



CONSUL...TING

Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto—Monthly Newsletter

May 2015



“Consul...ting” is the monthly e-publication of the Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto.

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www.consulmex.com

Press Office
11 King Street West, #350
Toronto, ON
M5H 4C7

Phone (416) 368-2875
ext.238

prensa@consulmex.com

¡VIVA MÉXICO! CLOTHING AND CULTURE EXHIBITION AT THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

A press conference was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, to announce the opening of the traditional costume and textile exhibition “¡Viva México! Clothing and Culture” at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto.

At the event, the museum's director, Mark Engstrom; ROM curator Alexandra Palmer, guest curator Chloe Sayer and Mexico's Consul General in Toronto, Mauricio Toussaint, talked to the media about the significance of the exhibition.

Engstrom explained that the exhibition, featuring 150 textile pieces –including costumes and dresses, rebozos, huipiles, ponchos and religious ornaments – made in Mexico since the 18th



Rodrigo Esponda, Mark Engstrom, Chloe Sayer, Alexandra Palmer and Mauricio Toussaint

century. Dr. Palmer completed studies in textiles at NYU.

Meanwhile, the Consul General stated that he felt very proud of the fact that these pieces would be exhibited during the Toronto 2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games, providing the opportunity for them to be admired by people from all over the world, as around 250,000 visitors are expected for the sporting event.

He also noted that the museum presented a large exhibition on Mayan culture in 2011-2012, demonstrating its interest in Mexican culture. The ROM is one of the most important museums of its kind in North America and the most popular in Canada.

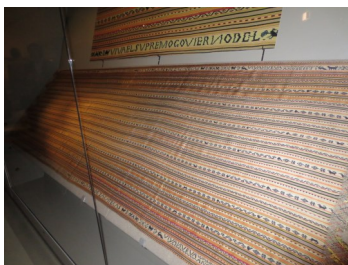
century, will be open to the public from May 9, 2015 to May 23, 2016.

This collection is equal in importance to similar collections at the Franz Mayer museum in Mexico and the Victoria and Albert and British Museums in London. Engstrom also remarked that the guest curator has been an expert in Mexico's folk art and culture since 1973 and is the author of several books on the



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FIRST TRAINING SEMINAR IN CONSULAR PROTECTION IN CANADA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Head Office for Mexicans Abroad Protection, in coordination with the Consulate General in Toronto, organized the First Protection Training Seminar for personnel of the consulates of Mexico in Calgary, Leamington, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, as well as the Consular Section of the Mexican Embassy in Canada.

The seminar was held on April 23-24, 2015 and featured the participation of experts in the legal and technical aspects of communication to reduce cultural barriers between Canadian employers and Mexican agricultur-



Amb. Reyna Torres Director General for Mexican Abroad Protection given an opening remarks.

workers in Canada. Staff from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade talked about the Vienna Convention and consular access for detainees, as part of due process of law in this country.

The participants also exchanged information on best practices in consular protection and presented new proposals for broadening the scope of assistance programs for the Mexican community. The aim of these initiatives is to position the network of Mexican consulates in Canada as a complementary route of diplomacy to the existing economic and political ties between the two countries.

AEROMEXICO BEGINS OPERATING FLIGHTS BETWEEN MEXICO AND TORONTO

Aeroméxico and Mexico's Tourism Board (CPTM, for its initials in Spanish) in Toronto held a press conference on May 5 to formally announce the airline's introduction of flight operations on the Toronto - Mexico City route.

The first flight left Mexico City on May 4 at 1:01 a.m. and arrived in Toronto at 6:36 a.m.

The media conference was led by the Chief Revenue Officer of Aeroméxico, Anko van der Werff; Vice President, Aviation Services for the Greater Toronto Airport Authority, Craig Bradbrook; Toronto Convention & Visitors Association Executive Vice President Andrew Weir; and the Consul General of Mexico in Toronto, Mauricio Toussaint.



