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CHAMBER'S "INTERNATIONAL TRIBUTE DINNER" CELEBRATES BINATIONAL REGION

Mexican diplomats Enrique Berruga-Filloo and Antonio Ortiz-Mena share perspectives on the evolving U.S.-Mexico relationship

SAN DIEGO (Dec. 8, 2016) – Tonight, at the International Tribute Dinner, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce honored the outstanding individuals and businesses that have made a significant impact in the binational efforts bridging U.S. and Mexican economies.

“This year’s presidential election has put a spotlight on our binational region, making our role at the Chamber as a champion for cross-border commerce, connections and collaboration more important than ever,” said Jerry Sanders, Chamber President and CEO. “Those of us who live and work here are embracing this time as an opportunity to showcase the people, projects, and attributes that make Cali-Baja one of the most vibrant and globally competitive regions in the world and we are proud to be a part of that effort.”

Over 200 business, government, and community leaders from San Diego and Baja joined in celebration of the dynamic Cali-Baja region at the annual event. Guests also enjoyed an address by Consul General Marcela Celorio and a thought provoking conversation on trade and the evolving U.S.-Mexico relationship with former United Nations Ambassador Enrique Berruga-Filloo and Antonio Ortiz-Mena, former Head of Economic Affairs at the Mexican Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Ambassador Berruga-Filloo served as an advisor to President Fox during the Bush Administration and as Mexico’s representative to the United Nations. Ortiz-Mena, during his service at the Mexican Embassy, participated in the 2016 U.S.-Mexico High-Level Economic Dialogue. In previous roles he assisted with NAFTA negotiations.

The Chamber also presented two awards recognizing projects that have made a difference in enhancing the economic prosperity of our border region. The 2016 International Tribute Dinner awardees are:

- SMINSA and Scripps Health, “Cross-Border Collaboration” award recipients for their partnership in building the first binational hospital.
- Cross Border Xpress, “Change Maker” award recipient, for revolutionizing travel between our countries and showcasing the great opportunity that exists through collaboration.

For highlights from the 2016 International Tribute Dinner, search the hashtag #ChamberTribute16 on social media.

About the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

The San Diego Regional Chamber is the hub for connections and collaboration among the regional business community, and uses that clout to advocate for public policies and candidates that support economic growth and the creation of jobs for all businesses. As the largest local Chamber on the West Coast, representing approximately 2,500 businesses and an estimated 300,000 jobs, the San Diego Regional Chamber is fighting to make San Diego the most business-friendly region in California. For more information, please visit SDChamber.org or call 619-544-1300.

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