

# Japan- Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum

Toward a sustainable Economic and Social Development :  
Challenges in the Aging Society in Canada and Japan

February 15-23, 2014  
Hosted and Organized by  
Meiji University, Tokyo, Japan

in cooperation with  
Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research,  
University of Alberta

**FINAL REPORT**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANIZER

The Japan-Canada Academic Student Forum was born in February 2010, and this year we conducted the 5<sup>th</sup> forum, which Meiji University hosted in Tokyo for second time under the “Japan Canada Academic Consortium”. It was a challenge but quite an honor for us. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to everybody who was involved in this program.

The opportunity for students from both countries to gather together here in Tokyo and share their experiences was great, not only for themselves but also for the future bilateral relationship between Canada and Japan, and eventually between other nations. Although there are some fundamental differences between Canada and Japan, such as geographical area, ethnic composition, language, and history, both nations share the concept of valuing global issues like peace building, human rights, and environmental protection, and we actually contribute to those issues. The forum gave the opportunity for promising Canadian and Japanese students to discuss the global issues and solutions for them.

We set “Aging Society” as the theme of this year’s forum and arranged related lectures, discussions, and study trips, so that students could encounter the issues in diverse ways. Also, we included a study excursion to the robotic care system in Tsukuba, to showcase “Technology in the aging society”, as well as the current conservation awareness of Japanese people. We believe that the forum succeeded in providing young “living-in-the-present” students with opportunities for them to find, learn, and consider about their own country and bilateral relationships between Canada and Japan in the future.

We were especially honored by the presence of Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado during the closing ceremony and for the congratulatory words from Her Imperial Highness to all those present. We would like to also extend a special thanks to the Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund, the Embassy of Canada, the Government of Alberta, Canada-Japan Office, the University of Alberta, and the members of the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium, who have been supporting this annual event.

Lastly, we do hope the forum will continue and develop as an opportunity that can cultivate “global citizens”. We are looking forward to meeting again in Quebec City next year.

- Professor Etsuko Katsu, Vice-President International, Meiji University

## **ABOUT THE FORUM**

The Fifth Annual Japan-Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum was held in February 2014 at Meiji University in Tokyo with a theme of Toward a Sustainable Economic and Social Development: Challenges in Aging Society in Canada and Japan. Fourteen students from eight Japanese universities as well as fourteen students from eight Canadian universities were brought together to share and learn from each other's experiences.

As Canadian secretariat to the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium, it has been a great pleasure for the Prince Takamado Japan Centre at the University of Alberta to watch the growth and evolution of the JACAC Forum over the years. Every year we find better and more innovative ways to partner with our fellow JACAC institutions and as such, deliver a better experience to our participating students. The 2014 JACAC Student Forum was a great success. Our goal of uniting students from Japan and Canada to consider the diversity, similarities and issues faced across the globe was expertly achieved due the vision and considerable thought put forward by each and every student. The ability of our student participants to come together and cooperate throughout the demands of this week-long forum speak volumes towards the future of cooperation between Japan and Canada. This year's forum also included a networking session with former JACAC participants, and we hope this year's participants will take active roles in further establishing the JACAC alumni group.

The fact that an aging society is an issue faced by both Canada and Japan made this year's theme particularly noteworthy. Receiving special lectures from academic leaders from various disciplines gave students unique insight into the challenges and opportunities presented by an aging society and their local and international impact. We were extremely honored to have the special presence of Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado and His Excellency Mackenzie Clugston, Ambassador of Canada to Japan, at the closing ceremony and the following reception. It is our hope that the intercultural initiatives begun here at the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum will help to guide our participants in the cooperation of Japan and Canada and support them in the future on the way to becoming leaders of the global community.

We look forward to the future prosperity of our partnership and the continued development of the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium.

- Dr. Kaori Kabata, Director, Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

### **Chair**

Prof. Etsuko Katsu  
*Vice-President, International, Meiji University*

### **Program Coordinators**

Assoc. Prof. Masao Kikuchi (Academic Advisor)  
*Deputy Director, Meiji University International Education Center, Meiji University*

Prof. Takeshi Suzuki  
*Deputy Director, Headquarters of International Collaboration, Meiji University*

Assist. Prof. Manabu Kitawaki  
*Headquarters of International Collaboration, Meiji University*

Ms. Ayako Minami  
*International Collaboration office, Meiji University*

Dr. Kaori Kabata  
*Director, Prince Takamado Japan Centre, University of Alberta*

Ms. Barbara Carter  
*Administrative Coordinator, Prince Takamado Japan Centre, University of Alberta*

## **JACAC MEMBER UNIVERSITIES**

## **Canadian Universities**

University of Alberta  
University of British Columbia  
University of Manitoba  
York University  
Queen's University  
Université de Montréal  
Concordia University  
Université Laval  
University of Prince Edward Island  
University of Waterloo & Renison

## **Japanese Universities**

Meiji University  
Josai International University  
Sophia University  
J.F. Oberlin University  
Tsuda College  
Kwansei Gakuin University  
Hosei University  
Ritsumeikan University  
Kyoto University of Education  
Nagoya University  
Hokkaido University  
Waseda University  
Seinan Gakuin University

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### Canada

Michael Huang, *University of Alberta*  
Joanna Wreakes, *University of Alberta*  
Leila Molnar, *Universite de Montreal*  
Jiayu Feng, *University of British Columbia*  
Lina Zdruli, *University of British Columbia*  
Anne Sophie Roussel, *Laval University*  
Cory Bentley, *Queen's University*  
Meagan Berlin, *Queen's University*  
Hasina Daya, *Queen's University*  
Chizara Anucha, *York University*  
Charu Jaiswal, *York University*  
Vanessa MacKinnon, *University of Prince Edward Island*  
Nicole Warkotsch, *University of Manitoba*  
Kaitlyn Rempel, *University of Manitoba*

### Japan

Takaaki Nakayama, *Kwansei Gakuin University*  
Shuko Ujiie, *Josai International University*  
Yuka Morisaki, *Seinan Gakuin University*  
Saki Irie, *Seinan Gakuin University*  
Shoko Natorigawa, *Tsuda College*  
Saki Tezuka, *Tsuda College*  
Erina Hosono, *Nagoya University*  
Kazuki Shimizu, *Nagoya University*  
Kenta Okuyama, *Hosei University*  
Anna Kajino, *Hosei University*  
Mariko Inokuchi, *Meiji University*  
Chengyu Shi, *Meiji University*  
Yuuka Ueno, *Ritsumeikan University*  
Miki Imamura, *Ritsumeikan University*

## FORUM PROGRAM

Date	Time	Schedule Event
<b>Saturday</b> <b>February 15</b>		Student Arrival in Tokyo
	18:00 - 19:00	Japanese Students' meeting time at hotel café
	19:00 - 21:00	<b>Welcome Dinner at Hotel</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>February 16</b>	13:30 - 15:00	<b>Orientation by Masao Kikuchi (Academic Advisor)</b> Deputy Director, Meiji University International Education Center, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Management, Department of Public Management, Meiji University
	15:10 - 16:40	<b>Lecture by Masako Iino</b> Professor and Past President of Tsuda College <i>"Learning from Canada and Learning from Japan: Canada-Japan Cultural Diplomacy"</i> Professor
	17:30 - 19:30	<b>Networking Session with JACAC Alumni</b> Prepared by JACAC Alumni
<b>Monday</b> <b>February 17</b>	09:00 - 10:30	<b>Group Presentation Workshop by Yojiro Ii</b> Professor of International Business Communication, School of Business Administration, Meiji University
	10:40 - 12:10	<b>Lecture by Hisakazu Kato</b> Professor of Social Security and Demography, School of Political Science and Economics, Meiji University <i>"Demographic Change, Social Security Problems and Financial Crisis in Japan"</i>
	13:30 - 15:30	<b>Group work</b>
	16:30 - 17:00	<b>Canadian Embassy Tour (Library and Gallery visits)</b>
	17:00 - 18:00	<b>Presentation on the 85th Anniversary of Canada-Japan Diplomatic Relations by the Canadian Embassy</b>
	18:00 - 19:00	<b>Networking Reception hosted by Canadian Embassy</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>February 18</b>	09:00 - 10:30	<b>Lecture by Seiichiro Nanai</b> Professor Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management & Information Sciences, Josai International University <i>"Marketing Activities in Aging Society"</i>

10:45 - 17:30	<b>Field trip</b> CYBERDYNE Studio Visit (Robot suit for welfare) Sumida Silver Plaza Umewaka

**Wednesday,  
February 19**

09:00 - 10:30	<b>Lecture by Kensaku Hogen</b> Senior Guest Professor, International Collaboration Organization, Meiji University, Former Ambassador of Japan to Canada, President of The Canada-Japan Society <i>"Canada: A Case Study for 2050"</i>
10:40 - 12:10	<b>Lecture by Masao Kikuchi, Academic Advisor</b> Associate Professor of Public Policy and Management, Department of Public Management, Meiji University <i>"Toward a Productive, Healthy and Bright Aging Society in a Globalized World: From a Forerunner of Emerging Issues and Challenges"</i>
13:30 - 17:00	<b>Group work</b>

**Thursday,  
February 20**

09:00 - 17:00	<b>Group work</b>
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**Friday,  
February 21**

09:00 - 11:00	<b>Group work</b>
13:00 - 15:30	<b>Final Presentation</b> 15 minute presentation; 5 minute Q & A
16:00 - 16:45	<b>Closing Ceremony</b>
17:30 - 19:00	<b>Closing Ceremony and Reception</b>

**Saturday,  
February 22**

All Day	<b>Exploration Day</b> Tokyo Japan
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**Sunday,  
February 23**

All Day	<b>Departure from Tokyo</b>
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## **GUEST SPEAKER PROFILES AND LECTURE ABSTRACTS**

### **Professor Masako Iino:**

Professor Emeritus and Past President (2004-2012) of Tsuda College Recipient of Canadian Prime Minister's Awards for Publishing, Governor Generals' International Award for Canadian Studies from International Council for Canadian Studies.

#### Lecture Abstract:

While the societies of Canada and Japan have distinct cultural differences, we in both countries are also aware that the two countries have a great deal in common and share quite similar challenges, including problems of an aging society. In order to tackle these challenges, we in Japan and Canada both have to learn from each other.

How do we learn from each other? The JACAC Forum is, of course, a very good opportunity for learning from each other. In my talk I would like to show you an example of two academic associations, the Japanese Association for Canadian Studies (JACS), and the Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC). Both associations have endeavored to promote mutual understanding between Canada and Japan from various perspectives. The associations can be seen as part of the cultural diplomacies of Canada and Japan. They show us how we can contribute to the friendly relationship of the two countries.

### **Professor Yojiro Ii**

Professor of International Business Communication, School of Business Administration, Meiji University

#### Lecture Abstract:

This lecture aims to provide the student with the knowledge of and insight into intercultural communication to facilitate group work for the final presentation. To this end, the following topics will be discussed:

1. The nature of intercultural communication: communication model, barriers, culture, cultural values, languages, communication patterns (e.g., thought patterns, chronemics, proxemics, silence), and negotiation styles.
2. Tips on giving presentations: different attitudes toward public speaking, purposes of presentation, structure of presentation, audience analysis, formats of presentation, visual aids, rehearsals, delivery, Q&A, and group presentations.

### **Professor Hisakazu Kato**

Professor of Social Security and Demography, School of Political Science and Economics, Meiji University

Lecture Abstract:

Japan is facing a depopulating society and has been forced to respond to aging. According to the latest forecast by the Government, the total population is expected to enter a long period of depopulation and the population will decrease to 87 million in 2060 from 127 million in 2010. First, I will introduce the trends and changes of the Japanese population, and describe the outline of the social security system in Japan. Then, I will explain how the population changes will affect the Japanese social security system and economic growth. I will also describe the outline of the social security system in Japan. The point that I want to focus on most is the economic analysis of an aging and depopulating society. Using international comparison, I will talk about the threats of that aging to public finance. In conclusion, 1) our social security system faces a financial crisis, and that causes the large Japanese public debt, 2) for sustainable growth, we should tackle structural reform in regards to social security and public finance.

### **Professor Seiichiro Nanai**

Professor of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management & Information Sciences, Josai International University

Lecture Abstract:

The Japanese economic market is now facing a situation where the majority of the population is elderly. This “aged society” phenomenon is considered to be one of the main reasons for the gradual decrease in size of the Japanese economic market.

Therefore, Japanese companies need to target the aging society market and to also go abroad to seek new markets to maintain their economic activities.

I will talk about how Japanese companies will try to adapt by identifying the marketing needs of this aging society.

The content of this lecture will be as follows:

- 1) Aging society in Japan
- 2) Goods and Services for elderly people in Japan
- 3) Understanding Marketing Activities

- 4) Generating ideas for innovative products
- 5) Team work
- 6) Presentation

### **Professor Kensaku Hogen**

Senior Guest Professor, International Collaboration Organization, Meiji University, Former Ambassador of Japan to Canada, President, The Canada-Japan Society  
Since his return to Japan in 2005 and his subsequent retirement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Amb. Hogen has joined Honda as a member of the Board of Directors, become Visiting Professor at Meiji University and now sits as President of the Canada Japan Society. Mr. Hogen studied at the University of Tokyo and is also a graduate of Cambridge University. He is fluent in English, French and German, and has knowledge of Italian. He was born in Tokyo in 1941, is married and has three daughters and one son.

### **Associate Professor Masao Kikuchi (Academic Advisor)**

Deputy Director, Meiji University International Education Center, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Management, Department of Public Management, Meiji University

#### Lecture Abstract:

The old (65 years or more) represent almost 25% of total population in Japan. In other words, 1 in every 4 people in Japan is one of the old. As the people live longer than before thanks to economic and health conditions improvement, Japan is the country where the citizens live longest in the world. This situation puts public pension and the health system under serious challenges for its sustainability. Nonetheless, an aging society brings us the opportunities for innovation toward more sustainable economic and social development. Active aging opened the new market for the “silver,” as the old have more disposal income than the young. Making efforts for senior friendly community contributes promoting universal access and design for everyone and social inclusion. Expanding the demand for primary care leads the innovation of care robots. These are both challenges and opportunities that Japanese society faces as a forerunner of aging societies. This lecture will touch upon the possible opportunities for a sustainable future in an aging society.

# STUDENT GROUP PRESENTATIONS

## Group 1

Mariko Inokuchi, *Meiji University*

Erina Hosono, *Nagoya University*

Lina Zdruli, *University of British Columbia*

Chizara Anucha, *York University*



### Age Friendly Cities

Creating Livable Cities and Fostering Intergenerational Cooperation

Lina Zdruli, Zara Anucha, Erina Hosono, Mariko Inokuchi

### Cities for All...



### Cities for all...

- The needs of the elderly are not so different from the needs of most citizens



### Cities for all...

- How can cities meet the needs of the elderly while improving services and quality of life for all?



### Our proposals:

- Infrastructure redevelopment
- Policy-making
- Partnerships with business



**Policy**  
A policy is described as government, private, or important organization

### Solution: shifting to age-friendly city planning

- Urban planning that focuses on the social and physical inclusion of all age groups
- Optimize opportunities for health, participation and security to ensure healthy aging
- Increase inter-generational partnership

## Infrastructure Redevelopment

- 1. Multi-purpose facilities
- 2. Mixed-use housing
- 3. Accessible buildings and streets
- 4. Transportation
- 5. Parks



## Infrastructure Development

1. Multi-purpose facilities
2. Mixed-use housing
3. Accessible buildings and streets



## 4. Transportation

Toronto



Tokyo



## 5. Parks




## Policy Making




## Partnership with Business





## Conclusion



Changing the design and space of cities can change the way generations interact with each other, and improve the lives of each

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- Sustainability for Tokyo 2020  
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- WHO Age-friendly City standards  
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- Decreased cars with denser cities  
<<http://www.sustainableprosperity.ca/01/04/>>

## Group 2

Anna Kajino, *Hosei University*

Yuka Morisaki, *Seinan Gakuin University*

Hasina Daya, *Queen's University*

Michael Huang, *University of Alberta*

### JACAC 2014

#### Education: Keeping Gender and Relationships In Mind

How a formal curriculum regarding relationships and family planning could solve the looming issue of the aging society.

Anna Kajino, Hasina Daya, Yuka Morisaki, Michael Huang.

Michael  
Anna  
Hasina  
Yuka

### Who Are We?

- The number of individuals over the age of 65 in Japan and Canada is at a steady increase, without the labour force to support them.
- This is caused by:
  - People getting married late
    - This results in individuals having children later
    - Which ultimately results in having fewer children.
    - Which equals a diminishing labour force

### What is the Problem?

5.8  
1,000

4.4  
1,000

### Marriage Rate per Year

Country	Women	Men
Japan	28.8	30.5
Canada	29.1	31.1

Country	Average Age of Mother at First Birth
Japan	30.1
Canada	29.6

### Marriage & Family

61% men  
49% women  
Age 18-34

66% of men and women  
Age 20-39

### 独身主義 *Dokushin Shugi*

- The way youth view relationships
- Preconceived notions of gender roles
  - Older generation's biases causing cultural-identity anxiety?
  - Women's view of marriage = no career
  - Men's view of marriage = added responsibilities and dependents
- The view that marriage is a compromise or a choice between career and family



## Causes



- We are proposing to implement a curriculum that discusses gender roles, relationships, and the social and economic impact of healthy families.

The goal of this curriculum is to change the mindset

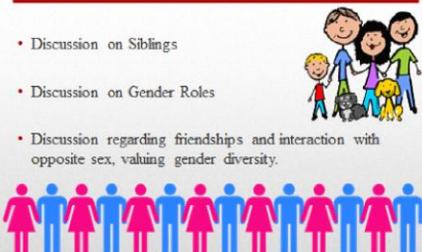
## Introduction of Solution



- ➔ Sustainable population
- ➔ Sustainable economy
- ➔ Sustainable welfare

## What effect our solution will have on the problem

- Discussion on Siblings
- Discussion on Gender Roles
- Discussion regarding friendships and interaction with opposite sex, valuing gender diversity.



## Curriculum: Grade 4-7

- Discussion on expected gender roles
  - Research project
- Introduce discussions on positive aspects of relationships
- Begin light discussion on supporting aging societies.
  - Inspire social change
  - Inspire innovation
  - Capitalize on collective mindset.



## Curriculum: Grade 7-9

- Discuss how a family is a reward
  - Family = Caregivers
  - Circular cycle
- Introduce value society places on children
  - production assets and consumption assets
- Make students aware of social issues such as the declining economy
  - Impact family can to society and economy
- Discussion on abolishing gender opportunity restrictions
  - Resulting in more women in the work place and also having a family
  - Encourages men to have families
  - Increasing labour two ways



## Curriculum: Grade 10-12

- GOAL:
  - To create a scope for students in exploring the nature of gender
  - Give students opportunities for understanding the concept of equality regardless of gender
- Teachers who "keep gender in mind" should help their students develop an identity which is not restricted by outdated concepts of gender.
- Discussing relationships will "break the ice" and destigmatize dating.
  - Dating => Marriage => Children



## Conclusion

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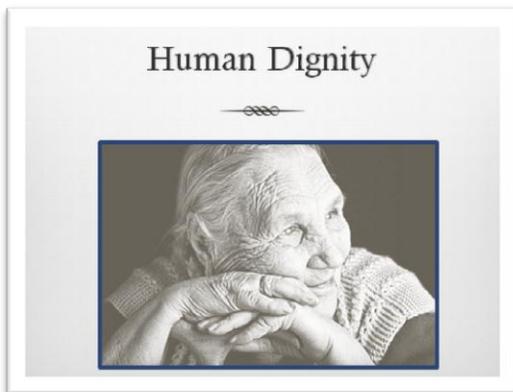
### Group 3

Kenta Okuyama, Hosei University

Saki Irie, Seinan Gakuin University

Leila Molnar, Universite de Montreal

Nicole Warkotsch, University of Manitoba



## Compact cities



## Imagine ...



## ...A New Life in Compact City



## Community life

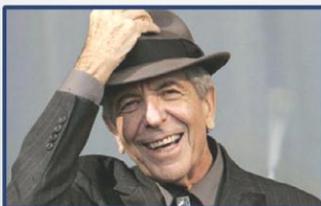
- 8:00 - Walking
- 9:00 - Gateball/Bocce
- 12:00 - Lunch
- 1:00 - Igo/Chess
- 4:00 - Cooking Class
- 6:00 - Dinner



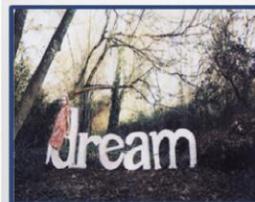
## Health



## Wellbeing



## Conclusion



ca Social Inclusion through human dignity and compact cities

ca Keep our elders healthy and happy

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### Group 4

Yuuka Ueno, *Ritsumeikan University*

Kazuki Shimizu, *Nagoya University*

Joanna Wreakes, *University of Alberta*

Meagan Berlin, *Queen's University*

### INCREASING QUALITY OF LIFE AND HEALTHY ELDERLY ACROSS JAPAN AND CANADA

Meagan Berlin (Queens University)  
Kazuki Shimizu (Nagoya University)  
Yuuka Ueno (Ritsumeikan University)  
Joanna Wreakes (University of Alberta)



- o “Healthy Life Expectancy” (WHO, 2000)
- o Three aspects of health (WHO, 1951)
  1. Physical
  2. **Mental**
  3. **Social**
- o It is our goal to increase the “*quality of life*” of the elderly, therefore, increasing the number of the healthy elderly, by proposing both short-term and long term reforms to the mental and social aspects of health.



### SOCIAL ISOLATION & COMMUNITY BUILDING: SHORT-TERM

- o Definition of isolation
- o Social Isolation
  - “Absence of social interactions, contacts, and relationship with family and friends, with neighbors.”




### SOCIAL ISOLATION & COMMUNITY BUILDING: SHORT-TERM

- o Problems
  - Lack of chance to participate in the society
  - Intergeneration disconnect
  - Social withdrawal
- o Solution
  - Building connection between elderly & children in the community

→ **Avoid social isolation**  
***Providing a place for making***



**SOCIAL ISOLATION & COMMUNITY BUILDING:  
SHORT-TERM**

- Case study
  - “Suku-Suku-School” in Edogawa city, Tokyo
  - “Supporters” from the community
  - Good short-term solution



4/13

**SOCIAL ISOLATION & COMMUNITY BUILDING:  
LONG-TERM**

- Community: A body of people or things viewed collectively (OED online)



4/13

**SOCIAL ISOLATION & COMMUNITY BUILDING:  
LONG-TERM**

- Problem Identification:
  - Increasing Isolation
  - Negative Stigma



4/13

**SOCIAL ISOLATION & COMMUNITY BUILDING:  
LONG-TERM**

- Solutions
  - Based in “Age-Friendly Rural & Remote Community Project” (Government of Canada, 2007)
  - Senior Homes at the centre of a community
    - Urban and Rural success

4/13

**ELDER CARE:  
ACCESSIBILITY TO SUPPORT SYSTEMS**

- Elder Abuse
  - Financial Abuse
  - Neglect



4/13

**ELDER CARE:  
ACCESSIBILITY TO SUPPORT SYSTEMS**

- Problem Identification
  - Accessibility to legal services
  - Accessibility to mental health services



4/13

**ELDER CARE:  
ACCESSIBILITY TO SUPPORT SYSTEMS**

- Solutions
  - Education as a short-term and lasting solution to mental health and legal service accessibility
  - Legal “pro-bono” Elder Care Foundation as a long-term solution to legal accessibility
  - Community as a tool and long-term solution to mental health care accessibility

4/13

**POTENTIAL OF “THE HEALTHY ELDERLY”**





introduction **Mutual Learning**

Short-term

Long-term

Cooperation

Conclusion

introduction

Short-term solution

Long-term solution

Stimulating the economy

Improving immigration

Cooperation

Conclusion

introduction **2004:** Pensionable age increased from **60 to 65**

Short-term

Long-term

Cooperation

Conclusion

introduction

Short-term

Long-term

Cooperation

Conclusion

introduction

Short-term

Long-term

Cooperation

Conclusion

introduction **HIGH** disposable income **INCREASING** consumption

Short-term

Long-term

Cooperation

Conclusion

introduction **Why Immigration?**

Short-term

Long-term

Cooperation

Conclusion

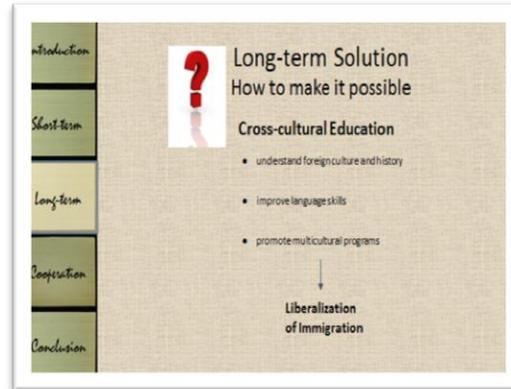
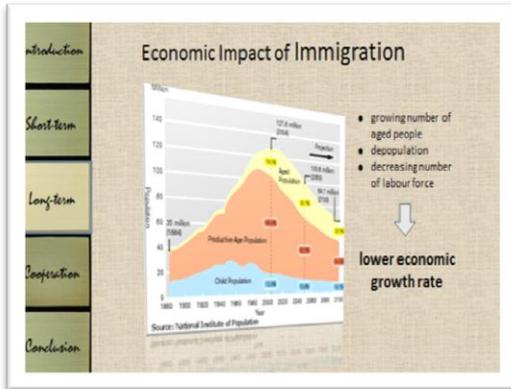
introduction

Short-term

Long-term

Cooperation

Conclusion



**Group 6**

Chengyu Shi, *Meiji University*

Miki Imamura, *Ritsumeikan University*

Anne Sophie Roussel, *Laval University*

Kaitlyn Rempel, *University of Manitoba*



## CREATING EMPOWERED, CONNECTED AND ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITIES



## A COMMUNITY THAT EMPOWERS ELDERLY PEOPLE

A community capable of empowering elderly people needs to provide easy access to public services.

**Universal design.**  
**An efficient and sustainable city.**

*A compact city could be one of the ways to empower communities.*

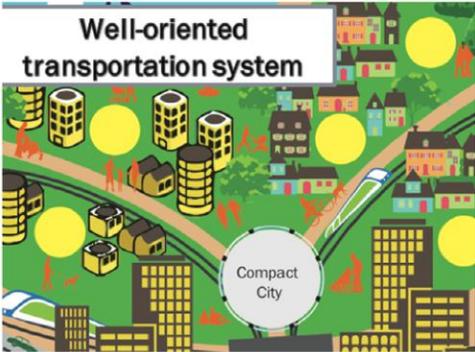


## COMPACT CITIES

- Helps control urban sprawl
- Relocates services to a central location
- Meets people's needs with easily accessible hospitals, markets and schools
- Reduces the cost of public infrastructure maintenance



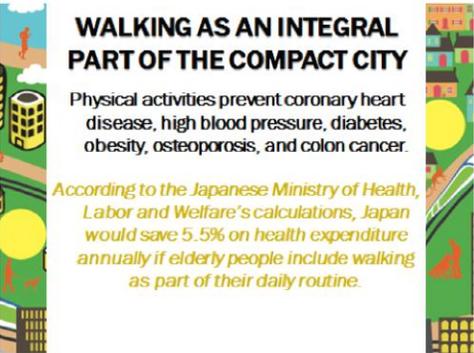
## Well-oriented transportation system



## WALKING AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COMPACT CITY

Physical activities prevent coronary heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, osteoporosis, and colon cancer.

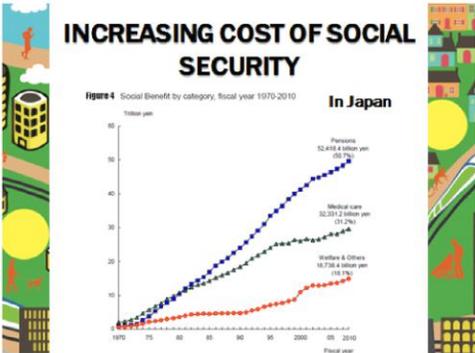
*According to the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare's calculations, Japan would save 5.5% on health expenditure annually if elderly people include walking as part of their daily routine.*



## INCREASING COST OF SOCIAL SECURITY

In Japan

Figure 4 Social Benefit by category, fiscal year 1970-2010

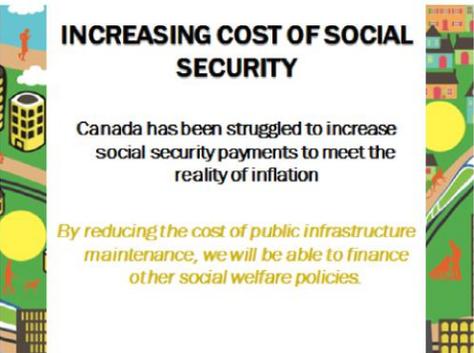


Category	Value (billion yen)	Percentage
Pensions	52,419.4	87.7%
Medical care	32,331.2	61.2%
Welfare & Other	14,738.4	28.1%

## INCREASING COST OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Canada has been struggled to increase social security payments to meet the reality of inflation

*By reducing the cost of public infrastructure maintenance, we will be able to finance other social welfare policies.*



## A COMPACT CITY IS NOT ENOUGH TO EMPOWER ELDERLY AND THE COMMUNITY.

Easy access to public service alone is not enough. People need to also have easy access to public information.

*We can empower communities through the use of public spaces ("Community HUB") and IT technologies ("HUB.com").*



**HUB of activities and information**

Community HUB

**Stimulate interdependence and mutual care across all ages**

Community HUB

**Share your opinion to get involved in the democratic process**

Community HUB

**Get involved in activities such as business, internship or volunteering**

Community HUB

**IT TECHNOLOGY, HUB.COM**

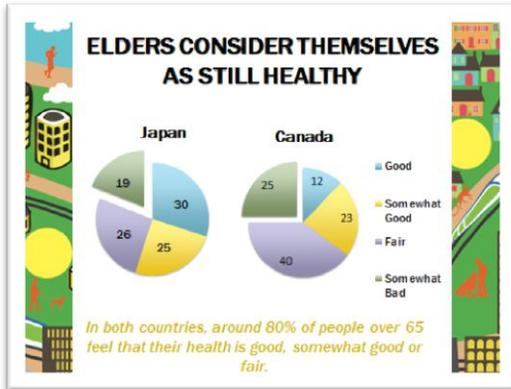
**HUB.com, can be used at home, not only to share information, but also provide remote health care consultations.**

**EMPOWERING COMMUNITY THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**IS THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF RETIREMENT SUSTAINABLE?**

In most cases, people in both Canada and Japan do not work after retiring.

**However,** entrepreneurship in communities could give elderly people the opportunity to work, and to actively engage with their communities and local economies.



- ### EXAMPLE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL:
- "Community Operated Markets"**
- Business with local consumers
  - Business through the use of internet
  - Business with buyers abroad
  - Provider of unique, fresh, and cheap food products
  - Provider of a higher quality alternative to the fresh products food in supermarkets
  - Provider of safe, high-quality products on the international market

- ### IMPACTS OF COMMUNITY OPERATED MARKETS
- This type of business model is highly sustainable:
- Elderly people can earn money (from pensioners to taxpayers)
  - Profits of the Co-op markets can be used to finance public infrastructures and services
  - Higher GDP can be achieved due to such economic activities

- ### IMPACTS OF COMMUNITY OPERATED MARKETS
- Meaningful forms of employment and job security
  - People can enjoy a higher standard of living
  - Promote healthy, active lifestyles



- ### 3 SECTORS OF ACTIVITY
- 1- Public
  - 2- Private
  - 3- Participatory
- Volunteering as a way of life to empower communities*

- ### INVOLVEMENT AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL
- The way a community is structured will impact people's behavior and attitude towards volunteer actions
  - Communities can create a sense of interdependence and common expectations of the standard of living inside the community
- IT MAKES IT EASIER TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED AND FEEL LIKE THEY SHOULD GET INVOLVED*



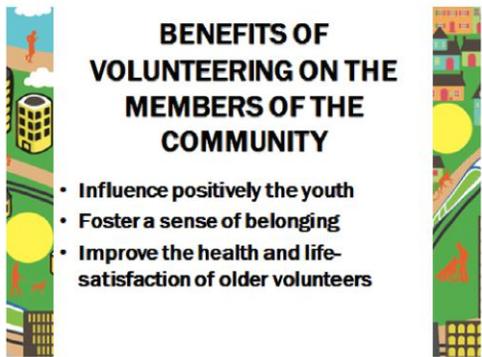
### CENTRAL, INTEGRATED APPROACH TO PROBLEM SOLVING

- Easily accessible central administration
- Cost-effective
- Management-effective
- Concerted efforts to solve multi-faceted issues in the communities



### BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING ON THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

- Give services to meet the needs of the elderly population
- Break social isolation of the elderly
- Help families balance work and child-rearing



### BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING ON THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

- Influence positively the youth
- Foster a sense of belonging
- Improve the health and life-satisfaction of older volunteers



### EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS



### ENGAGING IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

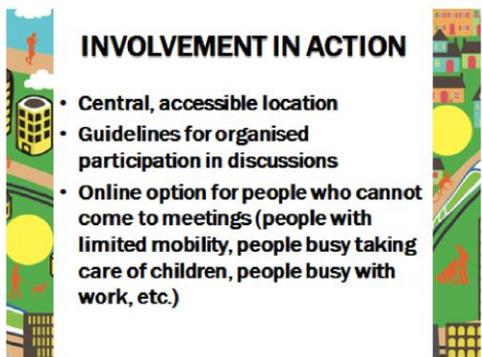
*Having your voice heard is essential to human well-being*

*This can be achieved through participatory action in community decision making.*



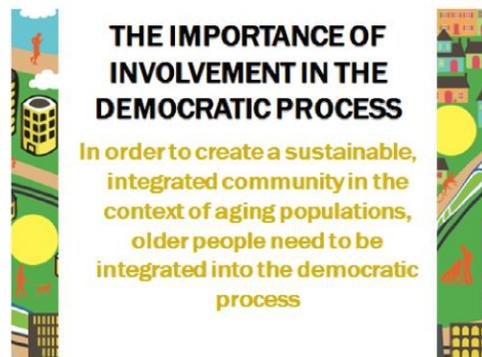
### NEEDS IN AN AGING SOCIETY

- Elderly people face specific needs
- In order for needs to be met, they must be communicated clearly
- Cooperation AND communication is imperative, especially between different age groups



### INVOLVEMENT IN ACTION

- Central, accessible location
- Guidelines for organised participation in discussions
- Online option for people who cannot come to meetings (people with limited mobility, people busy taking care of children, people busy with work, etc.)



### THE IMPORTANCE OF INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

*In order to create a sustainable, integrated community in the context of aging populations, older people need to be integrated into the democratic process*

## CONCLUSION

**We believe that empowerment comes through building up communities and creating spaces where we can work together to find solutions and sustainability in both Canada and Japan.**

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### Group 7

Saki Tezuka, *Tsuda College*

Takaaki Nakayama, *Kwansei Gakuin University*

Charu Jaiswal, *York University*

Vanessa MacKinnon, *University of Prince Edward Island*

## IMPROVING SENIORS' QUALITY OF LIFE AND CHILDCARE

GROUP 7  
 Charu Jaiswal  
 Saki Tezuka  
 Takaaki Nakayama  
 Vanessa Mackinnon

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Comparison of Canada and Japan
- Challenge 1 – Independent Living
  - Solution: Better Life/ Yoriyoi Life
- Challenge 2 – Declining Population in Japan
  - Solution: Day Cares

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
<b>COMPARISON OF CANADA AND JAPAN</b>					
	<b>Canada</b>		<b>Japan</b>		
Market Size (65+)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased 14.1% to 5M</li> <li>• Record high of 1.45%</li> <li>• 42.4% 45-64 working age</li> <li>• By 2051, 3</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29.75M</li> <li>• By 2050, 1/2.5 &amp; 1.2 working age per senior</li> </ul>		
TFR (Total Fertility Rate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.61</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ranked: 208/224</li> <li>• 1.39</li> </ul>		
Retirement Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rise from 65-67 by 2029</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rise from 60 to 65 by 2025</li> <li>• Can work until 65</li> </ul>		
Senior Household Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 46.1% make \$40,000-\$59,999 CDN</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average 4.32 million yen</li> </ul>		
Life Expectancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 81.57 (81.3 in world)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84.19 (83 in world)</li> </ul>		

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
<b>CHALLENGE 1 FROM GOVERNMENTS' PERSPECTIVE</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Aging at home is cheaper for governments</li> <li>○ Nursing home space shortages in Canada &amp; Japan</li> </ul>					
		<b>Japan</b>		<b>Canada</b>	
Average hospital bed cost		70,000 to 210,000 Yen/night		\$842/day	
Average nursing home cost		144600 to 3.6 million Yen/year		\$25,000/year	

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### CHALLENGE 1 FROM SENIORS' PERSPECTIVE

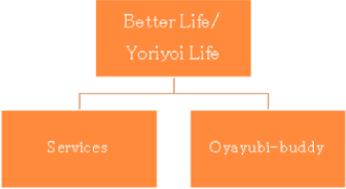
- Why live at home?
  - Comfort
  - Easier for family
  - Cheaper
  - Feeling of Freedom
- Japan: 42.2% of men & 30.2% of women prefer to age at home
- Canada: 85% of 55+ prefer to age at home, even if ill. Fear losing independence more than death.



Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### ESTABLISH NEW SENIOR CARE BUSINESS

- Our company sells comfort and freedom by allowing seniors to live independently at home. It also encompasses social and mental health.



Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### SERVICES

- Provide a stress-free environment
- Take care of cumbersome (yakkaina) tasks
- Promoting socialization and intergenerational connections



Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### SERVICES CONT.

- Package of services

Category	Service
Tasks	Grocery Shopping
	House cleaning
	Laundry
	Prescription medication pick-up
Wellness	Massage
	Haircut
	Classes (ICT, language)
Social	Group outings
	Driving

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### MARKETING

- Form strategic partnerships with other "aging at home" companies.
  - Ex: Emergency Medical Alert companies catering to seniors living at home
    - DirectAlert in Canada (Medication)
    - SafetyBee/Sankel Co. Ltd in Japan
- Co-promotion of services
  - Provide discounts



Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### MARKETING



Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### PRICE



Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
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### COMPETITORS

#### Task Rabbit

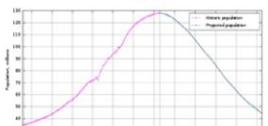
- Outsource common tasks by placing a request on website
- Not specifically for seniors
- Cost is per task



Yoriyoi Life is better for seniors because it is comprehensive.

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
OYAYUBI-BUDDY					
Social Program		Learn about mental health			
Stimulates development of self-esteem					
Study value of unique skills & interests					

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
OYAYUBI-BUDDY					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enlist Senior Volunteers</li> <li>Mission:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase Mental Well-Being of Seniors</li> <li>Boost Children's Confidence</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
					

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
CHALLENGE 2 DECREASING JAPANESE POPULATION					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shrinking Population in Japan           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Declined by record 244,000 2013</li> <li>If current trend continues, population will drop by 1/3 2060.</li> <li>Lack of financial support to raise children</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
					

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
DAY CARE					
600,000-850,000 children unable to enter day cares due to shortage		Lack of day care access acts as a deterrent			
Women choosing not to have children because want to work.			Day care too expensive		

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
SUBSIDIZED DAY CARE & INCREASED FACILITIES					
					

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
SUBSIDIZED DAY CARE					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to fund?           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impose a 0.5% increase on consumption tax on alcohol &amp; tobacco in Japan               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7.56 million litres of alcohol were consumed in Japan in 2009</li> <li>Wine market in 2011 Japan worth \$1B USD, 0.5% would provide \$50M USD in tax revenue</li> <li>Excess revenue used to fund opening of new day cares</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
					

Introduction	Issue 1	Solution	Issue 2	Solution	Conclusion
CONCLUSION					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenge 1 Independent Living/Mental Health           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yoriyoi Life</li> <li>Oyayubi Buddy</li> </ul> </li> <li>Challenge 2 Declining Population           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsidized Day Care</li> <li>Increased Day Cares</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					

THANK YOU, ARIGATOU GOZAIMASU					
					

## **FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS FROM STUDENTS**

1. Describe how the participation of the forum has changed your motivation to study or give new insights? And how the experience was in Japan (for Canadian students only)
2. What was most impressive in this program
3. How has this program influence your career stage?
4. Other comments

## **CANADIAN STUDENTS**

### **Michael Huang**

1. Most crucially, the forum challenged us to work in a group, something of which I find I need improvement. The preparation for the presentation will help me become a better team player in my studies. This being my first time in Japan, there was much to learn and to be amazed by! It is fantastic how while Tokyo is very dense, local residents are very civil, courteous and friendly. The JACAC student Forum was a perfect opportunity to discover Japan!
2. Fabulous how well structured the program was with the assistance of knowledgeable Meiji University Professors, yet, at the same time, students had the freedom to self-explore!
3. If I consider having international relations in my future career, this forum will have aided me immensely. I hope to be more aware of culture uniqueness in whatever career I pursue.
4. Fantastic program, which I will definitely introduce to my peers at the U of A, for the Student Forum 2015!

### **Joanna Wreakes**

1. Participating in the JACAC Student Forum greatly increased my knowledge in areas outside my discipline, such as law and medicine. It has given me new strategies for teamwork, and I am so excited to take these back to my home university. Japan was Amazing! Through the forum we were able to explore all over Tokyo and beyond. We were able to learn a great deal through our exploration outside of the classroom
2. Being able to present at the Canadian Embassy and the wide range of networking opportunities this gave us was amazing. As well, hearing from a diverse range of speakers throughout the week.
3. Through the JACAC network I am now aware of many careers in Canada-Japan relations that I previously did not know about. As well, the teamwork aspect of the forum is a valuable asset for all participants in looking for and performing in a career.
4. The hotel location was great, but the rooms were very cramped and only having 2 showers per floor was a bit of an issue.

### **Leilar Molnar**

1. Participation in the Forum has made me even more motivated to work in a field that requires cross-cultural interaction. Working in a multicultural environment is the best way to confront our ideas and develop new opinions. The best way to enriched our point of views is by encountering other cultures. Therefore, I am looking forward to participate in more forums, where ideas can really be exchanged. Visiting Japan is in itself an experience, but having the chance to discover it with Japanese students makes it even more unforgettable. Being with other students give a different view of the country. They show you their Japan and how they live there. By going to Japan, I expected to be surprised by all the similarities between these two countries.
2. The most impressive thing about JACAC is to see how students are committed to their work. It impresses me how both Canadian and Japanese, that have different school practices and ideas, could come along to work on their presentation that fast. Everyone wanted to present the best of what they could do, with all the time they could find, even if it was sometimes past midnight. The teams tried to do their best to give more substantive presentations.
3. All the activities within the JACAC program have helped me clarify my desires for my career. I leaned by talking with the professionals from different background in field trips, in networking sessions, and by the lecturers I have learned most about what working abroad really implies, and what are the different path to get there. For now I am most motivated to lean my fifth language, Japanese, and become more of a global citizen.
4. I could have never afforded coming to Japan for a Student Forum by myself, so I am really thankful for the funding provided. Also, the accommodation was central in Tokyo and being with the whole group in the same building allowed me to connect more with all the other students.

### **Jiayu Feng**

1. Before attending the forum, I did not really pay much attention to the issue of population aging, and I did not realize that it was closely related to young people today. It is also a great opportunity to learn about the living situation of seniors and now I really want to be a volunteer to help seniors.  
  
Japan was Amazing! We spent lots of time discussing and working on the topic, but it was worth it! And we made friends! Foods, people and everything we have done together will be a great memory!
2. I was pretty impressed by some of the lectures. Some professors were sharing their own life experience with us. And it really made the lectures more attractive. Also, at the final

presentation at the embassy, everything was really formal and we got to see people that we usually don't get to see.

3. I think I gained more confidence for job hunting. I am really glad that what I learned in class was applied to solve this realistic problem. And also by talking to other students from different fields, it deepened my understanding of what to expect while working/looking for a job.
4. It would be great if we can find some way to maintain this JACAC connection.

### **Lina Zdruli**

1. I am further inspired to deepen my knowledge of international urban planning. Japan was Amazing! This is my 2<sup>nd</sup> time in Japan but I got to learn so much about the institutions (ex, universities, old homes) in Japan.
2. How we could make a legitimate policy proposal in just one week!
3. I am planning on taking a second masters in urban planning!!
4. Next time please give us the expectations of our presentation at the beginning of the program.

### **Anne Sophie Roussel**

1. The forum has made me more dedicated towards my efforts of learning the Japanese language. Going to Japan gave me extra motivation. I really enjoyed my experience in Japan and I am glad to be able to travel some more after the forum. I feel like I understand Japanese culture just a little bit better now.
2. Trying the robot suit was definitely impressive.
3. This forum has helped me consolidate my interest for language learning and intercultural communication.
4. The accommodation was not really comfortable, too many people in the same room, uncomfortable beds, etc.

### **Cory Bentley**

1. Conversations with Foreign Service officials at the Embassy of Canada has motivated me to finish learning Japanese and enter the Foreign Service. The location was convenient and Japanese students were willing to show us around a lot. Very good experience for one week.
2. The number and level of Foreign Service officials and the presence of the princess and ambassador at the closing ceremonies.
3. The program has convinced me to pursue graduate studies in Japan and Foreign Service work

after my JET placement.

4. Please increase the funding to restore the winning bursary and hotel accommodations.

### **Meagan Berlin**

1. The forum has drastically improved my ability to work well under a strict deadline and topic with a group. I never really enjoyed group work (in fact- I dreaded it) until this forum. My group was amazing. I was so proud of how well they pulled together to create our presentation. I am excited to bring the many innovative ideas by all the groups to my future interactions with peers and academically.

Japan blew me away I have had some of the best experiences in my entire travel life here this week. Most importantly was the intense interaction opportunities we got to have with the Japanese students, which led to fast forming and hopefully lasting friendship.

2. The opportunities to meet such esteemed and important (influential) people, such as the Ambassador of Canada to Japan, Mackenzie Clugston and the past Ambassador of Japan to Canada. Hearing Princess Takamado speak was also a very impressive event. The robot tour also struck me as very impressive and educational.
3. This program has been incredibly influential for the following reasons;
  1. Developing contacts in the Canadian Government at the Embassy closing ceremonies event
  2. Learning and practicing how to be a better speaker
  3. Instilling confidence in the ability to prepare a large project by a deadline.
  4. Hearing how to work effectively in a multi-cultural group setting.
4. For such a large forum, taking place at a variety of venues and having so many field trips, there were surprisingly NO problems with scheduling and timing changes at all. I can't imagine how difficult it was to keep everything running so smoothly. Congratulations! It was an amazing event to accomplish!

### **Hasina Daya**

1. The forum has inspired me to study cross cultural relations and communication. I was really inspired by meeting and hearing our lecturers. Their journeys and experiences that have equipped them to be effective educators is a real motivator for further education. I absolutely loved being immersed in Japanese culture. It was of course a little hard with my limited language abilities. But even this challenge taught me mounds about communication. I wouldn't have changed a thing.
2. The caliber of lecturers was mind-boggling. I really really value the experiences of those teaching and coaching us.

3. As a student of global development I've really seen the effects of globalization and the value of cross/intercultural relations.

### **Chizara Anucha**

1. This forum was a life changing experience. This experience has inspired me to take Japanese lessons when I go back and has increased my desire to become more of a global citizen. My experience in Japan was life-altering. This was my first time in Asia and my first time leaving North America after my family immigrated to Canada. The Japanese people are kind and warm and the country is truly beautiful. I hope to return very shortly.
2. There was many impressive aspects to this program. I found the lectures informative and very interesting. The field trip we took was a great leaning experience. The chance to improve my group work skills was also great
3. This program has made me want to seek a globally focused career. I would love a career in international education. Education and education programs like this help foster global cooperation and understanding. This program also helped me expand my professional networks which will aid me in my professional life.
4. This experience was a once in a lifetime opportunity. I hope Canadian and Japanese students from decades to come can experience this amazing program.

### **Charu Jaiswal**

1. Opened my eyes to the business possibilities that are in the silver business industry and has also opened my eyes to the possibility of doing business in Japan. Japan was Amazing! I will definitely be back in Japan!
2. Interacting with diplomats and being at the embassy for our presentations as well as networking events. Also, meeting all the students!
3. I developed a lot of meaningful friendship and great professional contacts.

### **Vanessa MacKinnon**

1. This has been an amazing experience. It has inspired me to look further into the JET program so I can come back! It has strengthened my group skills and I have learned so much valuable information.  
What a beautiful country! All the Japanese students were so helpful to tell us great things to do and give directions. I fell in love with the culture all over again. I really want to come back and spend more time here. I even picked up a few Japanese words.
2. This whole forum was impressive and obviously took a lot of work to put together, thank you so much! I mostly enjoyed that they gave us hands on experience to see for ourselves the future

for the aging society at Cyberdyne and the Senior home.

3. It helped expand my professional network and gave me a chance to hear perspectives on an international level. I may work with West Jet in the future so international travel experience will add to my resume. Future employers will look kindly on the fact I was chosen for this and tuned my teamwork skills.
4. Thank you so much for this unforgettable experience! I loved getting to know everyone and I made lifelong friends. I will definitely be back to Japan! ☺

### **Nicole Warkotsch**

1. My participation in this forum has given me a deeper appreciation of the cultural differences and similarities in our cultures. Coming from different perspectives gives everyone a clearer view of not only the object of study itself, but also the way of how to approach it.
2. The experience was an enriching one. Although I have visited Japan once before, taking on the perspective of a student has given me insight in how the everyday lives of Japanese students are.
3. The most impressive thing about this program was the seamless integration of Japanese and Canadian culture. As well as the smooth facilitation of events.
4. It has awakened my interest to study/ work on an international level.

### **Kaitlyn Rempel**

1. The forum certainly confirmed my interest in my current area of study. I also learned how difficult it is to summarize and consolidate information. I enjoyed visiting Tokyo - though had very little time to see much. It would have been nice to go on a tour rather than visit Cyberdyne.
2. I enjoyed the guest lecturers as well as visiting the Canadian Embassy.
3. It was very helpful to take part in a multi-cultural group project. The facilitation and execution of the project was difficult but taught me a lot.
4. The accommodation at the hostel was very poor. My enjoyment of the program was hampered by the inadequate facilities. Overcrowded, uncomfortable and noisy.

## **JAPANESE STUDENTS**

### **Takaaki Nakayama**

1. I understood that there are many ways to solve problems associated with an aging society. My major is international studies, which is very interdisciplinary. During this forum, I thought interdisciplinary research could contribute to solve the problem.
2. Cyber Dine Studio visit. Reception in Canadian Embassy.
3. I found out what elders want and need I am a member of a student research group that is pursuing social network service. Now, I would like to pursue the problem of “aging society” more in our group.
4. I learned a lot of things from this program. Thank you.

### **Shuko Ujiie**

1. I’m studying International Communication, but other participants are studying different areas. This makes me see one thing from many views. Also, their different ideas and thoughts highly motivated me to study.
2. It was group work. Sharing own opinion was very interesting. But it was a little bit difficult. The way of group work in Japan and Canada is different, so I have learned how to do group work well.
3. I think this program gave me a chance to think about the situation in Japan today. It makes me think about my country, Japan, more. Also it helps me in my future goal of being teacher.
4. I was very honored to join the program. If I have a chance, I would like to take part in this program next year. Thank you so much.

### **Yuka Morisaki**

1. On the first day, I lost my confidence because I couldn’t keep up with other people. But this is the reason I worked hard during this forum and realized that it’s important to listen to people and tell people my opinions in order to find better solutions. Also, being active and positive is important to study.
2. It was group work. I had wonderful teammates. It was difficult for me to keep up with what they were talking about because of their academic opinions. But this was the reason I could learn a lot from them and they are my goal now.
3. In this program, I came to know that both Japanese and Canadian participants have concrete future plans. And all of them told me they want to study harder. Now, I don’t have specific

things (jobs) I really want to be, but it's so helpful for me to listen to people who have specific goals. I was motivated by them.

4. This forum was also a good opportunity to learn how to work with people and make something like a presentation.

### **Saki Irie**

1. I thought that the other participants' English skills were really good. And they were so energetic. That made me motivated to brush up my English skills
2. Presentation. We made it and we actually presented at the Canadian embassy. And meeting Princess Takamado. We had a hard time to prepare the presentation but we were satisfied with the effort. The Princess was so nice to us. It was such an honor to see her and talk with her.
3. This program influenced my image of Canada. It made me want to learn more about Canada. In addition to that, I thought that to think and discuss global issues with people in other countries was great. I want to get more experiences like this and broaden my knowledge
4. I wish I could have more time to prepare our presentation. Only one thing that I regret was that I couldn't answer the question which we got after the presentation . I should have prepared.

### **Shoko Natorigawa**

1. At first, I hesitated to talk about what I think or what I want. It is because I haven't studied abroad. Through this forum, I found that talking a lot and not being shy are the most important things.
2. The most impressive activity was visiting care center. The reason why I joined this forum was to discuss about the welfare situation. So after visiting this kind of social welfare system, I had a chance to talk about the Japanese situation and the Canadian situation among friends.
3. This program gave me the motivation to study abroad. Actually, in April, I will start my job. But I got a dream from this forum, which is studying abroad in the future. I want to be a woman who has a various aspects.
4. Thank you for this wonderful forum. And it was so nice to meet and discuss and live with awesome members of this exciting forum.

### **Saki Tezuka**

1. Even though this was my second time to participate in this forum, this experience gave me a chance to recognize the rule of youth in this society. Through our group work, I gained an

opportunity to feel the importance of the ideas and power of youth.

2. It was a great honor to talk with Princess Takamado. Also, visiting the Embassy of Canada was a wonderful chance to understand part of the relationship between Japan and Canada.
3. This program will brighten my future career through all the group work and discussion. I strongly felt the importance and difficulty of knowing each other and other opinions without any words and attitude. This will enrich my career.
4. I was very grateful to be back to this eventful forum this year. All participants are very unique and I was inspired a lot.

### **Erina Hosono**

1. This is the first time for me to communicate and discuss with international students for several days. Actually, talking in English was so stressful and the aggressive attitude of Canadian students sometimes disgusted me. However, I felt strongly that I must improve my English skills to speak what I wanted to do, above all. After the forum, I'll continue to practice English and communicate with international students, too.
2. The most impressive thing in the forum was that I could see and talk with Princess Takamado. Of Course, I know she is a noble and honorable lady. But when I talked with her, I found that she was not only intelligent and good at English, but also frank and sociable and gentle to everyone. Princess Takamado is my ideal. I'd like to be like her.
3. I hadn't made up my mind whether I would go and study abroad, until I attended this forum. But now, I'd strongly like to do that. On that account, I must improve my English, especially speaking and listening skills. In addition, I'd like to get over my shyness and speak confidently.
4. Thank you for the great opportunity to meet and get wonderful friends!

### **Kazuki Shimizu**

1. In order to solve "aging", it is required to cooperate with many different actors. As a medical student, I thought my purpose was to present the ideas of "public health and the health system" but I could experience other ideas and it was such a fascinating experience.
2. I went to the Canada Embassy on Monday and Friday. At the closing ceremony, participants made a group presentation and met Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado. I was fascinated with her performance and it was an unforgettable one.
3. I was so interested in studying abroad. However, there are so many things to study in my university, and that had lessened my desire to do that. By attending this program and talking with other participants, I gained the motivation to study medicine in a foreign country.

4. To whom it may concern: Thank you for giving me this great and wonderful week. It became an unforgettable experience.

### **Kenta Okuyama**

1. Aging population is one of the prominent issues in Japan and Canada today. But I haven't thought about the problem, through discussion or research, until this JACAC Forum. This one week was significantly beneficial and productive for me to be aware of the aging problem and to learn the different approaches to the issue.
2. Group work was the most productive time for me. We discussed our power point slides, shared ideas and cooperated to make a great presentation. We hardly have this kind of opportunity in Japan, so that was really helpful.
3. I have a strong interest in any health problems. This program definitely gave me a lot of new perspectives and motivation to look into the problem of an aging population. When it comes to pursuing my career goal as a researcher to inspect health problems globally, this topic gave me significant motivation.
4. Thank you very much for giving me this wonderful opportunity. This forum would have not been possible without your help through the course of 7 days. Again, thank you very much!

### **Anna Kajino**

1. Learning from professors with different specialties encourages me to volunteer at a nursing home to experience the hardship we're facing in this aging society. One of the most valuable experiences from the program was that I was able to forge bonds with other participants. Everyone had diverse backgrounds and academic achievements, which exposed me to different ways of thinking.
2. The opportunity to see and experience the cutting edge technology to help the elderly in Tsukuba.  
The opportunity to meet princess Takamado.  
Participants who are in different academic fields.
3. It's motivated me to attend a youth conference like this in the future.  
It's motivated me to study harder.
4. I had an amazing experience getting to know people who are going to be future leaders. I'm proud to be an alumni of this program.

### **Mariko Inokuchi**

1. Overall, attending this forum made me recognize how I have changed through my four years at university and at the same time my weakness as well. I realized I felt more comfortable discussing in English and guiding Canadian students around than before, which was some of the biggest progresses I made. However, another thing I realized is I sometimes missed chances or opportunities especially when I was tired. This recognition will be my motivation to improve myself.
2. The thing that impressed me the most was definitely the leadership award. Originally I am not the person who becomes a leader in a group, and I was always a “follower” who was passive. But this time, I tried to do everything I could think of to make this program enjoyable for everyone. Still, I have so many things I regret not having done, but being selected for this honorable award is something I had been pursuing for a long time.
3. This program gave me the opportunity to think about what true leadership is. I realized how difficult it is to lead people, especially people who are from different countries. I also noticed that leadership cannot be defined in one way, and that everyone has their own way of leadership. I want to pursue it more and apply it to my job starting this year.
4. Food allergies...for the first welcome dinner at Sakura Hotel, some participants who have food allergies needed to pay extra for their meal. Next year coordinators will be aware of each student’s food allergies.

Reflection...if we have a bit of time to spare for reflection with group mates, I think that will deepen our leaning from this program.

### **Chengyu Shi**

1. I couldn’t perform well, especially in the last presentation; however, this is not a negative experience, and I want to study more and more. The experience will be my power for my next step.
2. Staying with friends and talking with them. I could meet many great people, students and professors, in this program. That was the best experience in the program.
3. Even though the program is just a week and short, it was quite a memorable experience for me. I met a lot of great, respectful people, and they definitely will influence me in my career.
4. I really want to say thank you to my university, Meiji. This experience will let me be better. I will work hard to achieve my dream.

### **Yuuka Ueno**

1. In this program, I worked with people from different study backgrounds from my major. I found that everyone has a lot of energy to share his/her knowledge or experiences and also to learn new things. This experience definitely changed my motivation to study and try new things.
2. The most impressive part of this forum for me was the group presentation. On the last day, each group did an awesome presentation and I realized everyone made effort to do good research, group work and practice. I learned so many things from this final presentation.
3. I have studied international social welfare. This program gave me a chance to learn and cooperate between two countries by discussing and implementing the common topic of “aging societies”. In my future career, I would like to use this experience in my career as a social worker.
4. This program was an awesome experience. I hope this program continues and many students have great experiences like us in Canada and Japan.

### **Miki Imamura**

1. Especially the participants from Canada gave me (taught me) great motivation to study more deeply and widely. Discussions during the forum taught me how to express my opinion and how to link each ideas together in order to make a presentation as a team. I realized that I'm poor at writing, speaking and researching. I seriously am going to study hard.
2. Prince Takamado. Listening to her speech, talking to her in person was the most impressive event for me. It was my first experience to talk to a member of the royal family. Her speech was so intelligent and logical. She greatly motivated me to work in the international development industry.
3. Through talking to students about their own future careers made my mind clear. Meeting and talking to the guests gave me great motivation for my future goal of working in the World Bank or UNDP as a Japanese woman, which was very influential for me.
4. It was a really great opportunity to know myself and get to know new perspectives, learn the important skills for service, and grow up.

## FORUM EVALUATIONS AND SURVEY RESULTS

An online survey was conducted to get student evaluations of the forum. Below is a summary of the results.

### How did you first hear about the JACAC Forum?

<b>Past JACAC Participant</b>	11.76% 2
<b>Information from the Prince Takamado Japan Centre</b>	0% 0
<b>Information from Meiji University</b>	5.88% 1
<b>Information from your home University</b>	<b>82.35%</b> <b>14</b>
<b>The JACAC Website</b>	0% 0

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### How did you rate the following arrangements made by the organizers?

