

Request from the Mayor to the Residents of Rikuzentakata

To all residents of Rikuzentakata: we would like to thank you for taking thorough countermeasures and safety precautions in your everyday lives to help prevent the spread of infection.

As all of you might have heard, the state of emergency that was declared due to the nationwide spread of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) was lifted for all prefectures of Japan on May 25. While talking about future countermeasure strategies to curb the spread of infection, we also plan to gradually increase the range of socioeconomic activities that can be done within our city.

Within the City of Rikuzentakata, we have implemented a variety of countermeasures and economic support schemes of our own thus far. Looking forward, we will implement necessary countermeasures and economic support that match with the current state of the city, and do our best to carry them out as quickly as possible.

Inter-prefectural travel will be possible again starting from tomorrow. We ask that all of you to continue with thoroughly practicing countermeasures and to be as alert as possible for a second wave. While taking into consideration the adoption of new lifestyles and the new economic cycle within the city to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus disease, we once again request that everyone abides by the following:

- 1) To continuously take basic precautions within workplaces, schools and households, etc. by completely avoiding the “Three Cs” (“closed spaces” with poor ventilation, “crowded places” with many people nearby, “close-contact settings” such as close-range conversations), practicing social distancing, wearing masks, and practicing good hygiene such as washing your hands thoroughly.
- 2) To only shop within the city by making use of takeout or delivery services, etc. However, if you have to buy certain items that cannot be found here, please shop within the Kesen region so as to support the local economy.
- 3) Ever since the Great East Japan Earthquake, we have been supported by many different people from around the world. In order for more of these people to be able to visit our city once again, please do not harass or discriminate against others.

June 18, 2020

Mayor of Rikuzentakata

Futoshi Toba