



# CONSUL...TING

Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto—Monthly Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2015



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

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## MEXICO PROMOTES A STRONG AND COMPETITIVE NORTH AMERICA

Foreign Secretary José Antonio Meade visited Toronto on August 22 to attend the North American Forum, which was created to develop a shared vision and understanding of the region between the leaders of Mexico, United States and Canada.

In his remarks, Foreign Secretary Meade said there were opportunities for collaboration between the North American countries in energy, trade, manufacturing and safety standards. He also said it was important for the three nations to work together on a common agenda to create greater prosperity for their people.

The Foreign Secretary said that President Enrique Peña Nieto’s administration had pushed for a true transformation of the role Mexico plays in North America. He said that over the last two years a new architecture has been put in place to improve Mexico’s position in the region.

The goal of all these efforts, said the Foreign Secretary, has been to construct a trilateral framework that makes North America into the most competitive and dynamic region in the world. He said that the new relationship with the United States and Canada aims to promote



economic growth and to forge increasingly close and productive relationships.

Speaking before businessmen and academics from the three countries, Foreign Secretary Meade said that Mexico’s actions in North America have focused on education, competence, empowerment and the expansion of the existing legal mechanisms.

The North American Forum was created in 2005. The forums bring together government and business leaders, academics and organizations from Mexico, the United States and Canada with the goal of advancing towards a shared vision of the region and to help to improve the ties between the three nations.

Source: SRE-Press Release 435

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## MEXICO PAVILION AT THE INCENTIVE WORKS SHOW

The 2015 edition of the Incentive Works Show was held August 18-19 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in this city. As it has for more than 20 years now, the fair featured a Mexico Pavilion, which was opened Tuesday, August 18 by Consul General Mauricio Toussaint and the Director for Canada of Mexico’s Tourism Board (CPTM), Rodrigo Esponda.

More than 2,000 specialist travel agents participated in the fair, along with more than 700 companies that offer tourism services for international conferences, weddings and business meetings. The pavilion was set up by CPTM in Toronto with the aim



of promoting travel incentives to different Mexican destinations.

Exhibitors in the pavilion included: International Group Sales-IGS, Meeting Incentive Experts, Grand Velas, One & Only Palmilla, International Incentive Travel, Nizuc, Grand

Residences, Exhibitions Cargo, Grupo Meca, Maritur, and visitor and convention bureaus in the Mexican cities of San Miguel de Allende and Guadalajara.

Notable among the topics discussed with the Mexican exhibitors was the sustained growth in the arrival of Canadian visitors to Mexico. From January to May 2015 alone there has been a 3.6% increase in the number of arrivals by air (1.04 million) compared with the same period of 2014.

It was also commented that there is an increased interest among Canadian visitors in the sector of cultural tourism and colonial cities.

CONSULATE GENERAL BRIEFS

**Governor of Bank of Mexico Visits Toronto**

The Governor of the Bank of Mexico, Dr. Agustín Carstens, made a work visit to Toronto on August 20-21. On his visit he took part in the North American Forum (NAF) and held meetings with Canadian officials and business leaders.



**North American Forum (NAF)**

The North American Forum (NAF) took place August 20-22 in Toronto. Its purpose is the creation of the political and conceptual base for greater cooperation between the countries of the region.



Representing Mexico at the event were Minister of Foreign Affairs José Antonio Meade; Governor of the Bank of Mexico Dr. Agustín Carstens; Eminent Ambassador Andrés Rozental; the Ministry of Energy's Deputy Minister for Hydrocarbons María de Lourdes Melgar; the Ministry of Energy's Deputy Minister for Electricity Cesar Emiliano Hernández Ochoa; and Mexican business leaders Claudio X. González Laporte, Antonio Madero, Jaime Zabłudovsky Kuper, Eduardo Guerrero Gutiérrez and Alfonso González Nigoya.

**Conference: New Reform in Mexico: A Look at the Current Energy Landscape**

Eminent Ambassador Andrés Rozental, on an invitation from McCarthy Tétrault partner and former Quebec premier Jean Charest, delivered the talk New Reform in Mexico: A Look at the Current Energy Landscape, on August 20 in Toronto.



**Meeting with York University's President and Associate Vice President**

Consul General Mauricio Toussaint and Consul for Cultural Affairs Natalia Lopez Sosa met with York University's President Mamdouh Shoukri and Associate Vice President International, Marilyn Lambert-Drache, on August 15, 2015.



**“MEXFEST” CULTURAL, TOURISM AND CULINARY FESTIVAL**

The second edition of the “MexFest” festival, organized by the Mexican Canadian Cultural Council (CCMC) with the support of the Consulate General of Mexico and members of the Mexican community in Toronto, was held Sunday, August 23 in Yonge-Dundas Square, one of the busiest public spaces in the city.



Mexfest is a 100% Mexican popular and cultural festival, organized by Mexicans to promote the music, art, tourism and cuisine of our country in the Canadian community and to bring the Mexican community together for a big fiesta. The program included both contemporary and traditional local music groups, traditional regional dances, and the sale of

handicrafts and authentic Mexican cuisine.

The Consul General, Mauricio Toussaint, attended as a special guest and visited the different stands selling Mexican food and handicrafts, thanking them for their support and participation, which contributed to the success of the festival.



It is worth noting that over the course of the day the event was attended by more than 15,000 members of the Canadian public and the Mexican community, including media, cultural and business representatives and the general public.

**PERFORMANCE BY SAK TZEVL AT PLANET INDIGENUS**

As part of the Planet IndigenUS festival – the largest contemporary indigenous festival in the world – the Chiapas group Sak Tzevl performed on August 8 and 9, playing original songs in Tzotzil and Spanish and explaining aspects of the traditional culture of the Mayan people with post-modern influences of rock and classical music.



The third edition of the festival was held in various locations and cultural centres located in Toronto from July 31 to August 9, 2015, with the closing events at the Harbourfront Centre.

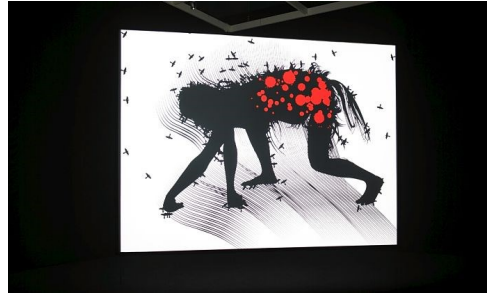
The event was attended by the Harbourfront Centre's CEO Marah Braye, Educational and Cultural Activities program Executive Director Melanie Fernández, and festival programmer Janis Monture, as well as members of the Canadian and Mexican cultural community (80 attendees).



It is worth mentioning that at the event this Consulate General introduced the members of the Chiapas group to the representatives of the dance troupe Danza Mexica Tonantzin, with the result that in addition to the concert of Sunday, August 9, the audience was able to enjoy a short dance show based on the four elements of nature.

## BLACK CLOUD EXHIBITION AT THE POWER PLANT AND NUIT BLANCHE FESTIVAL

As part of the fall season of contemporary art exhibitions at The Power Plant Art Gallery, internationally renowned Mexican artist Carlos Amorales will present the exhibition *Black Cloud*, from September 25, 2015 to January 3, 2016.



The artwork *Black Cloud* will also form part of the 2015 Nuit Blanche Festival, to be held from sunset on Saturday, October 3 to sunrise on Sunday, October 4, 2015, featuring approximately 100 projects (30 exhibitions and 70 independent projects).

Carlos Amorales is an internationally acclaimed artist who was born in Mexico City in 1970. Between 1996 and 2003 he gained recognition for his presentations related to the world of *lucha libre* (Mexican wrestling), titled *Amorales vs. Amorales*. Much of his work has focused on exploring the culture and values of Mexico, with a fascination for contemporary religious and secular rituals.

film animation, fictitious tales and installations, establishing a collaboration with psychoanalysts, graphic designers, writers and musicians.

His previous exhibitions include: *Suprimir, modificar y preservar* (MAC/VAL, France); *Remix, Palazzo delle Esposizioni* (Rome, Italy); *Discarded Spider* (Cincinnati Art Center, Ohio, USA; Orange County Museum of Art, California, USA); and *Cuatro animaciones, cinco dibujos y una plaga* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA).

In 2003 he turned to working in the fields of

[www.thepowerplant.org](http://www.thepowerplant.org)

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.gov.mx/mexitel\\_web/](https://citas.sre.gov.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](mailto:citas@consulmex.com) or by calling: (416)368-2875 ext. 236

## INTERNATIONALIZATION EXPO IN WATERLOO

Participants in this expo will have the opportunity to talk with various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and consular representatives about international work, and volunteer and study opportunities abroad.

The event is open to students, employees, teachers and members of the general public interested in learning about international opportunities.

The expo will also feature a panel of experts on public diplomacy, who will share their own experiences in diplomacy and answer questions from the audience.

September 24th, 2015  
11:00 AM a 3:00 PM

Centre for International Governance  
Innovation Campus  
67 Erb St West,  
Waterloo, ON  
N2L 6C2

More information: <https://www.balsillieschool.ca/event/internationalization-expo>



## USEFUL LINKS

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

## WORKSHOP: FINANCIAL SECURITY PLANNING

Living in a new country has many financial challenges and implications that take time and energy to understand and implement. By joining **Monday, September 28, 2015** Financial Security Workshop with a financial planner and an estate lawyer, you'll gain insights into the appropriate steps to take in Ontario to:

- ◆ Budget, Save and Invest
- ◆ Tax Planning
- ◆ Protect Yourself and Your Family from Uncertainty with Basic Insurance
- ◆ Secure Your Family's Financial Future with Will and Estate Planning

This is an exclusive event organized by Rubach & Associates alongside Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto, RTM Toronto, and ExaTec Ontario.

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/>