

Press release – **FOR PUBLICATION** (Winners' bios and Spanish version below. High res pictures on request)

Canada's Minister of Revenue recognizes 10 most influential Hispanics

Hispanics: driving force behind Canada's Creative Class

Vancouver, November 13, 2014 – The Hon. Kerry-Lynne Findlay, Canada's Minister of National Revenue and in charge of the Canada Revenue Agency, presented awards last night to the "10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians" 2014. Also present was the Hon. Bal Gossal, Canada's Minister of State (Sport).

This is the eighth annual edition of this national program. Executives, media, diplomats, past winners and community members attended this national program created and run by the Canadian Hispanic Business Alliance and organized this year by Latincover. Nominations were declared opened in Calgary in July. Prime Minister Stephen Harper met with past awardees.

This year's 10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians come from three provinces representing five countries of origin. In alphabetical order by first name, the four woman and six men Most Influential Hispanic Canadians are:

- Adolfo J. de Bold, Dr.: Researcher, Order of Canada Officer Argentina, QC
- Amanda Martinez: Singer, producer, co-Chair Toronto 2015 Mexico, ON
- Carmen Aguirre: Actor, director, writer Chile, BC
- Dr. Jorge Andrés Correa: Researcher, Technical Director, Canadian Meat Council Colombia, ON
- Luis Contreras: History-making professional jockey México, ON
- Dr. Manuel Gomez: Researcher, Director (fr), St. John's rehab program Colombia, ON
- Margarita Caropresi: Founder, Atoctli and Comunicacion Multicultural Mexico, ON
- Martin Movilla: RCI Journalist, producer, analyst Colombia, QC
- Osvaldo Nuñez: First Hispanic Member of Parliament, lawyer, writer Chile, QC
- Dr. Sophie Lavieri: Chemistry professor, community innovator Venezuela, BC

Laura Marin, Sales Manager Canada of Copa Airlines – the airline that connects the Americas through its hub in Panama, congratulated all nominees and winners and encouraged the community to continue its good work for the country. Other sponsors include leading English school ILAC, Simon Fraser University, the Government of British Columbia - Trade and Invest B.C., and international marketing agency Mirrai. The Hispanic television national media sponsor was TLN Television with News11:30 and JackFM as regional media sponsors as well as Latin media Noticias Montreal, Sin Fronteras News, CBN Noticias, and magazines The Immigrants, Spanglish and Latinos.

Since 2007, eighty Hispanics from eight provinces and 17 countries of origin have been selected by past winners and executives from the Globe & Mail, National Post, Toronto Star, CBC, Toronto 2015 Pan American Games, Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance, Canadian Council for the Americas, Canadian Aboriginal & Minority Supplier Council, Diversity Business Network, the University of Ottawa and the North American Association of Asian Professionals. The "10 most" has had a presence in Montreal, Saskatoon, Calgary, Ottawa, Vancouver and Toronto.

According to a Statistics Canada study based on the 2006 census, Canada's 740,061 Hispanics are five years younger and more likely to be university educated than other Canadians. Most Hispanics live in the GTA and more than 70 per cent have arrived in the last twenty five years. A recent study puts Spanish as the third most commonly spoken language in Canada.

The launch of nominations for the 2015 "10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians" is scheduled for June with awards ceremonies taking place in November 2014 in two major Canadian cities. Sponsorship opportunities are now available.

Ministra de CRA reconoció a 10 hispanos de influencia

Hispanos: Clase Creativa de Canadá

Vancouver-Toronto, 13 de noviembre, 2014 – La Honorable Kerry-Lynne Findlay, Ministra de Renta Nacional y a cargo de Canada Revenue Agency, reconoció anoche a los 10 hispanos de más influencia en Canadá 2014. También estuvo presente el Honorable Bal Gossal, Ministro de Estado de Canadá (Deportes).

Esta es la octava versión anual de este certamen nacional. Ejecutivos, líderes comunitarios, diplomáticos y prensa atendieron el programa manejado por el Canadian Hispanic Business Alliance y organizado solo este año por Latincouver. Las nominaciones se abrieron en julio en Calgary. El Primer Ministro de Canadá se reunió con ganadores anteriores.

