

Why Learn Japanese?

- Japan is a key overseas economic partner for Alberta, accounting for 16% of non-US exports.
- Alberta also enjoys a multifaceted relationship with Japan that includes strong business ties, cultural and sports exchanges, educational initiatives, municipal twinings, people-to-people activities, and a sister province relationship with the Prefecture of Hokkaido.

(Source: "Japan-Alberta Relations," Alberta International and Intergovernmental Relations, www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/Japan-2006_000.pdf)

- Each year approximately 40–50 Albertans are employed by the Japanese government's Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program.
- A number of Alberta communities have a twinning relationship with communities in Japan:

Airdrie — Yuto-cho, Shizuoka-ken
Banff — Obama-cho, Nagasaki-ken
Barrhead — Tokoro-cho, Hokkaido
Bon Accord — Kamitakara-mura, Gifu-ken
Camrose — Kamifurano-cho, Hokkaido
Camrose — Ohyama-cho, Toyama-ken
Canmore — Higashikawa-cho, Hokkaido
Crownsnest Pass — Anpachi-cho, Gifu-ken
Crownsnest Pass — Hakushu-cho, Yamanashi-ken
Hanna — Wake-cho, Okayama-ken
Hinton — Wanouchi-cho, Gifu-ken
Jasper — Hakone-machi, Kanagawa-ken
Lacombe — Rikubetsu-cho, Hokkaido
Lethbridge — Haebaru-cho, Okinawa-ken
Rocky Mountain House — Kamikawa-cho, Hokkaido
Stettler — Okoppe-cho, Hokkaido
Stony Plain — Shikaoui-cho, Hokkaido
Taber — Notogawa-cho, Shiga-ken
Wetaskiwin — Ashoro-cho, Hokkaido
Whitecourt — Kamiyubetsu-cho, Hokkaido

(Source: Consulate-General of Japan in Calgary)

Benefits of Language Learning

Research shows that language learning:

- has a positive impact on other academic studies
- increases both educational and career opportunities.

Support in Alberta

Special Advisor on Japanese Language and Culture

Alberta school jurisdictions benefit from the expertise and assistance of the Special Advisor on Japanese Language and Culture through an agreement between Alberta Education and the Japan Foundation.

For more information, please contact Curriculum Branch, Alberta Education, at 780-427-2984.

Curriculum Branch
Alberta Education
8th Floor, 44 Capital Boulevard
10044 – 108 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5J 5E6
780-427-2984
Toll-free within Alberta, dial 310-0000 first
www.education.gov.ab.ca



Learn Japanese

日本語をべんきょうしよう。

Do you know these words?

Sushi
Kimono
Tsunami
Ninja
Origami

Then you already know some Japanese language and culture!



Provincial Programs of Study

The following provincial programs of study are available:

- Japanese Language and Culture Nine-year Program, Grades 4–5
- Japanese Language and Culture Six-year Program, Grades 7–8–9
- Japanese Language and Culture 10-6Y, 20-6Y, 30-6Y
- Japanese Language and Culture 10-3Y, 20-3Y, 30-3Y

Current provincial programs of study may be viewed and downloaded at www.education.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages.

Curriculum Handbooks for Parents and *Curriculum Summaries* contain information on what students are expected to learn and be able to do in each subject by grade/course, including Japanese. These resources may be viewed and downloaded at www.education.gov.ab.ca/parents/handbooks.

Did You Know?

Second language courses, including current authorized locally developed/acquired language courses, may be used to meet the Alberta senior high school diploma requirements. Up to 25 credits of the 100-credit requirement may be earned in one or more second languages.

A 30-level (Grade 12) second language course is accepted for university entrance and is a requirement for some faculties and programs. It may also help students meet the requirements for Rutherford scholarships.

Exchange Programs



There are more than 50 linkages and cooperation agreements between primary, secondary and post-secondary educational institutions in Alberta and similar schools in Japan; e.g., 22 Alberta schools are twinned with schools in Japan.

You may be interested in the following opportunities:

For students:

- Alberta–Hokkaido Student Exchange
- Yamate Exchange Programs

For teachers:

- Professional development opportunities through the Japan Foundation

For schools:

- Investigate school twinning

For Alberta school jurisdictions:

- Regional and Educational Exchanges for Mutual Understanding (REX) Programme

Contact:

International Education Branch
www.education.gov.ab.ca/nie/exchange
E-mail: exchange.programs@gov.ab.ca
Phone: 780-427-2035
Toll-free within Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

Where Is Japanese Offered?

A number of school jurisdictions offer a Japanese language and culture program. Contact your local school jurisdiction to find out more. Links to school jurisdiction Web sites can be accessed at www.education.gov.ab.ca/ei/maps.

Program Supports



CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN

The Consulate-General of Japan in Calgary provides information about:

- Japan and support programs for students, teachers and librarians
- regional speech contests.

For more information, visit www.calgary.ca.emb-japan.go.jp.

E-mail: infocul@conjapan.ab.ca
Phone: 403-294-0782



The Japan Foundation Toronto provides information about:

- Japanese language education in Canada
- support programs for Japanese-language teaching institutions
- Japanese art and cultural programs
- the Japanese Language Proficiency Test.

For more information, visit www.japanfoundationcanada.org.

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