

Japan-Canada Chambers Council Joint Statement
February 2025

In the midst of disruptions in the global economy and complex geopolitical realities, the partnership between Canada and Japan is integral for ensuring the economic security of both nations. Both countries should prioritize the bilateral economic relationship given its immense strategic and economic significance.

The economic relationship between the two G7 countries is strong and continues to steadily expand. The Canadian and Japanese business communities have shown immense resilience, in spite of the challenging international context. The success of the relationship is underpinned by deep commercial, political and cultural ties, as well as our shared commitment to preserving a predictable, rules-based international trade environment.

To help inform and deepen the economic dialogue between the two governments, including the bilateral Joint Economic Committee (JEC), and to strengthen the ties between the business communities of the two countries, the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce (CCC) hosted the annual Japan-Canada Chambers Council (JCCC) in Ottawa on February 6, 2025.

JCCC participants emphasized the importance of the bilateral relationship in the current international context, as well as the imperative of seizing the significant economic opportunities for collaboration between the two countries.

We call upon our governments to build on the outcomes of the 2025 JCCC in the following areas.

- *Securing critical supply chains in an era of heightened geopolitical risks.* In the current international security context, it is important that both countries have access to reliable and sustainable sources of goods and services that are critical for economic security. Canada and Japan should increase linkages in areas where there are complementary strengths, such as agriculture, natural resources, manufacturing, and artificial intelligence.
- *Cooperation on energy and clean technologies.* There is considerable global need for reliable access to sustainable energy that adheres to high environmental, social, and governance standards, as well as clean technologies that will be essential for the global energy transition. Canada and Japan should strengthen cooperation on hydrogen and critical minerals, as well as the development of Canada's capacity to export liquefied natural gas (LNG). Additionally, Canada and Japan should prioritize the development of value-added battery and other clean technology supply chains in Canada and Japan.
- *Enhancing bilateral trade & investment promotion.* Both countries must strategically explore new avenues for facilitating bilateral trade and investment while also strengthening existing mechanisms. Such measures should include enhancing trade infrastructure, increasing trade & investment promotion, and deepening economic dialogues.

Our organizations look forward to continued collaboration with our members, as well as the Canadian and Japanese governments, to drive forward progress on these important matters.

Rick White
Canada Chair

Tatsuo Yasunaga
Japan Chair

Witnessed by:

Witnessed by:

Ian McKay
Ambassador of Canada to Japan and
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