

# CONSUL...TING

Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto—Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2016



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

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[www.consulmex.com](http://www.consulmex.com)

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## CLOSING CEREMONY FOR THE "¡VIVA MÉXICO! CLOTHING AND CULTURE" EXHIBITION

A symposium titled "Modern Mexico: Fusions, Fashion and Folk Art" on Saturday, April 16, 2016, marked the closing ceremony for the traditional dress and textile exhibition "¡Viva México! Clothing and Culture", held at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) for the past year, from May 9, 2015 to May 23, 2016.

The symposium consisted of a series of talks on Mexican culture, featuring the participation of the prominent Mexicans Humberto Spindola, Marta Turok, Ana Paula Fuentes and Rick López.



ROM curator Alexandra Palmer, guest curator Chloe Sayer and Consul General Mauricio Toussaint all addressed the public and the media in attendance to underscore the importance and impact of this exhibition.

First of all, Ms. Palmer noted that the exhibition featured 150 different textile pieces—costumes and dresses, rebozos, huipiles, serapes and religious ornaments—made in Mexico since the

18th century.

For his part, the Consul General said he felt very proud that these pieces have been admired by more than 100,000 people from around the world, and thanked both the museum and the Mexico Tourism Board for their support of the cultural activities organized in parallel with the exhibition.

### INDEX

Closing Ceremony for the "¡Viva México! Clothing and Culture" Exhibition.	1
OHTLI Award Ceremony.	1
Working visit to Toronto by Mexican Ambassador to Canada and ProMéxico's General Director.	2
The 2016 Agricultural Season in Ontario and Manitoba is under way.	2
Toronto Financial Education Week 2016.	2
Academic Talks in the Latin American Studies program at the University of Toronto.	3
Information Exchange Meeting with the City of Toronto's Economic Development Division.	3
Services for Foreigners: Power of Attorney; New Electronic Multiple Migratory Form for Air Travel.	3

## OHTLI AWARD CEREMONY

The Consulate General presented the Ohtli Award to Chloe Sayer, an expert in Mexican folk culture and art, author of several books on the topic and curator of the exhibition "¡Viva México! Clothing and Culture".

In his presentation, Consul General Mauricio Toussaint explained the significance of the Ohtli Award and the work of the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME), while also highlighting some of Ms. Sayer's achievements in her long career, such as her international recognition and her extensive knowledge of Mexican folk art.



He also noted her dedicated promotion of the work of different Mexican craftspeople around the world, and specifically in Toronto in 2015 and 2016, where she has promoted: Arturo Estrada Hernández, a master weaver from Santa María del Río in the Mexican state of San Luis Potosí; Crispina and Margarita Navarro Gómez, master weavers from Santo Tomás Jalieza, Oaxaca; Sergio Hernández, a perforated paper artist from the State of Mexico, and Tiburcio Soteno Fernández, a ceramic worker from the city of Metepec, all of whom, in addition to visiting Toronto, have presented their work in the U.K., Spain, Japan, Switzerland, China and France.

For her part, Ms. Sayer said that she was extremely grateful and thrilled to receive this recognition from the Mexican government and the Consulate General, and she also acknowledged the valuable work in cardboard, ceramic, clay and paper of various families from different parts of Mexico, revealing the rich diversity of Mexican traditions.

Ohtli is the Nahuatl (Aztec) word for "path". The renowned researcher Miguel León Portilla describes its meaning as follows: "In the codices, paths are indicated with footprints, which show the directions that women and men have taken."

## WORKING VISIT TO TORONTO BY MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TO CANADA AND PROMÉXICO'S GENERAL DIRECTOR

On April 18 and 19, Mexico's Ambassador to Canada, Agustín García-López Loaeza and ProMéxico General Director Francisco González Díaz made a working visit to Toronto. The purpose of the visit was to meet with Canadian business leaders from different industrial sectors.

For the financial sector a meeting was held with Scotiabank CEO Brian Porter, along with a business meeting organized by the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX), which was led by President and CEO of Global Equity Capital Markets of the TSX, Nicholas Thadaney. At this meeting the importance of trade relations between Mexico and Canada was highlighted, and an overview was given of the current economic situation in Mexico, investment trends that are promoting economic



growth in the country and the most significant opportunities to consider, specifically in the energy sector. Also present were representatives from Canadian companies listed on the stock exchange that have investments in Mexico.

For the tourism sector a meeting was held with Dean Moore, CEO and President of

the Canadian tour operator itravel2000.

In addition both Mexican officials visited the facilities of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), taking a brief tour of the festival headquarters and holding a meeting with the TIFF's directors.

To conclude their trip, they visited the DMZ business incubator at Toronto's Ryerson University, where they met with members of Canada's Startup community to discuss the possibility of joining efforts to promote ventures in Mexico with DMZ.

Present at the visit were Consul General Toussaint, Rodrigo Esponda, Director for North America for the Mexico Tourism Board and Rodrigo Contreras, the representative for ProMéxico in Toronto.

## THE 2016 AGRICULTURAL SEASON IN ONTARIO AND MANITOBA IS UNDER WAY

For 41 years, thousands of Mexican agricultural workers have been coming to Ontario and Manitoba to work for eight months a year to help with soil preparation, cultivation, care and harvesting of agricultural produce offered to consumers. The crops with the highest participation of Mexican workers are vegetables and legumes, fruit, flowers and greenhouse crops.

In addition to providing decent work, the Mexico-Canada Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) gives Mexicans the opportunity to apply their skills and gain experience in the use of Canadian agrotechnologies, which some of them are already using in their regions of origin in Mexico on their own production projects.



