, 1975

(4) Sister city

Obihiro

- (1) Seward
- (2) U.S.A / Alaska
- (3) March 27, 1968
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Chaoyang
- (2) China / Liaoning
- (3) November 17, 2000
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Madison
- (2) U.S.A / Wisconsin
- (3) October 25, 2006
- (4) Sister city

Kitami

- (1) Elizabeth
- (2) U.S.A / New Jersey
- (3) June 12, 1969
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Poronaysk
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) August 13, 1972
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Jinju
- (2) Korea / Gyeongsangnam-do
- (3) May 16, 1985
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Barrhead
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) July 4, 1991
- (4) Sister city

Yubari

- (1) Fushun
- (2) China / Liaoning
- (3) April 19, 1982
- (4) Friendship city

Iwamizawa

- (1) Pocatello
- (2) U.S.A / Idaho
- (3) May 20, 1985
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Canby
- (2) U.S.A / Oregon
- (3) July 19, 1989
- (4) Sister city

Abashiri

- (1) Port Alberni
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) February 9, 1986
- (4) Sister city

Rumoi

- (1) Ulan Ude
- (2) Russia / Buryat
- (3) July 5, 1972
- (4) Sister city

Tomakomai

- (1) Napier
- (2) New Zealand
- (3) April 22, 1980
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Qinhuangdao
- (2) China / Hebei
- (3) September 1, 1998
- (4) Friendship city

Wakkanai

- (1) Nevelsk
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) September 8, 1972
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Baguio
- (2) Philippines
- (3) March 20, 1973

(4) Sister city

- (1) Korsakov
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) July 2, 1991
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) September 9, 2001
- (4) Friendship city

Ashibetsu

- (1) Charlottetown
- (2) Canada / Prince Edward Island
- (3) July 1, 1993
- (4) Sister city

Ebetsu

- (1) Gresham
- (2) U.S.A / Oregon
- (3) May 20, 1977
- (4) Sister city

Akabira

- (1) Samcheok
- (2) Korea / Gangwon-do
- (3) July 18, 1997
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Yueyang, Miluo
- (2) China/ Hunan
- (3) September 30, 1999
- (4) Friendship city

Mombetsu

- (1) Newport
- (2) U.S.A / Oregon
- (3) April 8, 1966
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Korsakov
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State

- (3) January 12, 1991
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Fairbanks
- (2) U.S.A / Alaska
- (3) February 8, 1991
- (4) Sister city

Shibetsu

- (1) Goulburn Mulwaree
- (2) Australia / New South Wales
- (3) July 3, 1999
- (4) Sister city

Nayoro

- (1) Kawartha Lakes
- (2) Canada / Ontario
- (3) August 1, 1969
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Dolinsk
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) March 25, 1991
- (4) Friendship city

Nemuro

- (1) Sitka
- (2) U.S.A / Alaska
- (3) December 19, 1975
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Severokurilisk
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) January 27, 1994
- (4) Sister city

Chitose

- (1) Anchorage
- (2) U.S.A / Alaska
- (3) April 21, 1969
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Kongsberg

- (2) Norway / Buskerud
- (3) August 31, 1988
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Changchun
- (2) China / Jilin
- (3) October 11, 2004
- (4) Friendship city

Takikawa

- (1) Springfield
- (2) U.S.A / Massachusetts
- (3) August 7, 1993
- (4) Sister city

Fukagawa

- (1) Abbotsford
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) September 14, 1998
- (4) Sister city

Furano

- (1) Schladming
- (2) Austria / Steiermark
- (3) February 23, 1977
- (4) Friendship city

Noboribetsu

- (1) Saipan
- (2) U.S.A / Northern Mariana Islands
- (3) November 20, 2006
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Faaborg-Midtfyn
- (2) Denmark / Region of Southern Denmark
- (3) June 10, 2007
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Guangzhou
- (2) China / Guangdong
- (3) November 15, 2012
- (4) Friendship city

Eniwa

- (1) Timaru
- (2) New Zealand / Canterbury Region
- (3) February 13, 2008
- (4) Sister city

Date

- (1) Lake Cowichan
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) October 6, 1989
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Zhangzhou
- (2) China / Fujian
- (3) April 7, 2010
- (4) Friendship city

