



## TOCHIGI PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT

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Greetings from Tochigi Prefecture. I am Governor Tomikazu Fukuda.

As you know, on March 11<sup>th</sup>, Japan was hit with a large earthquake off the northeastern coast that resulted in extensive damages in the Tohoku region.

Many people lost their homes, and dire electricity shortages have greatly affected the daily lives of people all over Japan. Everyone in the country, however, has united to work together and devote all of their energy to revitalizing Japan.

Immediately following the disasters, we received heart-warming messages of support and encouragement from all over the world. For this, we are extremely grateful.

While Tochigi Prefecture suffered damages from the earthquake, it has remained largely unaffected by the Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant disaster, and the air, water and food in Tochigi prefecture continue to be as safe and clean as always. I have addressed this in the April 5<sup>th</sup> "Declaration of Safety of Tochigi Tourism".

What would be the greatest encouragement for me would be a visit from tourists who come to enjoy and experience Tochigi's abundant and beautiful natural environment and hot springs, historical and cultural landmarks, and the charms of our local crafts and untainted delicacies.

Please come pay us a visit in safe, secure Tochigi. We look forward to welcoming you from the bottom of our hearts!

April 2011

Tomikazu Fukuda

Governor of Tochigi Prefecture

福田 富一