

TD's 10 most influential Hispanic Canadians named by Executive Director for Canada at the Inter-American Development Bank and Toronto Mayor. \$220,000 in scholarships

Toronto, November 22, 2017 – Last night, Ambassador Guillermo Rishchynski, Executive Director for Canada at the Inter-American Development Bank and His Worship John Tory, Mayor of Toronto, announced TD Bank's "10 most influential Hispanic Canadians" – list and bios below. A total of \$220,000 in Latin/Hispanic scholarships was also announced.

The "10 most" is presented by TD Bank with the support of TD Latinos in Leadership as well as Copa Airlines, Teletatino Network Inc. as media partner, Ryerson University whose Hispanic/Latino Scholarships now reached \$120,000 thanks to members of the community, and the International Language School of Canada ILAC which announced \$100,000 in scholarships for five women from Spanish speaking countries – details to come. The program, now on its 11th edition, is run by the Canadian Hispanic Business Alliance, this year in cooperation with the Canadian Hispanic Congress.

"At TD, our commitment to diversity and inclusiveness is why we invest in the communities we serve. It is also the reason why we are so proud to support these awards that celebrate the rich contributions of Hispanic-Canadians to our social, economic and multicultural fabric" said Miguel Abascal, Chair of TD Latinos in Leadership. Mauricio Ospina, real estate agent and "10 most" program director, wowed to *"continue working on programs that benefit the Hispanic community including procurement and real estate opportunities such as with Google's Smart City and the redevelopment of Toronto's downtown east"*. Aldo Di Felice, **Teletatino Network Inc.** President noted *"as part of Canada's most influential multilingual media company, TLN Television and Univision Canada are committed to showcasing the vibrant Latino culture and celebrating the contributions of Hispanic Canadians"*. Full profiles of the awardees are in pages 4 to 8 below - by first name they are:

- **Alex Barroti** (Uru): Serial tech entrepreneur, founder of Touch Bistro
- **Carlos Gonzales Prado** (Gua): Philosopher, Fellow at Royal Society of Canada
- **Daniel Garcia Herrerros** (Col): ED, Pan American Food & Music Festival
- **Felix Mora** (Chi): Likely the only Hispanic Justice of the Peace in Canada
- **Francisco Ucan Marin** (Mex): Biology writer, scientist, and entrepreneur
- **Jorge Filmus** (Arg): Sr. Scientist (Cancer), Sunnybrook Institute
- **Mercedes Rowinsky-Geurts** (Uru): Former Dean and current professor, Wilfrid Laurier University
- **Noemi Weis** (Arg): Human rights filmmaker, founder of Filmb Blanc
- **Paola Ardiles** (Chi): Champion/Social Innovation & Health, Simon Fraser University
- **Rosa Bruno-Jofré** (Arg): Former Dean of Education and professor, Queen's University

Since 2007, the "10 most influential Hispanic Canadians" recognizes community members from across Canada. To date, there are 110 awardees in 7 provinces representing 17 countries of origin. The program, which has been personally recognized by a Prime Minister, has taken place in Vancouver, Montreal, Ottawa, Saskatchewan, Calgary and Toronto. Judges include past winners as well as executives and journalists from the Calgary's Canada West Foundation, Globe & Mail, National Post, Toronto Star, CBC, Canadian Council for the Americas, Canadian Aboriginal & Minority Supplier Council, and the North American Association of Asian Professionals.

There are approximately 1.5 million Hispanics in Canada - this based on growth projections from the official Statistics Canada's Profile of the Hispanic Community report. Hispanic Canadians are five years younger and more likely to be university educated than other Canadians. More than 70% had arrived in the previous 25 years. Spanish is the third most widely spoken language in the country as reported by the Canadian Foundation for the Americas.

Further details at www.Hispanicbusiness.ca

TD's 10 most influential Hispanic Canadians 2017

FULL BIOS IN NEXT PAGES

(L-R) H.E. Guillermo Rishchynski, Mauricio Ospina (for Dr. Carlos Gonzalez), Ampuero (CHC), Teresa Barroti (for Alex Barroti), Daniel Garcia, Dr. Jorge Filmus, JP Felix Mora, Dr. Francisco Ucan, Dr. Mercedes Rowinsky, Noemi Weis, Dr. Paola Ardiles, Dr. Rosa Bruno Jofre, Toronto Mayor John Tory.



Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, with more than 80,000 employees in offices around the world, **The Toronto-Dominion Bank** and its subsidiaries are collectively known as TD Bank Group (**TD**). TD offers a full range of financial products and services to more than 24 million customers worldwide. www.td.com

Copa Airlines is the leading airline in Latin America with service from both Montreal and Toronto, Copa Airlines. The company, through its operating subsidiaries, provides service to 74 destinations in 31 countries in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean with one of the youngest and most modern fleets in the industry. www.copa.com

ILAC, International Language Academy of Canada, is a private English language school that offers short and long-term English language courses for international students. ILAC is a multiple international awards school that operates campuses in Toronto and Vancouver. www.ilac.com

Ryerson University is Canada's leader in innovative, career-oriented education and a university clearly on the move. With a mission to serve societal need, and a long-standing commitment to engaging its community, Ryerson offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate programs. www.ryerson.ca

As Canada's leading ethnic media company, since 1984 **Telelatino Network Inc.** has owned and operated the TLN Television channel. TLN can be seen nationwide in over 6.2 million Canadian homes and broadcasts a wide variety of Canadian and international programming in English, Spanish and Italian. <http://tlntv.com>

“10 hispanos de mayor influencia en Canadá” de TD Bank anunciados por Director Ejecutivo del Inter American Development Bank y Alcalde de Toronto. \$220,000 en becas a hispanos

Toronto, Noviembre 22 de 2017 – Anoche el Embajador Guillermo Rishchynski, Director Ejecutivo para Canadá del Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo y el Alcalde de Toronto John Tory anunciaron a los “10 hispanos de mayor influencia en Canadá” del Banco TD – lista y biografías abajo. También se anunciaron \$220,000 en becas a hispanos/latinos.

El “10 most”, ya en su 11ª edición, es presentado por TD Bank y con el apoyo de TD Latinos in Leadership, Copa Airlines, Telemundo Network Inc., Ryerson University cuyas becas hispano/latinas llegan ya a \$120,000, así como el International Language School of Canada ILAC que anunció \$100,00 en becas para cinco mujeres de países hispanoparlantes. El “10 most” es manejado por el Canadian Hispanic Business Alliance, este año junto al el Congreso Hispano Canadiense.

“En TD, nuestro compromiso a la diversidad e inclusión es la razón por la cual invertimos en las comunidades a las que servimos. Es por esto que nos enorgullece el apoyar estos premios que celebran las ricas contribuciones de los Hispano-Canadienses a nuestra fabrica social, económica y multicultural”, dijo Miguel Abascal, Jefe del Consejo de TD Latinos in Leadership. Mauricio Ospina, creador del programa “10 most” y profesional en bienes raíces, afirmó “continuar buscando programas de beneficio a los hispanos incluyendo oportunidades de negocios y de bienes raíces con la Ciudad Inteligente de Google y el desarrollo del centro este de Toronto”. Aldo Di Felice, president de Telemundo Network Inc. anotó “como parte del medio multilingüe más influyente de Canadá, TLN Television y Univision Canada están comprometidos a celebrar la vibrante cultura y contribuciones de los Hispano-Canadiense”. Los perfiles de los galardonados están abajo en páginas 4 a 8 – por primer nombre estos son:

- **Alex Barroti** (Uru): Creador en serie de empresas de tecnología, fundador de TouchBistro
- **Carlos Gonzales Prado** (Gua): Filósofo, Miembro (Fellow) del Royal Society of Canada
- **Daniel Garcia Herreros** (Col): Director, Pan American Food & Music Festival
- **Felix Mora** (Chi): Probablemente el único Juez de Paz en Canadá
- **Francisco Ucan Marin** (Mex): Científico en biología, escritor y empresario
- **Jorge Filmus** (Arg): Científico mayor (Cáncer), Sunnybrook Institute
- **Mercedes Rowinsky-Geurts** (Uru): Ex-Decana y actual profesora, Wilfrid Laurier University
- **Noemi Weis** (Arg): Cineasta especializada en derechos humanos, fundadora de Filmblanc
- **Paola Ardiles** (Chi): Campeona en Innovación Social y Salud, Simon Fraser University
- **Rosa Bruno-Jofré** (Arg): Ex- Decana de Educación y actual profesora, Queen’s University

Desde 2007, el programa “10 most” reconoce a miembros de la comunidad a lo largo y ancho del país. A la fecha hay 110 galardonados en 7 provincias representando 17 países de origen. El programa, que ha sido reconocido personalmente por un Primer Ministro, se ha llevado a cabo en Vancouver, Montreal, Ottawa, Saskatchewan, Calgary y Toronto. Los jurados incluyen a los 110 galardonados así como a ejecutivos y periodistas de Globe & Mail, National Post, Toronto Star, CBC, Canadian Council for the Americas, Canadian Aboriginal & Minority Supplier Council, Calgary West Foundation y el North American Association of Asian Professionals.

Hay aproximadamente 1.5 millones de hispanos en el país – esto de acuerdo con proyecciones basadas en el estudio de Estadísticas Canadá sobre la comunidad hispana. Estos son cinco años más jóvenes y más propensos a tener educación universitaria que otros canadienses. Más del 70% llegaron en los últimos 25 años. Español es el tercer idioma más comúnmente hablado en el país según la fundación Canadiense para las Americas.

Mayores detalles en www.Hispanicbusiness.ca

Alex Barroti

Serial tech entrepreneur, CEO TouchBistro (Uruguay/ON)

While everyone talks about the need for entrepreneurship among immigrants, Uruguayan-Canadian Alex Barroti is busy doing it. He's founded four technology companies, employed hundreds of people - many Hispanics, and continues to help brand Canada as an innovation nation made by immigrants.

In 1997 when he was 27, he built ecommerce pioneer Inex and sold it three years later for \$45 million. While on a trip in 2010, Barroti had a conversation with a friend who wanted an easy way to send orders from table to kitchen. TouchBistro was born and is now the leader in food/beverage apps used in 37 countries. In 2016, the company grew its recurring revenue by 150% with deployments in over 9,000 restaurants processing almost US \$5 billion each year, and 150 employees - many Spanish speaking - with plans to double next year. Five of the top ten Canadian Venture Capital firms have invested in TouchBistro, which has integrations with Moneris, RBC, SmoothPay, Square, QuickBooks and others. Alex has raised over \$45 million from Napier Park Financial, Recruit Holdings, BDC, Relay Ventures and Kensington Capital. He's regularly mentioned in mainstream media and speaks at tech events around the world.

Awards: 'Founder/Entrepreneur of the Year' (Best In Biz Awards 2014); 'CEO of the Year' (Golden Bridge Awards 2015), 'One of Toronto's 20 most brilliant tech innovators' (Toronto Life 2017), 'Best 2017 app for restaurants' (Business News – 3 years in a row). Alex doesn't forget his people. He's recently launched a Spanish version of his app.

Dr. Carlos Gonzales Prado

Philosopher, Fellow, Royal Society of Canada (Guatemala/ON)

A native of Guatemala, Carlos Gonzalez Prado immigrated to Canada in 1965. After completing his PhD in 1970, he began an illustrious career of teaching, research, and service in philosophy at Queen's University. He has held two visiting Fellowships at Princeton University. In 2013, he was named Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the nation's highest recognition for achievements in arts and humanities.

Dr. Prado is author or co-author of fifteen books and editor of four anthologies. He continues to have an extraordinary impact on the Canadian intellectual community in the fields of medical ethics and epistemology (the theory of knowledge). He has published ground-breaking work on aging, problems in Canada's healthcare system, noncredal religion, and the role of rationality in suicide and assisted suicide. In addition, his research on the French philosopher Michel Foucault has built bridges between Anglo-American analytical philosophy and Continental European philosophy.

Dr. Prado is an influential mentor and role model for undergraduate and graduate students and junior colleagues at Queen's and in the broader international philosophy community. His many PhD and Master students have achieved academic positions at leading Canadian and international universities and have made contributions in medicine, government, and the private sector.

He has also undertaken significant philanthropic initiatives sponsoring the annual "Prado Philosophy Prize" for the best PhD thesis in philosophy and the "Prado Music Prize" at Queen's University. His donations to these awards have been matched by many students and colleagues who benefited from his inspiring mentorship.

Daniel Garcia-Herrerros

ED, Pan American Food & Music Festival (Colombia/ON)

Daniel Garcia-Herrerros has helped to expand and transform Canadians' perception of the Latin community in Ontario. A champion of emerging Hispanic chefs and artists, he co-founded the Pan American Food & Music Festival in 2012 to offer a prominent platform to present these talented members of our community to mainstream Canada.

The Festival has welcomed more than 115,000 visitors and launched the career of hundreds of artists and chefs who have expanded the local economy by building their own businesses. Daniel grew the Festival from 5,000 attendees in 2012, to 50,000 last year at Yonge-Dundas Square, making this celebration one of the most important cultural activities of the season. Named Canada's best Pan American Festival in 2014 and 2015 by La Guia magazine, the Festival was also nominated for Best Festival in Canada 2016 by Montreal-based Latin Canada Awards.

Currently, Daniel is creating the Panamerican Chefs & Restaurants Foundation. He has volunteered at Harbourfront Centre and Pride Toronto and supports the Canadian Hispanic Congress, Canadian Colombian Professional Association and Toronto Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Organizing Committee of the Latin American Pavilion for the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games.

With only nine years in Canada, he has received numerous honours, including Person of the Year 2016 from the Liderazgo Latino organization, was nominated Arts & Culture Visionary (THCC 2016), one of 10 most successful Colombians in Canada (Toronto's Latinos magazine - 2015) and appeared on the cover of Toronto-based La Guia Magazine (2016).

JP Felix Mora

Only Hispanic Justice of the Peace in Canada (Chile/ON)

Felix Mora was tortured in Chile under the Pinochet regime, came to Canada as a refugee and now imparts justice in the Province of Ontario. He studied in both Chile and Canada and has a specialization in Human Rights and Cultural Policies.

Since 2007, he is very likely the only Justice of Peace (JP) in Canada born in a Spanish speaking country; he performs a wide variety of duties related to criminal and regulatory law. JP Mora was appointed by the Attorney General of Ontario. Prior to that, he was a member of the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board. For over a decade he also served as a member of the Immigration and Refugee Board helping screen new immigrants into Canada. He's been a member of the Resettlement Deployment Program Roster for the United Nation under the Refugees/International Catholic Migration Resettlement Program. He has been president of the Canadian Hispanic Congress and was a member of the Board of Presidents for the Canadian Ethnocultural Council. He has been a member of the Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators.

JP Mora is also a member of the Iberomeric Network of Judges, which comprised approximately 100 judges from several countries in the region. The network, born in 2004, analyzes studies and provides feedback the research done by the Organization of American States as well as independent governments in the region. His amazing journey from Chile to Canada reached the masses with 'Memories of a Dreamer', a 2010 documentary featuring JP Mora.

Dr. Francisco Ucan Marin

Biology writer, scientist, and entrepreneur (Mexico/ON)

Dr. Francisco Ucan-Marin is a Mexican native Maya, a writer, scientist, and entrepreneur with his consulting firm Aquaponika. He works as Senior Science Advisor for the Government of Canada dealing with Biodiversity, Oceans, Wildlife, and Ecotoxicology. His scientific contributions are only matched by his volunteerism; for over a decade he's given his free time to strengthen technological ties between Canada and Mexico.