Ishikari

- (1) Campbell River
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) October 24, 1983
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Vanino
- (2) Russia / Khabarovsk Region
- (3) June 3, 1993
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Pengzhou
- (2) China / Sichuan
- (3) October 24, 2000
- (4) Sister city

Naie

- (1) Hausjarvi
- (2) Finland / Häme
- (3) April 1, 1995
- (4) Friendship city

Kamisunagawa

- (1) Sparwood
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) September 23, 1980
- (4) Sister city

Numata

- (1) Port Hardy
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) September 3, 1994
- (4) Sister city

Tobetsu

- (1) Leksand
- (2) Sweden / Dalarna
- (3) October 5, 1987
- (4) Sister city

Rankoshi

- (1) Saalfelden
- (2) Austria / Salzburg
- (3) October 15, 1969
- (4) Sister city

Kutchan

- (1) St. Moritz
- (2) Switzerland / Graubunden
- (3) March 19, 1964
- (4) Sister city

Shakotan

- (1) Seaside
- (2) U.S.A / Oregon
- (3) May 17, 1966
- (4) Sister city

Yoichi

- (1) East Dunbartonshire
- (2) United Kingdom / Scotland
- (3) November 11, 1997
- (4) Sister city

Sobetsu

- (1) Kemijarvi
- (2) Finland / Lapland
- (3) May 22, 1993
- (4) Friendship city

Shiraoi

- (1) Quesnel
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) July 13, 1981
- (4) Sister city

Shinhidaka

- (1) Lexington
- (2) U.S.A / Kentucky
- (3) July 21, 1988
- (4) Sister city

Nanae

- (1) Concord
- (2) U.S.A / Massachusetts
- (3) November 15, 1997
- (4) Sister city

Setana

- (1) Hanford
- (2) U.S.A / California
- (3) August 11, 1991
- (4) Sister city

Takasu

- (1) Gold Coast
- (2) Australia / Queensland
- (3) November 18, 1995
- (4) Sister city

Kamikawa

- (1) Rocky Mountain House
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) June 21, 1984
- (4) Sister city

Higashikawa

- (1) Canmore
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) July 12, 1989
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Rujiena
- (2) Latvia / Valmiera
- (3) July 17, 2008

(4) Sister city

- (1) Aniva
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin
- (3) September 18, 2019
- (4) Sister city

Kamifurano

- (1) Camrose
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) September 5, 1985
- (4) Friendship city

Shimukappu

- (1) Aspen
- (2) U.S.A / Colorado
- (3) August 29, 1991
- (4) Sister city

Kenbuchi

- (1) Palcamayo
- (2) Peru / Junin
- (3) July 6, 2011
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Tarma
- (2) Peru / Junin
- (3) September 28, 2015
- (4) Sister city

Shimokawa

- (1) Kenora
- (2) Canada / Ontario
- (3) February 16, 2001
- (4) Friendship city

Bifuka

- (1) Ashcroft
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) July 23, 1994
- (4) Friendship city

Embetsu

- (1) Castlegar
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) June 21, 1989
- (4) Sister city

Teshio

- (1) Homer
- (2) U.S.A / Alaska
- (3) April 7, 1984
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Tomary
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) July 28, 1992
- (4) Friendship city

Sarufutsu

- (1) Ozersky
- (2) Russia / Sakhalin State
- (3) December 25, 1990
- (4) Sister village

Esashi

- (1) Solleftea
- (2) Sweden / Vasternorrland
- (3) November 4, 1996
- (4) Sister city

Bihoro

- (1) Cambridge
- (2) New Zealand / Waipa
- (3) October 12, 1997
- (4) Sister city

Tsubetsu

- (1) Ershui Township
- (2) Taiwan / Changhua County
- (3) October 8, 2012
- (4) Friendship city

Kiyosato

- (1) Motueka
- (2) New Zealand / Tasman
- (3) September 7, 1997

(4) Friendship city

Saroma

- (1) Palmer
- (2) U.S.A / Alaska
- (3) October 28, 1980
- (4) Sister city

Engaru

- (1) Bastos
- (2) Brazil / São Paulo
- (3) October 18, 1972
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Moirans-en-Montagne
- (2) France / Jura, Franche-Comte
- (3) May 22, 1998
- (4) Sister city

