

## Message from the Mayor Regarding the Lifting of the “State of Emergency Declaration”

To all citizens,

As of yesterday (May 21<sup>st</sup>) the Japanese Government announced that the “State of Emergency Declaration” has been official lifted from Kyoto Prefecture. The State of Emergency Declaration which has been in effect since April 16<sup>th</sup> has lasted for 35 days, with its effects impacting all aspects of the social economy. This impact has warranted strict demands from all of us, and I would like to express my gratitude from the bottom of my heart for everyone’s understanding and cooperation throughout this Coronavirus prevention period.

Despite the fact that there have not been any newly confirmed cases within Kameoka since May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the situation continues to be unpredictable. As we gauge the situation, we will prioritize preventing the virus from spreading while planning to gradually restart socio-economic activities. We will continue to work towards rebuilding the lives of our citizens.

Although Kyoto Prefecture is no longer under the “State of Emergency Declaration”, the threat of the Coronavirus has yet to be completely eradicated from our lives. It is still vital that we extend our focus on this issue over a longer period of time.

In order to oppose this threat, we must engage in practices such as: wearing a mask when going outside, keeping a 2 meter distance from others, and trying to face away from others when speaking. Such practices will become our “New Normal”.

With this “New Normal” as the foundation for our thorough preventative measures, the city’s public institutions will sequentially reopen on May 25<sup>th</sup> and onwards.

While working on preventing this virus, we will do everything in our power to help everyone return to their previous ways of living and support those who have been affected by the Coronavirus. I deeply appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020

Mayor of Kameoka, KATSURAGAWA Takahiro