Education: Biology degree (Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán), M.Sc. (Dalhousie University), Ph.D. (Carleton University). He was visiting Scholar at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (2006-2008), and a Senior Lecturer at Carleton (2012). Dr. Ucan-Marin has studied and investigated contaminants present in wildlife for over 20 years – from crocodiles and manatees in Mexico, to salmon in the Nordic Atlantic, birds in the North Pole, and polar bears and beluga whales in Canada. He's received awards and grants in Mexico, U.S., Canada, Venezuela, Norway, Spain, Egypt, and Portugal.

Volunteerism:

- Co-founder and first president (2005-2010) of CEIMEXCAN, a confederation that unites science and technology scientists, and graduate students from both Canada and Mexico; since then he serves as Director of Public Relations.
- Member since 2007, and currently the President of the Red Global Mexico - Chapter Ottawa, a government supported entity that represents highly skilled Mexicans around the world; he was recently appointed Coordinator of the six chapters of Red Global Mexico in Canada (2017-2019).
- Science and Technology Adviser to the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2009-2011).

His pastimes include playing football and boxing, and practicing calligraphy.

Dr. Jorge Filmus

Sr. Scientist in cancer at Sunnybrook Research Institute (Argentina/ON)

Armed with a master in science and a PhD in biological chemistry from Argentina, Dr. Jorge Filmus moved to Canada in 1983; he worked as Scientist at Toronto's Connaught Laboratories and as a Post-doctoral fellow at the Ontario Cancer Institute. In 1991 he started his own laboratory at the Sunnybrook Research Institute and Senior Scientist, and was appointed professor of Medical Biophysics at the University of Toronto.

His research activities focus on the diagnosis and treatment of liver cancer, and the role of glypican - a protein -in inherited disorders and cancer. One of the main discoveries made by Dr. Filmus has been the identification of Glypican-3 as a marker and a therapeutic target in certain types of embryonic development and cancer. Dr. Filmus has received several research grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the National Cancer Institute of Canada. For example, in 2015 he was one of the 19 scientists from Sunnybrook Research Institute to receive \$15.4 million in grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). He will receive \$700,525 over five years to study the role of glypicans-6 in recessive omodysplasia, a genetic disease characterized by severe short stature, shortened limbs and facial dysmorphism.

Dr. Filmus is a continued supporter of the Hispanic community. For example, he has been on the board of directors of the Canadian Hispanic Congress, which since 1982 seeks civic integration with the mainstream society.

Dr. Mercedes Rowinsky-Geurts

Associate Professor and researcher, Wilfrid Laurier University U. (Uruguay/ON)

A Wilfrid Laurier University professor since 1994, Mercedes has focused her life on improving teaching and learning in higher education and researching topics such as exile and the South American diaspora. She arrived to Canada in 1976 with a Teaching Certificate from her native Uruguay. In Canada, she pursued a B.A. in Spanish and Latin American Studies, and a Master and PhD in Romance Languages at the University of Toronto. She was recruited to Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU) in 1994 becoming Chair of the Department of Languages and Literatures (2006-2008) and past Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts at Laurier (2012-2016).

Her first publication in 1997 received a Special Mention from the Ministry of Education and Culture in Uruguay. Mercedes and her co-translator received the ForeWord Magazine's Gold Medal for Fiction Translation for Panic Signs in 2003.

Awards: 2015 Nelson Educational Excellence Award. 2014 Inaugural Laurier Teaching Fellowship, WLU. 2012 Residence Academic Partnership Award, WLU. 2012 Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance Award for Teaching Excellence. 2008 3M National Teaching Fellowship. 2006 Grace Anderson Research Fellowship for Women Scholars, WLU. 2005 Laurier Alumni Faculty Mentoring Award, WLU. 2000 Wilfrid Laurier University Outstanding Teacher Award. Her work on the advance of teaching and learning in higher education brought the new active learning classrooms at Laurier. She has presented and published at the national and international level. She is an example of the endless possibilities that Canada offers to those who are determined to succeed.

