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CONSULADO GENERAL DE
MÉXICO EN TORONTO



CONSUL...TING

CONSULATE GENERAL OF MEXICO –MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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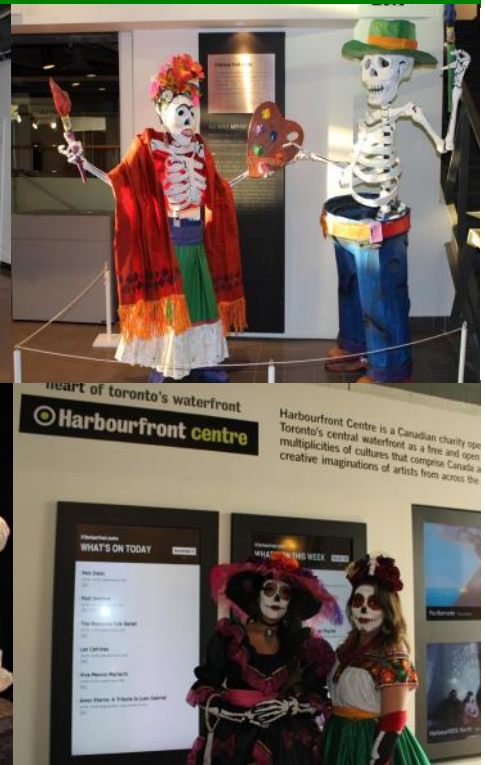
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DAY OF THE DEAD BRINGS TORONTO TO LIFE



The Mexican tradition of remembering our ancestors represents a cultural expression of exceptional importance, and its annual celebration has awakened considerable interest in Canada.

In 2003, *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) was added to the Intangible Cultural Heritage List of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Toronto brings this tradition alive each year. With the support of the Consulate General of Mexico a series of activities take place to mark the holiday. The Harbourfront Centre has become the epicentre of the celebrations, which this year included artist presentations, theatrical performances, family workshops and sessions for children.

At the children's workshops, kids were shown the art of making *papel picado* (perforated paper), sugar skulls, cempazúchitl flower decorations and Día de los Muertos masks. Musical performances included presentations by the Viva México Mariachi band, the Mexican Folk Ballet dance company, and the Mexican group Cascabel, who paid tribute to the late Mexican singer-songwriter Juan Gabriel with the show *Amor Eterno*. Also

performing were the Tonatiuh children's dance group, the Aztec Dance Group, and the Puro México Folk Ballet with the show *Las Catrinas*.

The children's theatre group Colectivo Cuerda Floja, from Durango, offered an entertaining puppet show titled *Post-mortem*, based on the story of a man who defies death in his quest to be reunited with his loved ones.

The Consulate General set up an altar dedicated to the late Juan Gabriel, which was admired by numerous visitors. The *ofrenda* featured chocolate *calaveras* (skulls) decorated by Mexican business owners Melina Osorio and Cynthia Villalobos. Six community organizations also set up *ofrendas*, dedicated to prominent Mexicans: papier-mâché artist Pedro Linares Lopez; pre-Columbian philosopher-king Netzahualcoyotl; native shaman María Sabina; singer Joan Sebastian; comedian Tin Tan; and the three world-famous muralists known as "Los Tres Grandes" (Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco and David Alfaro Siqueiros).

Visitors were able to enjoy authentic Mexican food, mariachi music and the traditional sweet bread, *pan de muerto*.



Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne at Cirque du Soleil's show "Luzia", inspired by Mexico's rich cultural traditions. She is accompanied by Amb. Agustín García López and Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo.

GALLERIES AND MEXICAN ARTISTS PRESENT AT ART TORONTO-FOCUS: LATIN AMERICA

The 17th edition of the modern and contemporary art fair Art Toronto, held at the Metro Convention Centre from October 28 to 31, gave Latin American art a privileged place with the inclusion of the Focus Latin America pavilion. Sixteen Latin American gallery directors took part in the fair, along with more than 50 artists from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Venezuela.

The main purpose of this edition was to exhibit works that stood out for their architectural, spatial and urban qualities. In addition to the participation of 125 Canadian and international galleries, the fair offered a forum for cultural exchange through lectures and talks by prominent figures of the art world.



This year's fair had an attendance of more than 22,000. The Latin American pavilion included representatives from the Mexican galleries X Espacio and Enrique Guerrero, while the RoFa Projects gallery (Washington D.C.) presented mainly Latin American art. Participating Mexican artists included Gloria Carrasco, Mayte Guzmán and Carlos Limón (in X Espacio), Héctor Falcón, Tony Solís and Beatriz Zamora (in Enrique Guerrero) and Erika Harrsch (in RoFa Projects).

The fair's cultural platform featured a lecture by designer Carla Fernández Tena as part of the Power Talks, and a talk by architect Mario Navarro as part of FOCUS: Latin America.

THE 4TH LATIN AMERICAN HEALTH WEEK OFFERED A VARIETY OF FREE MEDICAL SERVICES

The Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto participated in the Fourth Ibero-American Health Week together with twelve consulates general from Ibero-American countries, the Toronto City Council, community centres, doctors, specialists and public hospitals, from October 17 to 21, 2016.

Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo opened the health conference on behalf of the participating consulates. In his opening words, he highlighted its objective to improve access for our communities to public medical services in Canada and to raise awareness among our population about their rights in relation to health care. He explained that in Mexico the right of our citizens to health care extends beyond our borders, and that health-care access con-



tributes to the improvement of the living conditions of Mexicans around the world.

As part of Ibero-American Health Week, talks and lectures were given on the most common ailments afflicting Hispanics in the region, particularly cardiovascular problems, obesity, respiratory ailments, diabetes, mental health problems, prostate cancer, eye problems and hearing loss. For the first time this year, with the support of the Immigrant Women's Health Centre, there was a special focus on care for ailments affecting female reproductive health, breast cancer and diagnosis of sexually transmitted diseases.

MEETING WITH TORONTO CITY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL THOMPSON



Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo met with Councillor Michael Thompson, Chair of the Economic Development Committee, to promote business relations and friendly ties with the city.

ACADEMIC COOPERATION WITH LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY



Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo met with President and Vice-Chancellor of Lakehead University, Doctor Brian Stevenson, to discuss the academic and student mobility programs established between the university and various Mexican institutions.

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the importance of the agreements signed with Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT, for its initials in Spanish) on the occasion of President Enrique Peña Nieto's state visit to Canada, to support Mexican students interested in pursuing graduate studies at Lakehead and to establish an English teaching program for indigenous Mexican women.

Also discussed was the 5th Canada-Mexico Round Table on issues related to intercultural/indigenous higher education in the city of Tulancingo, Hidalgo, from October 31 to November 1, 2016. And it was noted that 40 Mexican students were welcomed by Lakehead in the summer of 2015, as part of the SEP-Bécalos Santander-Universidades Tecnológicas Program.

AGRICULTURAL SEASON ENDS IN ONTARIO

The 2016 agricultural season for the Mexico-Canada Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) is drawing to a close. During this period, slightly under 24,000 Mexican workers came to work in Canada, of which 10,600 (44 percent) were assigned to some 750 farms in the province of Ontario.

Since 1974, the program has attracted Mexican workers to Canadian farms to cover the seasonal demand for agricultural labour.

The Consulate General of Mexico recognizes their effort and reiterates its commitment to keeping in ongoing contact with them to ensure their labour rights are respected and to promote better working, housing and health conditions.

With the season now ending, we would like to wish our compatriots participating in the SAWP a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2017.



CONSUL GENERAL MET WITH SPANISH LOCAL MEDIA



Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo met with representatives from Las Perlas TV, Latinos Magazine and Notimex-Canada, to announce his work plan and specific actions that he would be taking during his term as Consul General.

YADIRA GUTIÉRREZ, NEW CONSULAR OFFICIAL

Yadira Gutiérrez holds a degree in International Relations from Universidad de las Américas-Puebla, and completed graduate studies in Public Policy Assessment at the IEXE School of Public Policy in the city of Puebla. She has also taken part in various seminars on foreign policy for local governments.

She worked for the Mexican branch of the organization International Cultural Youth Exchange as international volunteer coordinator in Mexico. She was the coordinator of the International Relations Office for the Municipality of San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, and since April 2013 she has been a member of the Mexican Foreign Service.

She worked at the Mexican Embassy in Venezuela as Director of Protection for Mexicans Abroad and liaison with the Mexican community in Venezuela. Since August 2016 she has been working as administrator for the Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto.



TORONTO CELEBRATES HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



On October 26, a reception was held in the Legislative Assembly to mark the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, convened by Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Lorne Coe (PC).



Hispanic Heritage Month was launched in Ontario under the auspices of the Hispanic Canadian Heritage Council (HCHC) with the traditional Mayan Sacred Fire ceremony depicted by the groups Waxaq'ib Q'ojoom and Jun Grupos Q'anil from Guatemala. The event was held at Dufferin Grove Park in Toronto.



As part of the Toronto Latin American Film Festival (LATIFF), the Mexican film *The Beginning of Time* was presented at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall Theatre to a packed audience.

The LATIFF Festival was organized by the Hispanic Canadian Heritage Council in conjunction with the Consulates of Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico and Spain, and with the support of prominent members of Latin American community and cultural associations in Toronto.



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEXICAN GLOBAL NETWORK

The Second Annual Meeting of the Global Network of Highly Qualified Mexicans Abroad was held in Mexico City from September 28 to October 1, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to highlight the power of the global diaspora of Mexican professionals and to recognize their valuable contributions in different fields, including in education, science, technology, entrepreneurship and the creative industries.

Taking part in the meeting were more than 100 prominent figures from the worlds of business, education, science and technology, as well as members of the 50 chapters of the MX Global Network around the world. Attending as representative of the Toronto Chapter was Cinthya Ortiz Estrada.



More about the Global Network:
<http://www.redtalentos.gob.mx/index.php>

<https://consulmex2.sre.gob.mx/toronto/images/consulado/2016/reunionRTM.pdf>

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 www.consulmex2.sre.gob.mx/toronto 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>

TRAVELING TO MEXICO

Canadian nationals and permanent residents of Canada 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/

(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: cancham.mx
- Mexico-Canada: <http://mexcan.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>