

whom she spent time in the Dominican Republic on an internship in 1996 where she worked with CENSEL, a local NGO that provides legal aid and support services to women and children survivors of domestic violence and with CIPAF, another local NGO that focuses on policy and legislative reform and education in the area of women's rights. She is now CLAIHR's Project Manager for an upcoming project in the Dominican Republic. The project is a collaborative one with four local NGO's in the DR and the Ministry of Women. The project mandate is to create and implement a series of workshops to educate the police, judiciary, health care personnel, social workers, medical examiners, attorneys and women leaders about new Criminal code amendments that address violence against women, including specific provisions on domestic violence and protection orders for women to use against their abusers.

Luis Eduardo Mejicano

Born in the beautiful yet troubled country of Guatemala 22 years ago, Luis Eduardo Mejicano and his mother were forced to flee abroad. They lived in Costa Rica for seven months and then stayed in London for one year. Their journey to Canada was facilitated from Costa Rica, by a lovely church named Deer Park, who was coordinating their sponsorship to Canada. Luis and his mother arrived September 15, 1991. Since his arrival here Luis has participated in an exchange program to Jamaica as a Canadian delegate and has been closely affiliated with Serve Canada-a youth community development organization-as a participant, director on the board and currently as a team leader for a youth pilot project in Regent Park. Last August, Luis traveled with the Breaking the Silence Network (a Guatemala solidarity N.G.O. under the Guatemala/Canada Solidarity Network umbrella) back to Guatemala on a human rights delegation. This achievement was a dream for him as he was able to connect with other Latin American solidarity groups here in Toronto in order to help strengthen the Latin community as a whole. Luis is committed to bringing to the surface facts that are so often hidden from the public regarding the political turmoil of the past in Latin American countries.

Trent Melton

An international trade and marketing professional, with a specialisation in Latin American export promotion, Trent selected to work in the Foreign Trade Corporation of Costa Rica to fulfill the second year requirements of the Latin American Management Program. There his work consisted in preparing and consultation of small and medium-sized exporters for market entry into Canada. He designed and implemented a export promotion strategy for the Canadian market and solicited funding for this plan through the Costa Rican Initiative for International Competitiveness, a local Canadian International Development Agency project that is focused on providing support to the modernisation of the productive sector in Costa Rica.

Previously, Trent worked as an International Trade Analyst and Event Coordinator for the Ontario Chamber of Commerce where he managed the International Trade Committee and business related awards programs and events. His work primarily consisted of acting as a liaison between private sector interests and the Ontario provincial and Canadian federal government ministries and agencies.

Trent has recently finished his post-graduate studies in the Latin American Management Program at Capilano College in North Vancouver, British Columbia, a two-year program directed at geographic and cultural management specialisation. He received his honours undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Windsor along with a Multi-regional International Business Program certificate upon completion of one year's study in Barcelona, Spain at the Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona.