

CONSUL...TING

Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto—Monthly Newsletter

DECEMBER 2015



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

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CANADIAN MUSICIANS PERFORM THE WORKS OF
MEXICAN COMPOSERS

A large crowd gathered in the Peter F. Bronfman Hall at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) to hear the Mexican classical music concert "Mexican Romantic Quartets", organized by the Consulate General and the Mexico Tourism Board in Toronto.

The concert was performed by the Serenade Ensemble, led by the violinist Arkady Yanivker and featuring Paul Meyer, Ivan Ivanovich and Britton Riley, all of whom are members of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.



Serenade Ensemble

The program included: String Quartet in E Minor by Mexican composer Alfredo Carrasco; 3 Miniatures for String Quartet by Mexican composer Gustavo E. Campa; and String Quartet No. 2 by Mexican composer Alfonso de Elías.

Around 150 guests attended the concert, including government officials, business leaders, members of the diplomatic corps based in this city, representatives from Ontario's academic, cultural and tourism sectors, media representatives and distinguished members of the Mexican community in Toronto.



The audience showed its gratitude for the organization of these kinds of presentations of Mexican culture, and many expressed surprise at the beauty of the classical compositions, which were being performed for the first time in Canada.

MEXICAN PAVILION AT GOURMET FOOD & WINE EXPO

At the 2015 Gourmet Food & Wine Expo, the Consul General of Mexico in Toronto, Amb. Mauricio Toussaint, accompanied by the representative in Canada of Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA), Raúl López Mercado, opened the Mexican Pavilion on November 19.



Participating in the trade show was a diverse range of Mexican companies supported by SAGARPA, presenting brands such as: Eek'ó Orgánica Artesanal (organic juices), Grand Mayan Tequila, Cusibani seasonings, Gud juices, Canasta Verde

organic products, and Hacienda Maravatío Tequila. Also featured were Ocho Reales craft beer, Ma-la Noche mezcal, Mezcal Gin MG, Patalo Premium rum and L.A. Cetto, a wine from Baja California Norte that is now available in Canadian liquor stores.

Attracting special attention at the show was the "Avocados from Mexico" stand, which offered avocado margaritas, avocado ice cream and avocado rolls, olive oil and coriander, as well as organic seasonings with garlic salt, sea salt and ginger. Also attracting interest was the pink tequila from Hacienda Maravatío in the state of Michoacán, "Stolen Kiss", offered for the female palate and gender diversity.

The Gourmet Food & Wine Expo received around 45,000 visitors, who had the chance to sample gourmet foods and more than 1,500 wines, spirits and beers from all over the world.

ALMA FARIAS RECEIVES THE OHTLI AWARD

The Consulate General presented the Ohtli award to Ms. Alma Lucila Fariás Chapa, at a ceremony held in Toronto on December 3, attended by guests from the academic, cultural, community and business sectors as well as media representatives.

At the event, award-winner Alma Fariás, Director of the Toronto Chapter of the Organization of Women in International Trade (OWIT) Susan Baka, and Consul General Mauricio Toussaint all addressed the attendees.

In his speech the Consul General noted some highlights in Ms. Fariás's long career, as well as the awards she has won previously, and also mentioned that Alma had advised him upon his arrival in Toronto in the area of promotion of bilateral trade. He also talked about the objectives of the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME) and the meaning of the Ohtli award, and he remarked that when a bridge is built it has two directions, and



Consul General Toussaint and Alma Fariás

that this is what Fariás has done to facilitate trade between Mexico and Canada.

On accepting the Ohtli medal, rosette and diploma, Fariás said that she felt very proud of the fact that Mexico recognized the achievements of its citizens outside of the country, and expressed great enthusiasm as she recounted her experience of arriving in Canada and connecting with Canadian culture. She also

thanked her family, the Mexican government and the Consulate General for the award.

The award winner has been involved in a wide range of activities in Toronto to promote investment by Canadian companies in Mexico and trade between the two countries, and through her educational association with Centennial College and the Canadian Council for the Americas (CCA) she has worked to promote Mexican culture and tourism, as well as the traditions of the Mexican people.



