



CONSUL...TING



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

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MEXICAN PRESENCE AT THE TORONTO 2015 PAN AMERICAN AND PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES



Mexico's presence at the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games will be reflected not only on the sports field, but also in the presentation of a significant number of high quality cultural and artistic activities on the city's main stages.

This impressive program of events has been organized in coordination between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Mexican Olympic Committee and the TO2015 Organizing Committee.

This will be the third time that Canada has hosted the Pan American Games, the third biggest multi-sport event in the world. The Games will take place from July 10 to 26 in Ontario, with Toronto as the main site, featuring competitions in 49 different

sports. Later this year, the Parapan American Games will be held in Canada for the first time, with events in 16 sports, taking place from August 7-15.

Thousands of athletes from 41 countries and territories of the Americas are expected to attend the Games, as well as thousands of volunteers and visitors.

The Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto is ready to assist any Mexican nationals attending the Games who find themselves in urgent need of documentation or consular protection. To this end, a special section has been created which includes tips and recommendations for Mexicans travelling to Canada.

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:
<http://guiadelviajero.sre.gob.mx/>
- Information on Canada:
<http://guiadelviajero.sre.gob.mx/index.php/canada>
- What you need for your trip:
<http://guiadelviajero.sre.gob.mx/index.php/informacion-general>
- Travel Insurance:
<http://guiadelviajero.sre.gob.mx/index.php/seguros-de-viaje>
- Visa for Canada:
<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/index.asp>
- Official website for the Pan American Games:
<http://www.toronto2015.org/>



Guía del Viajero SRE.



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ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES DURING THE TO2015 GAMES

Mexico will have a prominent place in the PANAMANIA Arts and Culture Festival, which will be held during the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games.

Among the many artists scheduled to appear during the festival will be musical presentations by international acts such as Lila Downs (July 15), Café Tacuba (July 22), Torreblanca (July 18) and Alejandro Escovedo (August 18) in Nathan Phillips Square, as well as Mexican artists based in Ontario like Quique Escamilla (July 24), Amanda Martínez (July 20) and Mariachi Ghost (July 21).



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](#)

EXHIBITIONS DURING THE PANAM GAMES TO2015

FRIDA KAHLO: THROUGH THE LENS OF NICKOLAS MURAY WITH TRADITIONAL MEXICAN COSTUME FROM THE TCM

The Textile Museum of Canada (TMC) in Toronto will be exhibiting 50 photographs showing the attire, personality and history of Frida Kahlo, taken by Nickolas Muray during a trip he made to Mexico in May 1931.



The photographic exhibition will be open to the public from June 10 to September 7, 2015. Also on display will be a collection of 30 Mexican textiles owned by the museum, including blouses, huipiles, bags and rebozos from the 19th and 20th centuries.

in Canada. The TMC is one of this country's biggest textile museums, and will also be participating very actively in the cultural events organized independently by different cultural institutions on the occasion of the 2015 Pan American Games, with Mexico as a central theme of its participation.

This is the first time that this exhibition has been presented

More information: <http://www.textilemuseum.ca/>

THE TERCERUNQUINTO COLLECTIVE'S "MINE" EXHIBITION AT THE POWER PLANT ART GALLERY

Mexico's Tercerunquinto Collective will present an exhibition of contemporary art titled "Mine", to be held at The Power Plant Art Gallery from June 20 to September 7, 2015.

Two members of the Tercerunquinto Collective, Gabriel Cazares Salas and Rolando Flores Tovar, will be here in Toronto for the set-up and opening of this exhibition.

The project developed by the Collective reveals the connection between architecture, sculpture and urban development, while questioning the limits between public space and private space by examining the socially established barriers that define those limits.

More information: <http://www.thepowerplant.org/Exhibitions/2015/Summer/Mine.aspx>

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

The traditional costume and textile exhibition "¡Viva México! Clothing and Culture" at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto is open to the public from May 9, 2015 to May 23, 2016.

