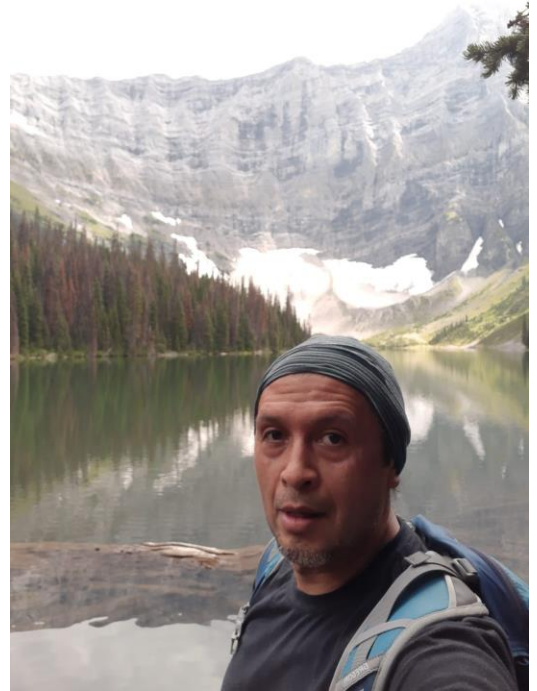**Name:** Leonardo Galindo-González

Occupation: Research Scientist at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Ottawa

Previous work and volunteer experience in Weed Science:

I started working on Invasive and Noxious Weeds as part of my job with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as a Research Scientist. In my lab we do weed genomics and molecular biology to be able to identify regulated species and future threats to the Canadian economy and our food supply.

How did you become involved with CWSS and when?

I became a member of the society in 2022 and came to the CWSS meeting in Halifax.

What has the extent of your involvement been? (i.e. have you served on committees/executive?)

I recently became part of the board as Research Representative / Scholarship and Awards Chair.

Favourite memory/experience in your weed science career to date?

Just in general being able to mentor people and make them excited about weed omics and the impact weeds have on our agricultural landscape.

What is your favourite weed and why?

My career in weed science has not been long (I used to, and still dedicate part of my research to plant pathology), but we have been studying Amaranthus palmeri, and I would say it is exciting research just because of the extent of the impact this plant can have on our crops.

What are your career goals/future plans in weed science (if you are comfortable sharing)?

Help position weed omics as a central component of research in Canada, to aid in more efficient diagnostics and management decisions.