THE SENER AND MANITOBA INTERNATIONAL LTD. SIGN A COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

Mexico's Secretariat of Energy (SENER) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the public agency Manitoba Hydro International Ltd., opening up the opportunity for increased cooperation between Mexico and Canada for the exchange of experiences with new technologies and best practices in the development of renewable energy projects.

In this way, Mexico will benefit from Manitoba's experience with strategies for the development of small hydro plants, energy storage, and high-voltage line infrastructure requirements, as well as impact and corporate management.

At the signing of the MOU, SENER's Deputy Secretary for Energy Planning and Transition, Leonardo Beltrán Rodríguez, described the signing of this agreement as an opportunity to learn from the Canadian experience, allowing



us to progress in a wide range of areas related to renewable energies, corporate management and infrastructure necessary for Mexico to meet its environmental and social sustainability goals.

On the Canadian side, the Honourable Jim Carr, Canada's Natural Resources Minister, stated: "I believe in the power of positive cooperation and I'm pleased to see that Manitoba Hydro International is

continuing this legacy and leading continental cooperation." He added that "these steps we're taking to expand the relationship with our North American partners will help us protect the environment and provide Canada with the jobs it needs in the clean energy sector. This is also in line with the important dialogues I have had with Mexico's Energy Secretary, Pedro Joaquín Coldwell, on joint work that strengthens our country's continental energy relations."

Mexico's Energy Reform has aroused investor interest in developing and participating in innovative initiatives and new technologies in power generation, which is why SENER is seeking out partnerships that will facilitate the sharing of successful experiences in order to establish better public policies and instruments for renewable energy promotion.

- 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 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](#)]

CONSULATE GENERAL BRIEFS

Talk by Consul General at the University of Guelph

Consul General Toussaint gave the talk "Mexico Today: A Key Partner for Canada" to students in the Latin American Regional Business Studies undergraduate program at the University of Guelph. The talk was moderated by the university's International Trade Professor Tom McKaig.

Visit to Toronto by Tax Administration delegation

The Consulate General supported the visit of a delegation from Mexico's Tax Administration Service (*Servicio de Administración Tributaria, SAT*) to Toronto on November 25.

The delegation took a tour of the commercial operations area of Pearson International Airport and made a visit to the Niagara Operations District.

Visit to the Technology Triangle

The Consulate General participated in the tour of the Waterloo region (Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo, Ontario) organized by the association Canada's Technology Triangle for consuls and accredited business representatives of different countries in Toronto, including PROMEXICO representative Rodrigo Contreras.



MEXICAN NOVELIST AND ESSAYIST PEDRO ÁNGEL PALOU AT U OF T

Mexican writer Pedro Ángel Palou gave a talk at the University of Toronto on his most recent publication, *El fracaso del mestizo*. The talk focused on the role of the *mestizo* in Mexican cinema and fiction.

Later, as part of celebrations for Mexico's Revolution Day (November 20), Palou took part in an event titled "*Escribir novela histórica en México*", where he talked about his trilogy of Mexican historical novels, *Zapata*, *Morelos* and *Cauhtémoc*, and his story about the last four years of Mexican president Porfirio Díaz's life and his exile in Paris: *Pobre patria mía*.

The prolific novelist and essayist, author of more than 40 books, was Secretary for



Pedro Angel Palou at the University of Toronto

Culture in the Puebla State Government and University President at Universidad de las Américas (UDLAP), where he also taught literature for more than 15 years. He

is currently Professor of Latin American Studies at Tufts University in Boston.

Palou has won numerous prizes and awards, including: Francisco Javier Clavijero National History Prize in 1998; the Jorge Ibargüengoitia National Literature Prize in 1991 for his short story collection *Amores enormes*; the René Uribe Ferrer Latin American Essay Prize (Medellín, 1996); and the Xavier Villaurrutia Award from Writers to Writers in 2003 for the novel *Como quien se desangra*.

The events were organized by the Latin American Studies departments at University of Toronto in collaboration with the Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto.

The Consulate General of Mexico wishes Mexican and Canadian families a Merry Christmas and peace and love in all their households for 2016.



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