Los 10 hispanos de mayor influencia en Canadá” 2014 proceden de tres provincias representando cinco países de origen. Los galardonados, cuatro mujeres y seis hombres, en orden alfabético por primer nombre son:

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|--|---------------|
| • Adolfo J. de Bold, Dr.: Researcher, Order of Canada Officer | Argentina, QC |
| • Amanda Martinez: Singer, producer, co-Chair Toronto 2015 | Mexico, ON |
| • Carmen Aguirre: Actor, director, writer | Chile, BC |
| • Dr. Jorge Andrés Correa: Researcher, Technical Director, Canadian Meat Council | Colombia, ON |
| • Luis Contreras: History-making professional jockey | México, ON |
| • Dr. Manuel Gomez: Researcher, Director (fr), St. John’s rehab program | Colombia, ON |
| • Margarita Caropresi: Founder, Atoctli and Comunicacion Multicultural | Mexico, ON |
| • Martin Movilla: RCI Journalist, producer, analyst | Colombia, QC |
| • Osvaldo Nuñez: First Hispanic Member of Parliament, lawyer, writer | Chile, QC |
| • Dr. Sophie Lavieri: Chemistry professor, community innovator | Venezuela, BC |

Laura Marín, Gerente de Ventas Canadá de Copa Airlines - la aerolínea que conecta las Américas a través de su Hub en Panamá, felicitó a los nominados y galardonados invitando a la comunidad a seguir haciendo cosas positivas por el país. Otros patrocinadores incluyen la escuela líder de inglés ILAC, la Universidad Simon Fraser, la agencia Trade and Invest B.C. del Gobierno de la Columbia Británica así como la agencia de mercado internacional Mirrai. TLN Television fue el patrocinador de medios de televisión Hispana con News11:30 y JackFM como patrocinadores de medios regionales así como Noticias Montreal, Sin Fronteras News, CBN Noticias y los magazines The Immigrants, Spanglish y Latinos.

Desde 2007, ochenta hispanos de siete provincias representando 17 países de origen han sido seleccionados por galardonados anteriores y ejecutivos de Globe & Mail, National Post, Toronto Star, CBC, Toronto 2015 Pan American Games, Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance, Canadian Council for the Americas, Canadian Aboriginal & Minority Supplier Council, Diversity Business Network, University of Ottawa y North American Association of Asian Professionals. The “10 most” ha had a presence in Montreal, Saskatoon, Calgary, Ottawa, Vancouver y Toronto.

Los 740.061 hispanos que viven en Canadá son cinco años más jóvenes, más propensos a tener educación universitaria, la mayoría viven en el GTA, y más del 70% llegaron hace menos de veinticinco años al país. Esto de acuerdo al estudio de la comunidad hispana realizado por Estadísticas Canadá basado en el censo del 2006. Un reciente pone al español como el tercer lenguaje más comúnmente hablado en el país.

Nominaciones para los “10 Hispanos de mayor influencia en Canadá” 2014 se declararán abiertas en Junio con ceremonia de premios el mes de noviembre en dos importantes ciudades de Canadá.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT (top to bottom) High res pictures on request

Oswaldo Nunez (represented by Mafalda Arias), Dr. Manuel Gomez, Amanda Martinez, Martin Movilla, Luis Contreras (represented his father), Dr. Sophie Lavieri, Hon. Minister Findlay, Dr. Adolfo de Bold (represented by Paola Murillo), Carmen Aguirre, Margarita Caropresi, Dr. Jorge Correa, (represented by Mario Pochat),



Dr. ADOLFO J. DE BOLD (Argentina, QC): Researcher, Order of Canada Officer

This eminent Argentinian research scientist is internationally recognized for the discovery of atrial natriuretic factor (ANF), a hormone secreted by the heart that helps regulate blood pressure. His discovery has led to more than 10,000 basic and clinical science papers on ANF published around the world and he has become one of the most cited Canadian authors. His work on ANF was declared the first of the top 10 research accomplishments funded by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario in the past 50 years.

Dr. Adolfo J. de Bold is Director of the Cardiovascular Endocrinology Laboratory and Professor of Pathology and Cellular and Molecular Medicine, both at the University of Ottawa. He studied at the National University of Córdoba and has a PhD in Pathology from Queen's University.

In 1992, Adolfo was named an Officer of the Order of Canada for his medical contributions. This year (2014), he was inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and the Grand Prix Scientifique Lefoulon Delalande (l'Institut de France). He was a key contributor to the establishment of the Research Centre at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute.

Other awards: Gairdner Foundation International Award, Royal Society of Canada McLaughlin Medal in Medical Research, Ernest C. Manning Principal Award, International Society for Hypertension Research Award, and the American Society for Hypertension Award.

AMANDA MARTINEZ (Mexico-ON): Singer, producer, Co-Chair Toronto 2015

Amanda Martinez is a singer/songwriter whose music blends her Mexican and South African roots with flamenco soul. Her solo CDs have garnered multiple JUNO nominations for Latin Jazz Performer of the Year, and her songs have appeared on three Putumayo world music collections. Her third and latest CD "Mañana" was helmed by GRAMMY-winning producer Javier Limón who hails Martinez as "one of the greatest voices in the world."

She has headlined at the legendary Blue Note jazz club, at the 2010 FIFA World Cup festivities in South Africa, and at the 2011 PanAmerican Games in Guadalajara. She is now honorary co-chair of PanAm 2015's Ignite program and been appointed co-chair for the City of Toronto's Music Advisory Board.

Amanda has worked as a radio host (launching and producing Café Latino on JAZZFM91), TV personality (BRAVO Arts & Minds, Star TV!) and actress (Regnesis and Disney's Life with Derek). She is now co-producing "Ingredients for a Good Life", a series promoting Mexico to Canadians, and "Toronto The World Lives Here", promoting Toronto's arts and culture scene.

Amanda is an ambassador for SOS Children's Villages, a global organization that helps abandoned and orphaned siblings stay together. A regular performer in Canada's most respected halls, her work has been highlighted by CBC and CNN. Amanda holds an International MBA from York University and a biology degree from the University of Western Ontario. She is the recipient of FACTOR's emerging artist recording grant, and winner of Toronto's Independent Music Awards.

CARMEN AGUIRRE (Chile, BC): Actor, director, writer

Carmen Aguirre has written and co-written over twenty plays, including *Chile Con Carne*, *The Trigger*, *The Refugee Hotel*, which will receive a staged reading in Santiago, Chile's Museo de la Memoria in December of 2014, and *Blue Box*, returning to Vancouver's Arts Club Theatre in the Fall of 2014 after a cross-Canada tour. She is currently working on two new plays: *Anywhere But Here* and *The Tina Modotti Project*. Her plays have been nominated for a Dora Mavor Moore Award (Toronto), four Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards (Vancouver), and the Siminovitch Prize (national).

Her first book, *Something Fierce: Memoirs of a Revolutionary Daughter*, won CBC Canada Reads in 2012 and is a #1 national bestseller. Her second memoir, entitled *Mexican Hooker #1* will be published by Random House in the Spring of 2016.

She has over sixty film, television, and stage acting credits, including a lead role in the film *Quinceanera*, winner of the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival, and a lead role in the showcase series *Endgame*. She received a 2014 Calgary Critics' Award nomination and a Betty Mitchell Award nomination for her performance in *The Motherfucker With The Hat*.

This former refugee from Chile is the recipient of the 2002 New Play Centre Award for Best New Play, the 2011 Union of B.C. Performers' Lorena Gale Woman of Distinction Award, the 2012 Langara College Outstanding Alumna Award, and the 2014 Latincover Inspirational Latin Award for Achievement in Arts and Culture.

Dr. JORGE ANDRES CORREA: Researcher, Technical Director, Canadian Meat Council

Dr. Jorge Andres Correa is an award-winning professor and food safety scientist who also finds time to guide other immigrants. With a bachelor in animal science from Colombia, Jorge started his career in Canada as a research assistant in the meat processing company F. Menard-Agromex in 2000. He completed his Master's in Meat Science at Laval University and implemented a scientific meat quality program for F.Ménard-Agromex.

His doctoral thesis (Laval) linked the meat sciences to the well-being of animals. He completed a project to assess animal welfare and meat quality of pigs transported in Canada. He also created an animal welfare program for the company which reduced animal mortality and losses by 80% and improved the working conditions of employees.

In 2008, he received the Canadian Meat Science Association scholarship. In 2010, he became technical director of the Canadian Meat Council administering a program for meat processors to improve the quality and safety of the meat produced in Canada and internationally. Elements of the program included microbiology, meat science, animal welfare and market access.

