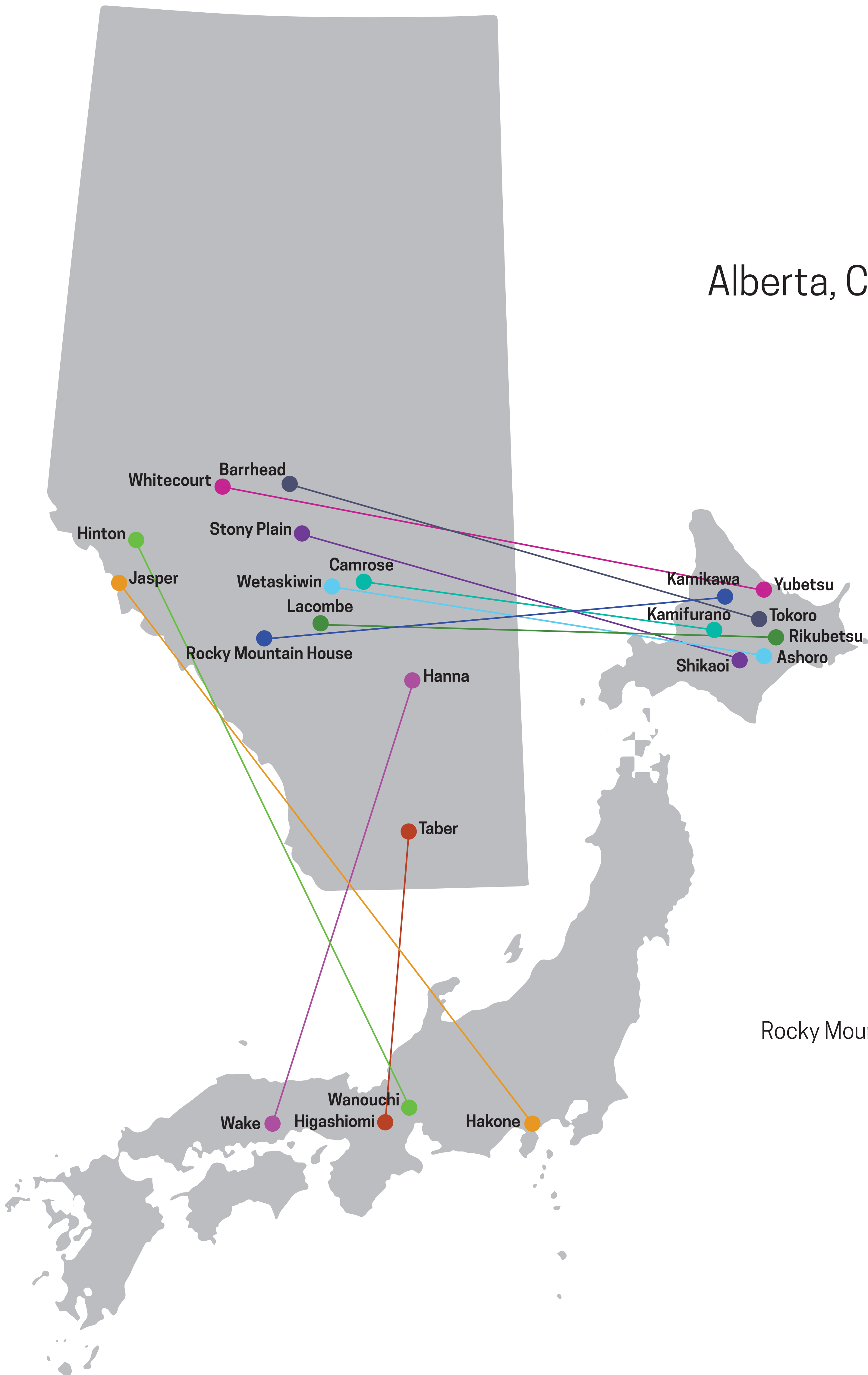


# Alberta-Japan Twinned Towns

## Provinces of Alberta, Canada & Hokkaido, Japan twinned in 1980



- Barrhead, Alberta & Tokoro, Hokkaido  
twinned in 1991
- Camrose, Alberta & Kamifurano, Hokkaido  
twinned in 1984
- Hinton, Alberta & Wanouchi, Gifu  
twinned in 1998
- Hanna, Alberta & Wake, Okayama  
twinned in 1993
- Jasper, Alberta & Hakone, Kanagawa  
twinned in 1972
- Lacombe, Alberta & Rikubetsu, Hokkaido  
twinned in 1986
- Rocky Mountain House, Alberta & Kamikawa, Hokkaido  
twinned in 1984
- Stony Plain, Alberta & Shikaoi, Hokkaido  
twinned in 1985
- Taber, Alberta & Higashiomi, Shiga  
twinned in 1981
- Whitecourt, Alberta & Yubetsu, Hokkaido  
twinned in 1998
- Wetaskiwin, Alberta & Ashoro, Hokkaido  
twinned in 1990

# Rocky-Kamikawa History of Friendship



1984

In June, a five-member delegation from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House to sign a twin-town friendship agreement.

