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CONSULADO GENERAL DE
MÉXICO EN TORONTO



CONSUL...TING

Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto—Monthly Newsletter

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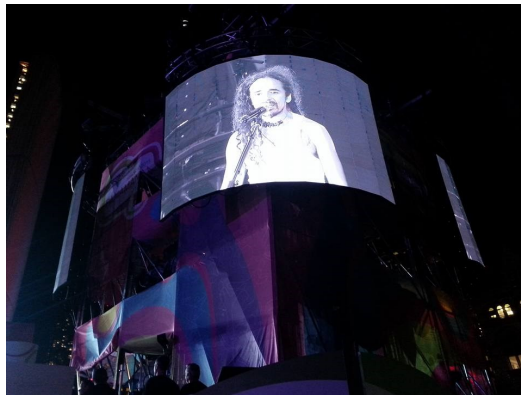
SUCCESSFUL MEXICAN MUSIC PROGRAM AT THE TORONTO 2015 PAN AMERICAN GAMES

As part of the cultural program of contemporary artistic expression for the Toronto Pan American and 2015 Parapan American Games, “PANAMANIA”, Lila Downs performed at Nathan Philips Square (the city's central square), in the first of a series of concerts offered by seven Mexican acts, including Café Tacuba (July 22) and Torreblanca (July 18), as well as Mexican artists living in Canada such as Amanda Martínez, Quique Escamilla and Mariachi Ghost, who were among the 1,300 artists who offered free concerts at PANAMANIA.



performances, which he estimated at a total of 30,100.

The Mexican concerts attracted large numbers of people from all over the world,



who had the opportunity to enjoy the wide range of genres offered by Mexican music, such as bolero, alternative rock, pop rock, progressive rock, folk rock, as well as fusions with African styles, flamenco, alt-country, Chicano rock and Latin jazz.

It is worth noting that Mexico was one of the countries with the most featured artists, along with Argentina, Chile and Cuba.

Don Shipley, the Creative Director of Arts and Cultural Festivals for TO2015, expressed his enthusiasm about the quality of the concerts and the audience numbers at the Mexican



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TORONTO GLOBAL FORUM: PAN AMERICAN EDITION

The organization International Economic Forum of the Americas (IEFA) presented the Toronto Global Forum: Pan American Edition, with the topic “Creating Opportunities in a Connected World” from July 8 to 10.

The Global Forum featured the presence of political and financial leaders from all over the world, who discussed the uncertainty of the current climate while also expressing their optimism about the future. The featured speakers included: David Johnston, Governor General of Canada; Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario; John Tory, Mayor of Toronto; Philippe Couillard, Premier of Quebec; Lisa Raitt, Canada's Minister of Transport; Ed Fast, Canada's Minister of International Trade; Tony Clement, President of the Treasury Board of Canada; Shimon Peres, former president and prime minister of Israel; John D. Negroponte, Former US Secretary of State; Luis Almagro Lemes, Secretary General of the OAS; Germán Vargas Lleras, Vice President of Colombia; Alexander Mora, Costa Rica's Minister of Foreign Trade; Andrés Rozental, Eminent Ambassador of Mexico; and the CEOs of various transnational corporations. Among the top issues discussed were: the economic situation in Greece and the financial rescue request it has made to the members of the Eurozone; the severe falls of the Chinese stock market; the slow



Toronto Global Forum panel

economic growth worldwide; the lack of infrastructure at the international level; the free trade agreements currently being negotiated, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement and the Pacific Alliance; and global supply chains.

Notable among the participants was Daniel Servitje, Chairman of the Board and CEO of the Bimbo Group, who took part in his capacity as Co-Chair of the Pan American edition of this international forum.

In his presentation, the Mexican business leader pointed out that Latin America offers great investment opportunities since it represents a market of 603 million consumers, 60% of its inhabitants are of productive age (average age 29 years old) and its population is growing by 1.1% per year. He commented that any investment in

Latin America should be long-term, as he noted that in his experience it is a process that takes time and that beyond certain political differences, the Latin American nations share many similarities, such as their culture and language.

With respect to the Bimbo Group, he reported that the company has a total of 37 plants in Mexico that represent sales of 5.4 billion dollars, as well as 85 plants in the US and Canada (6.8 billion in sales) and 32 plants from Guatemala to Chile (1.6 billion in sales). In 2014, the Bimbo Group bought Canada Bread for nearly 2 billion pesos.

Also attending the event were Mexico's Ambassador to Canada Francisco Suárez Dávila, Mexican Consul General in Montreal Francisco del Río, and Mexican Consul General in Toronto Mauricio Toussaint.



Daniel Servitje, Chairman of the Board and CEO of the Bimbo Group

CULINARY EVENT AT THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM (ROM)

A culinary event was held in the context of the traditional dress and textile exhibition “¡Viva México!, Clothing and Culture” at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto, featuring the Mexican chefs Arturo Fernández from the restaurant Raíz in the State of Mexico and Jonatán Gómez Luna from the restaurant Le Chique on the Mayan Riviera. Gómez Luna was the winner of the Iron Chef Competition that formed part of the Hot & Spicy Festival at the Harbourfront Cultural Centre in July 2012.



