

EMBASSY OF JAPAN
IN CANADA



AMBASSADE DU JAPON
AU CANADA

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**GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN HOLDS INVESTITURE CEREMONY FOR
JAPANESE-CANADIAN ARTIST MITSUGI KIKUCHI**

OTTAWA, ON – On June 7, 2012, the Embassy of Japan was pleased to host an investiture ceremony for an Ottawa-based, Japanese-Canadian artist of Japanese-style painting and flower arrangement (“Ikebana”), Mr. Mitsugi Kikuchi at the official residence of the Ambassador of Japan. Mr. Kikuchi was bestowed the honour of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays by the Government of Japan as a gesture of gratitude for his many years of the promotion of Japanese culture in Canada.

The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays is an order established in 1875 by Emperor Meiji of Japan and is conferred by the Government of Japan in recognition of individuals’ distinguished accomplishments in contributing to the nation or public.

Mr. Kikuchi has been recognized for his delicate and colourful paintings of Japanese and Canadian landscapes and wildlife. Mr. Kikuchi’s paintings are now in public and private collections worldwide.

Mr. Kikuchi has been an Honourary Member of the Ikebana International Ottawa Centennial Chapter since 1967. He is also a founding member of the Ottawa Chapter of the Ohara School of Ikebana and has been devoted to the promotion of the knowledge of Ikebana, or Japanese flower arrangement.

In recognition of a lifetime of artistic work contributing to the strengthening of cultural ties between Japan and Canada, Mr. Kikuchi was also awarded the Japanese Foreign Minister’s Commendation in 2002.

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