Yubetsu

- (1) Whitecourt
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) July 17, 1998
- (4) Friendship city

- (1) Selwyn
- (2) New Zealand / Canterbury
- (3) July 14, 2000
- (4) Friendship city

Okoppe

- (1) Stettler
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) June 26, 1990
- (4) Sister city

Shikaoi

- (1) Stony Plain
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) August 26, 1985
- (4) Sister city

Memuro

- (1) Tracy

- (2) U.S.A / California
- (3) August 5, 1989
- (4) Sister city

Taiki

- (1) Dashu, Kaohsiung
- (2) Taiwan
- (3) September 1, 2015
- (4) Friendship exchanges

Hiroo

- (1) Frogn
- (2) Norway / Akershus
- (3) October 22, 1996
- (4) Friendship exchanges

Ikeda

- (1) Penticton
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) May 19, 1977
- (4) Sister city

Toyokoro

- (1) Summerland
- (2) Canada / British Columbia
- (3) June 11, 1996
- (4) Sister city

Honbetsu

- (1) Mitchell
- (2) Australia / Victoria
- (3) September 15, 1991
- (4) Sister city

Ashoro

- (1) Wetaskiwin
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) September 15, 1990
- (4) Sister city

Rikubetsu

- (1) Lacombe
- (2) Canada / Alberta
- (3) July 5, 1986

(4) Sister city

Akkeshi

- (1) Clarence
- (2) Australia / Tasmania
- (3) February 9, 1982
- (4) Sister city

Shiranuka

- (1) Wulai District
- (2) Taiwan / New Taipei City
- (3) July 14, 2017
- (4) Friendship exchanges

Betsukai

- (1) Wasserburg
- (2) Germany / Bayern
- (3) May 10, 1979
- (4) Sister city

Reference

Hokkaido

- (1) Alberta
- (2) Canada
- (3) October 17, 1980
- (4) Sister city partnership

- (1) Heilongjiang
- (2) China
- (3) June 13, 1986
- (4) Friend city partnership

- (1) Massachusetts
- (2) U.S.A
- (3) February 7, 1990
- (4) Sister city

- (1) Sakhalin State
- (2) Russia
- (3) November 22, 1998
- (4) Sister city partnership

- (1) Busan
- (2) Korea

- (3) December 14, 2005
- (4) Friendship exchanges

- (1) Gyeongsangnam-do
- (2) Korea
- (3) June 7, 2006
- (4) Friendship exchanges

- (1) Seoul
- (2) Korea
- (3) October 15, 2010
- (4) Friendship exchanges

- (1) Chiang Mai
- (2) Thailand
- (3) February 26, 2013
- (4) Friendship exchanges

- (1) Jeju Special Self-Governing Province
- (2) Korea
- (3) January 12, 2016
- (4) Friendship exchanges

- (1) Hawaii
- (2) U.S.A
- (3) May 8, 2017
- (4) Friendship exchanges

Consulates

- (1) Name
- (2) Address
- (3) Tel
- (4) Establishment

(1) Consulate-General of the United States of America in Sapporo

- (2) Kita 1-jo Nishi 28-chome, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0821 Japan
<http://sapporo.usconsulate.gov/>
- (3) +81-11-641-1115, +81-11-641-1116, +81-11-641-1117
- (4) June 1952

(1) Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea in Sapporo

- (2) Kita 2-jo Nishi 12-chome 1-3, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0002 Japan
<http://jpn-sapporo.mofat.go.kr/kor>
- (3) +81-11-218-0288
- (4) June 1966

(1) Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo

- (2) Minami 14-jo Nishi 12-chome 2-5, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0914 Japan
http://www1.odn.ne.jp/ruscons_sapporo/
- (3) +81-11-561-3171, +81-11-561-3172
- (4) Oct. 1967

(1) Hakodate Office of the Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo

- (2) Motomachi 14-1, Hakodate 040-0054 Japan
- (3) +81-138-24-8201
- (4) Sept. 2003

(1) Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Sapporo

- (2) Minami 13-jo Nishi 23-chome 5-1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0913 Japan
<http://www.chn-consulate-sapporo.or.jp>
- (3) +81-11-563-5563
- (4) Sept. 1980

(1) Government of Canada Trade Commissioner Service

- (2) Nikko Bldg. 5F, Kita 4-jo Nishi 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0004 Japan
<http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/>
- (3) +81-11-281-6565
- (4) Dec. 2005

Honorary Consulates

- (1) Name
- (2) Address
- (3) Representative
- (4) Establishment

(1) Honorary Consulate of France in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Alliance Française de Sapporo, Minami 2 Nishi 5 Bldg. 2F, Minami 2-jo Nishi 5-chome 10-2, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0062 Japan
Tel: +81-11-261-2771
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. FURUNO Shigeyuki
- (4) Jun. 1958

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Headquarters of NAKAYAMAGUMI Co., Ltd., Kita 19-jo Higashi 1-chome 1-1, Higashi-ku, Sapporo 065-8610 Japan
Tel: +81-11-741-7111
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. NAKAYAMA Shigeru
- (4) Dec. 1969

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Austria in Sapporo

- (2) Television Hokkaido Broadcasting Co., Ltd., Odori-higashi 6-12-4, Chuo-ku, Sapporo, 060-8517 Japan
Tel: +81-11- 232-1117
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. MATSUI Masanori
- (4) Feb. 1972

(1) Honorary Consulate of Finland in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Arcs Co., Ltd., Minami 13-jo Nishi 11-chome 2-32, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-8610 Japan
Tel: +81-11-530-6012
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. YOKOYAMA Kiyoshi
- (4) Aug. 1973

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Federative Republic of Brazil in Sapporo

- (2) GlanzOsamura Bldg. 706, Kita 12-jo Nishi 4-chome 2-12, Kita-ku, Sapporo 001-0012 Japan
Tel: +81-11-600-4693
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. YAMAUTI Monica
- (4) Feb. 1979

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Belgium in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Secoma Company Ltd., Park 9.5 Bldg., Minami 9-jo Nishi 5-chome, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-8620 Japan
Tel: +81-11-511-2796
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. AKAO Hiroaki
- (4) Mar. 1980

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of the Philippines in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Nippon Food Manufacturer, Hachiken 1-jo Nishi 1-chome 2-10, Nishi-ku, Sapporo 063-0841 Japan
Tel: +81-11-614-8090
- (3) Honorary Consul-General: Ken Luis Tobe
- (4) Jun. 1983

(1) Royal Danish Honorary Consulate in Sapporo

- (2) c/o The Hokkaido Bank, Ltd., Odori Nishi 4-chome 1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8676 Japan
Tel: +81-11-233-1256
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. SEKIHACHI Yoshihiro
- (4) Mar. 1986

(1) Honorary Consulate of New Zealand in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Kinotoya Co., Ltd., Wall 202, Kita 2-jo Nishi 10-chome 2-7, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0002
Japan
Tel: +81-11-596-6835
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. NAGANUMA Akio
- (4) Jul. 1990

(1) Honorary Consulate of Norway in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Marusui Holdings Co., Ltd., Kita 12-jo Nishi 20-chome 2-1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-8505
Japan
Tel: +81-11-643-1234
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. MUTO Osamu
- (4) Jan. 1996

(1) Honorary Consulate of Canada in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Canada Palace, Poseidon Maruyama 2F, Odori Nishi 26-chome 1-3, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 064-0820 Japan
Tel: +81-11-643-2520
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. IHARA Keiji
- (4) Nov. 1996

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Spain in Sapporo

- (2) c/o North Pacific Bank, Ltd., Odori Nishi 3-chome 7, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0042 Japan
Tel: +81-11-261-4288
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. ISHII Junji
- (4) Jan. 1999

(1) Honorary Consulate of Mongolia in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Sapporo Daiichi Kousan Co., Ltd., Daiichi Bldg., 8F, Kita 4-jo Nishi 16-chome 1, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0004 Japan
Tel: +81-11-611-2626
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. TAKEBE Tsutomu
- (4) May 1999

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Lithuania in Sapporo

- (2) c/o Odori Fujii Bldg., Odori Nishi 11-chome 4, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0042 Japan
Tel: +81-11-221-3939
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. FUJII Masahiro
- (4) Jul. 2004

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in Kushiro

- (2) c/o Daiei Sangyo Co., Ltd., Omachi Bldg. 4F, Omachi 1-chome 1-10, Kushiro 085-0847 Japan
Tel: +81-154-44-1040
- (3) Honorary Consul: Mr. NAKAJIMA Taro
- (4) Nov. 2010

