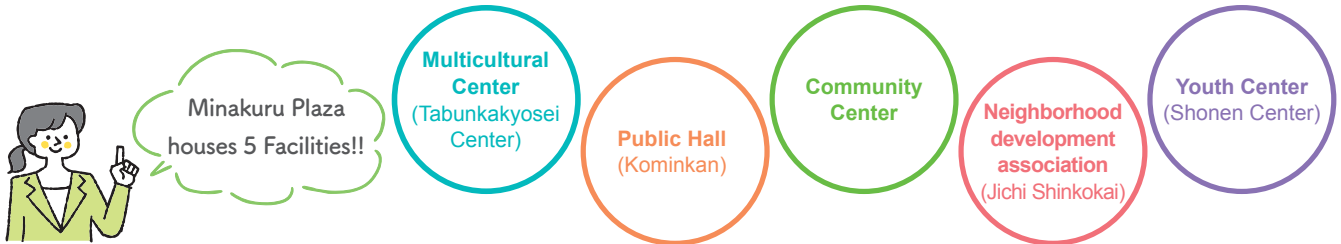




## Opening of **Minakuru Plaza**, an Exchange Center Where Everyone Can Get Together!



### What kind of place is Minakuru Plaza?

Minakuru Plaza is a welcoming space where people of all ages, from children to the elderly, can comfortably use the facilities to meet people and make connections in the wider community. It has a variety of facilities, including a community center, a multicultural center, youth support center, public hall and neighborhood development association.

**Inquiries** Shimin Katsudou Suishinka ☎ **70-6032** 📠 **70-6046**

### Some rooms are available to rent by the hour!

Rental rooms are available from **May 13 (Mon)**. Scan the QR code for more information.



The name of the building was chosen out of 79 entries!

### I named it!

The name '**Minakuru**' is a combination of the words 'Minakuchi' and 'Minna Kuru' (everyone will come). We hope that it will become a central place for people to come together, learn and connect.

Kibukawa Elementary School, 5th grade  
**Ichiki Haruto**



## Opening Ceremony & Facility Tour!

The exterior is inspired by the famous '53 Stations of the Tokaido' woodblock print series, while the wood interior creates a cozy and comfortable atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you there!

