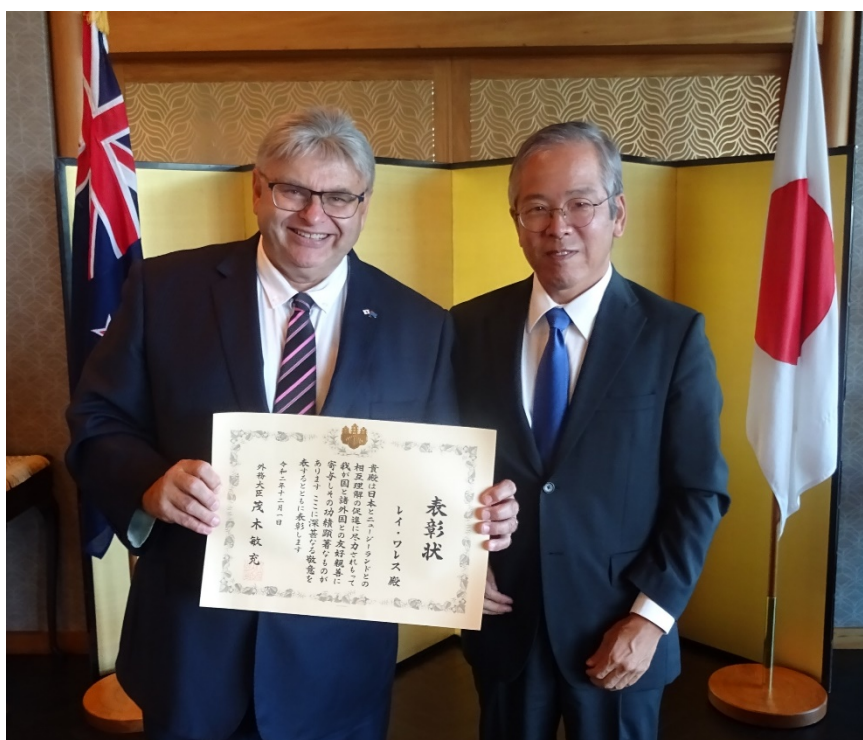


# Foreign Minister's Commendation Award Ceremony for Mr Ray Wallace, Chairman of Hutt Minoh House Friendship Trust

## レイ・ワレス・ハット箕面友好トラスト会長の外務大臣表彰式

On 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021, Ambassador Ito presented the Foreign Minister's Commendation Award to Mr Ray Wallace, Chairman of Hutt Minoh House Friendship Trust. Lower Hutt City in New Zealand and Minoh City in Osaka Prefecture formed a sister city relationship in 1995 and this year marks the 26 year anniversary of their close ties. Mr Wallace has dedicated himself to fostering the Hutt-Minoh sister city bonds for about a decade, including during and even after his tenure as Mayor of Lower Hutt City. As Mayor, he initiated and oversaw a local Japanese cultural event called "Hutt Japan Day" both in 2017 and 2019, both of which were largely successful in promoting cultural exchange in Lower Hutt City. His achievements over many years in promoting people-to-people relationships have nurtured the friendship and goodwill between Japan and New Zealand, which has also greatly contributed to deepening the bilateral relationship between the two nations. The Embassy of Japan will continue to support Mr Wallace and his team members and supporters in their sister city activities and expect their continued commitment to enriching the Hutt-Minoh sister city relationship going forward.

2021年3月17日、伊藤大使はレイ・ワレス・ハット箕面友好トラスト会長に外務大臣表彰状を授与しました。ロウワー・ハット市と大阪府箕面市は1995年に姉妹都市関係を提携し、今年で26年目を迎えます。ワレス会長は、ロウワー・ハット市長在任中、またその後も含め、これまで約10間にわたり、ハット箕面姉妹都市関係の促進に尽力されてきました。市長在任中には、2017年及び2019年にワレス会長のイニシアチブで日本祭り「ハット・ジャパン・デー」が開催され、両年ともロウワー・ハット市の文化交流行事として成功裏に終わりました。ワレス会長のこのような長年にわたる人的交流促進の功績は、日ニュージーランド両国の友情と善意を育むとともに、二国間関係の深化にも寄与してきました。当館は、今後もワレス会長及びハット箕面姉妹都市関係者の皆様の姉妹都市活動を支援するとともに、皆様の益々のご活躍に期待いたします。





Congratulatory Remarks by Ambassador Ito  
伊藤大使祝辞



Remarks by Mr Ray Wallace  
レイ・ワレス会長挨拶



栄えある受章おめでとうございます！  
Mr Ray Wallace, congratulations on receiving your award!