



HOTEL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
ASSOCIATION DES HÔTELS DU CANADA

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

The Hotel Association of Canada Applauds the Federal Government for Lifting Visas for Mexican Travellers

June 28, 2016 – Ottawa – The Hotel Association of Canada (HAC) applauds the Trudeau Government announcement today eliminating Visa requirements for Mexicans travelling to Canada, a position long advocated by the HAC.

At a luncheon today in honour of His Excellency Enrique Pena Nieto, President of Mexico at the Parliamentary Dining Room, hosted by the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, the Honourable Stephane Dion, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of International Trade and the Honourable Bardish Chagger Minister of Small Business and Tourism HAC President Tony Pollard stated “This measure to lift the Visa requirement will greatly benefit Canadian hotels particularly during the shoulder and off season”.

Mexico is one of Canada’s top inbound travel markets. Despite the implementation of Visa requirements in 2009, Mexican inbound travel to Canada continues to grow. In 2014 there were 173,000 Mexicans coming to Canada, an increase of 14% over 2013. There were 21,469 Mexicans that came to Canada in March 2016 alone representing an increase of 54% from the same month the year before. “These numbers are expected to grow incrementally with the changes to Visas and the introduction of new direct and daily air service to Canada” added Pollard.

About the Hotel Association of Canada

The [Hotel Association of Canada](http://www.hotelassociation.ca) is the effective voice of the Canadian Hotel & Lodging industry. For over 100 years, it has worked to enhance the prosperity of the Industry through strong member engagement, effective advocacy, and the provision of value added programs and services. The Hotel Association represents the more than 8,100 hotels, motels and resorts that encompass the \$17.5 billion Canadian hotel industry which employs 288,000 people across Canada