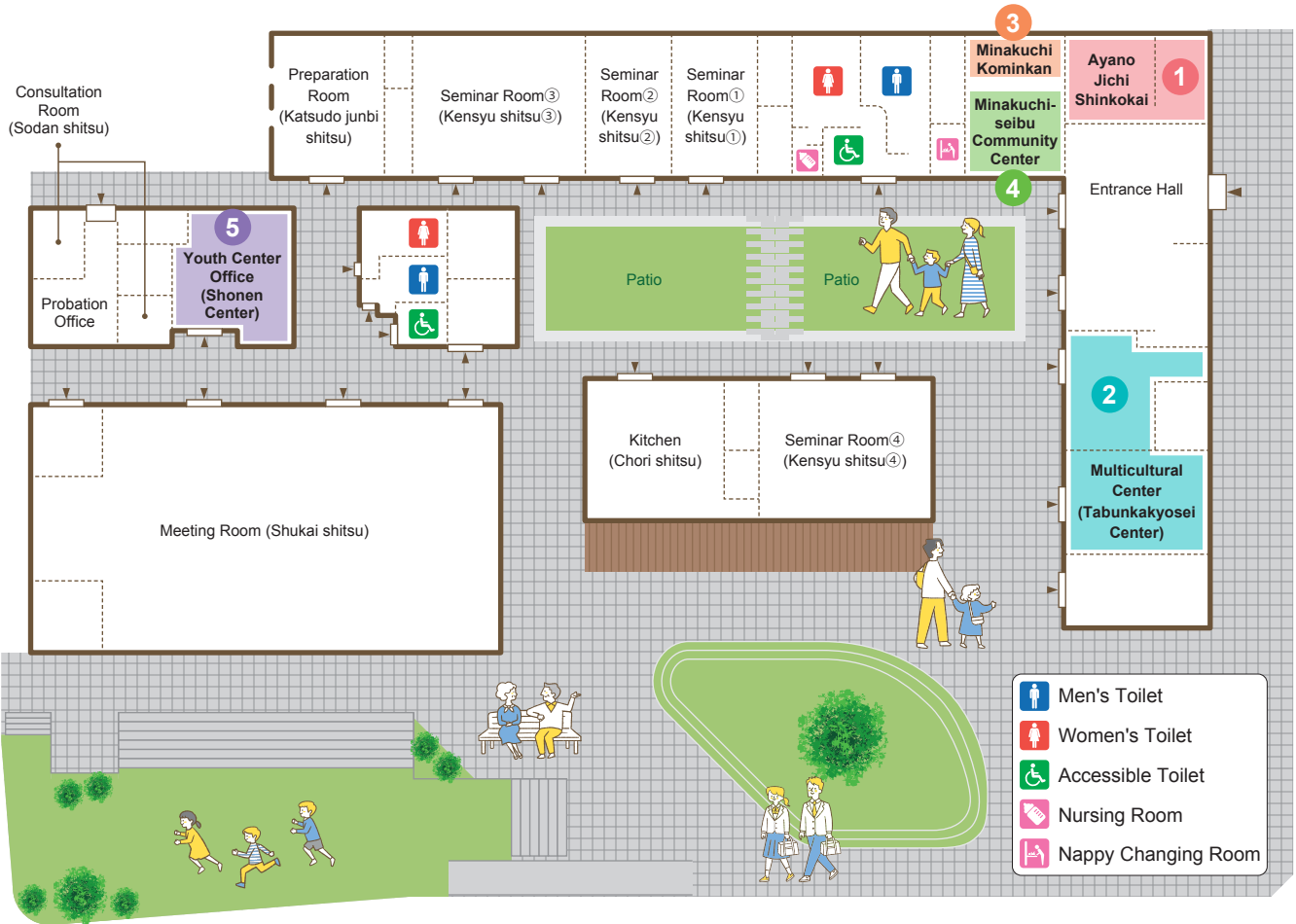
**Opening Ceremony**  
**When** **May 12 (Sun),**  
**from 11:00**

**Facility Tour**  
**After the opening**  
**ceremony, until 13:00**

Parking is limited, so please carpool or use public transport.


The current Minakuchi Community Center will be demolished and replaced by a car park. The car park is scheduled to open in 2025.





**1**

**Neighborhood development association (Jichi Shinkokai)**



A consultative organization that brings together neighborhood associations, NPOs and other groups to solve various local problems.

**2**

**Multicultural Center (Tabunkakyosei Center)**



The Multicultural Center aims to support Japanese and foreign citizens across language and cultural differences, and to create a city that is easy for everyone to live in.

\*Koka International Society will move from the City Hall Annex to the Multicultural Center.

**3**


**Public Hall (Kominkan)**



This facility plays a central role in people and community development by encouraging citizens to meet, learn and connect with each other.

**4**


**Community Center**



Local residents can interact and carry out activities such as social education, community coexistence and disaster prevention.

**5**

**Youth Center (Shonen Center)**



Provides advice and other services for problems and issues faced by young people.



# For those considering home renovation in 2024 Take advantage of the “Subsidy System for Renovation Projects to Support Raising Children and Promote Settling in Koka City”