Mauricio Toussaint, Anko van der Werff, Andrew Weir, Craig Bradbrook

Aeroméxico's CRO explained that the daily flight will be the airline's second service to Canada, after Montreal. It will be operated with a Boeing 737-700 with 124 seats, including 12 in First Class. He added that this route will connect with

other major destinations in Mexico and Latin America, and will thus offer Ontario residents a new travel option.

The Consul General expressed his pleasure with the resumption of Aeroméxico services to Toronto, and noted that the new route will contribute to the dynamic business relations between Mexico and Ontario in various industrial sectors.



MEXICO IN THE FILM INDUSTRY

MEXICO TAKES PART IN THE HOT DOCS FESTIVAL

The Mexican documentary *Retratos de una Búsqueda* was presented at the 22nd edition of the Hot Docs film festival, which took place from April 23 to May 3, 2015.

The Mexican director, Alicia Calderón, was present for the screenings of the documentary. The filmmaker was interviewed by local media serving the Spanish-speaking community and by Mexico's Notimex news agency.



Director Alicia Calderón and Consul General Mauricio Toussaint.

IN CONVERSATION WITH... ALFONSO CUARÓN

As part of the special programs presented for the organization of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), Mexican writer and director Alfonso Cuarón offered a public talk, "In Conversation with...Alfonso Cuarón", which was held on May 6, 2015.

The conversation, led by TIFF's Director and CEO, Piers Handling, covered the extraordinary career of the Mexican filmmaker and the creation of his Oscar-winning films.



MEXICO PARTICIPATES IN THE TIFF KIDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

As part of the "Loot Bag Senior.: Wondrous New Worlds" program at the TIFF Kids International Film Festival, held April 7 to 19 in Toronto, the Mexican short film *Étéreas* was presented on April 11.

The experimental short film was directed by Mara Soler and Daniela Villanueva, both originally from Mexico City and members of the animation duo Flaminguettes, and shows two artists decorating a warehouse with geometric shapes while a hula hoop floats around in every direction.

Étéreas, aimed at audiences of children and youths from 9 to 13 years of age, has won various awards and special mentions at festivals in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Germany, the United Kingdom and Belarus.

CONSULATE GENERAL BRIEFS



The Consul General meets Lieutenant Governor of Ontario Elizabeth Dowdeswell

Ontario's Lieutenant Governor, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, met with Amb. Mauricio Toussaint, Consul General of Mexico and Dean of the Consular Corps of Toronto, on April 24, 2015.



Visit to Ontario's Legislative Assembly

The Consul General, Amb. Mauricio Toussaint attended a session of the Ontario Legislative Assembly on April 15, invited by Speaker of the Assembly Dave Levac and Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Bob Delaney.



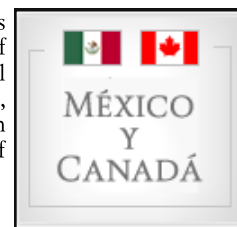
FIFA Women's Soccer World Cup 2015 launch event

On the invitation of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, the Consul General attended the launch event for the FIFA Women's Soccer World Cup, to be held in Canada from June 6 to July 5, 2015, at which the trophy was exhibited.

The Mexican team is in Group F, and will compete in the first round with the selections from Colombia, England and France.

Canadian visa for Mexicans

The Canadian government has announced the inclusion of Mexico in the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) program, which is expected to begin operating in the first quarter of 2016.



According to the new measure, Mexican nationals who have had a Canadian visa in the last ten years, or who have a currently valid non-immigrant visa to travel to the United States, will be exempt from the requirement to apply for a new visa to travel to Canada.

MEXICO PAVILION AT THE SIAL CANADA FOOD SHOW

The SIAL Canada *Salon International de l'Alimentation* was held at the Direct Energy Centre in Toronto from April 28 to 30. Ten Mexican companies participated in the Mexico pavilion, set up by ProMéxico.

The pavilion was opened by the Consul General, Amb. Mauricio Toussaint, in the presence of César Bueno, ProMéxico's representative in Toronto and Beatriz Marroquín, ProMéxico's Assistant Director for International Events for North America, as well as the show's directors, exhibitors and the public.

