

Canada Day Special

Strong partnership for the Indo-Pacific

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AMBASSADOR OF CANADA



Today Canadians and friends of Canada celebrate our 155th Canada Day anniversary. In an ever-changing world, the close, steady partnership that Canada and Japan have built over the

years shows mutual prosperity and security. This is exemplified by the six shared priorities we have established together: rule of law, security, health, free trade promotion, energy security, and the environment and climate change, which contribute to a free and open Indo-Pacific region, and provide a comprehensive framework to guide our relationship to even more success going forward.

This year, in particular, our shared priority for rule of law has taken on new significance as we respond to the illegal invasion of Ukraine. Through our cooperation in the Group of Seven and the U.N., Canada and

Japan have sent a clear message to those who could be tempted to emulate such actions. The rule of law principles that we are defending in Europe today are equally applicable to this part of the world, where Canada has been dispatching military assets since 2018 to join Japan in U.N. sanction-enforcement missions against Indo-Pacific threats.

Implementing and maintaining the international rule of law takes many forms, and cannot be done by any nation alone. For example, combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing combines the participation of Canada, Japan, the United States and South Korea, and includes the deployment of a Canadian patrol aircraft based in Japan. Only through our joint efforts can we advance sustainable fisheries policy and protect the food security and economic stability of the coastal communities that depend on the sea's bounty.

Through our shared priority of free trade promotion, we are committed to building on the success of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, upholding the rule of law in

global trade and working together on World Trade Organization reform. Amid increasingly complex geopolitical dynamics, macroeconomic shifts and rising protectionism, growing Canada-Japan commercial ties stand out as a source of stability and prosperity. Japan is a vital economic partner for Canada. Thousands of Canadians and hundreds of Canadian communities benefit from the confidence that Japanese companies place in our economy. Japan is Canada's fourth-largest source of foreign direct investment and the largest from Asia. As our fourth-largest export market, Japan is also a major consumer of Canadian products. For its part, Canada is sensitive to Japan's concerns about threats to its economic security. Canada can contribute to solutions as a reliable supplier of energy, resources and agricultural goods to Japan. We are strengthening our partnership on critical technologies in fields such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing where it is crucial for like-minded, democratic countries to be at the leading edge.

With respect to climate change, Canada and Japan can be leaders in developing new ways to reduce emissions, drive clean



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growth and build resilience as we work together to tackle climate change and other environmental challenges. We are already cooperating on efforts to decarbonize our economies that will lead to a cleaner and more prosperous future.

Canada and Japan are natural partners, with shared values and priorities that shape our vision for the future. We must continue to work together to protect our democracies and promote human rights. Over the past 40 years I have had the privilege of observing the Canada-Japan relationship, and never before have I sensed such a clear alignment of interests and a wide range of opportunities ready to be seized.

Happy Canada Day!

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Happy Canada Day
Congratulations
to the People of Canada
on the Anniversary of
the Canadian Confederation

 **Mitsubishi Corporation**