## ① Subsidy for House Renovation to Support Households Raising Children and Promote Settlement (Budget: ¥39,000,000)

| Household Category         | Subsidy Rate                             | Subsidy Limit   |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| General Households         | 20% of the subsidized construction costs | Up to <b>¥100,000</b>   |
| Family with Children       |  | Up to <b>¥200,000</b> (Basic amount of <b>¥100,000</b> + additional maximum amount of <b>¥100,000</b> )   |
| Special Needs Family       |  | Up to <b>¥100,000</b>   |
| Three Generation Family    | 50% of the subsidized construction costs | Up to <b>¥300,000</b> (Basic amount of <b>¥100,000</b> + additional maximum amount of <b>¥200,000</b> )   |
| Vacant House               |  | Up to <b>¥500,000</b> (Basic amount of <b>¥100,000</b> + additional maximum amount of <b>¥400,000</b> )   |
| Vacant House with Farmland |  | Up to <b>¥1,000,000</b> (Basic amount of <b>¥100,000</b> + additional maximum amount of <b>¥900,000</b> ) |

\*It is not possible to apply for this subsidy in conjunction with the Carbon Neutral Promotion Renovation Subsidy.

\*Houses that have received the same subsidy in the past are not eligible.

\*For more information on household requirements, please refer to the city website.

## ② Subsidy for Carbon Neutral Promotion Renovation (Budget: ¥6,000,000).

This subsidy is for those who carry out renovation work on their homes by installing environmentally-specific products that support a decarbonized society.

| Subsidy Eligibility Requirements   | Subsidy Amount  |
|--|---|
| Installation of solar power generation systems, stationary storage batteries, high-efficiency water heaters, solar heat utilization systems and window insulation systems in the residence.<br>*Carbon neutral promotion renovation subsidies are also available to those who have received home renovation subsidies in the past. However, those who have received carbon neutral promotion renovation subsidies in the past are not eligible.<br>*It is not possible to apply for this project in conjunction with the Subsidy for House Renovation to Support Households Raising Children and Promote Settlement. | 20% of the subsidized construction costs<br>Up to <b>¥100,000</b> |

### «Requirements For Additional Subsidy»

#### ■ Additional Subsidy for New Residents

Those who move into the city on or after 1 April 2024.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| I-turn  | ¥1,000,000 will be added to families with a child of junior high school age and under  |
|   | ¥200,000 will be added to families without a child of junior high school age and under |
| U-turn  | ¥500,000 will be added to families with a child of junior high school age and under    |
|   | ¥100,000 will be added to families without a child of junior high school age and under |
| I-turn: those who have never registered as a resident in Koka City in the past.   |  |
| U-turn: those who have previously registered as residents in Koka and have been registered outside the city for at least three years. |  |

#### ■ Additional Subsidy for Biwa Timber Users

¥100,000 will be added to the maximum amount.

\*Biwako timber is timber produced in Shiga Prefecture.

\*Biwako timber must be purchased from a local business registered as a certified Biwako timber-handling business.

\*When Biwako Timber is used as finishing material for floors, walls, etc. over 10㎡ or as structural timber over 1㎡.

### «Renovation Work Eligible for Subsidy»

Works corresponding to all of the following ① to ③

- ① Renovation work ordered to a contractor (including subcontractors) whose head office is in Koka City.
- ② Construction work that can be started and completed between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025.
- ③ Works that meet the requirements for subsidy and cost 100,000 yen or more.

\*Works covered by another subsidy are not eligible.

\*Exterior works and works carried out by contractors outside the city may not be eligible for assistance.

**Application Deadline** **May 31 (Fri)**

\*Applications by post must arrive by this date

\*If the budgeted amount for each subsidy category is exceeded, an open lottery will be held for general households only.

### How to Apply

#### ① Application at the counter

Please submit the application with the necessary documents either to Shoko Rosei Ka or any of the Chiiki Shimin Centers.

\*Chiiki Shimin Centers can accept applications only for Subsidy for House Renovation to Support Households Raising Children and Promote Settlement.

\*Applications can be made by post

#### ② Online application

Scan the QR code on the right and complete the online application form.

For more information, including required documents, see the city website.

