



KAKEHASHI Project Alumni Meeting (Toronto) Follow-up Project Report

1. Program Overview

【Objectives】

- To celebrate the release of the Canadian edition of Catfish Rolling, a novel by Japanese-Canadian author and KAKEHASHI Project alumna Clara Kumagai (participated in 2016)
- To provide an opportunity for networking among KAKEHASHI alumni and others interested in Japan
- To promote the KAKEHASHI Project and Japan
- To introduce the Japan Foundation, Toronto's programs and facilities to new potential patrons

【Participants】

- Total attendees: 31 (KAKEHASHI alumni attendees:4, General attendees:28)
- Speakers: 2 (Rui Umezawa & Clara Kumagai)

【Locations】 Toronto, Ontario, Canada

【Schedule】

Oct. 12, 2023 (Thu)

5:00 pm Event opening

5:10 pm Opening remarks & land acknowledgement Christine Nakamura – APF Canada

5:15 pm Welcome remarks Consul Matsui Masahiro – Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto

5:20 pm Moderator remarks Rui Umezawa

5:25 pm Author talk and interview Rui Umezawa & Clara Kumagai

6:00 pm Book sales & signing, networking

6:30 pm Event close

2. Program Photos

	
Welcome remarks by Consul Matsui	Author talk and interview Rui Umezawa & Clara Kumagai
	
Author talk and interview Clara Kumagai	The atmosphere of the event
	
KAKEHASHI alumni members	A group photo of the organizers

3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

- ◆ Great to hear from someone who has mixed Japanese heritage. Of course, very happy to hear about her book too.
- ◆ Very interesting to know her experience, background and passion toward writing! I enjoyed a lot.
- ◆ Great author. Great conversation.
- ◆ Lovely space.
- ◆ A mic may be valuable for harder hearing.
- ◆ Maybe a microphone as it was a little hard to hear at times.
- ◆ I enjoyed the environment as well as the conversation shared. I look forward to reading the book.
- ◆ Very interesting and informative. Love hearing from authors.

- ◆ The way she talked about the book being a beautiful way of marking time was beautiful.
- ◆ I enjoyed very much. It made me interested in reading the book.

4. Disseminations by the Participants

	Oct 14, 2023, Instagram Great turnout for the Canadian launch of #KAKEHASHI alum Clara Kumagai's novel Catfish Rolling last night. Thanks to all who joined and all who supported for making it possible.
	Oct 14, 2023, Facebook On October 12, KAKEHASHI Project alumni and local book lovers gathered at The Japan Foundation, Toronto to listen to author and KAKEHASHI alum Clara Kumagai discuss her novel Catfish Rolling, released in Canada earlier this month. Thanks to moderator Rui Umezawa, the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto for their support, and all who joined.
	Oct 14, 2023, Instagram Great to see 2023-24 Japan-Canada KAKEHASHI Japan Bowl alumnae and alumnae at last night's Catfish Rolling KAKEHASHI Alumni Network event! Enjoy the book!

Cooperative organization: Japan Foundation Toronto, Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto, Penguin Random House Canada

Implementation agency: Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC)