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CONSULADO GENERAL DE MÉXICO EN TORONTO

CONSUL...TING

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SECRETARY OF FINANCE AND PUBLIC CREDIT JOSÉ ANTONIO GONZÁLEZ ANAYA MEETS IN TORONTO WITH CANADA'S FINANCE MINISTER, BILL MORNEAU

Mexico's Secretary of Finance and Public Credit, José Antonio González Anaya, paid a working visit to Toronto on January 18, where he held meetings with Canadian Finance Minister Bill Morneau and with Canadian investors and business leaders.

Source: SHCP

Following the private meeting between the two ministers, Secretary González Anaya underscored the importance of NAFTA to its three member countries and expressed confidence that progress had been made in the rounds of negotiations on the treaty so far.

The Secretary participated in a round table on Energy and Mining attended by representatives of companies including EVP, Agnico, Alamos Gold Inc., Endeavour Silver Corporation and TransCanada, and in another on financial affairs at which he spoke with executives from the Canadian Pension Plan Investment Board, Caisse de Depot and Scotiabank.

Both round tables highlighted the continued interest of Canadian investors and business leaders in different projects and sectors in Mexico.

The ministers stressed the importance of these types of meetings for productive trade and economic relations between Mexico and Canada, and stated that "it was a very good forum for strengthening the bilateral relationship."

SECRETARY OF ECONOMY MEETS WITH CANADA'S MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WITH THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO

The Secretary of Economy, Ildefonso Guajardo, met in Toronto with Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chrystia Freeland, on January 22, with the objective of finalizing details of the Sixth Round of Negotiations to modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which began that week in the city of Montreal.

Source: SE

At the meeting, the ministers agreed that the sixth round would be critical for the negotiating process and that decisions would need to be made there on some of the more complex issues under discussion.

During his stay in Toronto, Secretary Guajardo also held a meeting with the Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne, at which they reviewed the importance of NAFTA to trade relations between Mexico and this province, as well as the need to update the treaty to strengthen regional economic integration.

National Electoral Institue (INE): Mexican Citizens register to vote in the elections of July 1, 2018

The National Electoral Institute (INE) is an autonomous, public organization, with an independent character regarding its decisions and functioning. INE organizes free, equitable and reliable electoral processes to guarantee the exercise of the political-electoral rights of the citizenship and contribute to the development of democratic life of Mexico.

In 2018, Mexicans living abroad will be able to vote to elect a new President who will serve a six-year term, new members of the Senate and Congress, as well as Governors from the States of Chiapas, Guanajuato, Jalisco, Morelos, Puebla, Yucatan and Mexico City.

If you want to register to vote from abroad, please do so until by entering the following link: Voto desde el exterior until March 31.

If you do not have your Voting Card you can request it at the Consulate General in Toronto, you need to schedule an appointment in the MEXITEL system at 1-877-639-4835, or through its online site. (https://mexitel.sre.gob.mx/)

You must present the originals of the following documents:

- Birth certificate or proof of Mexican nationality
- Proof of address
- Official photo identification.

For more information: http://www.votoextranjero.mx/web/

GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

In the context of the 71st UN General Assembly and during the High-Level Summit to Address Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants was adopted on September 19, 2016.

By means of this instrument, the 193 UN member states agreed to engage in negotiations with a view to adopting a compact on safe, orderly and regular migration and another on the question of refugees in the course of 2018.

In the process of adopting a compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, Mexico has established that the new legal instrument should be based on international human rights law that grants protection to migrants and should promote a formal space for discussion of all aspects of international migration within the United Nations.

Moreover, it is advocating that the compact should adopt a comprehensive and balanced approach to migration that addresses aspects of human rights, development and humanitarian concerns, as well as the multiple causes of migration, including sustainable development and the adverse effects of conflicts, climate change and natural disasters. In addition, the agreement should recognize the principle of shared responsibility between countries of origin, transit and destination as a basis for the need to enhance international cooperation.

During this process, Mexico has recognized the need to foster migratory frameworks that place migrants at the heart of all policies, as well as respect for and the exercise of their human rights in every phase of the migration cycle, regardless of their situation or immigration status.

In accordance with the approach promoted by our country, it has been stressed that immigration status should never affect the respect for human rights.

The 2018 Agricultural Season in Ontario and Manitoba is underway

The 2018 agricultural season of Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) between Mexico and Canada, has begun with the arrival, during the first months of the year, of 1,391 Mexican workers to the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba.

Our co-nationals will be working in farms dedicated to the harvesting of fruit, vegetables and greenhouses, for an average period of 8 months, depending on their respective labor contracts.

For 43 years, the SAWP has sought, on the one hand, to take advantage of temporary migration as a force for growth and development and, on the other, to guarantee the protection of migrant workers, particularly in terms of social security and respect for the rights of migrant workers. labor

The SAWP is a three-way agreement of two governments, workers and employers, seeks to satisfy the agricultural labor demand in the short term and provide sustainability to the Canadian agricultural sector in the long term.

In 2017, a record of 25,344 Mexican workers participated, of which 11,219 came to Ontario and 456 to Manitoba, working in 843 farms. From 1974 to 2016, 326,525 Mexican migrant workers participated in this program.

The Consulate General in Toronto is in constant contact with local authorities and the farmer's association to monitor the arrival of workers and to resolve any problems that may arise during their reception and stay.

Likewise, the Consulate in Toronto supports the workers in a wide variety of procedures, mainly related to the recovery of salaries, obtaining compensations, payment of pensions, preparation of periodic reports, reimbursement of medical expenses, other issues derivatives of protection cases.

In addition, periodic visits and complaints are made to work centers and hospitals, as well as various efforts to achieve a better understanding and mutual respect between employers and workers.

The SAWP staff at the Consulate receives and attends a large number of inquiries through the toll-free telephone line (1-888-351-2690), as well as after office hours, weekends and holidays through the Center for Information and Assistance to Mexicans (CIAM) 1-855-463-6395.

Working Meeting in the Waterloo Region

On January 18, Consulate General officials held a series of meetings in the Waterloo region to review the opportunities for human resources training offered in the city, to promote educational cooperation and to explore new possibilities for sub-regional collaboration in the area of science and technology.

Canada's Technology Triangle
Waterloo Region
Cambridge
Kitchener
Waterloo

In this context, meetings were held with the Minister of Small Business and Tourism, Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, and Member for Waterloo Bardish Chagger; Kitchener's Mayor Berry Vrbanovic; the President and Founder of Conestoga College, John Tibbits, and advisors from the Waterloo region.

At each of the meetings, explanations were given about the opportunities offered by the programs related to English-language learning, Proyecta 10,000 and the SEP-Bécalos Santander-Universidades Tecnológicas Program.

There was also discussion of the research and development grant programs offered by the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs through the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) to Canadian students and professors interested in travelling to Mexico and sharing their knowledge and teaching methods.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Mexican opera singers in Toronto

Two opera singers originally from the Mexican state of Chihuahua took part in concerts held in Toronto on January 27.

The baritone Juan Carlos Heredia performed at the Viva Carnival Mississauga gala concert, as part of the Celebrity Symphony Orchestra featuring 55 Canadian musicians and 8 young SIAA Opera singers.

At the concert they performed original opera compositions including *Figaro, Carmina Burana, Enrico from Lucia di Lammermoor, Mercutio from Roméo et Juliette, Junius from The Rape of Lucretia, and Mahler's Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen.*

The tenor José Ortega performed as a soloist at Las Brisas Club in the north of the city, where he sang classic numbers by the Mexican composer *Agustín Lara*. During his artistic career, Ortega has performed in the opera Carmen on several occasions in different roles. He has also taken part in productions of *Hamlet, La nozze di Figaro, Zarzuelas, La Boheme and El Amor Brujo.*

"Noche de Maíz" Culinary Event

The Consulate General attended the activities to promote the cultivation of traditional, sustainable corn jointly directed by the chefs Iván Wadgymar and Gabriela Ituarte on February 6 at the Maizal restaurant.

The purpose of the event was to explain the corn cultivation process and the pre-Hispanic world-view of indigenous peoples in relation to the cultural importance and nutritional properties of this staple food. Special reference was made to the artisanal process of preparing fresh dough and its varied use to make products like tortillas, tamales and sopes.

A presentation was offered on harvesting and drying organic corn on Ontario farms, highlighting the formation of networks in the production chains between farm workers, millers, tortilla makers, chefs and cooks for the conservation of natural corn, and explaining the risks of hybrid and genetically modified corn production.

Mexican Shortfilm Festival University of Toronto March 9th - 12:00 pm

Mexicans in Toronto

An Interview with Verónica Richards—Entrepreneur

Verónica Richards was born in Mexico City and now lives in Hamilton, Ontario.

She is the daughter of Mexican parents, and studied a degree in Marketing at the university Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM).

In 1995, she founded the company CALLS, S.A. de C.V. in Mexico with her husband. CALLS is a contact centre that provides services to organizations, mainly to create new business opportunities; i.e. connecting their customers with other potential customers.

In 2010, her company began offering services to other countries in Latin America and signed agreements with business partners in Spain and the UK. Its clients include international businesses and industry leaders, especially in information technologies, education and consumer goods.

What is WW Calls Canada?

In 2015, we were invited by the Canadian Embassy in Mexico to invest in Ontario and in June 2016 we opened our WW Calls Canada offices.

WW Calls Canada is a company that is supported by the infrastructure of our Mexican contact centre to serve Canadian companies interested in reaching the Mexican and Latin American markets. We connect them with potential customers or business partners and we advise them so that they can get to know the market, so they can invest, and so that they can find success.

We also support Mexican and Latin American companies that want to break into the Canadian market, ensuring that their product or service has a place in the market, and we connect them to potential customers; in this way we make sure before they invest that their expansion will be successful.

What has your experience been like as an immigrant and a business leader in Canada?

It has been a very enriching experience and an opportunity for professional growth. The more than 20 years of experience I had in my country wasn't valid for the Canadian market; we had to reinvent ourselves and start over, demonstrating our talent through our dedication and professionalism.

Now Canadian companies have opened their doors to us and trust in us. We work hard to put Mexico on the map in each project that we undertake.

I should mention that since I arrived, I've received support from associations like EXATEC Ontario, the unconditional support of ProMéxico and the Consulate General of Mexico in Toronto. My first opportunity to introduce myself to Canadian business leaders and engage in my first negotiations was through the Mexico Business Club.

What advice can you share with other entrepreneurs?

Canada is a wonderful country to live in. It's important to be fully prepared to deal with a multicultural market, but there are companies like ours that can support you so that your projects are successful in this country. Canada is the land of opportunities; all you have to do is be open to receiving them and believe in the talent and potential that we Mexicans have.

What projects do you have for 2018?

I'm working on a lot of projects for Mexico that will promote growth in Canadian investments in our country, and also for Canada.

I'm also working with several countries in the Pacific Alliance, particularly with the Consulates General of Colombia, Chile, Mexico and Peru, and on other projects with the Hamilton and Toronto Economic Development Agencies.

Source: Lattin Magazine interview
Photos by Juan Gavasa & Julio Rivas

SERVICES FOR FOREIGNERS

ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (eTA) FOR MEXICAN TRAVELERS

Mexican visitors who travel to Canada either to enter the country or to transit to another destination, will only need to complete an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA).

The eTA must be applied for at least 3 days prior to travel from the following Canadian government website: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/apply-how.asp

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

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.

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: canchammx.com
- Mexico-Canada http://mexican.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