Development of Human Capital and the Next Generation of Leaders in the Americas:
*The ELAP Model from a Student's Perspective*

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International Scholarships in Higher Education

- International scholarship programs in higher education have existed for many years.

**20th Century**
Train the administrative elite of their colonies

**Cold War**
- Counteract the ideological influence of the Communist Block
- Scholarships for Third World Students as developmental assistance

**Post-Cold War**
Send students abroad to address high-skilled workers shortage

Canada’s International Education Strategy

- Acknowledgement that International Education is **critical** to Canada’s success
- Attract talent and prepare the country for the 21st Century: address “innovation gap”
- Branding Canada as a respected destination of choice
- Focus on **priority education markets**:  
  - Brazil, China, India, **Mexico**, North Africa and the Middle East, and Vietnam

Canada’s International Education Strategy

Total value of international scholarships (fiscal year 2013-2014) + $13M

Scholarships to students in Latin America and the Caribbean, the US, China and the Francophonie. +700

Jobs generated by the presence of international students +81,000

Canada-Mexico Education Cooperation

- Canada-Mexico Partnership (est. in 2004)
  - Human Capital Working Group
- Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Innovation and Research with Canada (FOBESIIC)
- Proyecta 10,000
- MITACS-CONACYT
- Other Scholarships

According to the PATLANI study, there is an unequal relationship for student mobility. 1 Canadian student for every 6 Mexican students that go to Canada. This imbalance is, only after Spain, the largest in relation to any of the 10 countries with the highest number of Mexican students.

1,668 Mexican students went to Canada (2015-2016)

Canada-Mexico Student Mobility

The Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP)

- Canada's Strategy for Engagement in the Americas
  - 2009: Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program
  - 2010: Conference of the Americas on International Education
    - Latest: Montréal (October 2017)

- ELAP's objectives:
  "to foster the development of human capital and the next generation of leaders in the region by providing scholarships to study or research in Canada"

The Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP)

+ 4,000

Scholarships since 2009

600

Mexicans have gone to Canada under this program since 2009

98

Mexican students received an ELAP scholarship to study in colleges and universities across Canada (Academic year 2015-2016)

$7,200

For undergraduate or graduate students for a minimum of 4 months or one academic term of study/research

The ELAP Process

- The Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) administers the International Scholarships Program (ISP) of Global Affairs Canada.
- **ELAP study tour**
  As part of the Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program, selected recipients will be invited to participate in a study tour focused on Global Affairs Canada's key priority areas, such as democratic and accountable governance, human rights, the environment, diversity and Indigenous peoples.

The ELAP Process

- Candidates must be citizens of one of the following eligible regions:
  - Caribbean
  - Central America
  - North America: Mexico
  - South America:

The ELAP Process

- Scholarship recipients:
  - must engage in full-time studies or research as defined by the Canadian institution;
  - must be proficient in the language of instruction at the Canadian institution (English or French) before their arrival in Canada, as the scholarship does not cover language training;

- The Canadian institution must apply on behalf of the candidate(s)
- **Some challenges:** timing of response (June 22); timing of funding (September 22)

My ELAP Experience

Montréal, le 22 juin 2017

Hadrian González Torres
Étudiant
Centro de Ensenanza Técnica y Superior
Mexique

Objet : Résultats du Programme des futurs leaders dans les Amériques et échange étudiant à l’Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)

Monsieur González Torres,

J’ai le plaisir de vous annoncer que votre candidature au Programme des futurs leaders dans les Amériques (PFLA) financé par Affaires étrangères, Commerce et Développement Canada (MAECD) a été sélectionnée. Une lettre de confirmation de bourse ainsi qu’un accord de bourse suivront à cet effet. Nous sommes heureux de vous recevoir à l’UQAM dans le cadre de votre échange étudiant au baccalauréat en administration (gestion internationale) pour la session d’automne, soit du 5 septembre au 20 décembre 2017. L’objectif de votre séjour à l’UQAM est de participer à un échange éducatif et les frais de scolarité sont exemptés.

Pour toute question supplémentaire, n’hésitez pas à me contacter.

Dans l’attente de vous accueillir à Montréal, je vous prie d’agréer, Monsieur, l’expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Catherine Rodríguez
Conseillère aux partenariats et au développement international
Service des relations internationales
Université du Québec à Montréal
My ELAP Experience
My ELAP Experience

- Eligible expenses:
  - airfare, for the scholarship recipient only, to Canada by the most direct and economical route and return airfare upon completion of the scholarship;
  - health insurance;
  - living expenses;
  - ground transportation expenses, including a public transportation pass; and books and supplies required for the recipient's study or research, excluding computers and other equipment.
