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## 203 IPN students conclude their academic stay in Canada

- **They take intensive English courses and strengthen their leadership skills.**
- **In the second stage, they will participate in professional internships in multinational companies to learn about work processes.**

The Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN) welcomed 203 master's degree students (from eight research centers) and undergraduate students (from 18 academic units located in Mexico City and in the interior of the Republic), who completed an academic stay in Canada, within the framework of the Program for Leadership Formation (PFL), Soft Skills and Cultural Immersion (PFL) 2022-2023.

In welcoming the students, the Secretario de Innovación e Integración Social, Ricardo Monterrubio López, said: "The world and Mexico need leaders, and for the Politécnico is an honor to receive its new values; the PFL is designed for them to acquire those additional skills that are required to have in an increasingly globalized world".

He explained that it has been said that politécnicos are experts in science and technology, but by reinforcing soft skills, the students who return home today will be tomorrow's leaders in research, business, government, and civil associations.

Accompanied by the Coordinador General de Planeación e Información Institucional of the IPN, Orlando David Parada Vicente, and the Director de Relaciones Internacionales, Joaquín César Pérez Escobar, Monterrubio López said that the PFL was created within the framework of the internationalization strategy of the Politécnico, to provide students with the necessary competencies and strengths to face the national and international labor market.

The Leadership, Soft Skills, and Cultural Immersion Training Program consist of two stages: the first one consisted of a short three-week stay in Canada, where



they received an intensive English course at Oxford International English Schools.

They also received courses to reinforce leadership skills and activities that allowed immersion in Canadian multiculturalism; the host cities for these activities were Vancouver and Toronto.

In the second stage, IPN students will carry out professional internships in multinational companies, which will allow them to learn about the processes of the labor environment, according to the area of knowledge and academic program in which they are enrolled.

On behalf of the graduate students, Sela Yanet Raymundo Allende, a student from the Centro Interdisciplinario de Investigación para el Desarrollo Integral Regional (Ciidir) Oaxaca Unit, originally from an indigenous community, said that she is the first member of her family to leave the country legally to study and improve herself.

"I have to thank the IPN because it has made my dreams and those of my classmates come true; we are going to be an example for other young people."

On behalf of the undergraduate students, Noemí López Jiménez, a student of the Unidad Profesional Interdisciplinaria de Ingeniería (Upiip) Palenque Unit, said that, from her indigenous Chol community, she is the first person to have the opportunity to study at a higher level in a prestigious institution such as the Politécnico and to travel to another country and learn about other cultures.

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