



**[Players from Vancouver's "Shin Asahi" and Yokohama's "Minami Boys" and "Izumi Little Seniors" baseball teams trade post-game compliments]**

Reporting Yokohama's Major International Projects

# YOKOHAMA INTERNATIONAL DIGEST

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## Disaster risk reduction officials from Chile visit Yokohama for training on river management and flood prevention measures

On March 15, the City of Yokohama provided training in collaboration with JICA on its Institutional Strengthening of ONEMI\* for Capacity Development in Disaster Risk Reduction Project. Like Japan, Chile experiences floods and earthquakes, but faces challenges as regional planning does not yet include pre-disaster risk reduction for rural areas.



Held in cooperation with the Yokohama Road and Highway Bureau River Planning Division/River Management Division, the training let the 10 national disaster response officials and leaders from local governments in Chile gain a deeper knowledge of Yokohama's policies and expertise through a presentation on the city's river management projects and a trip to observe the flood control basin at the Maioka River.



\*ONEMI: National Emergency Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Chile

## Vancouver's Shin Asahi youth baseball team plays in Yokohama for third time in biannual event

The "Shin Asahi" Japanese-Canadian youth baseball team from Yokohama's sister city Vancouver, Canada, made a biannual visit to Yokohama on March 16 and 17. They faced off against Yokohama's "Minami Boys" and "Izumi Little Seniors" youth baseball teams in an event featuring exciting friendly games.



Players Kai Okuyama, Liam Lewis, and Max Yuen from the Shin Asahi team were interviewed, and shared their comments: "We've practiced all year for these games," "Yokohama's teams have great teamwork," and "We're learning about Japanese culture through baseball, like the respect and manners shown to the other team."



As Vancouver and Yokohama anticipate celebrating their 55th year as sister cities in 2020, it is hoped they can look forward to further youth exchange activities.

## JICA Volunteers recruited to deploy in spring meet with the Deputy Mayor at City Hall

Since 1965, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has dispatched volunteers to assist with socio-economic development or reconstruction efforts in developing countries. Dispatched four times a year, around 40 of the roughly 1,000 volunteers traveling to regions around the world come from Yokohama.

Deputy Mayor Watanabe greeted the new volunteers recruited for deployment on March 22.



A number of the volunteers shared their desires to contribute to the development of emerging countries as they prepared to head to Tanzania, Madagascar, and other regions across the world to support the people of developing countries across a wide variety of fields, such as assisting with information and communication technology (ICT) and improving children's learning environments.

The Deputy Mayor encouraged them to draw on their skills and memories from previous trips to emerging countries, to blend them together as they approach their important tasks, and to treasure their experiences abroad.