



KAKEHASHI Project (Canada)

Online Alumni Meeting (Finding your Way back to Japan: Government Programs & Exchange Opportunities for KAKEHASHI Alumni) Follow-up Project Report

1. Program Overview

【Objective and Overview】

This program aimed to strengthen the alumni network through an online meeting where KAKEHASHI Project alumni learned from the staff of the Embassy of Japan in Canada and the Japan Foundation Toronto about opportunities such as the JET Program, MEXT scholarships, and grants and fellowships offered by the Japan Foundation. By hearing first-hand experiences from alumni who have studied in Japan, the program promoted understanding of Japan, increased interest in Japan, and facilitated networking and exchange of opinions among alumni.

【Participants】 Total: 19 participants from Canada

【Location】 Canada

【Schedule】

■ Online Alumni Meeting :

Oct. 10 (Thu), 2024

1. Opening Remarks & Land Acknowledgement

APF Canada

2. Welcome Remarks

Ms. Akiko Yamasaki, Director of the Information and Culture Section, Embassy of Japan in Canada

3. Presentation

① “The JET Programme: An overview”

Ms. Amanda Azzi, Embassy of Japan in Canada

② “The JET experience”

Ms. Hafsa Hasna Kaouache, FY2019 KAKEHASHI Japanese Language Communication Inbound Program Alumna

③ “The MEXT Scholarship Program”

Ms. Sabrina Gauthier, Embassy of Japan in Canada

④ “The MEXT experience”

Mr. Daniel Yuan Yang Qi, FY2022 KAKEHASHI Undergraduate Students Inbound Program Alumnus

⑤ “Japan Foundation grants and fellowships: An overview”

Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, Japan Foundation, Toronto

⑥ “The university exchange experience: How to start”

Ms. Jessica Wing Chen, FY2023 KAKEHASHI Invitation Program for Japan Bowl Alumna

⑦ “The university exchange experience: Looking back”

Mr. Zachary Bélanger, FY2022 KAKEHASHI Japanese Language Communication Inbound Program Alumnus

4. Group photos
5. Q&A from the floor
6. Closing Remarks

2. Program Photos

	
【Presentation】“Japan Foundation grants and fellowships: An overview”	【Presentation】 “The MEXT Scholarship Program”
	
【Presentation】 “The JET Programme: An overview”	【Presentation】 “The MEXT experience”
	
【Presentation】“The university exchange experience: How to start”	【Presentation】 “The JET experience”

	
【 Presentation 】 “The university exchange experience: Looking back”	【 Presentation 】 “The university exchange experience: Looking back”

3. Disseminations by the organizer (excerpt)

Big thanks to all the Kakehashi alumni who joined us for last night's online event to learn about Japanese government and university programs that provide opportunities for Canadians to study in and about Japan. And huge thanks to the experts and alums who shared their knowledge and experience. Missed the event or just want to learn more about post-Kakehashi opportunities to return to Japan? Look out for your invitation to our event on working in Japan and for Japanese organizations later this month. Watch this space! #KakehashiProject #Kakehashi2024 #KakehashiCanada #ProjetKakehashi 	October 10, 2024 (Facebook) Big thanks to all the Kakehashi alumni who joined us for last night's online event to learn about Japanese government and university programs providing opportunities for Canadians to study in/about Japan. And huge thanks to the experts and alums who shared their knowledge and experience. Missed the event or just want to learn more about post-Kakehashi opportunities to return to Japan? Look out for your invitation to our event on working in Japan and for Japanese organizations later this month. Watch this space!
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4. Voices from the alumni who gave presentations (excerpt)

- Kakehashi was definitely one of the best memories I have ever had in my life.
- The Kakehashi Project was a romantic whirlwind and inspired me to take the leap to study in Japan.
- Living in Japan is a once in a lifetime experience that will stick with you for the rest of your life.
- The Kakehashi program was a short visit to Japan, where we saw a really cool introduction to the country, it's culture, and people.
- Living in Japan has given me a more global perspective and cultural awareness. I have also gained a deeper appreciation for people who have immigrated to Canada and how challenging starting a life far from home can be.
- If you are thinking about coming to Japan to study, I absolutely recommend it. You will not be sorry.
- Living in Japan exceeded my expectations. There are so many things to do and places to explore. Some things were difficult to adjust to but by the end I did not want to return home.
- I have only been back in Canada for just over 2 months, and I already miss it. I hope to return after I graduate and do JET.

Implementation agency: Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC)