

**Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett JP
'A Week in Tokyo' Cultural Event
Hamilton Hill Memorial Hall
Sunday, 17 August 2025**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys.

I am delighted to be here today representing the City of Cockburn and thank Yoshitaka Saegusa, the Event Co-ordinator for 'A Week in Tokyo' for bringing the community event to the Hamilton Hill Memorial which is celebrating its 100th birthday this year.

I acknowledge the Whadjup people the traditional custodians of the land on which we have gathered today and I pay my respects to their Elders past and present and I extend that respect to First Nations people here today.

I acknowledge:

- Mr. Atsushi Karimata the Consul-General of Japan in Perth and other members of the Consulate;
- Mr Yoshitaka Saegusa, the Event Co-ordinator and other members of the Event Organising Team;
- My wife Patricia;
- Ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys.

What a wonderful coincidence the 'A Week in Tokyo' celebrating 100 years since its first production at the Memorial Hall. The venue and the stage production sharing this unique history.

One would say that so much water has passed under the bridge during that time and yet many things stay the same.

This celebration of Japanese culture is very important and provides an amazing opportunity to experience bringing back to life 'A Week in Tokyo'.

Having personally visited Japan on five occasion it represents a very rich tapestry of culture that has been developed over many centuries.

The City of Cockburn has a long established formal relationship with Japan, now in its 40th year – the commemoration of the bombing of

Hiroshima and Nagasaki where school children join with their teachers, members of the Japanese Consulate, Elected Members and staff from the City of Cockburn, members of our community and our friends further afield gather to plant trees and learn of the significant these events have and continue to have on the Japanese people in particular.

Of course, there are many sister city and friendships with Japanese cities in Western Australia and indeed Australia.

The recent announcement that Australia will be acquiring the Mogami class frigates from Japan is another bond that will bring our great nations even closer together.

On behalf of the City of Cockburn I extend our best wishes for 'A Week in Tokyo' and the opportunities going forward. Thank you.