

# **Consulate Updates**

## April/May 2021

## **Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane**

## **Contact Us**

Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane 17th Floor, 12 Creek Street Brisbane QLD. 4000 Phone: (07) 3221 5188 Fax: (07) 3229 0878

jpncg@bb.mofa.go.jp http://www.brisbane.au.embjapan.go.jp

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Hanami Japanese Morse Code Workshop

### Office Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00am – 12:30pm 1:30pm – 5:00pm

Consular Section (Reception – visa / passports) 9:00am – 12:00pm 1:30pm – 4:00pm

### Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk, MP, Premier and Minister for Trade of Queensland, at his residence. Premier was welcomed by displays of Ikebana, which included a variety of Chrysanthemum named 'Annastacia' (centre in the photos), prepared by Mrs TANAKA, Katoku master instructor of the Ikebono school of Japanese flower arranging.

It was a wonderful opportunity

## Meeting with the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk, MP, Premier and Minister for Trade of Queensland

On Friday, 19 March 2021, Consul-General TANAKA had the pleasure of meeting with the

to discuss ways to further strengthen the Queensland-Japan relationship. As we pass the milestone of 125 years of official ties between Japan and Queensland since the first ever Consulate office of Japan in Australia was established in Townsville in 1896, we look forward to further cooperation in supporting the post-COVID economic recovery across various sectors, especially in renewable energy including hydrogen, trade and tourism industries.

Thank you Premier for the opportunity to discuss exciting opportunities for Queensland and Japan.

## Recommended Websites

Embassy of Japan, Canberra http://www.au.emb-japan.go.jp

The Japan Foundation, Sydney http://www.jpf.org.au/

Japan National Tourism Organization http://www.jnto.org.au/

Japan External Trade Organization http://www.jetro.go.jp/

Japan Exchange Teaching (JET) Programme http://www.jetprogramme.org/

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) http://www.mofa.go.jp/

## Courtesy Call to the Hon. Cameron Dick MP, Treasurer & Minister for Investment

On Wednesday, 17 March 2021, Consul-General TANAKA met the Hon. Cameron Dick

MP, Treasurer and Minister for Investment at the Treasurer's office.

Japan has a long-term history of investment in Queensland in a wide range of sectors including agriculture and resources, which has been mutually beneficial for many years.

Discussed was the development of Japan and Queensland respective hydrogen industries and how this emerging sector will further deepen the economic partnership we share.

Consul-General TANAKA and Minister Dick also spoke about possibilities to enhance investment opportunities in general for Japanese businesses in Queensland.

We look forward to building on this strong foundation and further strengthening our economic relations!

### 2021 Office Closure Dates

<u>APRIL</u> Monday 26 (ANZAC DAY)

#### MAY

Monday 3 (Labour Day)

#### <u>JULY</u>

Friday 23 (Health and Sports Day)

#### **AUGUST**

Wednesday 11 (Royal Queensland Show)

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Monday 20 (Respect for the Aged Day)

> For the full list, please click <u>here</u>.

## Courtesy Call to the Hon. Scott Stewart MP, Minister of Resources



On Tuesday, 6 April 2021, Consul-General TANAKA met the Hon. Scott Stewart MP, Minister for Resources.

Japan's early investment, beginning in the late 1950s, saw the development of Queensland's resources sector run parallel with Japan being able to support its economic miracle.

Over the past six decades, Japanese companies have continued to invest in the sector, contributing to economic growth and social development in regional communities throughout the state.

Against the backdrop of transitioning and diversifying energy mixes, the present-day bilateral relationship in the resources industry is seeing a new wave of investment interest.

Consul-General TANAKA and Minister Stewart spoke in depth of the opportunities which lie ahead for Japanese companies in Queensland, specifically regarding metallurgical coal for steel making and new economy minerals, which are considered to be abundant in the North West Minerals Province.



Office Closure Notice Monday, 26 April 2021 Monday, 3 May 2021



The Consulate-General of Japan in Brisbane is observing the State public holidays and will be closed on Monday, 26 April 2021 (ANZAC Day) and Monday, 3 May 2021 (Labour Day). The office will re-open on the following Tuesdays.

For a full list of office closure dates for 2020, please visit:

<u>https://www.brisbane.au.emb-</u> japan.go.jp/en/about/index.html#officeclosure2021

## Hanami (花見) Cherry-Blossom Viewing

https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/calendar/april/hanami.html

The arrival of cherry blossoms signals the end of chilly winter weather in Japan. The blossoms appear first in Kyushu around the end of March and spread northward as the weather warms, reaching Tokyo in late March/early April and Hokkaido by mid-May. Japan's weather bureau issues forecasts of where the "cherry-blossom front" is moving, and newspapers report the process from first flowering to full bloom in each major city.

People celebrate the flowering of cherry blossoms by moving outdoors - holding hanami picnics under the trees. These gatherings can be outings with family members, friends, or colleagues.





There are many sites around the country famous for their spectacular blossoms, such as parks, temple and shrine grounds, and cherry-lined streets, and at many of them cherry-blossom festivals are held. They are also popular hanami sites, and they tend to be very crowded while the flowers are in bloom.

While we aren't able to enjoy them in person this year, we hope you will enjoy the beautiful photos of cherry blossoms in Tokyo, taken by our former Consul of Cultural Affairs Mr Hayakawa.

## Japanese Morse Code Workshop



### Discover the language of Japanese Morse Code!

In this workshop run by The JET Alumni Association of Queensland (JETAAQLD), you will learn to send and decode messages in Japanese Morse Code ("Wabun Code"). You will also be immersed in the history of Japanese Morse Code and its role in Japanese naval missions in the Pacific in WWII and current day.

The event will be conducted in English, but some degree of Japanese proficiency is required.

Date: Friday, 30 April 2021 (Coincides with Morse Day on April 27th.) Time: 5:30pm - 7pm Venue: Community Library Meeting Room, Brisbane Square Library Cost: FREE Event Link: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/japanese-morse-decoded-tickets-</u> 148518465729

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The Consulate-General of Japan newsletter features people-to-people exchanges and friendships between Japan and Australia. If you are involved in sister school friendships, exchanges or Japan-Australia related programs such as the JET Programme and would like to submit an article to be published in our newsletter, please email us at: jpncg@bb.mofa.go.jp

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#### **Consulate Updates – Past Issues**

Past issues of "Consulate Updates" (PDF) can also be accessed via the Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane Website at: https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\_en/jicc\_newsletters.html

#### Consulate-General of Japan – Cultural Loans Program

The Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane offers a Cultural Loans Program!

We have a wide range of Japanese cultural items available for teachers or persons/organisations in Queensland promoting or teaching Japanese culture. Items include DVDs on a wide range of Japanese subjects, toys, CDs, games, calligraphy sets, plastic food, traditional clothing, musical instruments and more! The items are free to borrow; the visual and tactile experience of a cultural prop contributes to a richer classroom experience.

For further information, please visit the link below to access catalogues and forms or call our office on (07) 3221 5188: http://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/en/jicc/resources.html

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#### Like Our Facebook Page!

For the latest news and updates on Japanese culture related events, visit: https://www.facebook.com/JapanCons.Brisbane

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We respect your privacy. We will not disclose your personal details to any third party.

The Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane is not affiliated with the above events unless stated, and is not responsible for these events or the content of linked websites. For further details on any of the above events, please contact the event organisers directly.

If you know of any upcoming Japan-related events and would like to publicise them in our e-newsletter, please e-mail the details through to us at: jpncg@bb.mofa.go.jp

The final choice of articles will be at the discretion of the Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane.