



THCC President Attends U.S. Hispanic Workforce Summit

Toronto Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President, Idalia Obregon received a personal invitation to participate in the Hispanic Workforce Summit in Reno, Nevada January 29 – 31, 2007. The Chamber of Commerce Northern Nevada convened a group of Hispanic chamber CEOs and workforce experts from around the United States to discuss key issues related to the development and utilization of Hispanics in the workforce.

This summit was a first of its kind. This three-day summit gave the opportunity for local businesses, community leaders and workforce experts to have candid discussions with their counterparts about what can be done to address current and future workforce issues in northern Nevada and the United States. Summit participants quickly realized that the differences between Hispanic and non-Hispanic workers should not be the focus of the summit. The real issue is what can be done to improve the understanding and the needs of the rapidly growing Hispanic workforce and what Hispanic workers can do to better prepare themselves to meet the employment demand currently facing the United States.

Summit organizers recognize the growing Hispanic population in Canada and were interested in what similarities in workforce issues existed between the two countries. Obregon was the only chamber executive not from the U.S. invited to the summit.



Participants of the Hispanic Workforce Summit: Joe Cisneros (CCHCC), Jose Marquez (LISTA), Maury Centeno (HCCNN), Harold H. Gonzales (NMHCC), Rick Zamarripa (CCHCC), J.R. Gonzales (HCCNN) and Idalia Obregon (THCC)