



# ILC NEWS from Tohoku

*-brought to you by the Tohoku ILC Promotion Council-*

*Here's the latest news about the local effort for the ILC in Tohoku (northeastern Japan)*

## **2020 to be an important year for the ILC effort**

*The International Linear Collider project is entering an important phase in 2020. The central government of Japan is currently deliberating on the project, and is paying attention to the Science Council of Japan, which will release its master plan for Japanese science projects at the end of January. The next European strategy for particle physics is scheduled to be established in May of this year. Additionally, the USA has selected its next ambassador to Japan – an ILC-supporting director of a think tank with the ear of the Trump administration. The situation may greatly change domestically and internationally, so ILC-related parties are working to strengthen their efforts to bring about the project.*



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## **A seminar on the ILC held for residents of Oshu with explanations by researchers about how they'll protect the environment**

The Tohoku ILC Planning Office (Director: Atsuto Suzuki, president of Iwate Prefectural University) held a seminar on the ILC for residents on January 19th at the Mizusawa Regional Center in Shoten, Mizusawa, Oshu City. There, they explained the effects the ILC might have on the environment.

Around twenty people were in attendance. Professor Shinichiro Michizono of Japan's High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK, Tsukuba City, Ibaraki Prefecture) and other researchers gave the talk.



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## Spending New Years at the ILC candidate site

Happy 2020! This year has us already buzzing with excitement as Nobel Laureate, Professor Higgs will be featuring at the ILC Symposium (remotely) in Tokyo next month and the Tokyo Summer Olympics will be commencing in July! And, in other news, foreign language studies will be made compulsory from grade 3 at elementary school and plastic bags will not be given out for free at the register anymore.



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## The “Yakudoshi” Culture of Oshu City

As we come to the end of 2019, looking back on it I feel like I had a fairly successful, lucky year. But of course, not all years are like that, and in Japanese culture, there’s supposed to be a way to predict them: *yakudoshi*, or unlucky years.

Even if you’ve never heard of it, like everyone I’ve certainly had days that felt strangely lucky, or mysteriously unlucky. In Japan, this idea expands to a whole year. For men, a major *yakudoshi* is the year they turn 41, and for women, it’s the year they turn 32. However, because babies were considered to be 1 year old at birth in the past in Japan, these years would’ve been known as 42 and 33.



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## Winter Lights in Tohoku, Japan 4K (Ultra HD)

Treasureland  
**TOHOKU**  
JAPAN 日本東北

Find another Japan in Tohoku. Explore the seasonal beauty of Japan's northeast. Turn on subtitles and the shooting location will be displayed.

# About Tohoku ILC Promotion Council

This conference, consisting of industry, academic, and government representatives, has been established to promote basic scientific research and to deepen the understanding of the International Linear Collider, as well as to research and maintain the environment during ILC installation.

<http://www.tohoku-ilc.jp/en>

That's the news for this month! As always, feel free to send us any questions about local activities for the ILC, life in the region, or about working in Japan.

Best wishes,

The Tohoku ILC Promotion Council



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