



Chambre de Commerce  
**Indo-Canada**  
Chamber of Commerce

ANNUAL **38** MAGAZINE  
2015



# *CROSSING* MILESTONES

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TO PRACTISE



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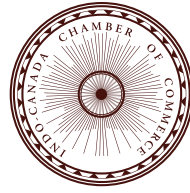
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# CROSSING MILESTONES: FROM PROMISE TO PRACTICE

2015  YEARS

Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce Annual Magazine





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## EDITOR'S NOTE

Friends,

This year's theme "Crossing milestones: From Promise To Practice," is a timely and appropriate theme in a rapidly changing business and trade relations between Canada - India.

Canada and India are natural partners and share many common things from multi-culturalism to democracy to law & order and to an open economy. Both Governments are business friendly. Canadian trade is shifting from south of border to EU and Asian Countries. In Asian countries, India is Canada's one of the biggest business partner.

Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce has championed the voice of Indo - Canadian businesses for the last 38 years and has witnessed numerous promises made by businesses and political leaders of two countries. Chamber has witnessed many MoUs signed between the two countries and has watched a steady growth in bilateral commercial activities.

The majority government came to power in India led by Mr. Narendra Modi in 2014. Politically stable government gives flexibility to the government to take bold decisions to accelerate the economic growth, domestically and globally. Prime Minister Modi's recent visit to Canada has opened new doors for future bilateral business ties and has generated positive vibrancy.

In view of the above developments, we truly understand that the time is so apposite to implement and deliver on the past promises. Now no more talks but to start working on the implementation and delivery of these promises. This is a time to cross old milestones to turn 'promises into practice' by achieving the target of \$15b bilateral trade between two countries.

We believe, the signing of Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) will prove to be a real game changer. Policy makers of both sides are committed to make it happen soon.

Friends, editing the magazine, commissioning different articles, working on the design and seeing the magazine take shape was a unique but hard task which we are able to achieve. This magazine encapsulates relevant information for each reader i.e. sponsors, corporates, committees, members and other readers. In this magazine, you will find painstakingly selected articles from subject experts.

Before we close, we would like to thank all our achievers for this year's awards. They are real life examples for others who has done great exemplary services to their profession, trade, commerce, society and has achieved so much that they have been chosen for these prestigious awards.

We also thank all sponsors, designers, Pawan Chankotra at the back office and most to RG Digital Printing for their hard work and continued support to make this wonderful publication a reality and to reach in your hands on time.

Sincerely,

Tony Chawla,  
Prof Rajesh Tyagi  
Editors



By Tony Chawla  
and Prof. Rajesh  
K Tyagi

*Besides being the Editor of ICC's 2015 Annual Magazine, Tony Chawla, is the Vice President of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce. He is a broker.*

*Rajesh Tyagi is a Director (Council Affairs- East) of the ICC.*





# TABLE OF CONTENTS



## About Us

Editor's Note	3
About the organization	7
Become a member	8
Volunteering	9
President's Note	10
Govenor General's Message	12
Prime Minister's Message	13
Message from the Premier of Ontario	14
Message from High Commissioner of India	15
Message from the High Commissioner for Canada to India	16
Greetings from the Minister of State for Multiculturalism	17
Greetings from the Minister of State for Sport	18
Greetings from Hon. Deepak Obhrai	20
Consulate General's Message	21
Chief Guest's profile	23
Keynote Speaker's Profile	24

## Award Winners 2015

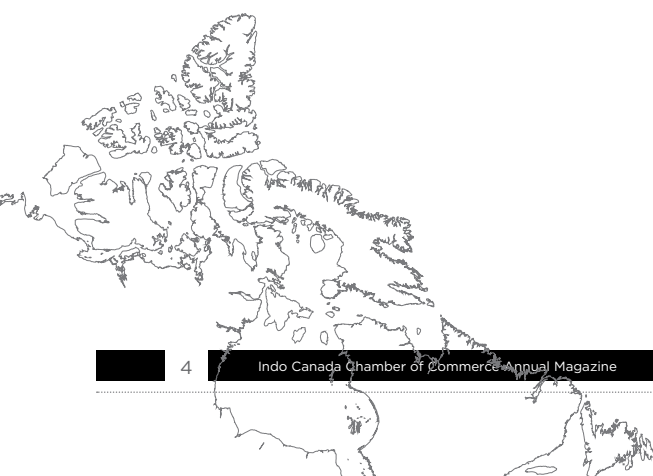
### Insights

Prime Minister Modi's Visit Imparts Huge Momentum to Bilateral Ties <i>By Vishnu Prakash</i>	25
Prospects for Two-way Investment Between Canada & India <i>By Nadir Patel</i>	35
India-Canada: Building Bridges Through Diaspora Networks <i>By Dr. A Didar Singh</i>	36
Towards Strategic & Modern Partnership <i>By Kant K. Bhargava</i>	38
Smart Cities in India <i>By Bharat Punjabi</i>	40

P.M. Modi's "Transformative" Canada Visit <i>By Kasi V.P. Rao</i>	46
India Set to Take its Rightful Place in the Global Economy <i>By Bhim D. Asdhir</i>	48
Aligning Canada's mining expertise with India's demands <i>By Indira Singh</i>	50
Investment Potential in Rajasthan <i>By K.L. Jain</i>	52
Business Immigration to Canada - "Ride the Express" <i>By Jagmohan Nanda</i>	54
Canada-India Linkages in Higher Education <i>By Dr. Shanthi Johnson</i>	56
Year in Review 2015	61
Board of Directors 2014-2015	62
Advisory Board 2014-2015	65
ICCC's Committees	67
Alberta Council Report	69
Halifax Council Report	70
Montreal Council Report	71
Winnipeg Business Council	72
Annual Awards & Gala Night 2014	73
16 <sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Classic 2014	78
Winter Gala 2014	80
India Mission 2015	82
Year in Review 2014-2015	87
Engaging Partners, Implementing Strategies: ICCC's Partners	98
Sponsors	101

## Hall of Fame 105

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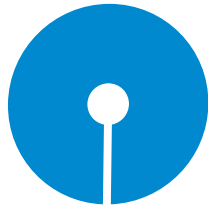
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# ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

The Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) was founded in 1977. The ICCC is a membership based, volunteer driven, not-for-profit, non-partisan and privately funded business organization representing its members from the Indo-Canadian business and professional communities across Canada.

## The Mandate

To promote trade and commerce between Canada and India with support provided to, and received from, various levels of governments and to establish links with global business organisations.

To provide business networking opportunities for our members, sponsors and partners to enable the sharing of ideas, information and experiences in order to promote mutual business success; to create learning opportunities for our members through seminars, workshops and conferences.

To recognize the achievements and contributions of the Indo-Canadian community as a part of the business and social fabric of Canada.

## The Vision

The Chamber works hard on behalf of its membership, offering insightful and meaningful policy contributions, and leading initiatives that positively influence the Indo-Canadian economic and social landscape. Our aim is to serve as the premier voice of the Indo-Canadian business and professional community. We are committed to the enhancement of economic prosperity and quality of life of our members.

The Chamber is the country's premier Canada-India bilateral trade and investment facilitator, catalyst and advocate. Our mission includes the promotion and stimulation of bilateral trade and commerce between Canada and India.

We recognize the importance of India as a premier trading partner for business in Canada. The Chamber is a pivotal resource in enhancing Canada-India trade.





## BECOME A MEMBER

---

At the Chamber, we believe strongly in the power of association. To facilitate this, we are constantly hosting networking opportunities where business people can meet other business people; professionals can meet professionals and exchange ideas, experiences, and get support. Many entrepreneurs will find the missing link in the room during our event. The room will be full of people who may have the key for your growth, and you may hold the missing puzzle for someone else's growth.

### We share with you experiences of two of our members:



*Ever since my family arrived in Canada, in January 1990, I have been fascinated by the awe-inspiring work done by a very fine team of dedicated volunteers- all professionals & successful entrepreneurs, for ICCC. As true Canadians, they all believed in giving back to the community. I have also been involved as a Life Member, of this esteemed organization, for over 20 years. Like any newcomer in any new country, I have also gone through fairly difficult times, sometimes, working on three jobs simultaneously. Eventually we have achieved success that I could not dream in my wildest imagination, despite my accent, color, introvert demeanor & several other so called handicaps. If one keeps dreams alive & does not give up, there is no better place on Earth. We really feel, we were fortunate to have taken the right decision to migrate to Canada.*

*Avin Mehra*



*I'm honoured to be a member of ICCC. I joined ICCC as an Indo-Canadian entrepreneur and gained aspiration to aim for challenging & new goals due to the esteemed membership of ICCC. ICCC has given me an opportunity to explore new ideas for a successful business establishment by regular interaction with members of Chamber, variety of seminars and multiple networking events that Chamber organizes throughout the year. To me, ICCC's role has been to connect local & provincial governments to not only SME & large organizations, but also to individual entrepreneurs. I'm enriched with unique knowledge & perspective due to my membership of ICCC that I'd otherwise have been devoid of.*

*Sanjay Brahmhatt*

*Become a member and stay in touch.*





# VOLUNTEERING

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce runs on volunteers. Right from the president of the Chamber to the young committee member who helps at the reception desk of our event, the Chamber depends entirely on the services of volunteers.

Volunteering offers incredible opportunities, priceless professional development which can enhance business and careers. Volunteering provides a sense of fulfilment and a perfect platform for anyone wanting to expose their leadership potential. By working with others, sharing experiences and identifying best practices, one starts to identify key qualities and considers how to develop those qualities in themselves.

Serving on a committee is a great way to learn more about the organisation and volunteering is something that anyone can do. Dedicating some time and energy leads to both social and professional gains. These rewards include recognition of skills and expertise which can ultimately result in positions of responsibility.



*"I have been part of the Chamber for several years now, both as a volunteer and as a Co-Chair of the Young Professionals Committee. In my tenure, I have seen the Chamber provide young professionals with an opportunity to meet and work with some amazing people, who continue to serve as an inspiration for the Indo-Canadian community."*

Shreya Tekriwal



*"ICCC is the platform Indo-Canadians need! In my own experiences so far I have realized that this platform connects you to the diaspora you did not know existed. The enabled connections help create more avenues of growth in every sphere of working. For many this prestigious chamber creates opportunities that would never have been noticed. Since there is a constant influx of immigrants this chamber creates a great networking opportunity that helps many get into mainstream commerce and transition into Canadian life. As this organization is officially recognized, one also gets inroads into Indian socio economic strata through the constant visits of senior political and bureaucratic delegations that visit Canada every year at the official levels. Many experience a connection with India, at a far intense level than what they experienced while living in India!"*

Sameer Sharma





## PRESIDENT'S NOTE



By Dharma P.  
Jain

### Modi's Canada Visit

Hon. Stephen Harper, Canada's Prime Minister, is the catalyst that has transformed a budding friendship into a full blown relationship between Canada and India. In 2009, he sowed the seeds of better ties with India, and since then has patiently nurtured the acorn, and helped it grow into a mighty oak. When the Indian Prime Minister visited Canada in April, 2015 the Harper-Modi jugalbandi had changed the discourse radically and comprehensively. Above all, it led to agreement to elevate Canada-India relations to a strategic partnership.

In its own way, the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) had presaged this development many years ago. Maintaining its non-partisan status as a facilitator of bilateral trade, the Chamber had taken the initiative to lead delegations to the Vibrant Gujarat Summit, and has been hosting trade delegations from Gujarat for several years. It welcomed concrete measures announced in the Canada-India Joint Statement to expand bilateral cooperation in trade and investment, civil nuclear cooperation, energy, education and skills development, agriculture, defense and security, science, technology, innovation, space, culture, people-to-people ties, and regional and global issues.

### Challenges, Achievements

During my term as the President of this august and venerated institution, we have charted new paths towards new accomplishments. Even as the Chamber continued to work in facilitating bilateral trade relations, it undertook a vigorous exercise during the last year to reorient the focus of the nearly four decades' old

organization by focusing on creating avenues for business for Indo-Canadians. This reorientation was a result of a prolonged internal debate – manthan – which led to the realization that the Chamber's membership looked to it to create opportunities in Canada, and facilitate solutions in Canada. The reorientation led to more qualitative programming for our members. We also provided more value to our sponsors by engaging them in events and organizing events on current business topics delivering more values to members rather having more political events.