The exhibition, featuring 150 textile pieces –including costumes and dresses, rebozos, huipiles, ponchos and religious ornaments– made in Mexico since the 18th century.

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.

More information: www.rom.on.ca



CONSULATE GENERAL BRIEFS



Annual Meeting between Markham's Mayor and the Markham Chamber of Commerce

Consul General Mauricio Toussaint attended this event and met with Mayor Frank Scarpitti, as well as with officials from the city's Department of Economic Development.



Photo: Mexican Olympic Committee

Toronto 2015 Pan American Games Torch Lit in Mexico

The organizers of the Pan American Games travelled to Mexico City to take part in the traditional torch-lighting ceremony. The event, organized by the Mexican Olympic Committee, took place on Monday, May 25 at the Pyramid of the Sun in Teotihuacán.



"41 Trees" Initiative in the Context of the Games

The Pan American Games Organizing Committee held a ceremony to unveil the main plaque for the "41 Trees" initiative, commemorating the 41 countries that will compete in the sporting event.

Consul General Mauricio Toussaint unveiled the plaque for the tree designating Mexico.

LUMINATO FESTIVAL: JUNE 19-28, 2015

The schedule for the Luminato Festival, which will take place from June 19 to 28, includes presentations by Mexican artists and chefs who, together with their Canadian counterparts, will offer the public a rich sample of sounds and flavours.

Luminato is an international arts festival that will transform Toronto's theatres, parks and public spaces for 10 days, offering a wide variety of theatre, dance, music, literature, food, visual arts, magic, film and more.

Music of Mexico (FREE)
 Quique Escamilla 8:30 PM
 Los de Abajo 9:30 PM
 When :Monday, June 22nd
 Where Festival Hub at David Pecaut Square, 55 John St

Food: A Celebration of Indigenous Pan American Food
 The Festival celebrates the indigenous ingredients that form the heart of Pan American culture and cuisine. Come and sample 12 culinary wizards' unique interpretations of these elements.

When Sunday, June 21st from 12 PM—7 PM
 Where Festival Shed, 55 John Street

Luminato Literary Talks: The Mexican Drug War in Film, Fact + Fiction

This engaging panel moderated by Luminato's Literary + Ideas Curator Noah Richler will explore Mexico's deadly drug trade featuring Canadian documentary photographer Louie Palu, journalists Alfredo Corchado, and Emmy Award-winning Angela Koehner alongside Governor-General's Award-winning writer John Vaillant.

When Tuesday, June 23rd from 7 PM – 8 PM
 Where Festival Shed, 55 John St

The North-South Project

The North-South Project is a collective work of storytelling authored by twelve celebrated writers working the breadth of the Americas, from the Canadian Arctic to Argentina.

When Saturday, June 20th from 2 PM – 5 PM
 Where Festival Shed, 55 John Street

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: <https://sirme.sre.gob.mx/>



MEXICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION ENCOUNTER

Mexican designer Avril Cervera took part as a special guest in the International Fashion Encounter, held in Toronto from May 8 to 10. Avril Cervera has designed clothing for international personalities like Sofia Vergara, Tori Spelling, Alicia Machado, Lupita Jones, and former Miss Universe Ximena Navarrete.

She won the Latin American Prize for Best International Designer in Spain in 2002 and Best Latin American Talent at the Vogue Fashion Night Out, among other accolades.

A fashion parade took place on Saturday, May 9 at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, featuring eight international designers, including Avril Cervera and seven young students from the Mexican university *Universidad Iberoamericana*.



Designer Avril Cerbera, Consul General Mauricio Toussaint and Jason Cameron

The event brought together fashion designers, textile industry leaders, fashionistas, critics and local and international media.

The parade was directed by the CEO of the Toronto Fashion Academy and event organizer Jason Cameron, who acknowledged the support of the

Consulate General in the promotion of the event. Afterwards, the designers presented their summer lines for 2015, worn by Canadian models from a diverse range of ethnic backgrounds.

Consul General Mauricio Toussaint attended the event as a guest of honour.



Consul General Mauricio Toussaint and the young designers from Universidad Iberoamericana

TRADE FACILITATION OFFICE (TFO) INFORMATION SESSION

On May 4, the Trade Facilitation Office for developing nations (TFO) organized a seminar for accredited trade representatives of different countries based in Toronto.



The TFO operates as a non-profit organization with a mission to offer assistance to exporters from developing countries so they can introduce their products to Canada.

The seminar was presented by the TFO's representative in Ontario, Alma Farías, and the organization's Project Manager for Trade Information Services, Clarecia Christie. The objective of the event was to present the TFO's new online services and digital tools for obtaining information on international trade.

The assistance provided is through the registration of exporters' products on a Foreign Supplier Database, which is consulted by Canadian buyers who receive information from TFO Canada. Products must be registered directly on the TFO website: <http://www.tfocanada.ca/>

LAUNCH OF WHITE PAPER ON CANADA AND THE PACIFIC ALLIANCE

On May 7, the Canadian Council for the Americas (CCA) launched the white paper "What does the Pacific Alliance Mean for Canadian Trade and Investment?" The paper was presented by its author, Dr. Barbara Kotschwar, who is a Research Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, DC.



The other speakers at the launch were Ricardo Duarte, DG&A partner and Colombian Chief Negotiator of Free Trade Agreements; Eric Miller, VP, Innovation and Competitiveness for the Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE), and John Price, Managing Director at Americas Market Intelligence.

The white paper explores the basic principles of the Pacific Alliance, what differentiates the Alliance from other integration agreements or initiatives in Latin America, Canada's economic relationship with the countries of the Alliance, its benefits for Canada and Canadian companies, and, finally, what Canada needs to do to become a

member of the Alliance (it currently holds observer status).

On this question, the panelists agreed that more flexible borders and fewer costs for doing business in the region could help Canadian companies already operating in one of these countries to capture a bigger market and make more efficient use of their resources, and would also allow greater mobility of skilled labour between the countries of the region. They also discussed the advantages of the Latin American Integrated Market (MILA), which combines the stock exchanges of the four member countries and represents one billion dollars in market capitalization.

2015 AGRICULTURAL SEASON AT ITS PEAK

The 2015 agricultural season is now at its peak. Rising temperatures and improved weather conditions in the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba have favoured optimal growth of the crops of fruits, cereals and vegetables harvested in these two provinces. However, the best weather, the most advanced agricultural technology and the most fertile soil are not as important as the hands that sow and care for the crops and gather the harvests.

For the past forty years, thousands of Mexican workers have been coming to Canada to work on its farms and in its greenhouses. For eight months a year, our compatriots work shoulder-to-shoulder tirelessly, contributing not only with their hard work in the fields, but also with their support for the local economies, and their payment of taxes and contributions to pension and health systems at both provincial and federal levels.

From the moment they land in Canada until they return to Mexico, the Consulate General in Toronto monitors their needs closely, ensuring that their rights as workers are respected.

To do this, our Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) and



SWAP workers in Ontario

Protection Area handles thousands of phone calls from Mexican workers in Ontario and Manitoba 24 hours a day, seven days a week, providing them with guidance, translation services for communication with employers and Canadian authorities, and assistance in cases of emergency.

Since this year's season began, 6,022 workers have arrived in the province of Ontario and 184 in Manitoba.

For workers in Ontario, the Consulate General in Toronto offers a toll-free telephone service (1-888-351-2690) available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Outside office hours, on weekends and holidays, workers can contact the exclusive emergency hotline: (416) 716-0931.

TRAVELING TO MEXICO

Canadian nationals and permanent residents of Canada still 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 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: canchammx.com
- 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>