



## Language Exchange Lounge Series

Join our lively lounge events to meet friendly native speakers and fellow language learners from around the world!

**Hosted at the Asahikawa International Center from 18:00-19:00**

Lounge	Dates
<b>Solniska Lounge</b> Russian Language Exchange	<b>11/5 (Wed)</b>
<b>Pengyou Lounge</b> Chinese Language Exchange	<b>11/6(Thu)</b>
<b>Nihongo Lounge</b> Japanese Language Exchange	<b>11/20 (Thu)</b>
<b>K x J Lounge</b> Korean & Japanese Exchange	<b>11/21 (Fri)</b>



## Chinese Lantern & Papercut Art Experience

**11/15**  
Saturday

**TIME:** 10:30-12:00

**LOCATION:** Asahikawa International Center

**DETAILS:** Learn and deepen your understanding of Chinese culture through crafts! Come join us for this papercut art and lantern crafting workshop!



**ASAHIKAWA  
INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE**

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## Japanese Study Session

**11/29**  
Saturday

**TIME:** 16:00-18:00

**LOCATION:** Asahikawa International Center

**DETAILS:** Looking to develop your Japanese skills? Whether it be for JLPT prep or just improving conversation skills, this Japanese Study Session is just for you! Come join us to study and practice your Japanese with native speakers from Asahikawa!



Check out our website and social media for information regarding the events above. For further information or to register for events, contact:

Asahikawa International Committee (AIC), (NAGATA), (MIYAUCHI) or Coordinator for International Relations (CIR), (JOHN)

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**Tel:** (0166) 25-7491 **Fax:** (0166) 23-4924

**Email:** asahikawainternationalcenter@gmail.com

**Website:** <https://asahikawaic.jp/en/>



Scan the QR Code to check out our homepage!

Follow us on social media for latest updates and upcoming events!

X (formerly twitter)



Facebook



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**\*\*The opinions expressed in the essays are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the AIC or the City of Asahikawa.\*\***





# AIC 35th Anniversary

## Our Story



The Asahikawa International Committee (AIC) was established in 1990 to foster international exchanges between residents and foreigners in Asahikawa. Over the past 35 years, AIC has created numerous opportunities for community members to connect through language, culture, and shared experiences. As we continue to build bridges between the international community and local residents, AIC remains committed to cultivating lasting friendships and enhancing mutual understanding in Asahikawa.

## Who Are We?

The AIC is made up of dedicated staff members, volunteers, and community participants from Asahikawa. Our staff oversee the organization's administrative tasks, including budgeting and event coordination. Volunteers play a crucial role by assisting with event execution, providing translation support, and facilitating homestay accommodations. Meanwhile, the community—both residents and foreigners—contributes by actively participating in our events and sharing their own cultural experiences. Together, each individual at AIC helps foster meaningful international exchange, and we hope you'll join us soon!





# Ways to Exchange

Over the years, the AIC has hosted a wide range of events. Our current offerings include language exchange programs, multilingual cooking classes, safety workshops, and outdoor cultural exchanges. We are always eager to hear feedback and suggestions to continuously create more enriching and diverse exchange experiences for everyone!



## AIC Highlights

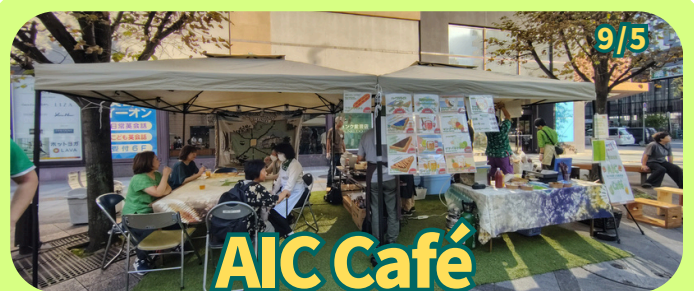


This year's Friendship Parties were conducted with collaboration of with the Asahikawa Higashi Police Station (on 6/28) and the Disaster Prevention and Safety Department (on 10/25) of City Hall in order to promote safety while exchanging while enjoying a fun and casual exchange with the international community.



### Spring Walk & Picnic

AIC enthusiastically planned this event for local and international residents to enjoy cultural exchange while connecting with Asahikawa's nature. More than 50 participants joined us for this lovely walk, concluding in a relaxing picnic underneath the shade.



### AIC Café

Guests enjoyed international delights like the spicy Caesar cocktail from Canada and Italian-inspired Nutella toast, all while mingling in a relaxed atmosphere. It was a night of delicious bites and great conversation!

## What's Next?

AIC is committed to fostering intercultural exchange for everyone. From language exchanges in the lounge to exploring Asahikawa with the local community, we aim to create engaging activities that bring both internationals and locals together. Our goal is to celebrate unique cultures and promoting diversity while discovering the commonalities that unite us all.



# Easy Hokkaido-Ben for You

By John Mabilangan



Did you know Hokkaido has a dialect? Hokkaido has been historically settled by Japanese from all over Honshu resulting to the local language to be mixed and similar to standard language. However, there are some words and expressions that slightly differ from the main dialect. Check them out below!

## なげる(nageru) = To throw away; dispose

Standard Japanese: 捨(す)てる

Example: 帰(かえ)る前(まえ)にゴミをなげておいてね。

*Before going home, please **throw away** your trash.*



## しばれる(shibareru) = to be freezing cold

Standard Japanese: 寒(さむ)くて凍(い)てつくこと

Example: こんな**しばれた**日(ひ)に半(はん)そで着(き)てたら風邪(かぜ)ひくよ!

*if you wear short sleeves on a **freezing cold** day, you'll catch a cold!*



## なした(nashita) = What's up? What's the matter?

Standard Japanese: どうしたの?

Example: なした? さっき泣(な)いていた?

***What's the matter?** Were you crying earlier?*



## わや(waya) = very; really; disorderly

Standard Japanese: めっちゃくちゃ

Example: 昨日(きのう)雪(ゆき)降(ふ)って道路(どうろ)が**わや**だったから遅刻(ちこく)したわ!

*I was late because the snow from yesterday made the roads a **mess**!*



## だべ・べ(dabe/be) =

(Ending marker for affirmation; confirmation; to say your thoughts outloud)

Standard Japanese: だろう・でしょう

Example: 今夜(こんや)何(なに)を食(た)べればいいべ。

*I **wonder** what I should eat tonight.*



**\*\*No direct English translation. Meaning changes based on context.**