**Inquiries** **Application**

**6053, Minakuchi, Minakuchi cho, Koka city, 528-8502**  
**Shoko Kanko Rosei Ka, Koka City Hall ☎ 69-2188**

**Fax 63-4087**

Koka City Website ▶

Application form ▶



# Large Burnable Waste Drop-offs at the Waste Disposal Facility Can Now Be Booked Online



Reservations can now be made anytime via computer or smartphone to bring in large-sized combustible waste to Koka Large Area Administrative Union Sanitary Center (Koka Koiki Gyosei Eisei Center).

Online booking website ▶



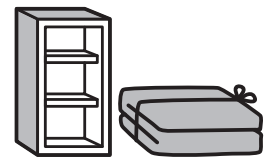
\*If you are in a hurry, please call the office. We also accept same-day applications if there is room in the booking schedule and if the amount to be processed allows.

## Reservations for large burnable waste will be continued to reinforce correct disposal

Reservations for waste drop-offs were implemented to prevent congestion during the recent period of major improvement work at the facility. To prevent fires caused by lithium-ion batteries and other improper waste disposal, this system will continue. We appreciate your cooperation.

**Inquiries** Koka Koiki Gyosei Eisei Center  
☎ 62-5454 8:30-12:00 / 13:00-16:30

(Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays and New Year's holidays)



# Creating a Secure Environment for Raising Children Issuance of Subsidy Vouchers for Maternity Health Checkups

## Eligible Persons

Those who gave birth on or after 1 April 2024 and who will subsequently undergo a maternal health checkup.

\*Those who have moved out of Koka on the day of the checkup are not eligible.

## Amount of Subsidy Vouchers

Two vouchers for up to ¥5,000 per health checkup.

## Contents of Subsidy

Expenses for antenatal checkups carried out at medical institutions in the immediate postpartum period (at 2 weeks postpartum and at 1 month postpartum).

- General health assessment
- Weight and blood pressure
- Urinalysis
- Mental health check

## How to Obtain the Voucher

- At the time of issuance of the Maternal and Child Health Handbook at health centers.

\*Subsidy coupons have been sent to those who have received their Maternal and Child Health Handbook by 31 March 2024 and are due to give birth on or after 1 April 2024.



The post-natal period is a time of great physical and mental strain due to childcare in addition to postpartum fatigue. Make sure you visit a doctor to check your overall health.

**Inquiries** Sukoyaka Shien Ka ☎ 69-2169 ☎ 63-4085

Koka City Website ▶





# Announcement of Group Health Checkups and Medical Examinations

Reservation Required



Group health checkups and medical examinations will be held from June to July. Taking health checkups and medical examinations regularly are recommended to prevent illnesses. For more information, please refer to the health checkups calendar distributed to each household.

**How to Reserve** Applications can be made by telephone or on the web. (Appointments are not required for colorectal cancer screening and specific health checkups.) Please note that the lines may be busy, so online reservations are recommended.

|  | Reservation by Phone   | Online Reservation   |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Cancer screening:<br/>40 years and over<br/>(Cervical cancer screening:<br/>30 years and older)</b> | <b><u>Reservation number: 0120-994-595</u></b><br>Reservation period: May 13 (Mon) - 17 (Fri)<br>Reception hours: 9:00 - 18:00 | Reservation period: May 13 (Mon) - 25 (Sat)<br>Online Reservation Form ▶  <b>24 Hour Access</b> |
| <b>Basic health checkup:<br/>16 - 39 years</b>   |  | Reservation period: throughout the year<br>Online Reservation Form ▶  <b>24 Hour Access</b>     |