In August, a twelve-member delegation Rocky Mountain House travelled to Kamikawa to counter sign the friendship agreement.



1990

47 citizens from Hokkaido visited Rocky Mountain House for a three-day stay to celebrate the 10th anniversary of friendship between the Province of Alberta and Hokkaido. Rocky Mountain House was presented with a gift of 10 cherry blossom trees from Kamikawa.

Friendship Society was founded in Rocky Mountain House with 20 charter members.



1993

The second annual Twin Town Conference was held in Rocky Mountain House.



1995

Rocky Mountain House hosted visiting Hokkaido delegations to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the twinning of Alberta and Hokkaido.

1999

Rocky Mountain House hosted the annual Twin Town Conference in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the Rocky-Kamikawa twinning. Sixteen delegates from Kamikawa were hosted during the conference.



2004

Rocky Mountain House hosted the Twin Town Conference in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Rocky-Kamikawa twinning.

A nine-member delegation travelled from Rocky Mountain House to Kamikawa to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Rocky-Kamikawa twinning.



2014

Rocky Mountain House hosted the Twin Town Conference in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Rocky-Kamikawa twinning.

1980

The Prefecture of Hokkaido and the Province of Alberta establish a sister-province relationship.

1985

First Japanese language courses taught in local high schools. These courses will continue to be taught locally for 20 years.

1987

A 15-member delegation from Kamikawa participated in the Rocky Mountain House Canada Day Celebrations.

First Rocky-Kamikawa Student Exchange takes place.



1992

First annual high school delegation arrived in Rocky Mountain House for a three-day tour of local schools, facilities and attractions.



1994

33-member delegation from Alberta (20 members from Rocky Mountain House) visit Kamikawa and Okoppe to celebrate the Rocky-Kamikawa 10th anniversary of twinning.



1996

First annual "Festival of Culture" held in Rocky Mountain House.



2000

Mayor Lou and Doris Soppit with Margaret and Jack Qually travelled to Hokkaido for the 20th anniversary celebration of the Alberta-Hokkaido twinning.



2013

Delegation from Kamikawa visited for Rocky Mountain House's Centennial Celebration.



2024

Celebrating 40 years of friendship between Rocky Mountain House and Kamikawa.



# 37 Years of Student Exchanges



1987 First student exchange of 15 students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
1988 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Marshall.



1989 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
1990 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Alfred Von Hollen and Margaret Hooley.



1991 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
1992 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stelmaschuk.



1993 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
1994 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Snyder.



1995 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
1996 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Snyder.



1997 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
1998 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Miss G. Marshall and Mr. J. Thompson.



1999 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
2000 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mrs. Witwicki.



2001 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
2002 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Lisa King and Marla Daines.



2003 Kamikawa students arrived in Rocky Mountain House.  
2004 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Tisdale.



2005 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with one chaperone.  
2006 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Greg Imeson.



2007 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with two chaperones.  
2008 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Ian Tisdale.



2009 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House.  
2010 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Bernie and Carl Britton.



2011 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House with 2 chaperones and 1 tour guide.  
2012 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Rob and April Unkauf.



2013 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House.  
2014 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Kim Hastings and Mark Friesen.



2015 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House.  
2016 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Kim Hastings and Mark Friesen.



2017 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House.  
2018 Rocky students travelled to Kamikawa under the leadership of Kim Hastings and Kirstin Wilbur.



2019 Students from Kamikawa arrived in Rocky Mountain House.  
2020 Rocky student travel to Kamikawa cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.



2024 Rocky Mountain House-Kamikawa Student Exchange returns with Rocky students travelling to Kamikawa in August 2024.

Scale of Alberta  
and Japan



# Rocky-Kamikawa Gifts of Friendship



June 21, 1984  
Following the signing of the Declaration of Friendship, officially twinning Rocky with Kamikawa, Mayor Yoshimi Kawamoto and the president of the Kamikawa council, Yoshio Kamo, presented gifts from the citizens of Kamikawa.



September 12, 1990  
Mayors Ohgata and Soppit joined in the symbolic planting of a Japanese tree, gifted from the Town of Kamikawa, in front of the Town Office.



September 12, 1990  
Members of the 1990 Kamikawa delegation built and presented a ceremonial Mikoshi to the attendees of Japanese Night.



July 1, 1987  
Kamikawa Friendship Mission delegation celebrated Canada Day at the Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site and presented a decorative samurai helmet as a gift for the Town of Rocky Mountain House's 75th anniversary.



July 27, 1995  
Cherry tree gifted to Rocky by Kamikawa planted in front of the municipal library.