Jorge is well known by the governmental regulatory authorities such as the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Health Canada as a key industry person. He developed and implemented a ractopamine certification and verification program for meat exports to Russia, facilitating a \$260 million increase in exports for Canada in 2013.

At the University of Guelph, he is teaching new immigrants who are agricultural professionals how the agri-food system works in Canada. Jorge has published more than 20 scientific papers.

LUIS CONTRERAS (Mexico, ON): History-making professional Jockey

Luis Contreras is making history by beating out the best in North America's horse racing. With 220 victories and \$12.3 million in purse earnings in 2011 alone - to rank seventh in North America in earnings - Luis smashed his previous personal bests of 175 wins and \$6.2 million in earnings.

The native of Mexico City won the riding title at Woodbine by 20 victories. Contreras made history in 2011 by becoming the first jockey to sweep the Canadian Triple Crown with different horses.

He is only the second person to win the Canadian or American Triple Crown on different horses, following up legendary trainer D. Wayne Lukas who accomplished the task in the U.S. Triple Crown in 1995. Canada's Triple Crown was inaugurated in 1959 and only seven horses have won the series. He captured the Queen's Plate with the filly Inglorious and won the Breeders' Stakes and the Prince of Wales Stakes on Pender Harbour.

He began riding at age 16 in Mexico and enjoyed great success there from 2002-2006, including four consecutive campaigns of 100-plus wins. In 2007 he moved to the U.S. and rode in Northern California and at Sunland Park in New Mexico.

The turning point in his North America career occurred in 2009, when trainer Steve Asmussen decided to send a string to Woodbine for the first time and sent him there as first-call rider.

MARGARITA CAROPRESI (Mexico, ON): Founder, Atoctli and Comunicacion Multicultural

Margarita Caropresi is a pioneer in understanding the cultural and linguistic challenges faced by migrant workers and the people they interact with in Canada.

She has conducted three research studies showing how these barriers to understanding impact relationships, work and safety. To help overcome these challenges, she founded Atoctli, a company that provides communication strategies, intercultural information, resources and training.

Using personal funds, she has been publishing Atoctli, a free Spanish/English magazine for migrant farm workers in Canada, since 2011. Contributors include government representatives, employers, workers and specialists.

In 2011- 2012, more than 40,000 copies were distributed in Mexico and Canada to workers from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and Jamaica. In addition to the magazine, she has published directories, safety signage and videos. Margarita has given multiple presentations on intercultural communication strategies to government representatives, farmers and workers in Mexico, Ontario, BC., QC, PEI and NS, and is the first in Canada to promote the Mexican government's 3x1 Program for Immigrants.

She is the founder of Multicultural Communication, a company which provides tailored services to banks and international companies. Her services include the design and delivery of customized multicultural training presentations, advice, translations and language courses focused on communication at work. Margarita holds a Masters in teaching Spanish, and has worked at the Mexican Consulate in Toronto and as a lawyer in Mexico.

Dr. MANUEL GOMEZ (Colombia, ON): Researcher, Director, St. John's rehab program

Colombian-born Dr. Manuel Gomez immigrated to Canada in 1991 with his wife and two children. From 2008 to 2012, he was director of research at St. John's Rehab Hospital and, since 2012, has been the inaugural director of the St. John's rehab research program at Sunnybrook Research Institute in Toronto – until September 2014.

An associate professor in the department of surgery and the graduate department of rehabilitation science at the University of Toronto, he completed an MD at Universidad del Cauca and received his general surgery specialist degree from Universidad Central de Venezuela. He also has a Master of Science degree from the University of Toronto (2001), and is a Certified Tissue Bank Specialist with the American Association of Tissue Banks, U.S.

His research focus is on burn injury rehabilitation and burn prevention. Manuel has published more than 70 articles in scientific peer-reviewed journals and was a member of a committee of the Canadian Standards Association to develop standards to prevent hot tap water scald burns.

His experience includes five years in clinical research at Toronto Western Hospital, 13 years at the Ross Tilley Burn Centre and an appointment as an associate scientist for trauma research at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

This past year, Manuel received the Chief Public Safety Officer's Special Recognition Award for his contributions to electrical safety and to the care of survivors of electrical injuries. The award is presented by the Electrical Safety Authority.

MARTIN MOVILLA (Colombia, QC): RCI Journalist, producer analyst

When Martin came to Canada in 2000, he had virtually no knowledge of English or French but quickly established himself as a broadcast journalist.

