

Canada Day Special

Working together to build the future

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AMBASSADOR OF CANADA



On July 1, Canadians around the world celebrate the 1867 founding of our modern nation, a moment that marked the beginning of our journey as a sovereign, inclusive and forward-

looking democracy. In 2025, Canada Day is also a time to reflect on our values, our achievements and the role that Canada, alongside trusted partners like Japan, can play in shaping a more peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

The world is shifting. Geopolitical and economic pressures, regional instability and climate disruption are reshaping the global landscape. Countries like ours, bound by shared values and democratic principles, must rise to meet the moment.

Canada is doing just that. In Japan and throughout the Indo-Pacific, we are deep-

ening our partnerships across diplomacy, defense, trade and innovation. Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy and the Action Plan for the Six Shared Priorities with Japan are guiding this work.

We are strengthening our defense and security relationship by expanding cybersecurity cooperation and increasing interoperability and training. Canadian Navy ships and patrol and surveillance aircraft are helping enforce international sanctions against North Korea. A Canadian aircraft and a Coast Guard vessel are working with Japanese and regional partners to counter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and tackle ocean plastic pollution.

Canada continues to defend human rights and strengthen democratic resilience. We are working with civil society partners to advance gender equality, LGBTQ+ rights and support indigenous communities, refugees and others who face systemic barriers or social exclusion.

Our economic engagement is equally robust. Innovators from Canada and Japan are building the future together in quan-

tum computing, artificial intelligence and semiconductors. We are building more resilient and sustainable supply chains in conventional energy, clean energy and critical minerals. We continue to grow two-way investment, with firms in both countries using our partnership as a platform for Indo-Pacific expansion.

As ambassador to Japan, I have seen firsthand how our two peoples connect through shared curiosity, mutual respect and meaningful exchanges and collaborations. The Canada-Japan Youth Mobility Arrangement is encouraging young Canadians and Japanese to live, work and learn in each other's countries. Parliamentary diplomacy is expanding, with legislators engaging their counterparts in Japan and in Canada. Canada is showcasing its innovation, diversity and creativity to thousands of visitors at the Osaka Expo. Over 120 artists and performers from coast to coast are coming to Japan this year to deliver performances that celebrate the rich tapestry of Canada's culture.

Canada's G7 presidency is another opportunity to align closely with Japan on global



Major's Hill Park offers a view of Canada's Parliament Buildings.

OTTAWA TOURISM

priorities — peace, prosperity and partnerships. The group of seven leading industrialized nations summit marks Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's first official visit to Canada, a meaningful milestone in the evolving partnership between our nations.

Together, we can shape coherent responses to the challenges of our time. On this Canada Day, we look to continue working hand in hand with Japan, our friend and trusted partner, in shaping a future that is brighter, more peaceful and more inclusive. A future built on the principles of rule of law, open trade and environmental sustainability. Happy Canada Day!

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

Happy Canada Day!



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