We have also had our fair share of challenges. Among the biggest challenges have been the crises of credibility that the Chamber faces with a large section of its stakeholders, compounded by cost overruns that are a result of improperly thought out decisions, such as the acquisition of the new building without thinking of future use, mounting irrecoverable accounts receivables and also uncontrolled operational expenses. The other two factors that hampered operational efficiencies were lack of cohesion and sense of belonging in the board, and sustainability of staff.

Despite these challenges, the year was full of sterling achievements. The Chamber created three committees as directed by the AGM – Governance, Audit and Nomination. The Chamber also successfully revised the bylaws, which will be presented to the members at the AGM later in June 2015. Few of nomination committee's recommendations are also being implemented in next elections. By enforcing strict control, we were able to bring down the operational costs substantially. The other accomplishments were transparency in the Chamber's operations, and curtailing the





spiraling Presidential expenses in the past few years. In addition, by acquiring the necessary permissions, we were able to hold a majority of events within the building premises, thereby bringing down the events and programs costs. The India Mission 2015 was focussed on trade and not on photo-opportunities, and we were able to add three partners in India. Additionally, we were able to bring two new affinity program partners, and six new sponsors including international brands, on board. We were also able to give representation to the Chamber's pan-Canada presence by appointing directors from Calgary and Montreal. I followed one simple policy..... be open, accessible, transparent and a good listener. One more achievement, was to revive Chamber councils.

## Future agenda

As I demit the President's office, I recall the American poet Robert Frost's memorable lines: "And miles to go before I sleep..." I want to enumerate the future agenda for the Chamber. Ours is a bilateral institution; an office in India is a long-felt necessity, and I hope my successors will be able to fulfill this aspiration of our members. I also believe that the Chamber should seek funding from the Canadian government because it is fulfilling an important objective of helping small businesses.

Following are some of the more important things that Chamber must aim at:

- **Strong Councils and Committees:** Creating strong committees with a four-year term; forming advisory cells for key areas such as legal, immigration, business, investment, etc.; ensuring representation of councils in the national board to make Chamber a real national organization
- **Active and Motivated Directors:** A board that encompasses both the Canadian and Indian diversity. A detailed code of conduct for directors and an empowered disciplinary committee reviewing directors' performance that is authorised to remove non-performing directors and prevent them from re-contesting elections
- **Professional Organization of Events:** Both the galas to be organized in a professional manner, and not like an Indian wedding; collaborative events with MoU partners; at least one day-long event every quarter; making a weekly networking event a reality; planning

sector focused India mission

- **Governance:** Electronic voting without proxies; an expense reimbursement policy, a personnel management policy
- **Marketing and content management:** Making website more detailed, informative and interactive; making the monthly newsletter more better in term of content and design, informative and filled with articles, and an independent revenue generator; starting a blog on chamber website; power point presentation for marketing and promoting chamber
- **Optimum use of media partners** for promoting Chamber's events and galas
- **Membership:** Encouraging more involvement of membership; creating sector-based directories, data base of Indian as well as Canadian corporations; raising paid membership to at least 2,500; auto membership renewal; member only area on website with availability of membership information
- **Better use of Office building:** Revenue generation through renting the upper floor, and the event space
- **Staff:** Appointing a professional CEO, and minimizing the involvement of board and president, hiring an efficient and experienced staff through proper procedures; formulating HR policies
- **Sponsors and partners:** Adding at least 10 affinity partners; focus on event sponsors than annual sponsors, frequent dialogue with sponsors and engaging them more in chamber activities

Friends, It has been an honour to serve the stakeholders of this institution that has come to represent the aspirations of our growing community. I have served it as a director, as a Vice President and as a President, and during my four years on the board, my guiding principle has been the Rigveda edict: Bahujan sukhaya, bahujan hitaya (for the happiness of the many, for the welfare of the many).

