

Declaration of the Promotion of Togetherness

In 1985, we declared Higashikawa the Town of Photography.

Our aim is to protect the rich and beautiful land and share it with the rest of the world through photography while keeping in mind our goals: “nature meeting people, people meeting culture, and people meeting each other.”

We have been promoting the culture of photography in Higashikawa for over 30 years. By doing this, our town has evolved into the Culture Capital of Photography. We strive to unite photographers from around the world with the aim of spreading joy from person to person.

The reason we can now live joyfully in this beautiful town of Higashikawa is thanks to our ancestors as well as people from all over the world who have poured their hearts and souls into protecting and nurturing the town to become a place like no other.

In Japan, the Meiji and the Showa periods were both times of great strife. Following the Heisei period, we sincerely hope that the new era, Reiwa, will be a time where people can come together and cultivate a new age of peace.

As the world is facing many crises such as environmental issues, conflict, and poverty, we will strive to recognise those in less fortunate circumstances, acknowledge each other's differences and promote equality between people of different nationalities and ethnicities. A society where we can live together, understanding and complementing each other's cultures; A society where we can live in harmony and respect each other's rights; A society where we can prosper together and improve each other's lives.

We would like to declare the promotion of “Togetherness” from Higashikawa the Culture Capital of Photography, from where we are sending the culture of photography to the rest of the world.

We at Higashikawa, the Cultural Capital of Photography, would like to declare to the rest of the world our promotion of “Togetherness” – living together, being in peace together, and prospering together.

December 10th, 2020
Higashikawa, the "Town of Photography,"
and Cultural Capital of Photography