## Health Checkup/Medical Examination Schedule

| Date          | Venue                                     | Reception Hours  |  |   |                      |                          |
|---------------|---|--|--|---|----------------------|--------------------------|
|               |   | Stomach/Lung Cancer  | Colorectal Cancer                                | Breast/Cervical Cancer                          | Basic Health Checkup | Lifestyle Health Checkup |
|               |   | 9:00 - 9:15 (female)<br>9:30 - 9:45 (female)<br>10:00 - 10:15 (male)<br>10:30 - 10:45 (male)                         | Container sales/<br>distribution<br>9:00 - 11:00 | 13:30 - 13:45<br>14:00 - 14:15<br>14:30 - 14:45 | 9:00 - 10:45         | 9:00 - 11:00             |
| June 5 (Wed)  | Tsuchiyama Kaihatsu Center                | •  | •  |   |                      |                          |
| June 6 (Thu)  |   | •  | •  | •   | •                    | •                        |
| June 11 (Tue) | Koka Hoken Center<br>(in Koka cho)        | •  | •  |   |                      |                          |
| June 12 (Wed) |   | •  | •  | •   |                      | •                        |
| June 14 (Fri) | maROOM                                    |  |  |   | • 9:30 - 10:45       |                          |
| June 20 (Thu) | Shigaraki Kaihatsu Center                 | •  | •  |   |                      |                          |
| June 21 (Fri) |   | •  | •  | •   |                      | •                        |
| June 25 (Tue) | Hekisui Hall                              | •  | •  | •   |                      |                          |
| June 26 (Wed) |   | •  | •  |   |                      | •                        |
| June 29 (Sat) |   | •  | •  | •   |                      | •                        |
| July 2 (Tue)  |   | •  | •  | •   |                      |                          |
| July 3 (Wed)  |   | •  | •  | •   |                      |                          |
| July 4 (Thu)  |   | •  | •  |   |                      | •                        |
| July 17 (Wed) | KounanKominkan<br>(Shinobi no Sato Plala) | •  | •  |   |                      |                          |
| July 18 (Thu) |   | •  | •  | •   | •                    | •                        |
| July 19 (Fri) | Koka City Hall (annex)                    |  |  |   | • 18:00 - 19:15      |                          |
| July 20 (Sat) |   | Ladies' Day (for women only)<br>All cancer screenings are conducted in the morning<br>(Reception hours 9:00 - 10:45) |  |   |                      |                          |

**Inquiries** (Cancer screening and Basic Health Checkup) Sukoyaka Shien Ka ☎ 69-2168 📠 63-4085  
 (Lifestyle Health Checkup) Hoken Nenkin Ka ☎ 69-2141 📠 63-4618

# For People Aged 40-74 Years with National Health Insurance Notice of Subsidies for Comprehensive Health Checkup System (Ningen Dock)

## Eligible persons

Those who meet all of the following criteria

- ① People aged between 40 and 74 who are covered by the National Health Insurance (applicable if they are 74 years old on the date of the examination).
- ② Households that are not behind in paying National Health Insurance tax.
- ③ Those who will undergo a Ningen Dock that includes all the tests covered in the Lifestyle Health Checkup by 31 March 2025.
- ④ Those who will not take the Lifestyle Health Checkup within the same fiscal year (only one of Ningen Dock or Lifestyle Health Checkup can be taken within the same fiscal year).

## Amount of the Subsidy

1/2 of the medical checkup costs

\*Up to ¥20,000. However, if the checkup includes a brain scan, the upper limit is ¥30,000.

\*The subsidy can only be provided once per fiscal year.

## How to Apply

1 [Pre-application] Bring your Koka City Lifestyle Health Checkup ticket (collected by staff) and your National Health Insurance card.

2 [Application for reimbursement] Bring your National Health Insurance card, medical check-up results, payment receipts and evidence of your bank account for subsidy payment.

\*Medical checkup results and payment receipts will be photocopied.

## Where to Apply

Hoken Nenkin Ka and each Chiiki Shimin Center

## Inquiries

Hoken Nenkin Ka ☎ 69-2141 📠 63-4618



# 2024 National Health Insurance Tax Amount Will Change

## ① Revised tax rates and other changes

The National Health Insurance tax rates for FY2024 will be revised to compensate for the shortfall in revenue in the National Health Insurance Special Account budget due to a decrease in the number of insured persons and an increase in medical expenses.

