

PLAN for JAMSNET CANADA (Jan. 2014)

1. The establishment of the **Japanese Medical Support Network in Canada**

2. Objectives:

- Exchange of information and cooperation among Japanese medical personnel.
- Medical support for Japanese people in Canada.

3. **Context:** In contrast with efficient medical services in Japan, Japanese people are facing difficulty in accessing medical services in Canada. Moreover, there is a lack of resources for mental health-related services since these types of treatments require more advanced Japanese linguistic skills and cultural sensitivity. Medical Attaché, Dr. Nakamoto has discovered that there are some Japanese people working in the medical field in some regions of Canada during his visit of Japanese Consulates. He contacted these people and some of them agreed to provide counseling for the Japanese community in Canada.

4. Network Overview

- (1) Name: The Japanese Medical Support Network in Canada (provisional title: JAMSNET-Canada)
- (2) Representative: **Kiyoshi Dembo** (Special Officer/Consultant of the Japanese Social Services in Toronto)
- (3) Secretariat: Medical Section at The Embassy of Japan in Canada (mainly for management of mailing lists)
- (4) Member:
 - Japanese medical personnel in Canada who wish to be a member.
 - Medical attaché and the clerk of Embassy of Japan in Canada.
 - Consular officers of Embassy and Consulate Generals of Japan in Canada in charge of safety of Japanese nationals.
- (5) Content of activities:
 - Exchange medical information among members.
 - Transfer queries from Japanese resident in Canada to medical experts and referral of Japanese patients who have no access to medical services.
 - Organize study sessions among members and provide medical lectures to Japanese communities in Canada.

- (6) Cooperation with other regions across the world: Enable the exchange of information with other healthcare professionals by cooperating with similar organizations in other countries. Specifically, JAMSNET in NY, Mental Health Network in NY, JAMSNET in Tokyo, Network between Japanese Medical Attaché of all over the world.
- (7) Emergency situation:
- Gather information on the situation and on the type and scale of the damages.
 - Disseminate information of the situation to the Japanese community.
 - Function as a network of support for Japanese nationals whenever there is an emergency situation like terrorism, large-scale natural disasters, new type of Influenza, and so on.
- (8) Case in other regions: JAMSNET NY was established in January 2006 by the Japanese American Medical Association with the support of the Japanese Consulate General in New York. JAMSNET Tokyo was established in 2009 by members of JAMSNET NY who returned to Japan. They have been cooperating with Japanese support organizations in Boston, Toronto, Bangkok, and Berlin.

(Approved at the first Annual General Meeting on January 22, 2014)

