

An Incredible Opportunity and a Wonderful Experience!



(L-R) Tsuzura Kikuchi (Towada City, Japan) Ali Janeczko (Hinton, Alberta)

It all began last summer when Joan Janeczko of Hinton reached out and invited a young student from Japan for a home stay experience. We had the opportunity of meeting Joan and her family in Hinton during the A/JTMA Conference. At that time we had petitioned Tsuzura Kikuchi of Towada city, Japan advising her of the opportunity. She responded and the rest is, well, “history”. The unique and very positive opportunity was a first in A/JTMA – relations where different twin cities have interaction with one another.

Hinton of course is twinned with Wanochi Town while Lethbridge is twinned with Towada City.

Relations such as these have an incredible impact on our over all relations, and open up wide gates of opportunity, especially for our youth. This year, Joan Janeczko’s daughter, Ali is preparing for a home stay in Japan! We hope that she will be able to visit Towada City, during her visit to Japan!

Our Executive Member, Erynne has been following up with these youth exchange opportunities and we certainly encourage these to continue.

Please read Tsuzura’s attached report for her impression of Canada and her experiences.