

## Consul-General for Japan, Susumu Fukuda, March 5, 2012



On March 05, 2012, Duane Bratt, President of the Calgary Branch of the Canadian International Council hosted a forum by featuring Consul-General for Japan – Calgary , Susumu Fukuda. Consul-General Fukuda's presentation centered on the March 11, 2011 earthquake in the Fukushima region of Japan . The quake is now referred to as the "Great East Japan Earthquake".

Harold Pereverseff, President of the Alberta/Japan Twinned Municipalities Association was accompanied by a delegation from the Lethbridge Twinning Society to the presentation. Various other organizations and invited guests (including a Dr. in Nuclear Physics) were in attendance as well.

Consul-General Fukuda expressed his sincere gratitude on behalf of his country for the world wide relief efforts following the event. He mentioned the 5 Million Dollar donation made by the Province of Alberta, and the other donations received by his office from various sources. We know that many of the Alberta/Japan Twinned Municipalities Association members contributed to the relief as well.

The presentation highlighted several of the astonishing developments in the reconstruction of the ravaged regions. The infrastructure is practically rebuilt and a strategies are in place to encourage resettling along with incentives for building in the area. Taxes have been relaxed and visa requirements are being lighted with extended periods of stays being allowed.

The presentation, questions and response from the audience were all positive, it was an encouraging evening.



*Lethbridge Twinning Society delegate, Jeannie Goossens rises to ask Consul-General Fukuda a question regarding the floating mass of post tsunami debris that is scheduled to reach the North American coast line this year.*



*Canadian International Council (Calgary Branch) President, Duane Bratt and Consul-General Fukuda.*

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