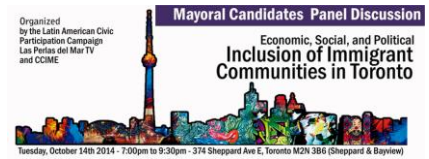


September 11th, 2014
Toronto, Canada



For immediate release

Mayoral Candidates will meet with the Latin American Community

October 27th is Election Day in Toronto when residents will vote for a Mayor, city councilors and school board trustees. In order to share their proposals, three of the mayoral candidates, John Tory, Olivia Chow and Rob Ford, will meet with the Latino community and the immigrant community on Tuesday, October 14th 2014.

This panel discussion, entitled "Economic, Social, and Political Inclusion of Immigrant Communities in Toronto," coordinated by Las Perlas del Mar Productions Inc., the Latin American Campaign for Civic Participation and the Advisory Council of the Institute of Mexicans Abroad, is a collective effort of more than 30 organizations and community groups, aiming to promote the inclusion of immigrants in city life and to involve them in decision-making processes at the municipal level.

46% of the population in Toronto is first-generation immigrants, with a third of them having arrived to Canada within the last 10 years. These immigrants contribute a variety of talents and experiences to the city of Toronto. It is important that the person elected as Mayor understands the barriers that this community faces in their integration process and makes Toronto a city that promotes dignity, equity and fairness. This means, leading concrete actions that help immigrants, as stated in the [2013 Toronto Newcomer Strategy](#), "...reach their full potential to thrive and contribute to their local neighbourhood, community and city, ensuring Toronto's continued success and prosperity".

The panel will take place on October 14th from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm in the Peoples Church auditorium at 374 Sheppard Ave East. It is open to the public and will include the screening of the video-clip, "I Vote" and the presentation of the research findings on the political participation of the Latin American community in Toronto.

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NOTE: Toronto media are cordially invited to attend and cover the event. Your support in spreading the debate is vital to our success. As an audience of at least 1,000 people is expected, logistical and technical deployment requires us to have an advance list of the media attending. For this reason, we ask that you please confirm your participation by accessing the following link <http://www.lasperlastv.org/i-vote-media.html> (password: panel2014) and detailing the type of media that you represent, including the name and number of people attending. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.