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# Media Release

19 July 2006

## Japanese Consul General Mr Shisei Kaku to launch the Japanese Master Class at Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE Wangaratta (GOTAFE)

Ito En Australia Pty Ltd has invited the Consul General of Japan, Mr Shisei Kaku and Vice Consul, Ms Masae Hasegawa to the launch of the GOTAFE Japanese Master Class on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July.

The Master Class is an innovative training program run by the GOTAFE Hospitality Department in Wangaratta. The program provides the apprentices with an opportunity to work closely with award winning chefs from prestigious restaurants to broaden their knowledge in local products of food and wine.

The Japanese program has been delightfully sponsored by Ito En Australia and the host chef for the evening is Mr Ikuei Arakane from an award winning restaurant, Taxi Dining Room. Ito En Australia is a subsidiary of Ito En Japan which takes pride in producing world class green tea. The Wangaratta based plant is the only commercial green tea processor in Australia.

***“Sponsoring the Japanese program is about bringing the finest and exquisite tastes of Japanese cuisine blended with an exotic experience of Japanese culture to the students and the community,” said Mr Tomohiro Takeo, Senior Manager of Ito En Australia.***

This partnership has been enthusiastically supported by the Institute which is committed to enhance different opportunities for students by working closely with industry, community and government.

While in the North East, the Consul General and Vice Consul will visit Ito En Australia’s green tea processing plant, Alpine MDF Industries Pty Ltd and Cathedral College. The day activities will be highlighted by a civic welcome and reception hosted by the Rural City of Wangaratta.