

Good morning ladies, gentlemen and students.

My name is Chontelle Stone, Councillor with the City of Cockburn and today I am joined with Councillor Phoebe Corke.

On behalf of the City of Cockburn I again thank you for participating in today's tree planting and cultural activities as we reflect on those who lost their life or those who survived the horrific bombing of Hiroshima on 6 August 1945 and Nagasaki on 9 August 1945.

I extend the apologies of Mayor Howlett who is attending an event in Perth and therefore he was not able to participate in this part of the commemoration ceremony.

The City has been commemorating this event for 37 years and over that time hundreds of trees have been planted by dignitaries and the students from across the Fremantle Education District.

Peace Park on Spearwood Avenue was the initial planting site and once the location was fully planted out various park locations across the City have been utilised – Manning Park being today's venue.

I now call forward Consulate General of Japan in Perth Mr Toru Suzuki to receive a gift on behalf of the City acknowledging his continuing contribution to this commemorative event and for the friendship between our City and Japan that continues to grow year by year.

I now call forward Mr Noeru Hara, Vice - Consul and Head of Information & Culture Section, Consulate Office of Japan in Perth to receive a gift on behalf of the City. The enduring friendship between our City and Japan is inspired by the Consulate and we are very pleased to have their office participating in this commemorative event.

The City prides itself on ensuring a continuing education process for students from the Fremantle Education District in planting trees that in time we hope will reflect the growth and development of each student involved.

That is why Mayor Howlett referenced the opportunity for each student to take a photograph next to the tree that they were involved in planting – and over time returning to that tree and measuring your growth against that of the tree.

In closing, please enjoy the cultural activities available today.

Thank you.