

academic, and as a member of international economic commissions. He maintains strong links with some Canadian academics, is an advocate of stronger Canadian-Japanese academic relations, and recently suggested that a "Wisemen Group" of Japanese and Canadians be set up to explore the bilateral relationship.

More broadly, Mr. Okita has long been interested in the Pacific Community Concept and until his present appointment was Chairman of Prime Minister Ohira's Japanese Pacific Community Study Group. (see brief, "The Pacific Community Concept")

Mr. Okita speaks English. He is married with three sons, Yoichi (36), Yuji (34) and Ryoza (32) and one daughter, Haruko (29).