



KAKEHASHI Project (Canada)

Online Alumni Meeting (Japan's Lesser-known Sites)

Follow-up Project Report

1. Program Overview

【Objectives and Overview】

This program was conducted online with the aim of providing past participants of the KAKEHASHI Project (alumni) with opportunities to learn about the appeal of various regions of Japan as travel destinations, as well as to deepen their understanding of Japan's geographical and cultural diversity. By offering a platform where alumni could present their own experiences and insights to other alumni, the program also sought to encourage alumni to participate as presenters in future events.

Furthermore, the program introduced the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) as an expert source of information and resources on travel to Japan. Through promoting understanding of Japan, expanding alumni interest in Japan, and facilitating networking activities—including opportunities for alumni to interact and exchange opinions—the program aimed to strengthen the overall KAKEHASHI alumni network.

【Participants】

Total: 14 participants from Canada and Japan (KAKEHASHI Project alumni from up to FY2025)
(Breakdown) 12 participants from Canada (5 undergraduate/graduate students, 7 working youths)
2 participants from Japan (2 undergraduate/graduate students)

【Locations】 Hokkaido, Akita, Fukushima, Tochigi, Ishikawa, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Aichi, Hyogo, Hiroshima, Kagawa, Fukuoka, Okinawa

【Schedule】

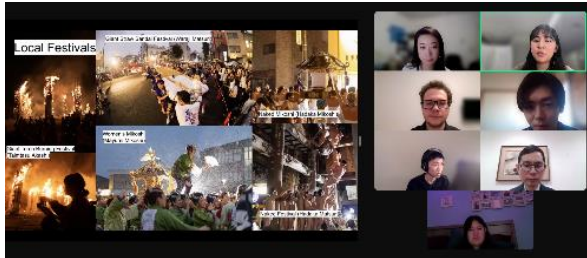
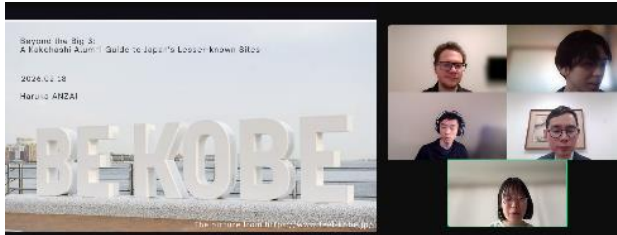
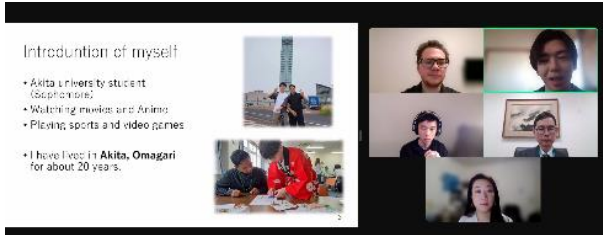
■ Online Visiting Japan Program: February 18 (Wed), 2026

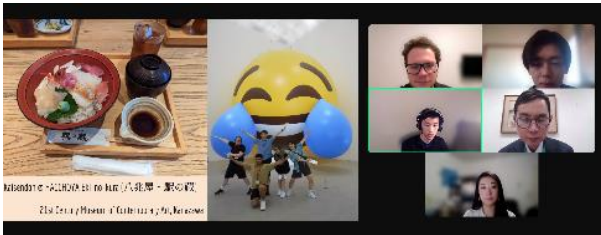
1. Opening Remarks
2. Address
Ms. TANAKA Yusuke, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan in Canada
3. Presentation
“JNTO's Top 3 Japan Hotspots (Naoshima, Hida Takayama/Shirakawa-go, Hakodate)”
“Nikko and Fukuoka”
Presenter: Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
4. Presentations by Alumni Representatives
“Fukushima” Ms. Annabelle Purnomo (FY2019 Inbound program for 2019 Japan Bowls in the U.S. and Canada alumna)

“Nagoya” Mr. Alexandre Lemay (FY2024 Japanese Language Communication (Canada) alumnus)
 “Miyajima and Hakone” Mr. Darren Chen, Mr. Dinh Viet Luong (Japanese Language Communication (Canada) and Japan Bowl (Canada) alumnus), (Pre-recorded video)
 “Kobe” Ms. ANZAI Haruka (FY2025 Visiting Canada Program for University Students participant)
 “Akita” Mr. KONNO Rio (FY2025 Visiting Canada Program for University Students participant)
 “Miyakojima” Mr. Kim Aban (FY2024 Invitation Program for Canadian Young Leaders alumnus), (Pre-recorded video)
 “Ishikawa” Mr. Terrence Sim (FY2023 Invitation Program for Japan Bowl (Canada) alumnus)
 “Izu Peninsula” Ms. Jasdeep Chahal, FY2022 KAKEHASHI Project alumna

5. Q&A Session
6. Closing Remarks

2. Program Photos

	
【Presentations by Alumni Representatives】 Ms. Annabelle Purnomo	【Presentations by Alumni Representatives】 Mr. Alexandre Lemay
	
【Presentations by Alumni Representatives】 Ms. ANZAI Haruka	【Presentations by Alumni Representatives】 Mr. KONNO Rio

	
【Presentations by Alumni Representatives】 Mr. Terrence Sim	【Q&A Session】

3. Voices from the Organizers (excerpt)

- Engaging participants from the current program year before their travel to Japan on Kakehashi set up a clear precedent for continued participation in alumni activities and heightened their excitement about the program.
- The event highlighted diverse localities across Japan from Okinawa up to Hokkaido, providing practical insights for travel planning to these regions. Alumni spoke enthusiastically about their favorite spots in Japan and reaction to the presentations was very positive.

Implementation Agency: Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APF Canada)