	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>Above Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Below Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Pre-departure Information</b>	29.41% 5	<b>47.06%</b> <b>8</b>	17.65% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	5.88% 1
<b>Flight arrangements</b>	<b>47.06%</b> <b>8</b>	11.76% 2	11.76% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	29.41% 5
<b>Ground Transportation</b>	17.65% 3	29.41% 5	<b>35.29%</b> <b>6</b>	0.00% 0	5.88% 1	11.76% 2
<b>Accommodation</b>	0.00% 0	17.65% 3	17.65% 3	29.41% 5	<b>35.29%</b> <b>6</b>	0.00% 0

	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>Above Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Below Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Meals</b>	5.88% 1	29.41% 5	<b>35.29%</b> <b>6</b>	0.00% 0	11.76% 2	17.65% 3
<b>Forum venue</b>	<b>58.82%</b> <b>10</b>	29.41% 5	11.76% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0

**Please explain your ratings:**

- Ground transportation from Narita to the hotel was a bit unorganized but this was partly due to the snowstorm that had occurred earlier. The hotel was a bit cramped but was very clean and the staff was very friendly. The location was great! Very central to all the attractions in Tokyo and close to the university.
- The place where this forum was held was more than average since it was centre of Tokyo and very easy to access everywhere. However, condition and environment of the hostel we stayed was poor especially the rooms in basement.
- Some participants had to pay for their own meal because of their food allergy at the welcome dinner on the first day
- The meal we had at the embassy on the last day was really good!
- The accommodation provided was sadly lacking; there were too many beds for the size of the room, and the beds were themselves very uncomfortable. Although a hostel can be a good idea, some can be uncomfortable or too cramped. As such, it would be best to check beforehand the accommodation to prevent this type of situation.
- The girls in the 9-bed room complained about lack of storage space. I liked having my roommates, as it allowed us to bond.
- Everything was arranged clearly and information was given in a detailed and timely manner both before and during the conference. Ground transport was poor as it was poorly organized and students came to pick us up to transfer by metro. As many people had large luggage and had been on a very long flight, I think it would have been very reasonable to arrange for a bus or car to transport students. The manner took a long time, as we didn't take the Narita express. Accommodation was not what I was imagining when we were told we would be staying in a Hotel. I understand that this may be a 'lost in translation' sort of episode; however, our accommodations were certainly and absolutely a hotel. On one hand, it was great to be rooming with so many of our peers and colleagues from the forum, but on the other hand, it was incredibly cramped and there was not much space for all the people in the room, as well as their luggage. I think that the reason I rated

this lower than average is not because I am high maintenance, as loved the hostel for what it was, and was certainly comfortable and one of the better hostels I have stayed in in years of traveling, but I gave the low rating because of the lack of managing the students' expectations beforehand. By letting students know that they were in fact going to be staying in a hostel rather than a hotel, or to quote the organizing documents "dorm-style rooms" (which imply at least a single room and at MOST sharing with two people), then people would have not been disappointed. I actually appreciated not having meals included, because it gave us the opportunity to try new places and foods and not have that arranged for us. I enjoy how this aspect of the forum was set out.

- Soon after my flight was canceled, the staff arranged different flight. It was so helpful.
- Accommodation was not sanitary. It was too small. Meals should be financially covered because it cost so much only over one week.
- Everything but accommodation was great. Wish we had a kitchen so that we can have more vegetable.
- The facilities in the accommodation were so poor. I had expected it better than that.

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**Please rate the following aspects of the JACAC Forum program:**

	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>Above Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Below Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Sunday Orientation</b>	29.41% 5	<b>35.29%</b> <b>6</b>	29.41% 5	0.00% 0	5.88% 1	0.00% 0
<b>Presentations by Researchers</b>	23.53% 4	<b>76.47%</b> <b>13</b>	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
<b>Group Discussions</b>	35.29% 6	<b>47.06%</b> <b>8</b>	17.65% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
<b>Group Presentations</b>	<b>52.94%</b> <b>9</b>	29.41% 5	17.65% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
<b>Networking Session with JACAC Alumni</b>	<b>35.29%</b> <b>6</b>	29.41% 5	29.41% 5	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
<b>Canadian Embassy Visit</b>	<b>52.94%</b> <b>9</b>	35.29% 6	11.76% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
<b>Closing Ceremony</b>	<b>82.35%</b> <b>14</b>	11.76% 2	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0
<b>Final Reception</b>	<b>82.35%</b> <b>14</b>	11.76% 2	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0

**Please explain your ratings:**

- The Sunday orientation's lecture content was not very relevant to the forum.
- I found all the aspects of the program to be well thought out and planned. The presentations by the researchers were very informative and interesting.
- Everything was well-organized and every participants could enjoy the group work for final presentation very much.
- If all the lectures were more interactive and conducted in more natural English that would have made this program perfect.
- Group presentations are always difficult; in my group, this was due to the attitudes and performance of some group members, and not reflective of the Student Forum itself.

- Absolutely everything was beyond expectations - extremely well organized and very impressive activities and lineups of presenters.
- I experienced a lot of things that I can't do usually. I learned many things through each program, especially in the group work.
- Actually talking to the Princess was definitely one of the greatest moments in my life.
- It was enjoyable to visit Canadian Embassy and have a talk with staff and I was honored to meet Princess Takamado.

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**Please rate the difficulty of conducting the student presentations:**

<b>Extremely Difficult</b>	0% 0
<b>Fairly Difficult</b>	<b>52.94%</b> <b>9</b>
<b>Average</b>	47.06% 8
<b>Fairly Easy</b>	0% 0
<b>Extremely Easy</b>	0% 0
<b>N/A</b>	0% 0

**Please explain your ratings:**

- I found conducting the presentation rather average in difficulty. The challenging aspects were the time limitation and short preparation time.
- Since I rarely have an opportunity to have English presentation in the daily life, it took a longer time to understand each other during group work for the presentation. However, it was not a individual work but cooperative one, so each of participants helped together, which made the presentation easier.
- I think this year's question might have been too large; because of that, a lot of time was

spent simply narrowing down the subject in teams. By providing a more precise question, students might be able to spend less time finding a theme and more time working on the presentation itself.

- It was neither easy nor difficult. It was probably on the side of more difficult to prepare everything, but that is only because of the nature of the deadline, cross-cultural communication, and making sure everybody felt included and represented. The payoff for creating a presentation we were proud of made any difficult moment well worth it.
- Sometimes, clash of opinions among teammates happened but it's interesting to listening to them. Of course, listening to people is important but one thing I regret is that I couldn't insist my opinion well. Anyway, I think the group work and presentation was the best part of this forum.
- One of the students considered this presentation as just self-satisfaction for the Forum. Therefore, the motivation within students was different. That made difficult to conduct our presentation. However, I have learned my weakness in expressing myself.
- We wanted more time to discuss and prepare the presentation.

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**Please let us know what you liked most about the JACAC Forum.**

1. - Meeting the other students - The presentation and receptions at the Embassy
2. The chance to travel and meet new students
3. The presentations by the researchers, working with my group, the field trips, meeting and bonding with other participants and exploring Tokyo.
4. Group works were very impressive and productive time. Although there were two Canadians and two Japanese in one group, there were more than diverse opinion. Sometimes, Japanese students had a hard time to use English and show opinions straightly. However, everyone tried to understand each other with respect. Besides, field trips or dinner after works helped a lot to know each other very well.
5. I liked the group presentations at Canadian Embassy, because I could see how each group made efforts to work together and show professors our works during this forum.
6. CYBERDYNE studio visit Presentation at the Canadian Embassy.
7. The lecture by prof. Hogen Final reception
8. a. The topic this year was interesting b. We had time to explore the city c. Made good friends
9. I really enjoyed once again being able to meet students from all over Japan and Canada. It was also very nice to have Kana-san and Sho-san with us this year; they were very helpful

and full of energy! The visit at Cyberdyne was amazing and once-in-a-lifetime experience. The Meiji campus was very beautiful and very comfortable.

10. Traveling to Japan and discussing new concepts in a new environment.
11. I absolutely enjoyed the networking final ceremonies, in which we were able to speak to many prominent figures in government, diplomacy, and research. I made two important connections that I intend to follow up on that will help in my future career trajectory. This was an invaluable opportunity and I am so thankful that it was organized and had such a good turn-out.
12. It's the group work. I learned a lot of things in it. It was a good opportunity to listen to students from other universities. They had various ideas that I didn't have. I could tell them my opinions and get feedback about them. And making a presentation with people who have different backgrounds was challenging but it was really good experience for me.
13. - Intellectual presentations by professionals from a wide range of backgrounds (professors, ambassadors, researchers etc) - A photo with the Princess Takamado - Amazing participants who are very driven, motivated, intelligent
14. Meeting many intelligent people was the most I liked about the JACAC Forum. From Canada and Japan, it was definitely amazing experience to spend time together for 7 days. I had a lot motivation for my career.
15. Receptions where we spoke both with past students and mentors
16. Networking with many people.
17. I liked doing the presentation and listening to other groups' presentations the most. I could learn how to make the powerpoint better and talk to convey our ideas to audience.

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**Please let us know what you liked least about the JACAC Forum.**

1. - Group selections: I feel we should have been allowed to create our own group, this would have allowed us to work with people that had similar interests and skill levels. For example the Sunday orientation and Monday could have had mixers/networking so that we could engage in discussion to get to know our peers and then eventually choose teams (this is what happens for example at Hackathons were participants pitch ideas or interests and others participants can choose which idea/person they want to work with). - Also, some of the applicants could have been vetted better for critical thinking ability and experience - Some of the lectures were redundant (covering the problem), but it would have been more interesting to have lectures that covered more solutions (like the last lecture).
2. The rigid timetable

