

Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin

Short Biography

Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin is a Guatemalan citizen, born in 1967. Reginaldo earned a degree in agronomy from the Central National School of Agriculture and conducted studies in agronomy at the Universidad de San Carlos in Guatemala. His extra curriculum training includes agricultural research, business planning, economic development and work with children and youth both in Guatemala and in Minneapolis. Reginaldo has worked on economic development for Guatemalan Indigenous communities since 1988, and is a founder of various community run businesses. He served as vice-chair of the Fair Trade Federation for one year after co-founding it in 1994, he has done consulting work for the United Nations Development Program's Bureau for Latin America on the Indigenous People's Development Initiative, with focus on developing Indigenous trade partnerships internationally. He also served as advisor to the World Council of Indigenous Peoples on "practical ways to involve Indigenous leaders in the development of international fair trade".

From 1992 to 1999 Reginaldo lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he worked on developing fair trade partnerships between businesses in the North and Guatemalan and Mexican Indigenous businesses, on creating local businesses and training others to develop their own businesses (specially Latino/a) Reginaldo's major accomplishments are highlighted by the creation of Peace Coffee, a coffee company developed in partnership with Rigoberta Menchu Tum, the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize laureate. As a recognition to his work both locally and internationally, he was awarded one of the Twin Cities (Minneapolis and Saint Paul) International Citizen of the Year Awards in 1996. After developing Peace Coffee, Reginaldo went on to work with woodland owners in the Midwest and Guatemala where he organized Forestry Stewardship Certified cooperative forestry businesses. Reginaldo currently lives and works in Northfield, MN where he works as the Community Services Site Specialist for Greenvale Park Elementary School and is currently in the process of organizing the Latino Economic Development Center for the Owatonna, Faribault and Northfield area.

October 17, 1996. Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin is presented with one of the 1996 Twin Cities International Citizen of the Year Awards by Minneapolis Major Sharon Sayles Belton and Saint Paul Major Norm Coleman.



September 19, 1995. Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin is interviewed for CBC news in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan during an indigenous trade mission to this region which covered provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Canada.



Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Rigoberta Menchu Tum and Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin visit the roasting facilities in New Prague, Minnesota, during the launch of the Peace Coffee company in February 1997.