As of April 30, 2016, a total of 6,700 Mexican workers had arrived in Ontario and Manitoba, representing approximately 65% of the total expected for the 2016 season.

The Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto wishes the greatest success to our

fellow Mexicans and, as always, will look after their welfare and ensure that their rights as workers are respected. To this end, the Consulate coordinates a program of preventive visits to participating farms to meet with Mexican workers and review the content of their work contracts, answer questions and help resolve any conflicts that arise with their employers.

We also offer a 24-hour emergency hotline – (416) 716 0931 – exclusively for SAWP workers, in order to respond promptly to any situations that may pose a threat to the physical wellbeing of our fellow Mexicans.

For general information and routine questions, the Consulate offers a toll-free hotline for SAWP workers: 1-888-351-2690.

## TORONTO FINANCIAL EDUCATION WEEK 2016

As part of Financial Education Week, celebrated in the United States and Canada (SEF2016), the Consulate General organized a Financial Education Seminar in Spanish on April 12-13, in coordination with the Local Committee made up of the Consulate General of Colombia and six financial organizations: Scotiabank, Rubach & Associates, Sun Life Financial, Vine Group and Darwiche & Co., the Amazing Homes Team and the Mexican Professionals Group of Canada, who provided advice to the Mexican community on financial planning, insurance, savings plans, home

buying and financing, Canadian taxes, tax returns and investments.

Around 117 people attended the seminar, which was promoted on Hispanic media programs such as "De Regreso a Casa" on Radio Voces Latinas (CHHA 1610), "Las Perlas TV", and the program "Hispanic Roots", broadcast on the television station OMNI TV. News of the seminar was also published in the newspapers *El Centro News* and *El Correo Canadiense*.





## ACADEMIC TALKS IN THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

In the context of the University of Toronto's Latin American Studies Program, two talks in Spanish were offered on the following topics:



- *Sharing Spaces*, a book published by Antares Publishing House in the context of the 2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games in Toronto, which presents the stories and experiences of athletes with different abilities throughout the Americas.

- "*Discursos contagiosos: deberes médicos y corporalidad femenina en México, siglos XIX y XX*" ("Contagious Discourses: Medical Duties and Feminine Corporeality, 19th and 20th Centuries"), delivered by Dr. Lilia Granillo Vázquez and Dr. Carmen Imelda Valdés Vega from Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, along with Susan Antebi (U of T).

The seminar was attended by academics, students and members of the Latin American cultural community living in Toronto.

## INFORMATION EXCHANGE MEETING WITH THE CITY OF TORONTO'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

On the initiative of various Latin American consulates in Toronto (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El



Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela), a work group was coordinated with the City of Toronto's Economic Development Division, thereby creating the Latin American Bi-Lateral Trade Initiative (LABTI).

The meeting was chaired by city councillor Michael Thompson, Chair of Toronto's Economic Development and Culture Committee, who in his words of welcome stressed the importance of the initiative and of mutual collaboration, and also highlighted Toronto's status as an economic and cultural centre in the country.

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/](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](mailto:citas@consulmex.com) or by calling: (416)368-2875 ext. 236

## SERVICES FOR FOREIGNERS

### POWER OF ATTORNEY

The Consul General is empowered to act as a Mexican notary public, and is therefore able to issue powers of attorney with legal validity in Mexico. Any person or company located in Ontario or Manitoba may submit a power of attorney for the appointment of a person to act on their behalf in a lawsuit, in the administration of a business or in the purchase or sale of goods in Mexico.

Appointments must be scheduled through MEXITEL (1-877-639-4837) or online <https://mexitel.sre.gob.mx> For more information about requirements and fees, please visit our website <http://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/toronto/index.php/en/power-of-attorney> or call 416-368-2875, ext. 237.

### NEW ELECTRONIC MULTIPLE MIGRATORY FORM FOR AIR TRAVEL (FMME AÉREA)

Learn about the new **Electronic Multiple Migratory Form for Air Travel (FMME Aérea)** which facilitates and expedites the registration of your entry to Mexico.

To obtain this form, you must:

1. Go to the following link: <https://www.inm.gob.mx/fmme/publico/solicitud.html>
2. Fill out the application from any electronic device connected to the Internet.
3. Print the Multiple Migratory Form and keep it with you to be validated at the airport, where the immigration authorities must stamp it.

Once the form has been printed, it will be valid for 30 days and allow foreign visitors to remain in Mexico (without engaging in paid activities) for up to 180 days.

The traditional way of obtaining the FMM at ports of entry is still in force. The *FMME Aérea* is an additional option to the traditional practice, and will facilitate the process by enabling the user to fill out the form in advance, from any country.

It is very important to keep the stamped portion of the FMM that corresponds to the record of entry, as this is proof of your legal entry into Mexico and will be required when you leave the country.

For further information: <http://www.gob.mx/inm/articulos/fmm-electronica-aerea?es-MX>

### USEFUL LINKS

- Presidency of Mexico: [presidencia.gob.mx](http://presidencia.gob.mx)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs: [sre.gob.mx](http://sre.gob.mx)
- Mexican Embassy in Canada: [embamex.sre.gob.mx/canada/](http://embamex.sre.gob.mx/canada/)
- ProMexico: [promexico.gob.mx](http://promexico.gob.mx)
- Mexico Tourism Board: [visitmexico.com](http://visitmexico.com)
- Mexican National Council for Culture and the Arts: [conaculta.gob.mx](http://conaculta.gob.mx); [ecultura.gob.mx](http://ecultura.gob.mx)
- Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Mexico: [canchamx.com](http://canchamx.com)
- Mexico-Canada: <http://mex-can.sre.gob.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.gob.mx/citas>