## ② Progress of the revision

According to the policies of the national government and Shiga Prefecture, a standard insurance tax rate has been proposed with the aim of achieving a unified insurance tax rate for the prefecture in 2027 to equalize the burden on subscribers. We ask for your understanding, including the fact that tax rates will need to be revised in stages in the future to achieve prefectural unification.

| Details of Insurance Tax Payments                      |                      | FY 2023 | Fluctuation | FY 2024 | Difference |
|--|----------------------|---------|-------------|---------|------------|
| Medical Care<br>(Medical Benefits)                     | Tax Rate on Income   | 6.8%    | ↗           | 7.0%    | + 0.2%     |
|  | Per Member Amount    | ¥23,600 | ↗           | ¥24,500 | + ¥900     |
|  | Per Household Amount | ¥20,000 | →           | ¥20,000 | No change  |
| Support Payments<br>(for Elderly Medical Care Support) | Tax Rate on Income   | 2.4%    | ↗           | 2.5%    | + 0.1%     |
|  | Per Member Amount    | ¥7,500  | ↗           | ¥8,300  | + ¥800     |
|  | Per Household Amount | ¥6,300  | ↗           | ¥6,600  | + ¥300     |
| Long-term Care<br>(Long-term Care Benefits)            | Tax Rate on Income   | 2.1%    | ↗           | 2.3%    | + 0.2%     |
|  | Per Member Amount    | ¥9,600  | ↗           | ¥10,000 | + ¥400     |
|  | Per Household Amount | ¥6,600  | ↘           | ¥6,300  | - ¥300     |

## Inquiries

Zeimu Ka ☎ 69-2128 📠 63-4574

# Consultation Corner

May 15 to June 14

Consultation services are provided for free. Feel free to use them.

| Consultation Topic/Contact Details  | When  | Available Times | Where/Other Information   |
|---|---|-----------------|---|
| <b>Daily Life and Work Consultations (Life Support Desk)*</b><br>Concerns about daily life, work, etc.<br>*No application required.<br>Support provided by: General support staff or employment support staff.<br><b>Contact</b> Seikatsu Shien Ka ☎ 69-2158 ☎ 63-4085  | Monday to Friday (except national holidays)                       | 8:30-17:15      | Seikatsu Shien Ka<br>1st Floor, Koka City Hall  |
| <b>Consumer Affairs Consultations</b><br>Advice about contracts, products, etc. in consumer affairs.<br>Support provided by: Consumer Affairs Consultant<br><b>Contact</b> Shouhi Seikatsu Center<br>☎ 69-2147 / Consumer Hotline 188 (no area code)  | Monday to Friday (except national holidays)                       | 9:00-17:00      | Shohi Sekatsu Center<br>1st Floor, Koka City Hall   |
| <b>Pension Consultations</b><br>Support provided by: Kusatsu Japan Pension Service employees<br>*Reservations required. Appointments filled on a first-come, first-served basis.<br><b>Contact</b> <b>Appointments</b> Kusatsu Japan Pension Service<br>☎ 077-567-2220 ☎ 077-562-9638   | July 11 (Thu)<br>*Held every other month                          | 10:00-15:00     | Kaigishitsu Room 202<br>2nd Floor, Koka City Hall   |
| <b>School Age Consultations</b><br>For school-aged children (from elementary school to high school age), their parents, and their families.<br><b>Contact</b> Kosodate Seisaku Ka ☎ 69-2176 ☎ 69-2298   | Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except for national holidays) | 8:30-17:15      | Kosodate Seisaku Ka<br>2nd Floor, Koka City Hall<br>You can also make inquiries using the Child-Rearing Concierge Inquiry Form. |
| <b>Young Carers Consultations</b><br>For young carers, the community and other involved persons regarding concerns and issues faced.<br><b>Contact</b> Kosodate Seisaku Ka ☎ 69-2184 ☎ 69-2298  |   |                 |   |
| <b>Child Development and Learning Consultations*</b><br>For development and mental health issues.<br>*Reservations by phone or fax are required.<br><b>Age range</b> Toddlers around 4 years old and up, elementary, junior high, high school students and young adults up to around 25 years old<br>*For consultation for children under 4 years old, please contact your local health center.<br><b>Contact</b> <b>Appointments</b> Hattatsu Shien Ka ☎ 69-2178 ☎ 69-2298 (Reception hours: 9:00-17:00) |   |                 | Preschools, schools, city halls, etc.   |
| <b>Youth Consultations for Truancy or Social Withdrawal</b><br>Counseling on social withdrawal and truancy for those who have completed compulsory education up to the age of 25 years old<br><b>Contact</b> Hattatsu Shien Ka ☎ 69-2179 ☎ Reception hours: 9:00-17:00  |   |                 |   |
| <b>General Youth Issues*</b><br>Counseling regarding truancy, bullying, delinquency, delinquent behavior, friendships, employment and school enrollment, etc.<br>*From Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (except public holidays and end-of-year holidays). Consultations can also be made by phone and email.   |   |                 | <b>Contact</b> Shonen Center (2F, Minakuchi Kominkan)<br>☎ 62-6010 ☎ 63-3977<br>✉ k-syonen@city.koka.lg.jp                      |