SIAL Canada brings together more than 800 national and international exhibitors from 45 countries and around 14,000 professionals in the food distribution sector and the processed food industry. The companies taking part in the Mexico pavilion were promoting chia seed; chewing gum (made from natural chicle); mineral water and beer; guacamole and frozen avocado; agave nectar; avocado oil; salsas and jalapeños; chocolate bars and oatmeal cookies. It is worth highlighting that the cookies won the SIAL Innovation 2015

prize, which recognizes the most innovative international product of the year.

During the tour of the pavilion, the Consul General talked with the Mexican exhibitors and commented on the great interest among Canadian consumers in 100% natural, gluten-free and vegan products, among others; as most of the Mexican products exhibited at the show were of these kinds, they are expected to receive a positive response from consumers.



TRAVELING TO MEXICO

Canadian nationals and permanent residents of Canada do not require a visa to enter Mexico, with the exception of Canadian citizens carrying **diplomatic or official passports**.

For more information and requirements please visit: <http://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/toronto/index.php/es/visas>

For fees and payment: <http://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/toronto/index.php/es/fees>

Notice: The Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto is open to the public by appointment.

Please request an appointment by writing to citas@consulmex.com

THE 2015 TORONTO PAN AMERICAN GAMES (TO2015) ARE FAST APPROACHING

If you are a Mexican and plan to attend the Pan American Games, we suggest that you consult the following relevant websites (information in Spanish only):

- ◆ [Ministry of Foreign Affairs Travelers' Guide](#)
- ◆ [Information on Canada](#)
- ◆ [What you need for your trip:](#)
- ◆ [Travel Insurance](#)
- ◆ [Visa for Canada](#)

THE PANAMANIA PROGRAM OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN TORONTO IS ANNOUNCED

The program of the PANAMANIA cultural and artistic festival , which will be held during the Toronto 2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games, was released on May 6. The list of artists who will be playing at the festival features Lila Downs (July 15) and Café Tacuba (July 22).

The events to be presented on the three main stages can be found at the following links:

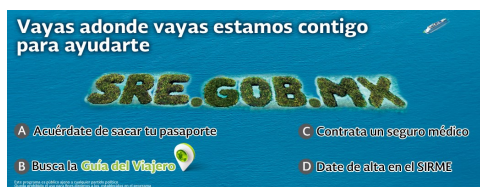
- ◆ [Nathan Phillips Square](#)
- ◆ [The Distillery District](#)
- ◆ [CIBC Pan Am Park](#)

TRAVELLING TO CANADA? REGISTER IN THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR MEXICANS ABROAD (SIRME)

Mexicans planning a trip to Canada during the 2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games in Toronto can register free of charge in the Registration System for Mexicans Abroad (SIRME, for its initials in Spanish).

The purpose of the registration system is to provide the consulate with your location while you are away from Mexico so that we can assist you in the event of an emergency. We thus invite you to register, providing your itinerary and address in Canada for the duration of the Toronto Pan American and Parapan American Games

You can submit your registration at the following link:



The Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto is open to the public by appointment.

For Mexican passports, birth certificates and powers of attorney, appointments must be requested through MEXITEL at: https://citas.sre.gob.mx/mexitel_web/ or by calling:

1877 MEXITEL
(1-877-639 4835).

For any other service, please request an appointment by writing to citas@consulmex.com or by calling:(416)368-2875 ext. 236

USEFUL LINKS

- Presidency of Mexico: presidencia.gob.mx
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs: sre.gob.mx
- Mexican Embassy in Canada embamex.sre.gob.mx/canada/
- ProMexico promexico.gob.mx
- Mexico Tourism Board: visitmexico.com
- Mexican National Council for Culture and the Arts: conaculta.gob.mx; ecultura.gob.mx
- Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Mexico: cancham.mx
- Mexico-Canada <http://mex-can.sre.gob.mx/>
- Visas and consular services: consulmex.com
- Mexican restaurants in Toronto & GTA [[click here](#)]
- MEXITEL 1-877-639-4835
<https://mexitel.sre.gob.mx/citas>