

SRE

SECRETARÍA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES



CONSUL...TING

Consulate General of Mexico Monthly Newsletter June 2024

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

consulmex.sre.gob.mx/Toronto

**11 King Street West,
Suite 350 Toronto, ON
M5H 4C7
(416) 368-2875**

WORK MEETING WITH ONTARIO PREMIER DOUG FORD



Attending the meeting were Special Advisor to the Premier on Intergovernmental Affairs Anish Dwivedi and Mexican Consulate Trade Commissioner Christian Clay.

The meeting included a review of the results of the trade missions to Mexico this year led by Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Vic Fedeli and Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Lisa Thompson.

There was a consensus on the importance of continuing to strengthen strategic partnerships, technological innovation and the production chain between Ontario and Mexico.



On May 9, Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo held a work meeting with Premier Doug Ford at Ontario’s Legislative Assembly.

The meeting addressed the main issues on the Mexico-Ontario economic agenda while highlighting the sustained growth of Canadian trade with and direct investment in Mexico.

Premier Ford reiterated Mexico’s importance to Ontario as a privileged trading partner, both from the perspective of its economic relations with Canada and in the broader context of the North American region.

Also discussed was the growing presence of Mexican companies in Ontario, notably the Bimbo Group, which a few months ago made an investment of CAD15 million to expand the Trillium Bakery bread and tortilla factory in Hamilton.

Premier Ford acknowledged the contributions of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program not only to the food supply in the province, but also to the development of its agricultural exports to the United States.

The meeting concluded with an agreement to strengthen trade in non-traditional sectors of the economy.



CONTENTS

WORK MEETING WITH ONTARIO PREMIER DOUG FORD	1
WORK MEETING WITH SCOTIABANK VICE PRESIDENT	2
FILM PRODUCTION BY GUILLERMO DEL TORO IN TORONTO	2
2024 HOT DOCS DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL	3
ROOTED KNOTS EXHIBITION: MEXICAN VISUAL ARTISTS	3
INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA, AND BIPHOBIA	4
CELEBRATING MOTHER’S DAY	4
INTERVIEWING MEXICANS: JOSE MANUEL BAUTISTA	5
UPCOMING EVENTS	6

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

WORK MEETING WITH SCOTIABANK VICE PRESIDENT

On May 27, Consul General Porfirio T. Muñoz Ledo welcomed Scotiabank's new Mexican-based Executive Vice President for Commercial Banking in Latin America, Stephen Bagnarol, to the offices of the Mexican Consulate.

The main topic of the meeting was Scotiabank's operations in Mexico as part of its new global financial strategy, in which our country occupies a privileged position

Scotiabank seeks to take advantage of the trade agreement between Canada, the United States and Mexico (CUSMA/TMEC) to strengthen its business operations associated with corporate relocation and promoting North America's economic competitiveness in an uncertain international economic context.



Also discussed at the meeting was the redeployment of the Mexican business community in the North American region and the opportunities that Ontario offers to promote 100% North American businesses by providing access to technology, mobilizing financial flows and training human resources.

Another topic of discussion was the economic integration process and Scotiabank's participation in major Mexican infrastructure projects, particularly the financing of the Puerta al Sureste project, which involves the construction of an underwater pipeline to transport natural gas from southeastern Texas to Tuxpan in the Mexican state of Veracruz, and then on to delivery points in Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, and Paraiso, Tabasco.



CULTURAL AFFAIRS

FILM PRODUCTION BY GUILLERMO DEL TORO IN TORONTO

The renowned Mexican filmmaker Guillermo del Toro visited the Consulate General on Friday, 22 May, where he talked to Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo about his new production being filmed in Toronto, as well as the possibilities for promoting Mexican films in Canada.

Filming for Del Toro's new production began this year in Toronto. The film, based on Mary Shelley's novel Frankenstein, is expected to be released in 2025.

The Mexican filmmaker signed a multi-year contract with Netflix in 2020 to produce a series of films, including Pinocchio, which won the Oscar for Best Animated Film in 2023.



Guillermo del Toro's presence in Toronto has given a renewed impetus to the local cultural industries and has undoubtedly helped to consolidate the city as one of the most important cultural production centres in North America.

Toronto Mayor Olivia Chow visited the facilities of Cinespace Marine Terminal Studio, and subsequently led a trade mission to Los Angeles in March to promote the city's cultural industries.