I thank the members for their continued support to our organization and for giving me a wonderful opportunity to serve it.

Dharma Prakash Jain  
President





THE GOVERNOR GENERAL · LE GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL

It gives me great pleasure to send my warmest greetings to all those on being honoured at this year's Gala and Awards Night.

When we give—whether in time, talent or money—we grow as individuals and as a community. As governor general, I firmly believe Canada has benefited richly from the contributions of professionals, entrepreneurs, volunteers and philanthropists who have dedicated themselves to helping others. Today, the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce recognizes those who have demonstrated a stalwart commitment to enriching the lives of their fellow Canadians and to strengthening the ties between India and Canada.

I congratulate all of you on this honour and I thank you for making Canada a smarter, more caring place to live.

David Johnston

May 2015





PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE



*I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) Annual Gala and Awards Night.*

*Tonight's event comes on the heels of the recent official visit by Prime Minister Modi to Canada, the first by an Indian Prime Minister in over 40 years. The visit highlighted the importance of the Canada-India relationship, which has been elevated to a Strategic Partnership. A number of commercial contracts were signed covering a range of sectors, including aerospace and defence, education, energy, mining and sustainable technologies.*

*With its expanding population and impressive economic growth, India represents tremendous opportunities for Canadian companies. I know that ICCC members and the broader Indo-Canadian community will prove invaluable to these efforts. I join with you in saluting this year's award recipients for their business achievements and their important contributions to our country's prosperity.*

*Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable evening.*



*The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.*

OTTAWA  
2015





**Premier of Ontario - Première ministre de l'Ontario**

June 6, 2015

### **A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER**

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am very pleased to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the Annual Awards and Gala Night of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC).

The Indo-Canadian community has contributed much to the business, political and professional climate of our province. This wonderful event gives us the opportunity to highlight the significant contributions and achievements of individuals who will join a distinguished list of past honourees. Congratulations to those who have earned this accolade.

I am also proud of the important work of the ICCC. For more than three decades, this fine organization has excelled in building strong, mutually beneficial ties between Canada and India — fostering opportunities for business and trade. By cultivating these relationships and by helping members achieve success, the ICCC is also making important contributions to the vitality and economic health of our nation.

As you come together to celebrate friendship, accomplishment and success, please accept my best wishes for a memorable evening.

**Kathleen Wynne**  
**Premier**





## MESSAGE

I am glad that Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) is providing the lead in deepening bilateral economic engagement. The High Commission in Ottawa and the Consulates General of India in Toronto and Vancouver stand ready to extend all possible assistance. It has since been decided to give 5-year Business visas to qualifying applicants, parameters for which would be soon posted on our websites.

I am happy to greet members of ICCC and look forward to many opportunities of interacting with them. I wish ICCC every success in its endeavours!

Vishnu Prakash

High Commissioner of India,  
Ottawa





## MESSAGE

### HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA TO INDIA

On the occasion of the publication of the annual brochure by the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC), I would like to congratulate ICCC for its substantial contribution in promoting and strengthening the Canada-India bilateral relationship.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Canada, the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister in over 40 years, is a sure sign that relations between our two countries are reaching new heights with elevation of bilateral relations to a strategic partnership. The visit resulted in several new bilateral agreements and commercial deals worth over \$1.6 billion and showed how committed our governments and our companies are to deepening ties in a broad range of areas including energy, railway transportation, civil aviation, education and skills development, space cooperation, and maternal, newborn and child health.

Our two governments share similar views on how to stimulate economic growth at home, including through job creation, infrastructure investment, and the development of a stable, predictable business environment, including lower taxes for job creators. In keeping with this shared vision of the world, Canada and India are currently working hard on a Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement and a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, both of which will create jobs and economic growth in our countries.

Canada has the capacity and expertise to support PM Modi's visionary initiatives such as Clean India, Digital India, Skilling India, Smart Cities India and Make in India. In particular, Canada's strengths in the food, energy, infrastructure, education and innovation sectors, and its investment potential can reap real benefits on both sides. Another fundamental element that binds us is the 1.2 million strong Indo-Canadian community that keep on building bridges between our nations.

