

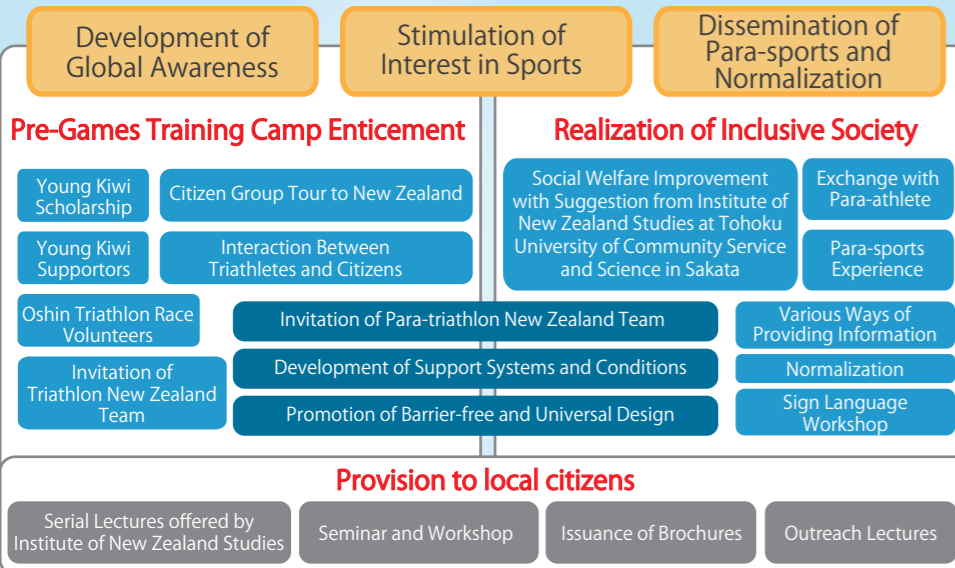
The Host Town Initiative

Host towns are designed to facilitate economic and cultural exchange between countries and regions of Japan in preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In order to increase involvement of the citizens and get the regions involved we aim to:

1. Show the wonder of sport through interaction with Olympians
2. Get to know more about other countries, and at the same time teach about Japan through interaction with people from other countries
3. Show the wonder of a more-inclusive society through interaction with Paralympians

Sakata City Host Town Promotion Scheme



Exchanges Through Host Town Activities



Sakata City is pushing forward with building relationships with New Zealand in time for the Olympics and Paralympics, and into the future. However, the city is considering learning about more than just sport, such as the social aspects. We think that New Zealand can be extremely useful in teaching about race relations, gender issues, and disabilities, to create a more harmonious and inclusive society.



【Cabinet Secretariat Host Town Action】



"Host Town Initiative" is a Japanese Government's policy, in preparation for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. Cabinet Secretariat register local governments aiming to promote human, economic and cultural interactions with participating countries and region as a "Host Town".