In 2022, the film production industry in Toronto had a direct spending level of approximately CAD2.6 billion and generated 35,000 new jobs.



CULTURAL AFFAIRS

2024 HOT DOCS DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

The 2024 edition of Toronto's Hot Docs International Documentary Festival was held from April 24 to May 5.

The 11-day film festival presented 168 documentaries from 64 countries to Toronto audiences, with a total of 274 live screenings. The festival program included four Mexican films: two features and two shorts.

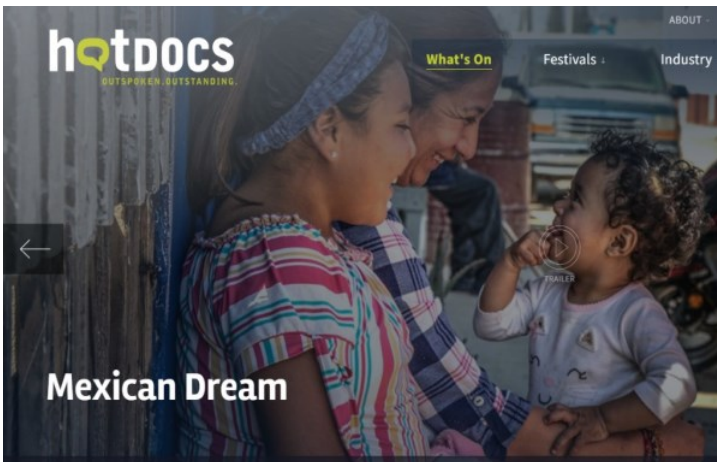
Oaxacan filmmaker Ismael Vásquez Bernabé received an honourable mention for his documentary *The Weavers' Songs*, narrated in Amuzgo, an Indigenous language spoken in the Mexican states of Guerrero and Oaxaca. This documentary explores traditions in the town of San Pedro Amuzgos and reflects on their legacy and on the impact of the contemporary world on them.



Another Mexican short film featured at the festival was Laura Plancarte's *Mexican Dream*, which tells the story of Maria Magdalena, a domestic worker in Mexico City. Offering a window into the hardships faced by domestic workers, the film was awarded the José María Riba prize at the Morelia Film Festival in 2023.

Katy Araiza also presented her short film *Ice Love*, which examines the intersection between addiction, love and pain, in experiences that the protagonist recounts through photographs.

The other Mexican short film screened at the festival was Ilse Moreno's *The Canadian Dream*, which tells the story of her father, Alberto Moreno, who shares his experience as a seasonal agricultural worker in Ontario.



ROOTED KNOTS EXHIBITION: MEXICAN VISUAL ARTISTS

May 2 saw the opening of Rooted Knots, an exhibition featuring Mexican artists at Sur Gallery in Toronto.

The creators featured include Claudia Gutierrez, who has exhibited her work in Ontario and Quebec and was awarded the SAW Prize for New Works in 2020, and Ixchel Suarez, an artist who won the 2012 SAW Prize for New Works and the 2021 Award of Excellence at the From Lausanne to Beijing Fibre Art Biennale.

The Chicano author Gloria Anzaldúa argues that mestizo hybrid identities have multiple layers and extend in all directions, from past to present, vertically and horizontally, chronologically and spatially. These artists take inspiration from all these textures and colours.



The group of Latin American artists participating in this exhibition used textiles and threads to make symbolic and metaphorical reference to their connections with ancestral traditions, while highlighting transformation as a theme for diaspora communities.

The purpose of this exhibition is to explore parallels between the art produced by these female textile artists and the body of the mestizo woman, who has endured the complexities of racial and patriarchal oppression, forms of invisibility and exclusion, and a colonization that shapes her position and status in Canada.

The exhibition runs from May 2 to July 6 at Sur Gallery, located at 39 Queens Quay East in Toronto.



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA, AND BIPHOBIA

On May 17, in celebration of the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, the Consulate General played host to activities exploring gender identity, orientation and expressions.

As part of the main activity, the Vivir support group, led by its founder and director Viviana Santibañez, was welcomed at the consulate offices. Vivir offers support for Spanish-speaking LGBTQ+ refugees and newcomers to help them settle in Canada.

The group was welcomed by Consul General Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo, Consul for Community Affairs Viridiana Sánchez, and Trade Advisor and Consul for Cultural Affairs Christian Clay.