Since 2004, he has worked as an analyst, journalist and producer for Radio Canada International and Téléjournal for their national and international broadcasts in French, English and Spanish. This past summer, Martin covered Brazil's FIFA World Cup 2014 for Radio Canada television.

Martin began his career in Colombia in 1990, covering politics, economy and the peace process for media outlets Canal Caracol, El Espectador, Magazín Caracol, Radio Santa Fe, En Vivo, Teleantioquia, Telecaribe and Telepacífico. Between 2006 and 2012, he worked as journalist and producer for Nuevo Mundo Televisión, the Montreal-based Spanish-speaking channel. He is also a Canadian-based contributor for international media that include Colombia's RCN and Telesur.

In 2012, he created the series "Web Démocratie et religions: d'une prière à l'autre", which was nominated for the prestigious international Webby Awards. He has appeared on television programs such as Destination Cauchemar, Ici Le Monde ou Point Chaud; in documentaries such as Desplazados : éternels oubliés and in the series Terre d'échanges.

Since 2009, Martin has been giving motivational talks to new immigrants at Cégep du Vieux Montréal, UQAM and other educational institutions.

Currently, Martin is finalizing his thesis in international communications: "Manipulation, propaganda and the creation of representations in internal armed conflicts". He has also spoken on Latin American issues at several Canadian universities and organizations.

OSVALDO NUNEZ (Chile, QC): First Hispanic MP, lawyer, writer

Chilean-born Osvaldo Nuñez was Canada's first Hispanic elected Member of Parliament, representing the riding of Montreal North for the Bloc Quebecois from 1993-1997.

A lawyer with post graduate studies in social rights in Belgium, Osvaldo started working at the Federation of Quebec Workers when he arrived in Montreal in 1974 and stayed there for 19 years. From 1998 to 2004, he was an administrative judge at the Montreal Council of Essential Services.

An active member of the Hispanic community, Osvaldo is former president of the Association of Chileans in Quebec. Until 2014, he was also president of the international committee "We are Chileans", which promotes the rights of the one million Chileans who live overseas. Currently, he leads two organizations that seek to protect the rights of Quebec pensioners.

Osvaldo is the author of publications on workers' rights, immigration, international relations and human rights. In 2010, he published "From Chile to the Parliament of Canada: memoirs of an exile". His other books include "La participation des syndicats dans le Marché Commun européen" and "The trade union movement and the Third World".

Nunez is a frequent guest speaker at seminars and conferences in Canadian universities, and has regularly contributed articles to legal trade publications such as McGill University, Diplomat & International Canada, Connecticut Journal of International Law, Diplomat & International Canada, International Conference on NAFTA (University of Connecticut, San Juan, Puerto Rico), and World Marxist Review.

In 2014, he received the Silver Medal from Quebec's Deputy Minister for outstanding work helping seniors.

Dr. SOPHIE LAVIERI (Venezuela, BC): Professor, community supporter

Chemist Sophie Lavieri came to Canada in 2000 and was quickly hired at Simon Fraser University (SFU). The hiring committee was impressed by her innovative and interactive style of teaching, and she beat out native English speakers from Harvard and other top universities. She is now an award-winning senior lecturer at the university.

Having taught thousands of university students over the course of her career, Sophie started visiting schools all over British Columbia with the goal of having children of all ages interested in science and involving their parents and teachers in the process.

This passion led her to become the founder and director of Science in Action, a free science outreach program that has, over the past 10 years, involved hundreds of volunteers and has reached thousands of kids, many of them from aboriginal communities and inner-city schools.

Sophie has also secured over \$4 million to build a science outreach centre and observatory that will rival Vancouver's H.R. MacMillan Planetarium. She continues to fundraise for the multiple programs she champions, while bringing happiness to the elderly by singing at retirement homes with the choir she founded, Chemsemble.

She has a B.Sc. (Universidad Metropolitana), a M.Sc. (Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Cientificas), and a Degree in Pharmacy and a Ph.D. in Chemistry (Universidad Central de Venezuela).

Her awards include the SFU Faculty of Science and the SFU Excellence in Teaching Awards (2004, 2006), the YWCA Women of Distinction Award (2009) and the Waldo Briño - Inspirational Latin Award (2014) from LatinCouver.