July 27, 1989  
Kamikawa students visited Rocky Mountain House Town Office as part of the 1989-1990 student exchange.



August 12, 1994  
Rocky Mountain House delegation presented a gift to the Town of Kamikawa on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of twinning.



September 4, 2004  
Kamikawa's Friendship Society presented Rocky Mountain House with a carved bear holding a freshly caught salmon in honour of the 20-year relationship.



September 4, 2004  
Rocky Kamikawa Friendship Society presented Kamikawa with a custom saddle, blanket, tack and stand.



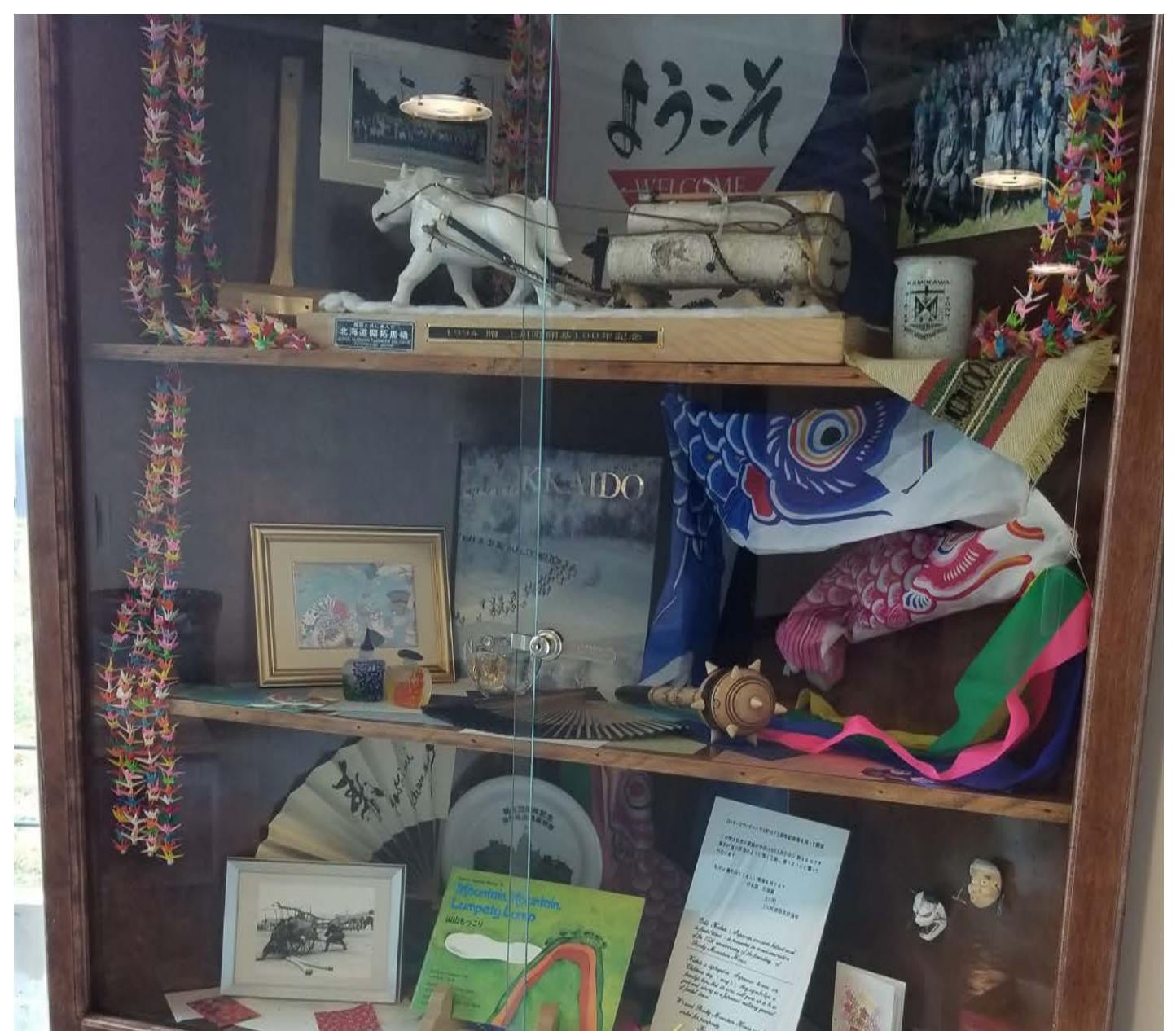
Gifts from the Town of Kamikawa on display at the Rocky Regional Recreation Centre.



July 19, 2014  
Kamikawa delegation presented gifts in celebration of Rocky Mountain House's Centennial Celebration.



Gifts from the Town of Kamikawa on display at the Town Office.



Gifts from the Town of Kamikawa on display at the Rocky Regional Recreation Centre.