Around 300 guests attended the tasting, including tourist industry leaders, government officials, members of the diplomatic corps based in this city, representatives from the academic and cultural sectors of the province, and distinguished members of the Mexican community in Toronto. Also present at the event were museum directors such as Senior Curator Alexandra Palmer. The room where the exhibition was held was

kept open for museum guests interested in visiting it.

At the celebration Mexico's Ambassador to Canada, Francisco Suárez Dávila, offered words of welcome, and then the General Director of the Mexico Tourism Board (MTB), Rodolfo López Negrete, gave a presentation on the state of the tourist industry in our country, as well as the sustained growth seen in recent years in the number of Canadian visitors to Mexi-

co. From January to May 2015 alone there has been a 3.6% increase in the number of arrivals by air (1.04 million) over the same period of 2014 (1 million).

He also highlighted the capacity of flights from Canada to Mexico, which increased by 3% from January to May 2015, with 25 flights to 12 destinations in our country, of which Cancun is the most popular, followed by Vallarta-Nayarit and Los Cabos. Also present at the event was Mexico's Eminent Ambassador Andrés Rozental; Amb. Francisco del Río, Consul General in Montreal, and Amb. Mauricio Toussaint, Consul General in Toronto.



CONSULATE GENERAL BRIEFS

Climate Summit of the Americas



The government of the Province of Ontario, through its Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, organized a summit titled Climate Summit of the Americas, which was held July 7-9.

The main speakers at the summit were former Mexican president Felipe Calderón, former US vice president Al Gore, California Governor Jerry Brown, and the premiers of Ontario and Quebec, Kathleen Wynne and Phillippe Couillard, respectively.

Economic Promotion Seminar in Hamilton, Ontario

With the aim of promoting business opportunities in our country, the Consul General of Mexico in Toronto, Mauricio Toussaint, took part in the Bilateral Trade Forum event held on July 22 at the Hamilton Investment Centre.



Meeting with the Director General of the National Commission for Physical Culture and Sport during the Toronto 2015 PanAm Games



The Consul General welcomed the Director General of the National Commission for Physical Culture and Sport (CONADE), Alfredo Castillo Cervantes, at the offices of this Consulate General, on July 14.

At the meeting they spoke about the organization of the Pan American Games being held in Toronto and the performance at the games of the Mexican delegation. The Consulate General also provided Mr. Castillo Cervantes with an overview of the preventive protection actions it prepared to assist Mexicans during the Games.

Meeting between the Director General of the National Commission for Physical Culture and Sport (CONADE) and the Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the University of Alberta

The Director General of CONADE, Alfredo Castillo, met with Professor Kerry Mummery, Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the University of Alberta in Edmonton at the offices of the Consulate General on July 14, 2015. The Consul General was also present at the meeting.



The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the interests of both countries in sports and to analyze possible areas of collaboration.

Visit to Ontario's wineries



On July 29, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, led a visit to Ontario wineries that received the 2015 Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Ontario Wines, accompanied by members of the consular corps in Toronto. Ambassador Mauricio Toussaint took part in his capacity as Dean of the Consular Corps.

Photo: Twitter @LGLizDowdeswell

PROYECTA 10 000 PROGRAM IN ONTARIO AND MANITOBA

On July 31, the Consulate General offered a welcome and farewell event for the Mexican recipients of the "Proyecto 10 000" scholarship program. The event brought together 58 members of the Canadian and Mexican educational communities, including:



- 20 Mexican students, 10 teachers and 10 students from the states of Aguascalientes, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Colima, Durango, Jalisco, Michoacán, Nayarit, Puebla, Quintana Roo, Sonora, Tabasco, Zacatecas and from the Mexico City Federal District, who were completing intensive English language courses in the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba.

- Directors of the English as a Second Language programs at each of the 10 higher education institutions in Canada that welcomed the 58 scholarship recipients: University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, University of Winnipeg, Centennial College, Humber College, Fleming College, Lakehead University, Lambton College and St. Claire College.

- Directors and students from three departments at York University: Bachelor's Program in Spanish

Language and Literatures; Glendon College Hispanic Studies, and Linguistics.

- Mexican authorities and researchers attached to the Department of Humanities, Cultural and Gender Studies at Mexico's *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana*.

- Students and directors at *Universidad Mexiquense*; members of the Global Talent Network - Toronto Chapter, and from EXATEC Ontario.

In his speech, Consul General Mauricio Toussaint congratulated the students for taking on English as their second language, as this would enable them to enrich both their academic training and their personal and professional development.