During the work meeting, the group was informed in detail about the consular services that Mexicans are able to access and request at this consulate, while individual enquiries were also responded to.

The activist Jazz Bustamante offered a talk on the evolution of the rights of the LGBTQ+ community in Mexico.

The Consulate General is a safe space that aims to provide assistance and protection to all members of our expat community through a culture of inclusion and initiatives that promote respect for the rights of all people without distinction.



MAY 10, CELEBRATING MOTHER'S DAY

In celebration of Mother's Day that weekend, on Saturday May 11 the Consulate General held a special day of consular protection and community orientation services.

Consul for Community Affairs Viridiana Sánchez and Consul for Protection Cynthia Moreno welcomed a group of more than 20 Mexican women to the event.

With support and direction by a representative from the Mennonite New Life Centre, the Consulate also offered a workshop and talks focusing on health and mental well-being for women and information on the consular protection services available to Mexican nationals.



There was also a talk on the duality of love and stress faced by mothers, and individual mental health counselling sessions were offered.

The workshop focused on sharing methods for effective stress management with attendees through face-to-face activities, with the help of an app that will allow attendees to continue using the exercises and techniques in their everyday lives.

The Mexican community also received consular guidance on domestic violence and family law.

If you need consular protection, please call: (416) 368 2875 ext. 2531, 5232, 5234, 5239



INTERVIEWING MEXICANS: JOSÉ MANUEL BAUTISTA

Originally from Huamantla in the Mexican state of Tlaxcala, José Manuel grew up in the country, working on farms and in vegetable gardens.

He decided to enrol in the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program in 2000, and he started his first season in Ottawa on a farm that mainly grew pumpkins, cucumbers, eggplants and melons. He was then transferred to the central Ontario region, where he worked at Somerville Nurseries Inc., a farm dedicated to the production of Christmas trees.

"I give thanks to my Lord Jesus, who is the one who has kept me going so that I can work hard here. My 24 years in the program have been wonderful, but also sad because I have been away from my family. It's not something where you can say 'I leave and forget,' because it stays with you as time goes by," he explains.

In Mexico, José Manuel has a wife, two children and four grandchildren, and despite the distance and the circumstances, he has been able to maintain a good relationship with them, enjoying every time he goes home to spend time with them. "When I came here in 2000, there wasn't as much technology as there is now, and we communicated by letter," he adds.



When he arrived he found that the work was quite different from what he was used to in Mexico, which made it challenging. "When we join this program they ask for experienced workers, but when we arrive what we have to do is very different. With the passage of time you learn and get more experience."

He also recalls that the language barrier was difficult at first. "I didn't understand anything at all, but I didn't see it as an obstacle and now I can communicate with my employer, find out what has to be done, and find out what has to be moved; it's easier for me now. I am truly pleased now to know that you can seize opportunities. Little by little, things fell into place for me."

Maintaining and encouraging his family has been a dream come true for him. "My greatest achievement has been to give my children the best I could, because unfortunately the life I had as a child was kind of tough. My goal in Canada has always been [to support] my family: my children, my wife and my home," he says.



José Manuel believes that in order to advance and grow professionally it is important to set your own goals. "I set my goals myself. Working on improving my English allowed me to improve my communication with my employer. Also, thanks to my bosses' support, I got my Canadian driver's licence, including a licence to drive a bus, which I can use to take my co-workers to do the shopping on Fridays. There are several small achievements that have been changing my life."

Their daily activities vary a little from day to day, when they arrive at the farm they begin to learn how to work the trees with machinery. When spring arrives, they prepare the trees that are used as ornamental trees or pines, to start cleaning trees as soon as summer arrives, which consists mostly of pruning them and shaping them so that in October the cut or "harvest" is made.

José comments that among colleagues they have learned to work as a team to organize themselves and speed up the work, they have also learned the use of machinery and different methods of work in the field.

José Manuel, is there any advice you want to share with Mexicans who are about to start their work season in Canada?

"To colleagues who have just arrived or are thinking of coming, it is a nice option to enter the program. I recommend you set a goal, many times we come just because we want to come to Canada and the unknown paths can sometimes become difficult. It has worked for me to work and not rest until I achieve my goals, it is nice to see the personal achievements," he concludes.



