



HEADLINES

- Home
- Headlines
- Opinion
- Nation
- World
- Business
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Lifestyle
- Other Sections

DISPUTED SEAS | PORK BARREL SCAM | BILL TRACKER | ELECTION 2016

Noy to promote Philippines in Canada

By Aurea Calica (The Philippine Star) | Updated May 7, 2015 - 12:00am

Tweet 0
 Share 1
 googleplus 0
 Email 0
 Like 3



File photo

MANILA, Philippines - President Aquino left for the United States and Canada yesterday, bearing news of his administration's accomplishments and hoping to attract more investments and tourists.

In his departure statement, the President said his trips are meant to promote better ties with other countries as positive relationships unlock opportunities.

Aquino noted the US and Canada are home to hundreds of thousands of Filipinos and have been reliable partners of the Philippines for a very long time.

The two countries, he said, are participants in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in November to be hosted by the Philippines.

The President is expected to arrive in San Francisco at 6 a.m. (9 p.m. Manila time). He left the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 2 at past 8 a.m. with Vice President Jejomar Binay and other officials sending him off.

From San Francisco, Aquino will proceed to Chicago and pay a courtesy call on Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

He will also attend a business meeting co-organized by the US Chamber of Commerce, the US-ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Business Council and the National Center for APEC

LATEST NEWS TRENDING

- > Germanwings co-pilot tried slow descent hours before crash
May 6, 2015 - 10:02pm
- > Sharapova beats Garcia, reaches quarterfinals of Madrid Open
May 6, 2015 - 9:15pm
- > Mixed signals emerge for eurozone economy
May 6, 2015 - 8:04pm
- > Philippines participates in Venice Biennale
May 6, 2015 - 7:19pm
- > Gov't receives BMWs to be used by world leaders in APEC meet
May 6, 2015 - 7:17pm

[View more >](#) Recommended by

SOCIAL SPOTLIGHT

Tweets for this Article

DNAinfo.com Chicago @DNAinfoCHI

Philippines President Benigno S. Aquino III is coming to Chicago Wednesday dnainfo.com/1FO9HaX

19h

VOFN Philippines @vofnphilippines

Philippines President Benigno S. Aquino III Visits Chicago Wednesday "We are all ecstatic and grateful that he is..." fb.me/6C2OkLNBj

20h

Crowdynews

(Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Business Council and the National Center for APEC.

Aquino will also have a chance to meet with the Filipino community. There are around 139,090 Filipinos in the state of Illinois, 90,000 of them in Chicago.

"The US is the third major trading partner of the Philippines and we aim to boost trade further. Now that the economies of the two countries are growing bigger, we will express our readiness to make the most of every opportunity with them and show them that the Philippines is really more open for business now," Aquino said.

"Of course, our gift to them is the good news brought about the reforms that we planted for more than four years. We will report to them: the Philippines is really different now and we will surely reach higher dreams as we continue to be on the side of good governance," the President said.

Eager to meet Noy

Filipino-Americans and overseas Filipino workers in Chicago are looking forward to seeing President Aquino during his one-day working visit.

Ramon Lopez, president of the Philippine Medical Association in Chicago, said they felt "ecstatic and grateful that he is finally going to come to Chicago as President of the Philippines before his tenure ends."

In an interview with RTV Malacañang, Lopez lauded Aquino's accomplishments, particularly the resurgence of the Philippine economy, the campaign against corruption, as well the passage of the Reproductive Health Bill.

Edilberto Ortiz, a certified public accountant, said the Filipino community is eagerly anticipating Aquino's visit.

"It is definitely welcome news for Filipinos," Ortiz said during a separate interview with RTVM. "We have been waiting for this for the last five years."

Ortiz said the Filipino community in Chicago is also looking forward to hearing more from Aquino about his administration's plan to sustain the momentum of the country's economic growth.

"Is this good government going to continue? We feel like we have a good government now, but is that going to be continued after his term expires in 2016? That's the biggest question that we want him to answer," he said.

From Chicago, the President will fly to Canada for his first state visit upon the invitation of Canadian Governor General David Johnston and Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

He will witness the signing of some memoranda of understanding aimed at strengthening the ties between the Philippines and Canada.

"We will also express our thanks for the support of their government and their people. Examples are their immediate assistance, deployment of military personnel and donation for medical needs after (Super Typhoon) Yolanda struck (in 2013)," Aquino said.

'Country of focus'

The President said Canada also doubled its official development assistance for the Philippines in 2014, at \$111.95 million in grants.

He also stressed that Canada made the Philippines a "Country of Focus" for various forms of bilateral assistance.

"Canada laid down assistance for the country left and right: from the assistance to local government units to the implementation of their economic development plans, providing guidance to local entrepreneurs for them to have access to financial aid and training to enhance their business abilities as well as different humanitarian assistance if there are calamities," the President said.

Canada is also a partner of the Philippines in pushing for peace in Mindanao as a member of the Independent Commission on Policing. Canada is also providing assistance for the improvement of the

people's condition in the Bangsamoro region, he added.

Aquino said this kind of support is proof of Canada's acknowledgment of the Philippines' potential.

Last May 1, the President said Canada was one of the country's partners for JobStart Philippines program implemented by the Department of Labor and Employment.

He said \$3.6 million was allocated to the program.

"They also give stipend, pre-internship medical check-up and one year medical insurance to the beneficiaries who will be accepted," Aquino said.

Last year, Aquino said the Philippines was also chosen by Canada as "Priority Emerging Market," with Manila getting first on the list of investments and programs from Ottawa.

"Again, this is a vote of confidence for meaningful changes as a result of treading the straight path. And like in the United States, we will make the most of the opportunity to show to the well-known businessmen in Canada and to the Filipinos that we will meet in Toronto and Vancouver that it's really more fun now in our country," the President said. – **Delon Porcalla, Joseph Lariosa**

[Click here to join the discussion](#)

FOLLOW US:     

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE

Recommended by 

MORE HEADLINES

- Open to rematch
- P-Noy leading consultations on LP standard bearer
- Military: Usman killed in firefight with MILF
- Party-list groups get May 8 deadline
- Noul may intensify into typhoon – Pagasa
- New Comelec appointments submitted to CA
- Mary Jane's sons 4Ps beneficiaries since 2012
- Don't be too harsh on Pacman, critics asked
- PSALM chief suspended
- Senate starts probe of Chinese activities in West Philippine Sea

SECTIONS

[Home](#)
[Headlines](#)
[Opinion](#)
[Nation](#)
[World](#)
[Business](#)
[Sports](#)
[Entertainment](#)
[Lifestyle](#)
[Other Sections](#)

FEEDBACK

ALSO ON PHILSTAR.COM

WHAT'S THIS?

Mary Jane Veloso: In the Year of the Poor!

2 comments

Senate starts probe of Chinese activities in West Phi Sea

2 comments

Kulang sa ganda

4 comments

Pacquiao-Mayweather rematch kasado na

2 comments

0 Comments

Philstar.com

 Login ▾



Start the discussion...

Be the first to comment.

✉ Subscribe

ⓓ Add Disqus to your site

▶ Privacy

DISQUS



[About Us](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Advertise With Us](#)
[Subscribe to Newspaper](#)

[Site Map](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Member Agreement](#)
[Copyright Notice](#)

6TH Floor, RFM Corporate Center Pioneer St.,
Mandaluyong City Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 637-5400
For advertising concerns: email advertising@philstar.com
For marketing concerns: email marketing@philstar.com