He also recognized the importance and significance of the first stage of the *Proyecto 10 000 Program*, which represents a new era in educational and academic cooperation between Mexico and Canada, facilitating the presence of a greater number of Mexicans with greater expertise and training to promote the competitiveness of the region. In addition, both the Executive Director of the University of Winnipeg's English Program, Nigel Dixon, and the Mexican scholarship recipient from *Universidad Tecnológica de Chetumal* and English student at Lambton College, Ana Laura Frías Pérez, shared their experiences with other students enrolled in the abovementioned institutions.



MEXICAN PARTICIPATION AT RITMO Y COLOR FESTIVAL

Mexico played a major role in the 10th Ritmo y Color Festival, one of Toronto's biggest Latino festivals, which took place at the Harbourfront Centre July 17-19, and included family activities, contemporary dance performances and high-profile musicians playing in a range of genres that displayed the cultural vitality of different local and international communities of Latin America.



Group Compass concert

Mexico's participation in the festival was notable for the following activities:

-Talk and Concert by the Mexican group Compass, directed by Toy Selectah (formerly with Control Machete) and Camilo Lara (Mexican Institute of Sound), who shared stories of their career in Latin American music. Afterwards they

offered a concert on the Harbourfront Centre's main stage.

-Screening of two Mexican films: *Santo vs. Los Jinetes del Terror* and *Santo & Blue Demon vs. Drácula & el Hombre Lobo*.

-Crafts of the Americas Activity, where

children could make and decorate their own Mexican wrestler masks.

-Family-Friendly Food Demos, culinary demonstrations at which Chef Paola Solorzano, from the Mexican restaurant Santo Pecado, taught guests to make pambazos.

-Som Bit Body Percussion Workshop, where Canadian and Mexican families learned movements of Latin American rhythms taught by Som Bit, a music and dance quintet formed in Cuernavaca, Morelos in 2010, which has performed at cultural events and international festivals in Mexico, with themes inspired by artists like Salif Keita, Sun Ra, Fela Kuti, Hermeto Pascoal, and by the sounds of funk, Afrobeat, jazz and Latin American folk.

10 MOST INFLUENTIAL HISPANIC CANADIANS AWARDS



The Canadian Hispanic Business Alliance held a ceremony on July 15 for the presentation of awards to this year's "10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians".

The awards were presented by Ontario's Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Michael Coteau, and by the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Pan American Games, David Peterson.

Around 300 people attended the event, including diplomats, business leaders, members of the Hispanic community, media representatives, and the nominees, representing four different provinces and eight different countries of origin. The master of ceremonies was Mexican-Canadian singer Amanda Martínez.

The award winners included the following Mexican residents in Ontario:

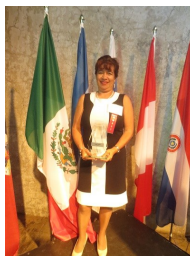
-Dr. Martha Bádiz Zuk: noted writer, professor and translator, daughter of Mexican orchestra conductor Enrique Bádiz. She is a professor at the University of Toronto and at York University's Glendon College; founder of the Creative Writing in Spanish program, the only one of its kind in Canada, offered by the University of

Toronto's School of Continuing Studies.

-Ricardo Pascoe: Executive Vice President at the National Bank of Canada since 2008. He is in charge of wholesale banking activities, including investment banking, corporate banking, equity, fixed income, derivatives, proprietary trading and Credigy, a consumer finance investment firm. He is also responsible for the bank's activities in the United States.

-Isabel Inclán: Mexican journalist with more than 30 years' experience. She currently works as a correspondent for the NOTIMEX Mexican news agency. She has also contributed to the Spanish-language newspapers *El Financiero* and *La Opinión* (Los Angeles, CA).

Also receiving an award was the Mexican-Canadian Dr. Alejandro Adem, Director of Mitacs Mexico, who lives in British Columbia.



(Photo:Gynna Ledesma)

MEXICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE PAN AMERICAN INDIGENOUS CANADIAN PAVILION

The group Danza Mexica Tonantzin, known in Canada by their English name Aztec Dance Group of Toronto, performed at the opening of the Aboriginal Pavilion Cultural Festival (July 16), which brought together indigenous communities from all over the Americas as part of the TO2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games.

The event included presentations by some of Canada's top native artists, as well as a wide range of cultural showcases in tribute to indigenous peoples, including the opening event by the Aztec dancers, who revived the ancient traditions that unify dance with nature, and specifically with the elements of fire, earth, water and air. In concluding they stressed their sense of fellowship and similarities with indigenous Canadians, while also expressing the importance of this dance to Mexican identity.

Present at the ceremony were Ontario's Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ontario Minister of Culture, Tourism and Sport Michael Coteau, Pan American Games CEO Saad Rafi, and important indigenous community leaders and dignitaries.

Tonantzin is an Aztec dance group directed by Mexican dancer Asalia Arellano, who for a decade has been lighting the incense on different stages in Toronto and across Canada, and leading Aztec dance performances to highlight the harmonious connection between the human being and animals, plants and trees.

