

Email Newsletter from Mayor of Okayama (89) August 3, 2017 Issue

【The bond which lasts for 50 years】

Hello, I'm Masao Omori, Mayor of Okayama.

On 1 August, I attended "Sewage Works Exhibition '17 Tokyo" at Tokyo International Exhibition Center (Tokyo Big Sight) as Chairperson of Japan Sewage Works Association.

This was the largest event in the sewerage industry which assembles the latest technology of private enterprises once a year, marking the 30th anniversary in 2017.

At the venue, 350 companies / organizations and 1,102 booths were exhibited, which was the largest in the past 10 years. The contents of the exhibition were not limited to sewerage treatment technology, but also wide-ranging measures for inundation, energy conservation, resource saving and aging facilities for the future aging society. I noticed that a great deal of wisdom and effort were put in technology development.

I have just become the 16th Chairperson in June this year in succession to Mr.Okuyama, a former mayor of Sendai. In the past, Mr. Hirao Okazaki, a former mayor of Okayama, used to be a chairperson of this association.

There is a curious coincidence between Mr. Okazaki and me. About 50 years ago, he gave a congratulatory speech at the graduation ceremony of Kuwata junior-high school that I attended. I ran into him 10 years later, when I worked for Sewerage Planning Division, Ministry of Construction. Since then I started interacting with the people from the City of Okayama.

Looking back on that time when we had a close relationship, it makes me feel nostalgic and aware of this special tie between Mr.Okazaki and me as I am in the similar position as him.

From now on, I would like to do my best to promote environmental preservation through sewerage system improvement across the country as well as Okayama City.