



International Women's Day

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***Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Canadian Hispanic
Congress***

Pope Francis accepts resignation of Cardinal Thomas Collins and appoints Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal as 14th Archbishop of Toronto



Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of Cardinal Thomas Collins as Archbishop of Toronto and has named a new leader for Canada's largest diocese. The Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal, Reverend Frank Leo, has been named as the 14th Archbishop of Toronto. Leo, 52, is a respected leader in the Catholic Church of Canada and has been described as a man of great vision and energy.

The resignation of Cardinal Collins, who turned 75 in January 2022, was accepted by Pope Francis, following the protocol of the Catholic Church.

Collins, who became Archbishop of Toronto in 2007, has been an influential leader in the Catholic Church of Canada for decades. His resignation comes at a time of great turmoil in the Catholic Church, especially in relation to sexual abuse scandals.

The appointment of Bishop Frank Leo as the new Archbishop of Toronto has been well-received by many Canadian Catholics. Leo is known for his commitment to social justice and his advocacy for human rights and has led important pastoral initiatives in the Catholic Church of Canada.

His appointment is also seen as a sign that the Catholic Church is seeking to renew and revitalize itself amid current challenges.



Toronto Mayor John Tory resigns after admitting to having a relationship with a former employee.



John Tory's time as Mayor of Toronto ended on Friday, February 17, 2023, at 5:00 pm. Tory announced his resignation the week before last, after admitting to an inappropriate relationship with a former employee.

According to CBC, Tory had a romantic relationship with a woman who worked on his campaign team in 2018. Tory, who has been in office since 2014, made the admission at a press conference in which he said he "could not allow the relationship to interfere with his duty to serve the citizens of Toronto." John Tory's resignation as mayor of Toronto has sparked a great debate around the ethics and conduct of politicians.

Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie will serve as interim mayor of the city. McKelvie will assume some of mayor's responsibilities while not in fact holding the position of mayor, until municipal elections are held.

McKelvie has stated that she will continue to work with residents and the community at large to build a better and more livable city.

"Residents can rest assured that my entire focus at this time is ensuring a smooth transition and continued good governance," McKelvie said. "It is in that spirit that I must clarify that I will not be seeking to run for mayor in the upcoming by-election. Representing the residents of my ward, and ensuring a smooth, stable transition until a new mayor is elected, requires my full attention." McKelvie also thanked Tory "for his years of service here at City Hall" and wished him all the best.

Why is the illicit drug supply in Canada so deadly and what is being done about it?

Canada is facing an overdose crisis due to the increasing toxicity of its supply of illicit drugs. From January 2020 to June 2021, over 9,800 Canadians have died from opioid overdoses.

The pandemic has exacerbated the problem due to increased volatility in the drug supply, and border closures and disruptions to supply routes have made it difficult to produce and distribute quality drugs.

In recent years, traffickers have been adding fentanyl, a synthetic opioid, to illicit drugs to increase their profits.



Fentanyl is now the primary component of the illicit drug market, and its consumption is the leading factor contributing to drug overdoses in Canada. Experts also highlight that consumers don't know what they're using and how much they're using, further worsening the overdose crisis in the country.

Additionally, there has been an increase in the use of benzodiazepines, which can increase the risk of overdose when combined with fentanyl.

Despite efforts to address the problem, many argue that more needs to be done to address the root causes of the problem, including the stigma surrounding drug use, lack of access to safe and regulated drugs, and inadequate treatment and support for people struggling with addiction.

More than 34,000 dead by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria



An earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 shook Turkey and Syria on Monday, leaving a tragic toll of over 34,000 people dead and tens of thousands injured according to authorities. Survivors now face an additional risk of experiencing a "secondary disaster" due to terrible weather conditions. The World Health Organization warns that the cold and snow are worsening the situation for those affected, many of whom are homeless.

The epicenter of the earthquake was recorded in the Elazığ province of Turkey, near the border with Syria. Many houses and buildings collapsed during the earthquake, leaving many people trapped under the rubble. Authorities have been working hard to rescue survivors and provide medical care and shelter for the displaced.



The current situation is precarious, as the cold and snow are worsening the situation. The WHO has warned that people who have been left homeless could suffer from hypothermia and respiratory illnesses due to low temperatures and lack of adequate shelter. In addition, the weather conditions make rescue operations difficult and may hinder the delivery of humanitarian aid to affected areas.

The problem of homelessness in Canada.

Since the 1980s, there has been a decrease in national investment in affordable housing, as well as in levels of pension benefits and social services. This has been exacerbated by an increase in the population and a decrease in wages, which has led to more people being at risk of becoming homeless.

Homeless Canadians come from various groups, including men, women, families with children, youth, seniors, veterans, and Indigenous peoples.

For those who are homeless, there are emergency shelters, shelters for women experiencing violence, and temporary or provisional places available, such as motels, temporary housing, short-term rentals, institutional care, and housing for recent immigrants and refugees.

There are also people who do not have shelter or are considered "hidden homeless," as they temporarily live with family, friends, in cars, or elsewhere because they have nowhere else to live.



Message from the president



To sign up for our newsletter please email us at:

membership@canadianhispaniccongress.com

We ask for your support by following us on our official social media accounts shown below.

Edited by: Antonio Crespo and Monique Forster



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Dear friends of the Canadian Hispanic Congress,

March arrives full of promise as we focus our celebrations on International Women's Day. We appreciate this opportunity you give us to share with you some of what it on our minds.

Thank you for sharing the types of activities that makes your Family Day special.

Please keep them coming through president@canadianhispaniccongress.com. We are always delighted to hear from you. We hope to share your comments and photographs on social media.

We will continue our tradition of dedicating the month of March to the celebration of women, the very important one half of the world's population. Please stay tuned for our exciting promotions and activities dedicated to the celebration of women.

Also important to us is the celebration of the annual March School Break and on March 21 the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the celebration of International Transgender Day of Visibility. Please stay tuned for our programming in celebration of diversity, respect, and appreciation for the unique gifts that each of us share with the world.

Take part in the celebration of International Women's Day with us. You can participate by sharing your thoughts with us, about the situation of women in the world. You can also participate by taking a picture of yourself embracing yourself, embracing who you are and embracing equity. This year's International Women's Day slogan is #EmbraceEquity.

Send your pictures/comments to president@canadianhispaniccongress.com

Wishing you and your family a very Happy March 2023. If you travel, enjoy this break and safe travels.

Sincerely,
Monique Forster
President, Canadian Hispanic Congress



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...We need your picture!!!

#EmbraceEquity

#AbrazaLaEquidad

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WE WILL SHARE YOUR PHOTO ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023!