Host Town

SAKATA CITY

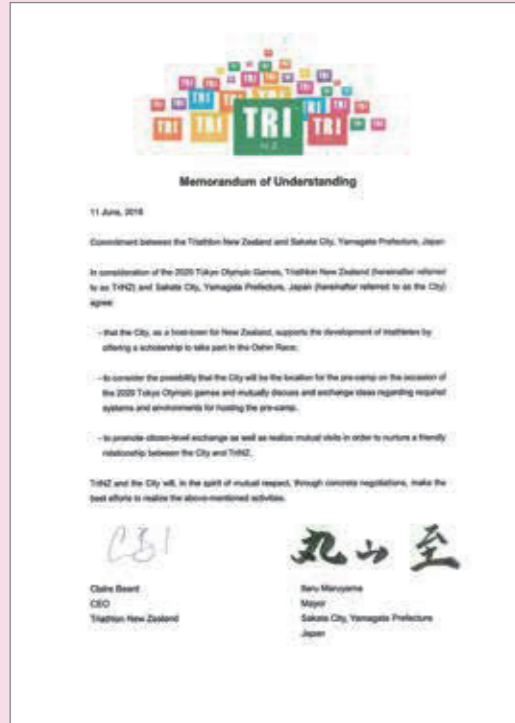


2020
Tokyo
Olympic &
Paralympic
Games
Host Town for

NEW ZEALAND

Sakata City × New Zealand
Host Town Magazine

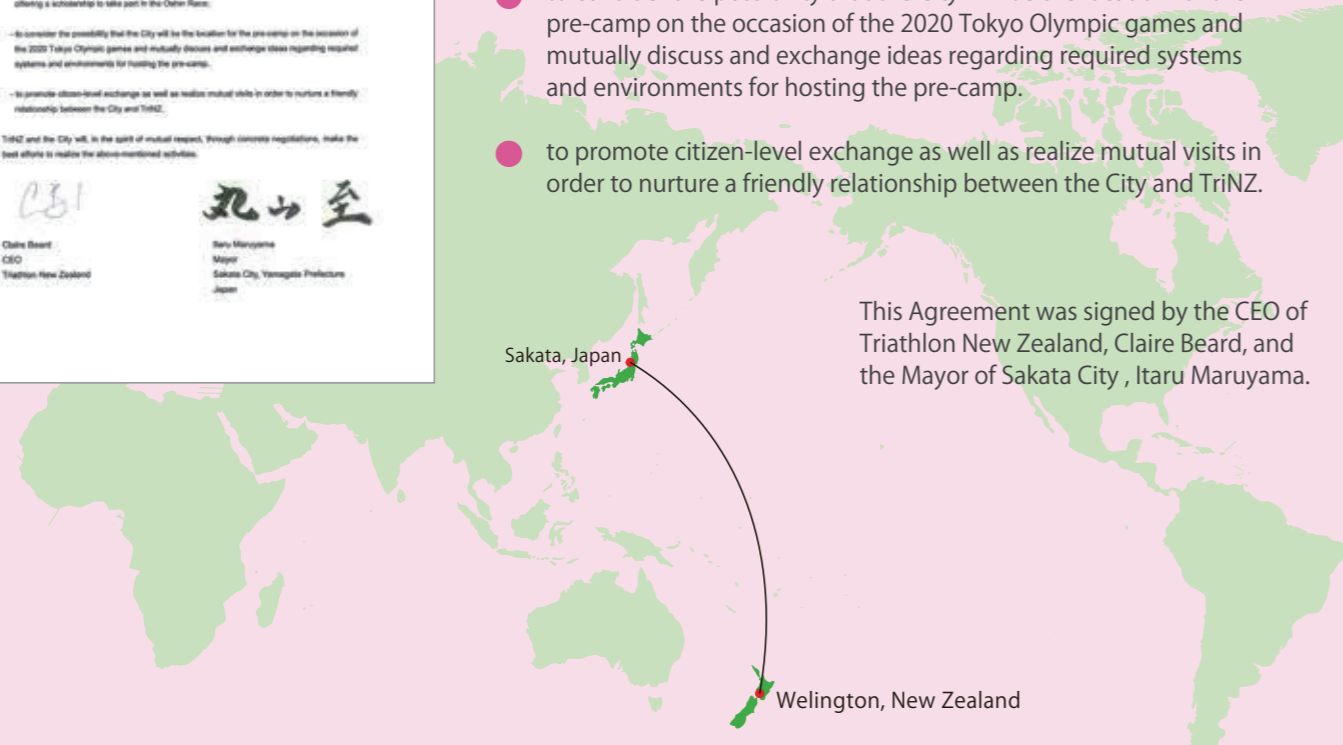
Triathlon New Zealand and Sakata City concluded Agreement on Mutual Exchanges



On June 11, 2018, Triathlon New Zealand and Sakata City signed the agreement on the following activities for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games:

- that the City, as a host-town for New Zealand, supports the development of triathletes by offering a scholarship to take part in the Oshin Race;
- to consider the possibility that the City will be the location for the pre-camp on the occasion of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic games and mutually discuss and exchange ideas regarding required systems and environments for hosting the pre-camp.
- to promote citizen-level exchange as well as realize mutual visits in order to nurture a friendly relationship between the City and TriNZ.

This Agreement was signed by the CEO of Triathlon New Zealand, Claire Beard, and the Mayor of Sakata City, Itaru Maruyama.



- 2016
 - December ● Registered as a New Zealand Host Town
- 2017
 - June ● Japan New Zealand Institute Event
 - New Zealand Ambassador to Japan's visit to Sakata
 - Young New Zealand Triathlete Kyle Smith invited to Oshin Triathlon Race
 - July ● Japan Triathlon Union visit to Sakata
 - August ● Establishment of Sakata Host Town for NZ Promotion Committee for the 2020 Tokyo Games
 - October ● Triathlon New Zealand High Performance Director and Senior Coach visit Sakata
- 2018
 - June ● Young New Zealand Triathletes Janus Staufenberg and Reuben Thompson invited to Oshin Triathlon Race
 - Agreement on Mutual Exchanges
- 2019
 - June ● Young New Zealand Triathletes Trent Dodds and Rose Dillon invited to Oshin Triathlon Race
 - July ● Triathlon New Zealand Top Team Test Pre-Olympic Camp
 - August ● Registered as Pre-Olympic Camp Site
 - Registered as Inclusive Society Host Town
- 2020
 - February ● Citizens Cultural Exchange Group visit to New Zealand
 - June ● Young New Zealand Triathletes invited to Oshin Triathlon Race
 - August ● Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games
 [Olympic from July 24th to August 9th
 Paralympic from August 25th to September 6th]
- 2021 To the future!

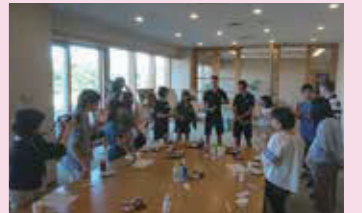
Through Scholarship Program, 2 Young Kiwi Triathletes Stayed in Sakata for Training Camp for 2 weeks!

Since 2018, New Zealand Young Triathletes Scholarship Program has been established, and Sakata City has supported Young Kiwis as Host Town Initiative.

In 2018, the City invited Janus Staufenberg and Reuben Thompson. Both achieved good results with high rankings in 2018 New Plymouth OUT Triathlon Oceania YOG Qualifier and Junior Oceania Championships.

They stayed in Sakata for two weeks and participated in Oshin Triathlon Race in Sakata, and Miyagi International Triathlon Sendai Bay.

While staying in Sakata, they not only trained hard everyday, but also went to buy groceries and cooked meals with volunteer students of Tohoku University of Community Service and Science, as well as experienced Japanese traditional cultures organized by high school students.



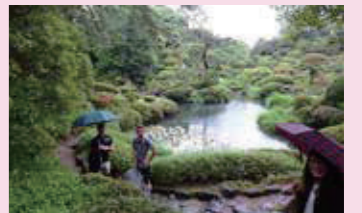
Meet your support staff and have the welcome dinner reception.



They danced the Japanese festival dance.



Cultural exchange meeting with high school students.



At the Homma Museum of Art and its garden.



Oshin Triathlon Race



An online meeting with the Mayor, CEO, High Performance Director, and two young KIWI's.