Noemi Weis

Human rights filmmaker, founder of Filmlanc (Argentina/ON)

Born in Argentina and educated in Argentinian and Canada universities, Noemi Weis is devoted to create and promote human rights and social justice through her films. She speaks six languages and - with her work - she brings voice to the world's most vulnerable people. Her films have been sold in more than 50 countries receiving numerous awards but, most important, making in a difference in communities around the world. Click [here](#) for a full list of distinctions.

In addition to the support from UNICEF, WHO and numerous global organizations, Weis was recently endorsed by Sophie Gregoire Trudeau for her latest film MILK. Milk looks at infant nutrition from an international perspective. Filmed in 11 countries and 35 cities including the Philippines after the 2013 Typhoon Haiyan, MILK unites the voices from women and experts from around the world, having screened to-date in more than 300 communities in close to 100 countries globally.

Noemi is a member of the Unesco, Team Canada's trade missions and Ontario Business Ambassador, promoting the merits of Canadian production abroad. She has been nominated as "Woman Entrepreneur of the Year" for three years in a row, the last one by Export Development Canada and a finalist for "Woman Entrepreneur of the World" as the sole Canadian nominee.

"Noemi has built an exceptional documentary portfolio. Noemi is an accomplished and important Canadian filmmaker" Bruce Cowley- Creative Head CBC Network.

"Canadian production of this type is valuable in augmenting Canada's presence on the world stage" Senator Marie Poulin.

Dr. Paola Ardiles

Champion of Social Innovation & Health, Simon Fraser University (Chile/BC)

Paola Ardiles came as a child and formed part of the Chilean diaspora who established itself in Canada during the military dictatorship. Now as a practitioner scholar, Paola is known to be a catalyst for social change. She recently co-designed the new Health Change Lab at Simon Fraser University (SFU) - an experiential program to help undergraduate students identify community health challenges, design innovative and entrepreneurial solutions in Surrey, BC. In recognition, Paola received the 2017 Surrey Board of Trade- Women in Business, Social Trailblazer award.

Paola has published and been cited in scientific papers on numerous public health issues. She has been recognized for her innovative approaches in public health policy, teaching and practice. In 2012, she received a Public Policy Leadership Award from the Canadian Mental Health Association for her local, provincial and national work to advance the mental health agenda in Canada. Paola was recently nominated by her students for SFU's Health Sciences- Excellence in Teaching and Mentorship in Graduate Studies award.

Paola is the past President of Public Health Association of British Columbia, a non-profit with over 500 members who work to improve public policies related to health and social equity, along with government, community and academic leaders in BC. She is also the founder of Bridge for Health, a new co-op that serves as an incubator for social innovation in health. Bridge for Health received SFU's 2017 Coast Capital Savings Venture Award for social impact, for its efforts to advance social sustainability in the workplace.

Dr. Rosa Bruno-Jofré

Professor, Queen's University (Argentina/ON)

Arriving in Canada from Argentina in 1977 with a degree from Universidad Nacional del Sur, Dr. Rosa Bruno-Jofré grew to become Associate Dean of Education at the University of Manitoba (1996-2000) and then Dean of Education at Queen's University (2000-2010), while building a highly influential international research program that, today, is at the forefront of thought on educational theory and history of education.

Her books were published by McGill-Queen's University Press, University of Toronto Press, Routledge. Her work has been translated into French, Spanish, and Chinese. She is co-founding senior editor of *Encounters in Theory and History of Education* (trilingual journal) since 2000. She has been recently a keynote at Cambridge University for a special celebration of the 100th anniversary of John Dewey's *Democracy and Education*. The international research group she founded, THEIRG, and the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile will host a symposium in Chile in August 2017 funded by the Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada.

Rosa's achievements reflect an unusual combination of academic brilliance and unbounded entrepreneurial initiative. To work with Rosa is to experience her tireless passion. She risked investing a meager budget in the technology that was emerging in the early 2000's and established the Queen's Faculty of Education as an early leader in digitally enhanced teaching and learning. Her vision created an infrastructure that generated millions of dollars annually in new revenue.

Rosa is a distinguished educational leader and scholar who collaborates with businesses, governments, and institutions worldwide.