## May Tax Payments

### The due date for tax payments this month is: May 31 (Fri)

- Fixed assets tax (1st term installment)
- Light vehicle tax (category-based) (all terms)
- User fees (Nursery school, kindergarten fees and nursery school lunch fees)
- Public sewage fees and agricultural community drainage facility fees

Payment by **direct debit** is available.



### Nationwide Test of Japan's Emergency Broadcast System (J-Alert)

We would appreciate your understanding and cooperation during testing.

- When**
- May 22 (Wed) 11:00
  - August 28 (Wed) 11:00
  - November 20 (Wed) 11:00
  - February 12 (Wed) 11:00

**Where** Whole area of the city

- What**
- Broadcasting from audio transmission terminals and outdoor loudspeakers
  - Distribution of Aikoka emergency e-mails\*
- \*Only for those who have applied to receive disaster information.



**Inquiries** Kiki Kanri Ka ☎ 69-2103 📠 63-4619



### Let's Talk About Multicultural Coexistence and International Exchange!

Learn more about what the Koka International Society does and how you can become involved as a volunteer.

**When** May 25 (Sat) 15:00-16:30 (This event will start right after our general meeting finishes)

**Where** Shukai Shitsu, Minakuru Plaza

#### Eligible Persons

Those who are interested in the activities of Koka International Society\*

\*Koka International Society will hold its general meeting from 13:30 on Saturday, May 25. If you wish to become a member, please contact the Secretariat.

**Inquiries Applications** Koka International Society  
☎ 63-8728 📠 70-6468  
✉ mifa@mx.biwa.ne.jp



### Extended Business Hours in May (until 19:00 every Tuesday)

## May 7, 14, 21, 28

On Tuesdays, the Shimin Ka in City Hall is open until 19:00 for issuing personal documents such as family registers, residence certificates, tax certificates and for registering personal seals.

\*Please note that we cannot handle procedures related to the My Number Card or resident transfers (moving in, moving out, etc.).

### News on My Number Card



Various personal documents can be obtained at convenience stores by using your My Number Card.

(Contact Shimin Ka for the documents that can be obtained.)

**Inquiries** Shimin Ka ☎ 69-2138 📠 65-6338



## Editing & Publishing

### Koka City Hall

6053, Minakuchi, Minakuchi cho, Koka city, 528-8502

☎ 0748-65-0650 📠 0748-63-4086

Business Hours: 8:30-17:15 (Except extended business hours on Tuesdays)

## Information on Koka City is also available on the city's website and Facebook!

### Koka City Website

<https://www.city.koka.lg.jp/>

### Koka City Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/city.koka>

Koka City  
Website



Koka City  
Facebook