I am convinced that India and Canada can accomplish more as partners than they can individually. In this context, the ICCC is - and will remain - instrumental in showcasing the best that Canada has to offer and in connecting our private sectors to our mutual benefit. I look forward to continue our productive partnership with ICCC over the coming years.

Yours sincerely,

Nadir Patel

High Commissioner for Canada to India





Minister of State (Multiculturalism)



Ministre d'État (Multiculturalisme)



## Greetings from the Minister of State for Multiculturalism

Warmest greetings to all those attending the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) annual Awards Ceremony and Gala.

As you celebrate and honour the many worthy recipients of the awards, I invite you to reflect on the many valuable contributions that Canadians of Indian descent have made to our great country.

As Prime Minister Harper noted: "Canada today is an example of the world in our embrace of diversity, in the ability of Canadian federalism to preserve what distinguishes our communities while strengthening what unites us as a country."

Canadians of Indian heritage have long enriched our society with their skills, knowledge, and talent, and their achievements continue to contribute to the cultural and economic fabric of Canada.

I commend the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce for your dedication to supporting bilateral trade between our two great countries, Canada and India, and for your many contributions to our nation's success.

Best wishes to all award recipients and to everyone attending the annual awards and gala.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Tim Uppal, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of State for Multiculturalism





*Hon. Bal Gosal, P.C., M.P.*  
*Minister of State (Sport)*

Member of Parliament  
Bramalea—Gore—Malton



For almost 40 years the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce has built a strong reputation for its hard work in fostering bilateral trade between Canada and India. This work has provided countless opportunities for Canadians of Indian origin to further succeed.

It has been my pleasure to work closely with the ICC, in the past, as a member of the Brampton business community, currently, during my time as the MP for Bramalea-Gore-Malton; and I look forward to working collaboratively in the future.

Canada and India have longstanding bilateral relations, close people-to-people ties and shared values of open markets, democracy and good governance.

Fortunately, we have a Prime Minister who understands those values and who also understands the need to further strengthen our countries' business, academic, cultural and people-to-people ties.

Our partnership is greatly enriched by the nearly 1.2 million Canadians of Indian descent, who are now a major part of our communities, in cities and towns across Canada.

As many know, India is consistently one of Canada's top source countries for immigration. Last year, (2014) saw almost 40,000 Indian citizens become permanent residents of Canada. Over 152,000 visitor visas were issued, which is up 33% since 2008.

Our government remains committed to utilizing these strong links to build a stronger partnership, leading to new opportunities and new sources of prosperity in both countries.

I've witnessed this first hand already, during both the visit to India with Prime Minister Harper in 2012 and during last year's State visit to India with the Governor General.

I am also encouraged by the recent historic visit of Prime Minister Modi, and I know our government looks forward to working with him and his government, to take our bilateral partnership to the next level.

During these visits, I've also seen a focus of fostering education, innovation and entrepreneurship, with agreements signed that will bring cultural and economic benefits to Canadians and Indians.

Other agreements between our two nations also remain dedicated to saving lives and improving health through innovation.

While we continue working on such important matters as education, innovation, trade and investment, we also must look forward to further expanding co-operation in energy and food security, civil aviation and defense research.





In these and other priorities, I am convinced Canada and India have much to gain by working together. That's why we continue to work hard to open new markets for our exporters in the largest, most dynamic and fastest-growing economies in the world, especially in India.

In fact, India is Canada's largest trading partner in South Asia. Over the past decade, bilateral trade between Canada and India has more than doubled. More recent statistics show Canadian exports to India totalled \$3.1 billion, a 12.4% increase from 2013, a 53% since 2010, with bilateral trade reaching \$6.3 billion.

That's a 51% increase in the last 5 years and India remains a priority market under Canada's Global Markets Action Plan.

Canada also remains committed to using all of the tools at our disposal to support Canadian companies - especially SMEs - as they boost exports and investment overseas.

I am hopeful this continued trading relationship between the Canadian and Indian governments will create jobs and benefit both our economies, with the goal of tripling our bilateral trade to \$15-billion annually.

