

The inaugural reception of Michi Creative City Designers Inc., which took place on February 27 at the International House of Japan in Tokyo, was a great success with about 80 participants including distinguished guests shown below.



[Left] Professor T. Onishi, the President of Science Council of Japan, and one of the conveners of the reception, delivers the opening address.



[Left] Dr. M. Sumikawa, a former Executive Vice President of Hitachi, gives a toast.

[Below] Kohno talks about business ambitions.



[Below] Mr. T. Nakawake, Vice President and Board Director of NIKKEN SEKKEI, Japan's largest architect and master planning enterprise



[Above] Mr. I. Ishikawa, an Executive News Commentator of NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation)

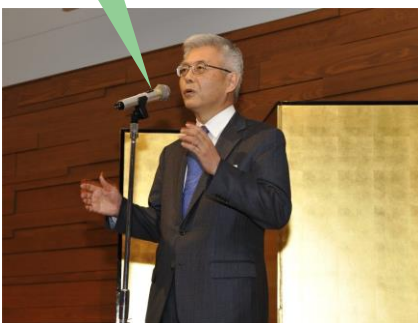


[Above] Professor H. Komiya, Chairman of Mitsubishi Research Institute Inc. and the former Dean of the University of Tokyo, and one of the advisors to Kashiwa-No-Ha Smart City Project



[Above] Mr. M. Takayama, President of Hitachi Information & Control Solutions, Ltd., a company specialized in the smart grid solutions

*While "MICHl" in the company's name derives from Mr. Kohno's name, the sound is equivalent to that of a Japanese word meaning "unknown", and "Michi City" sounds like an Odyssey towards future cities.*



[Above] Mr. K. Furukawa, Chairman of New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization, a governmental agency to subsidize industry for demonstration projects



[Above] Mr. K. Hatoyama, a Member of the House of Representatives and former Minister of State for Interior (Local Autonomy and Telecommunication), Minister of State for Education, and one of the conveners of the reception



### Messages given by overseas organizations

**wbcscd**  
business solutions for a sustainable world  
President's Office

February 24, 2014

Dear Mr. Kohno,

On behalf of the WBCSD, I would like to congratulate you on the inauguration of your new business venture.

You have been a very good friend and greatly appreciated your major contribution to smart city agenda. The work on smart infrastructure meets standard of crucial global standardization project.

We now wish you all the best in your new venture. We understand that your new business will be a great opportunity to share the wisdom of diverse stakeholders and build a network of business relations, and financial, environmental and social sustainability.

This is very much in line with the interconnected challenges facing our world today. We look forward to collaborating with you on these issues.

Again,

**Peter Bakker**  
President & CEO  
World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Mr. P. Bakker, President of World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

**APEC**  
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

February 24, 2014

Dear Mr. Kohno-san,

Michi Creative City Designers 株式会社ミチクリエイティブシティデザイナーズ 設立お披露目

Starting a new company is never easy, but we believe you will be a great developer of sustainable cities.

**RPA**  
Regional Plan Association

Again,

**Ms. Phyllis Yoshida**, Lead Shepherd of Energy Working Group, APEC

Ms. Phyllis Yoshida, Lead Shepherd of Energy Working Group, APEC

**OECD**  
ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
ORGANISATION DE COOPERATION ET DE DEVELOPPEMENT ECONOMIQUES

February 27, 2014

Dear Mr. Kohno:

On behalf of Regional Plan Association's Board of Directors and staff, I am pleased to send our congratulations on the founding of MICHl Creative City Designers Inc.

MICHl Creative City Designers will fill a void in city planning and city building by addressing urban challenges holistically. MICHl Creative City Designers brings more than just technological and engineering expertise. It also taps into the deep cultural and philosophical underpinnings of Japanese urban experience and offers creative answers to world cities' efforts to grow sustainably through innovation and competitiveness.

Regional Plan Association is privileged to be one of MICHl Creative City Designers' Strategic Partners and we look forward to our close collaboration.

Please accept our best wishes for success!

Sincerely,  
**Thomas K. Wright**  
Executive Director

Ms. S. Saya, Head of Division, Regional Policies for Sustainable Development, OECD

**Mr. T. Wright**, Executive Director of Regional Plan Association



[Above] Professor H. Yoshikawa, former President of Science Council of Japan, former Dean of the University of Tokyo, former President of National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, and one of the conveners of the reception



[Left] Michi with three conveners, Professor Yoshikawa, Mr. Hatoyama and Professor Onishi