UPCOMING EVENTS

TORONTO **HCHC** **Canada**
HISPANIC CANADIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

VAMOS A LA
¡Feria Latina!
MUSIC-FOOD-CULTURE

FREE ADMISION 10 AM TO 7 PM
SUNDAY, JUNE 23RD
Artscape Wychwood Barns and Park

carranza

Embassies and Consulates: Cuba, República de Panamá, Uruguay, República Argentina, Consulado General del Perú en Toronto, Consulado General de la República Argentina Toronto - Canadá, DIPLOMACIA CULTURAL DE MÉXICO.

Convocatoria 2024 Prepa en Línea-SEP

Sigue estos sencillos pasos para un registro exitoso:

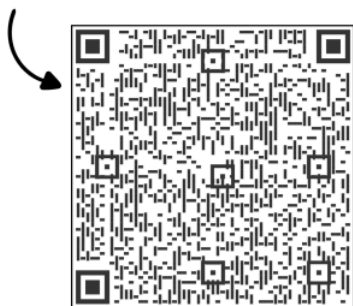
- 1 Registro**
Del 10 al 21 de junio
- Ingresar tu CURP y correo electrónico.
- Subir tu documentación.
- Responder el cuestionario de contexto socioeconómico.
- Guardar tu folio de confirmación.
⚠️ La convocatoria podría cerrar antes, en caso de alcanzar los 30,000 registros completos.
- 2 Módulo propedéutico**
Del 26 al 30 de junio
Recibe tus claves de acceso por correo, o consúltalas en la sección de registro.
Del 1 de julio al 4 de agosto
Cursa el módulo.
Del 9 al 21 de agosto
Consulta los resultados en nuestro portal.
⚠️ Se aceptarán a los 9,600 aspirantes que hayan obtenido las calificaciones aprobatorias más altas.
- 3 Inscripción**
Del 9 al 21 de agosto
Sube tus documentos para completar tu inscripción. La fecha límite es el 21 de agosto hasta las 23:59 h (hora del centro).

ESTE PROGRAMA ES PÚBLICO. ASISTE A CUALQUIER PARTIDO POLÍTICO. QUEDA PROHIBIDO EL USO PARA FINES DISTINTAS A LOS ESTABLECIDOS EN EL PROGRAMA.

BOLETÍN CONSUL...TANDO

¡Suscríbete al boletín mensual!

Envía un correo electrónico a prensator@sre.gob.mx y solicita suscribirte



RELACIONES EXTERIORES | MÉXICO
SECRETARÍA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES | CONSULADO GENERAL DE MÉXICO EN TORONTO

CIAM
CENTRO DE INFORMACIÓN Y ASISTENCIA A PERSONAS MEXICANAS
520 623 7874

¿Qué es el CIAM?
Es un centro de llamadas que brinda orientación integral a la comunidad mexicana en temas como:

- Asistencia y protección consular.
- Tus derechos en el exterior.

¿Qué hace el CIAM por ti?

- Orientarte para localizar a familiares.
- Asesorarte en materia jurídica y migratoria.
- Informarte sobre eventos y actividades cerca de tu consulado.
- Brindarte orientación si has sido víctima de algún abuso o fraude.

¡LA INFORMACIÓN QUE NECESITAS, A SÓLO UNA LLAMADA DE DISTANCIA, LAS 24 HORAS DEL DÍA!

RELACIONES EXTERIORES | SECRETARÍA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
gob.mx/ciam

USEFUL LINKS

Consular procedures

<https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/toronto/index.php/en/>

Sistema de Registro para Mexicanos en el Exterior <http://sirme.sre.gob.mx/>

Schedule an appointment

<http://citas.sre.gob.mx/> or call

Tel. 1 424 3090009

Mexican Scretariat of Foreign Affairs
www.sre.gob.mx

Mexican Embassy in Canada

<https://embamex.sre.gob.mx/canada/index.php/es/>

Mexican population statistics abroad

www.ime.gob.mx/estadisticas

Information

www.gob.mx/trámites

Follow us

[Consulado General de México en Toronto](#)
 [ConsulMexTor](#)
 [ConsulMexTor](#)

Media Directory of the Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto

Viridiana Sánchez, Consul for Political, Community, Press and Media Affairs

Camila Avendano - PSPI at the press office

prensator@sre.gob.mx

Tel : (416) 368-2875 ext. 5238