

**Hiroshima Day Address**  
**by**  
**Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP**  
**at**  
**Botany Park, Macquarie Boulevard Hammond Park**  
**9.30 am, Friday 4 August 2017**

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Kaya, Wanju Wanju Beeliar Boodjar.

(Hello, Welcome to the land of the Beeliar people).

I extend a warm welcome to everyone who has gathered here in commemoration of Hiroshima Day.

I thank Betty Garlett for her 'Welcome to Country'.

Betty, as always, you delivered a heartfelt message that unites us all in harmony and respect for all that we do to build this great nation of ours going forward.

The more we learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, their heritage, culture and customs the richer we become as people.

I acknowledge the Wadjuk People of the Nyungar Nation who are the traditional custodians of the land that we are gathered on this morning and I pay respect to their Elders both past and present and I extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who are present.

I formally acknowledge and welcome:

- Japanese Consul-General, Mr Tatsuo Hirayama; and
- Ms Satomi Suzuki, Vice- Consul of the Consulate-General of Japan, Perth Office;
- Betty Garlett; Nyungar Elder;
- Mr Don Miguel OAM, JP and Freeman of the City and his wife June;
- Mrs Nola Waters, former Deputy Mayor and Councillor;
- Councillor Ingrid Waltham, representing the Mayor, City of Fremantle;
- Councillor Chamonix Terblanche; City of Cockburn;
- Mr Stephen Cain, Chief Executive Officer, City of Cockburn;

- Mr Don Green, Director Governance and Community Services;
- Mr Charles Sullivan, Director Engineering & Works; and other staff; with particular reference to Marie La Frenais who has co-ordinated today's Commemorative Service;
- Members of the City's Parks & Gardens Staff who have selected the trees and prepared the planting locations;
- School Principals, Teachers, Students, Parents;
- Ladies and gentlemen, one and all.

Today is the 32nd occasion that the City has been involved in commemorating Hiroshima Day.

Peace Park located on Spearwood Avenue, Spearwood was the location first used to commemorate Hiroshima Day. I am pleased that Don Miguel, OAM, JP and Freeman of our City and Nola Waters are here today for they were responsible for Council's decision of the day to initiate this commemorative event 32 years ago.

For those of you that are familiar with Peace Park it is fully planted with trees and the City has moved to plant trees at various parks across the City.

Peace Park forms part of what is referred to as 'Friendship Way' reflecting the City's indigenous heritage and culture, its involvement in international relationships through sister city arrangements, a memorial to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and Peace Park itself.

'Friendship Way' is a unique concept that has received national recognition.

It has high visibility in our community and all who choose to travel along its 6.5 kilometre distance from Beeliar Drive to Cockburn Road can clearly see some magnificent public artwork and aspects of the trees and plants reflecting our close connection to nature.

The hundreds of trees planted across our community in those 32 years by the Consulate-Generals of Japan, Perth Office, members of our Council and students from across our district continue to flourish.

They symbolise the strength of our friendship with Japan and its people and reflect the nature of our growing relationship as we reach out in terms of trade, education, tourism and cultural exchange.

There is a healthy and developing exchange of students from a number of our schools in the district and those in Japan that nurtures international relations and provides the opportunity to experience first-hand all that each country has to offer.

Indeed these opportunities in all likelihood help to foster school students to aspire to be future business leaders, community leaders, members of the diplomatic corps or other international based organisations.

Today's commemorative service provides us all with the opportunity to learn from each other - to share in a moment of reflection, of times past, of a people and its nation impacted by nuclear warfare – a world impacted by the aftermath – of generations of young people asking why – of trees being planted by children as a mark of respect and remembrance – and just as those trees grow tall and reach for the stars so we support our children as they too grow and aspire to take up leadership roles and to become the mums and dads of our future generations.

It is important for all of us to know and understand the circumstances of the bombings that occurred. Hiroshima and then three days later the bombing of Nagasaki – both are grim reminders of the destructive power of nuclear weapons and the impact they can have on individuals, families, communities and nations.

The Cities of Fremantle and Cockburn are members of the Mayor's for Peace worldwide movement and fully support the need for World Peace and how we as a nation can contribute to the wider understanding of resolving conflicts in a peaceful manner as opposed to lives being lost, infrastructure being destroyed and communities left devastated for generations.

In 2016 the Cities of Fremantle, Subiaco, Cockburn and other local governments across Australia contributed funds for a monument gifted by the Australian Indigenous community and the Mayors for Peace to symbolise Australia's desire for peace and harmony.

The sculpture titled; 'Tree of Life: Gift of Peace' was unveiled by Japanese nuclear survivors in Nagasaki Peace Park – a lasting reminder of our commitment to peace.

Ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys I trust today's commemorative event will stay in your memory for years to come.

Thank you!

I now invite Japanese Consul-General, Mr Tatsuo Hirayama to say a few words.

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Please join us back at the City of Cockburn for morning tea and activities relating to commemorating Hiroshima Day.

Thank you.