3. I thought the 10 minutes presentation time was too short and that we should have had longer time to prepare our presentation.
4. The accommodation caused some troubles for participants. Even though, it was very convenient to reach Meiji University by walk every day, the condition of some of rooms in the hostel was not suitable. The sanitary condition was poor, for example, there were bugs or insects inside of beds. One participant was bitten by them. Also, rooms in the basement were in unclean condition with darkness, narrowness. Besides, some participants were missing their own belongings during cleaning of rooms by hostel staff.
5. I think accommodation was a little bit poor. We had to share a small room with 8 people. And also we had to share shower room with boys. These situations made us a little bit uncomfortable.
6. The preparation time for presentation was short!
7. The accommodation was not really what I expected. But it's good to have roommates.
8. As previously stated, I think I would say the accommodation.
9. Group work, although that will always be my weakness.
10. I did not like arriving in Japan and expecting a "dorm-style room" in which we would be sharing with only one or two other people, if any, and then realizing we were sharing a hostel room and bunk-beds with at least 9 other people. The way it was presented needs to change, if at least it was a miscommunication based on translation mistakes, or at most, it was a deliberate miscommunication to make it appear more "formal". Call a spade a spade. If you are to use a hostel in the future, outline this to the students beforehand so that they can prepare and acknowledge the space limitations and number of students sharing a room beforehand. It was disappointing to realize there had been such a large miscommunication there. All of my Canadian comrades would agree in this sentiment, after having spoken at length on the subject with all of them. Secondly, many of the plans seemed arbitrary, which was the one thing that was at odds with the professional nature of the forum. Make a schedule and stick to it. Do not ask delegates what they would like to do, or have them arrange the schedule at any point. We are attendees and expect to follow a set out schedule. By asking by popular vote or opinion when the day should start, for example, this opens up animosity and disappointment. By dictating it beforehand, students understand when and where they should be. Communicating by text message through student volunteers that the timing of the day's beginning has been changed (even by an hour) is incredibly unprofessional and these moments unfortunately struck me as the only bad things about scheduling; however, they did affect my perception of the forum. The third thing I liked least is the 'leadership award'. This gave two great students the ability to be recognized for great work, but the theme of the forum is not leadership and thus there

should be no arbitrary award for this. The award, unfortunately, seems to reward popularity and comfort with the forum. Many students were absolutely worthy of this award, but because not many people knew them in a leadership sense outside of the confines of the group (as we were not given many opportunities to show leadership outside of the group) the award was biased in that those students who were more widely known or familiar to others were more likely to be voted as best leader. I think that at an academic forum there should absolutely be no prize for personal merit. This is the first conference/forum/speaking engagement I have ever been to in years of international education, exchanges, bachelors', masters, and a professional graduate degree that awarded an official recognition to a person based on anything aside from the presentation or academic merit they brought to the forum. It was strange this was there, and undermined the academic value of the conference, absolutely reminding me of high school, over a decade ago. The awarding of a prize for the best speech absolutely makes sense to me, and I hope that this is retained as an important part of the conference. The leadership award strikes me as arbitrary, and though a wonderful and well-deserved recognition to the two winners this year, I believe it should be discontinued in future years as it takes away from the academic focus of the forum.

11. Having four or five roommates were so good but I thought rooms in the hotel are too small. I even heard that some of us couldn't get a bed.
12. - Poor accommodation - No guideline for the presentation until the middle of the program  
- Leadership award is not appropriate for a community program like this (it is not a leadership program)
13. Accommodation was the least I liked about the JACAC Forum. It was the worst accommodation I've ever had as accommodation for any forum.
14. Organizing us into a hostel was too chaotic. For all the work we performed during the day, it is too noisy and tiresome to have over 8 people in a small room.
15. Nothing especially I don't like.
16. I didn't like spending such a long time in the nursing house. I expected to do more things there but it was just seeing around the room and have a try on some tools and facilities for elderly people.

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**If you have any suggestions on how the JACAC Student Forum can be improved in the future, or how the JACAC network can be expanded/strengthened, please let us know below:**

1. - The \$850 deposit is an economic barrier, as it is difficult for students to have that much

cash liquid - Also, we lost money in making the bank draft and then converting from JPY back to Yen. - It would be better if there was no deposit, or if our universities paid the deposit and were reimbursed by JACAC

2. Find better accommodation
3. Networking and more question time with the researchers after their presentations. I also think universities need to promote the forum more. A lot of people who I told about the forum never heard of it but after I told them about it, they really wanted to apply and join.
4. At this year's forum, it has a great chance to see and contact with alumni. I hope this event will continue and held every year of JACAC both in Canada and Japan. However, all participants are spread all over Canada and Japan, which is hard for us to come to every year's JACAC easily. Therefore, it would be a great chance to held reunion event or organize alumni association at each region of countries, such as eastern Japan/Canada and western Japan/Canada.
5. I think if duration of forum is longer, we can have more fun time together and learn a lot.
6. In terms of publicity, this event could be more improved. Even in Meiji, the notice for this event was very small and I almost missed the application unless past participants posted on Facebook. Not only school websites but also Facebook, twitter, and other media tools can be used in an effective way. I know this might make all the coordinators work even longer though...
7. I wish the travel expense of alumni to attend future JACAC Student Forums can be covered. (Or at least for alumni from the hosting country)
8. Creation of alumni associations. With minor coordination and funding from the JACAC, alumni can make associations in each of our home partner institutions.
9. Please see my above comments in the "liked least about the JACAC Forum", where for each of my criticisms, I gave some advice on my personal opinion of how the forum could be strengthened in the future.
10. If there is a different program like that in summer vacation, it may be good.
11. Specific guidelines and judging criteria for the presentation should be given on the first day of the presentation. You should not give a leadership award while a couple of alumni are taking care of us.
12. Output parts may be improved more. Although it cannot be helped that we only have a short time, only 3 days is too short to enrich the output. Workshop beforehand may work to improve a motivation of groups.
13. I hope the next participants have more time to discuss and prepare presentations and practice. Lectures can be made shorter. So, we can spare the time for group works.

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**What would you like to see covered as a potential Forum Theme in future years?**

- Something arts and culture related.
- Cultural understanding immigration and migration health policy and public health the Arctic China education sports diplomacy/ Olympics International Aid/ Canada's and Japan's role in international institutions like the UN
- Canada is one of the most multicultural countries in the world accepting many immigrants. Japan needs to open a gate for immigrants more and more in the close future. Therefore, a theme related to immigration or multiculture would be a good opportunity to share opinions with many participants with diverse background.
- Environmental Problems United States Relations
- Immigration issues
- Economics, Culture, Environment, Animals
- Immigration
- Resource extraction and problems with negative externalities -- in Japan: fisheries and whaling. In Canada: open pit oil sands mining (Alberta).
- The national debt and how to put national finances on a healthy footing
- - Human rights (labor rights, sweatshops, child labor, etc) - The complexities of humanitarian intervention/ assistance (international politics that both Canada and Japan are involved in) - Adolescent delinquency (school dropouts, teenage crimes, drugs, teenage pregnancy, bullying etc)
- Through the Forum, I strongly felt that we are the one who will improve our relationship and the world. I would like to see a potential Forum in future years as the hub for interaction culturally, politically, and economically.
- Food scarcity issues
- Lots of new agendas for Aging society.
- Climate change, Fair Trading, Social Network Service and so on

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**Please include additional comments here:**

- This was an incredible experience and I am very thankful for the opportunity and all of the hard work that was put into to it. I am also thankful for all of the wonderful people I met.
- I had an amazing time and this experience changed me for the better! Sho, Kana, Mariko and Shi were awesome representatives for Meiji University and it was so great to have them introduce us to this wonderful school.

- I had great honor being able to join this wonderful forum and gain diverse friends. Also, it was great opportunity to see some of alumni to share each experience.
- I learned so many things and met many new friends during this forum. Also, the theme was totally related to my interest and this experience will be unforgettable and influence my future career. Thank you all JACAC staff and professors who organized this forum.
- JACAC was such an amazing experience. I hope this forum will last long and more people will get involved in this amazing program.
- Overall, it was amazing, definitely an unforgettable experience for me! Thank you guys so much for the effort you put into this forum.
- Hope to see the Student Forum develop in the future, and grow to include more partner institutions!
- Thank you for the absolutely amazing opportunity. Please take all of my thoughts with the understanding that the forum was an incredible opportunity and that I will forever be an advocate to future potential participants. I am a strong believer that when the opportunity for feedback is asked for, the bias in responding should shift to a very critical stance, as this is the only way that feedback can be used to create positive change. The forum is incredible as is, and even without any of the suggestions I have made applied, will remain an amazing opportunity. I just had to think of, in the grand scheme of things, what small things would make the forum better. Please do not think that I did not enjoy or benefit from the forum - precisely the opposite; however, I do take requests for constructive criticism seriously and I hope my responses have been what you were hoping to receive when you asked for such.
- This forum was so good. I learned a lot, I had so much fun in Tokyo, and I met wonderful people. I want to keep in touch with them and someday, I want to see all of them.
- Thank you for the amazing experience at JACAC. I am so grateful for this opportunity and if there is anything I can do to help as an alumnus, please let me know.
- It was a great opportunity for me to improve myself. I'm truly happy to be a part of this Forum. Thank you so much for selecting me as a participant.
- I enjoyed and learned a lot in this forum and inspired by other participants. I will brush up my English skills and want to speak it more fluently like other Japanese participants. Every participant had original characters and ideas and I thought that they were so smart. Spending time to share our ideas was meaningful. I will definitely go to Canada and learn about it in near future.

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Orientation by Assoc. Prof. Kikuchi



Students giving their self introductions



Opening Lecture by Professor Masako Iino  
(Past President of Tsuda College)



Networking Session with JACAC Alumni



Networking Session with JACAC Alumni



Special Lecture at the Canadian Embassy





“Marketing Activities in Aging Society” Lecture by Prof. Seiichiro Nanai, Josai International University



Practicing group presentation



Fieldtrip to Tsukuba!



Experiencing robot arm wear at CYBERDYNE STUDIO



Experiencing welfare equipment



Group Work





Group Presentation at the Canadian Embassy



Vice President Katsu(Meiji University) giving remarks in the closing ceremony

Honorable Judges  
 (From left) Mr. Cael Husband, Second Secretary (public Affairs), Canadian Embassy  
 Prof. Yuki Shimomura, Vice President, Japanese Association for Canadian Studies  
 Amb. Sadaaki Numata, Japanese Ambassador to Canada (2005~2007)  
 Prof. Takeshi Suzuki, Deputy Director for International Collaboration, Meiji University  
 Ms. Mary Beth Takao, Commercial Officer, The Government of Alberta, Canada-Japan Office



Leadership award winners  
 (From Left) Ms. Joanna Wreakes (University of Alberta),  
 Ms. Mariko Inokuchi (Meiji University)

The winning group had the privilege to take a photo with Princess Takamado, Ambassador Mackenzie Clugston and President Ken-ichi Fukumiya (Meiji University)



The forum could not have been possible without the strong support from Dr. Kabata, Director of Prince Takamado Japan Centre (on Left).



Thank you very much!!!!  
from the Meiji University Team



2014 JACAC STUDENT FORUM Participants with Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado

## **IN APPRECIATION**

The gathering of students and researchers at the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium Forum would not have been possible without the significant contributions of the following organizations:

Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund

University of Alberta

Canadian & Japanese Consortium members

The Embassy of Canada

Government of Alberta, Canada-Japan Office

Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)