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Federated States of Micronesia in Kushiro

- (2) c/o Mitsuwa Syoukai Co., Ltd., Situs Bldg. 2F, Tottori-minami 5-chome 12-5, Kushiro 084-0905 Japan

Tel: +81-154-61-5151

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KURIBAYASHI Nobutsugi

(4) Dec. 2010

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Guatemala in Sapporo

(2) c/o Nagoya Tax Accounting Office, Nagoya Bldg., Kita 19-jo Nishi 3-chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo 001-0019 Japan

Tel: +81-11-716-7412

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. NAGOYA Takao

(4) Apr. 2011

(1) Honorary Consulate of Ireland in Sapporo

(2) c/o Dimplex Japan Co., Ltd., Takimoto Bldg. 3F, Kita 1-jo Nishi 7-chome 4, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-0001 Japan

Tel: +81-11-221-2451

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KASAMA Seiji

(4) Nov. 2012

(1) Honorary Consulate of Papua New Guinea in Muroran

(2) c/o Kuribayashi & Co., Ltd., Irie 1-ban 19-go, Muroran 051-0023 Japan

Tel: +81-143-24-7011

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KURIBAYASHI Kazunori

(4) September 2015

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Fiji in Ebetsu (Hokkaido)

(2) c/o Hokusho Co., Ltd., Ebetsubuto 305-15, Ebetsu 067-0022 Japan

Tel: +81-11-382-8459

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. SHIMIZU Chikayuki

(4) Dec. 2017

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Lao Peoples Democratic Republic in Hakodate

(2) c/o Hakodate Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Wakamatsu-cho 7-15, Hakodate 040-0063 Japan

Tel: +81-138- 23-1181

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KUBO Toshiyuki

(4) Dec. 2019

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Ghana in Sapporo

(2) c/o Hokkaido Research Institute for the Twenty-first Century Co., Ltd., Hokuyo Bldg., 6F, Odori Nishi 3-chome 11, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8640 Japan

Tel: +81-11-231-3053

(2) Honorary Consul: Mr. ISHII Itaru

(3) May 2021

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Belarus in Hakodate

(2) c/o Answer Co., Ltd., Chiyogadai-cho 12-25, Hakodate 040-0013 Japan

Tel: +81-138-83-1176

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. MATSUURA Masato

(4) Jun. 2021

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Paraguay in Hakodate

(2) c/o Asahi Corporation Co., Ltd., Higashiyama-cho 185-1, Hakodate 041-0834 Japan

Tel: +81-138-33-5877

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. SAITO Gen

(4) Aug. 2021

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic in Sapporo

(2) c/o Sapporo Breweries Limited, Sapporo Factory Frontier Bldg. 3F, , Kita-1-jo Higashi 4-8-1,
Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8606 Japan

Tel: +81-11-218-8033

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. NOMURA Masahiro

(4) Sep. 2021

(1) Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Uganda in Sapporo

(2) Makomanai Izumi-machi 3-chome 1-7-506, Minami-ku, Sapporo 005-0015 Japan

Tel: 090-7517-6088

(3) Honorary Consul: Mr. KAMEDA Kazuaki

(4) Dec. 2021

Embassies (Countries relating to exchanges with northern and southern regions)

- (1) Name
- (2) Address
- (3) Tel.

(1) Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Japan

- (2) Moto-Azabu 2-14-14, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0046 Japan
<http://www.embargentina.or.jp/index-jp.html>
- (3) +81-3-5420-7101

(1) Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil in Japan

- (2) Kita-Aoyama 2-11-12, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8633 Japan
<http://www.brasemb.or.jp/>
- (3) +81-3-3404-5211

(1) Embassy of Canada in Japan

- (2) Akasaka 7-3-38, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8503 Japan
<http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/japan-japon/>
- (3) +81-3-5412-6200

(1) Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Japan

- (2) Moto-Azabu 3-4-33, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0046 Japan
<http://www.china-embassy.or.jp/jpn/>
- (3) +81-3-3403-3388

(1) Royal Danish Embassy in Japan

- (2) Sarugaku-cho 29-6, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0033 Japan
<http://japan.um.dk/ja.aspx>
- (3) +81-3-3496-3001

(1) Embassy of the Republic of Finland in Japan

- (2) Minami-Azabu 3-5-39, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8561 Japan
<http://www.finland.or.jp>
- (3) +81-3-5447-6000

(1) Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Japan

- (2) Minami-Azabu 4-5-10, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047 Japan
<http://www.tokyo.diplo.de/ja/Startseite.html>
- (3) +81-3-5791-7700

(1) Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Japan

- (2) Minami-Azabu 1-2-5, Minato-ku, Tokyo 160-0047 Japan
<http://jpn-tokyo.mofat.go.kr/jpn/index.jsp>
- (3) +81-3-3452-7611

(1) Embassy of Mongolia in Japan

- (2) Kamiyama-cho 21-4, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0047 Japan
http://www.mn.emb-japan.go.jp/index_j.htm
- (3) +81-3-3469-2088

(1) Royal Norwegian Embassy in Japan

- (2) Minami-Azabu 5-12-2, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047 Japan
<http://www.norway.or.jp/>

(3) +81-3-6408-8100

(1) Embassy of the Republic of Paraguay in Japan

(2) Ichiban-cho Dai-2 TG Bldg. 7F, Ichiban-cho 2-2, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0082 Japan

<http://www.embapar.jp/>

(3) +81-3-3265-5271

(1) Embassy of the Russian Federation in Japan

(2) Azabudai 2-1-1, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0041 Japan

<http://www.russia-emb.jp/>

(3) +81-3-3583-4224

(1) Embassy of the Kingdom of Sweden in Japan

(2) Roppongi 1-10-3-100, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032 Japan

<http://www.swedenabroad.com/tokyoambjp>

(3) +81-3-5562-5050

(1) Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy in Japan

(2) Ichiban-cho 1, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8381 Japan

<http://ukinjapan.fco.gov.uk/ja/>

(3) +81-3-5211-1100

(1) Embassy of the United States of America in Japan

(2) Akasaka 1-10-5, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8420 Japan

<http://japanese.japan.usembassy.gov/>

(3) +81-3-3224-5000

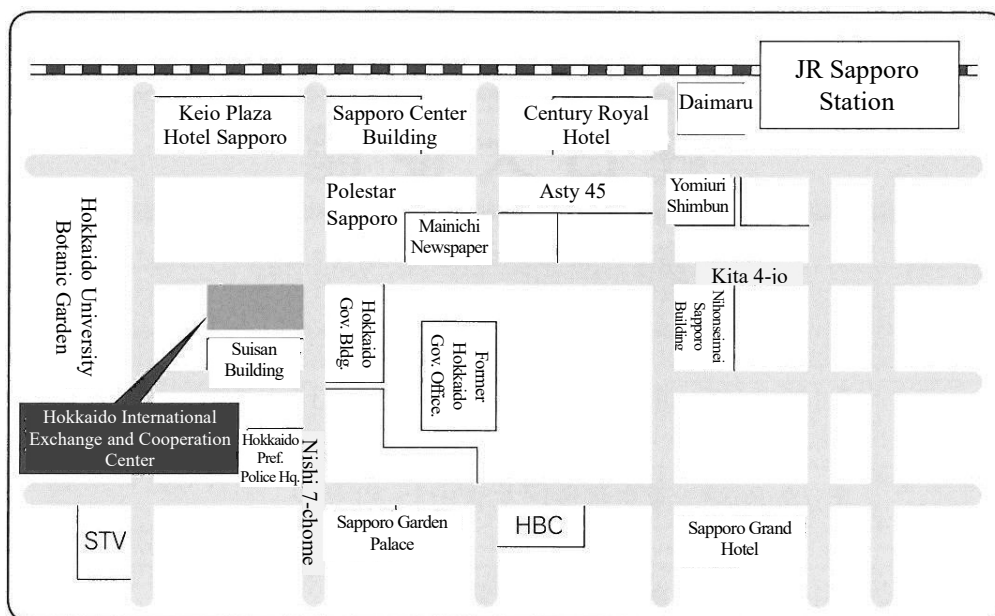
(1) Delegation of the European Union

(2) Europe House, Minami-Azabu 4-6-28, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047 Japan

<http://www.euinjapan.jp/>

(3) +81-3-5422-6001

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