



PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

November 20, 2009

Greetings from the Prime Minister

*I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to all those attending the 10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians awards ceremony. It is my distinct pleasure to join you in congratulating this year's recipients.*

*Celebrating its third year, this awards program recognizes excellence in Canada's thriving Latin American community. As the accomplishments of these talented individuals attest, Hispanic Canadians are making important contributions in all spheres of Canadian society.*

*As friends and neighbours, Canada's bilateral relations in the Americas are of vital importance. From the outset, our Government has made it clear that reengagement in this hemisphere is a critical international priority for our country. We have worked diligently to pursue trade negotiations throughout the Americas and forge partnerships to ensure prosperity, security and cooperation in the region. Our dynamic Latin American community is a vital asset in this endeavour. Your knowledge and vested interests in the success of our hemisphere strengthens Canada's ties in the region and generates opportunities for enhanced cultural and economic links.*

*On behalf of the Government of Canada, I commend the organizers and sponsors of tonight's event. I look forward to personally congratulating the current and past winners of these prestigious awards in Ottawa this coming spring.*

*Sincerely,*

*The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.  
Prime Minister of Canada*