It's clear already, members of Indo-Canadian community have contributed greatly to making Canada one of the best places in the world to live and do business and I look forward to seeing that continue.

I would also like to congratulate all of those who will be recognized by the ICCC at this years' annual awards and gala. Those represented in the eleven different categories are a true representation of what makes the community strong, and I look forward to witnessing the great work they will accomplish in the future.

Sincerely,

Hon. Bal Gosal, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of State for Sport  
Bramalea-Gore-Malton

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HOUSE OF COMMONS  
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CANADA

*The Honourable Deepak Obhrai, P.C., M.P.*

Member of Parliament / Député  
Calgary East / Calgary-Est



May 20<sup>th</sup> 2015

Mr. D.P. Jain  
President  
Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce

Dear Mr. Jain,

I am pleased to send this message on the occasion of the ICCC's 2015 Annual Awards Gala, which recognizes the achievements and contributions of the Indo-Canadian community.

The ICCC has played a vital role as bridge-builders and catalysts and have inspired trade partnerships between Canada and India which they can be proud of.

I was honoured to be included as the co-leader of the ICCC delegation for the PBD and Vibrant Gujarat Summit held in Ahmedabad, India in January this year. I commend you and your team for your impressive work during this tour, yielding excellent results for the ICCC as well as for our two countries. Your entire team deserves a great thank you from all of us for enhancing Canada-India relations.

The ICCC's good work has certainly been recognised, which was confirmed when the ICCC was bestowed with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman in 2012. Furthermore, the historic visit of Indian Prime Minister Shree Narendra Modi to Canada in April is the result of years of hard work by organizations such as the ICCC to bring our two countries closer together.

I also had the honour to launch the ICCC publication, *Canada-India Partnership – Unlocking its potential*, first in Toronto during the ICCC's Winter Gala in December 2014 followed by a second launch in Ahmedabad during PBD in January. I would also like to extend my appreciation to you and delegates of the ICCC for attending the Global Visionary Awards ceremony where I was felicitated. I was honoured by your presence and encouraged by the support of my fellow Canadians during this important event.

I consider it an honour to be associated with your organization. I wish the Indo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce much success in all its endeavours.

Sincerely,



Hon. Deepak Obhrai, P.C., M.P.

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27 April 2015

### **MESSAGE**

I would like to extend my good wishes to the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) on the occasion of its Annual Gala and Awards Nights on June 6, 2015 on the theme "Crossing Milestones: From Promise to Practice".

2. India and Canada enjoy extremely close, cordial multi-faceted relations, based on shared traditions of democratic values, pluralism, the multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious nature of two societies and strong people-to-people contacts.

3. The recent historic visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has elevated the India-Canada friendship to a broad-based strategic partnership based on long-term convergence of geo-political interests and economic complementarities.

4. As India emerges as the world's fastest growing major economy, it offers unprecedented business opportunities for mutually beneficial partnership with Canada in the fields of infrastructure development, energy, agri-business, services, e-governance and higher and vocational education. More than 1.2 million Canadians of Indian origin can play an important catalytic role in fostering business ties between India and Canada.

5. As one of the largest and the oldest Indian diaspora organisations in Canada, ICCC is a unique instrument for promoting interaction between business communities of the two countries. I am deeply appreciative of the support ICCC has been extending to various visiting Indian delegations and leading visits of Canadian business delegations to India. I look forward to working together with the Chamber closely to further expand and diversify business to business contacts to leverage immense potential for two-way trade and investment.

6. I wish the Chamber, its members and the entire Indian diaspora in Ontario continued success and well-being.



**(Akhilesh Mishra)**  
**Consul General**



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# CHIEF GUEST

JOHN TORY, MAYOR, CITY OF TORONTO

John Tory is the 65th Mayor of Toronto. Born and raised in Toronto, Mayor Tory has spent his career promoting and giving back to the city he loves.

As a lawyer, talk show host, businessman, Member of Provincial Parliament and Leader of the Official Opposition at Queen's Park, and finally as Mayor, he has long believed that the diversity of Toronto is its strength. As Mayor, John's focus will be on bringing the city together as One Toronto.

Among Mayor Tory's top priorities are tackling transit and traffic congestion. He is focused on taking action to reduce commute times so Toronto residents can get to work on time and home to their families sooner. Mayor Tory is also getting to work on Toronto's transit crisis by getting on with the Scarborough subway and beginning work on the Smart Track line, a 53 kilometer, 22 station surface subway that would provide all day, two-way service across the city and bring needed relief to the congested Yonge subway.

The early years of Mayor Tory's career were spent practicing law in Toronto, and he was later elected as a managing partner of one of Canada's biggest law firms. In the 1980's he served as Principal Secretary to Premier Bill Davis and as Associate Secretary of the Ontario Cabinet. In September 2004, Mayor Tory was elected leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario. In 2005, as PC Party Leader, Mayor Tory would serve as the Leader of the Official Opposition at Queen's Park.

Mayor Tory has an extensive background in volunteer community service. He served as volunteer Chairman and Commissioner of the Canadian Football League and has chaired fundraising campaigns for St. Michael's Hospital and the United Way. He has also held leadership positions in a wide range of charitable organizations ranging from Canadian Paraplegic Association, Crime stoppers, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto Association for Community Living, the United Way, and the Women's Legal Education & Action Fund (LEAF).

Mayor Tory's community work has been widely recognized. Mayor Tory was a founding Board Member and Chair of the Greater Toronto Civic Action Alliance. He is a recipient of both the Paul Harris and Mel Osborne Awards from the Rotary and Kiwanis organizations respectively and was named a Life Member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board. He is also the recipient of an African Canadian Achievement Award and the Harry Jerome Award. Mayor Tory was recently awarded the Order of Ontario for being a "consummate champion for the Greater Toronto Region."

Born on May 28, 1954, Mayor Tory is a lifelong, and long-suffering, Toronto Maple Leafs fan. Mayor Tory and his wife Barbara have been married for 32 years. They raised their four children, John Jr, Chris, Susan and George in Toronto and are now delighted to have four grandchildren to spoil.







## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ASIM GHOSH, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF HUSKY ENERGY



Asim Ghosh could be described equally well as a Canadian with deep roots in India, or as a global citizen with longstanding ties to Canada and India.

Born in New Delhi in 1947, he is the son of Amalananda Ghosh, a respected archaeologist who served as Director General of the Archeological Survey of India, and Sudha Ghosh. As was so well described by Salmon Rushdie in *Midnight's Children*, he is of the generation whose lives were deeply shaped by the moment India became an independent country.

Asim graduated from the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi in 1969 with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering, then furthered his education in the United States with an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

His subsequent business career is notable for his role in helping some of the world's best recognized companies expand their operations.

He began his career in Canada in 1971 with multinational consumer goods company Procter and Gamble. He went on to serve as the senior vice president of Carling O'Keefe, one of Canada's largest breweries.

A new door opened in 1989 when Asim was hand-picked to become the co-founding CEO of Pepsi Food's startup operation in India. He moved to Hong Kong two years later to set up a consumer goods joint venture between Pepsi and investment holding company Hutchison Whampoa. Shortly thereafter, he became the CEO of AS Watson Industries, a Hutchison subsidiary.

In 1998, Asim was tasked with the role of leading Hutchison's telecom joint venture in India as the CEO of Hutchison Essar. Under his leadership, the company mushroomed from a one-city operation into India's second largest mobile phone provider with more than 60 million subscribers.

Asim presided over the 2007 sale of Hutchison's stake in the company to Vodafone in a deal that valued the business at about \$18 billion. It was the biggest all-cash transaction ever to have taken place in Asia.

His global journey eventually led him back to Canada, where in June of 2010 he assumed his current role with Husky Energy. In the past five years, Asim has firmly established Husky as an integrated, diversified and balanced growth company, leveraging its 75-year foundation in Western Canada to invest in new growth projects in the Asia Pacific Region, the Oil Sands and offshore Atlantic Canada.

Among his affiliations, Asim sits on the Board of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, serves as a director of the charitable Li Ka Shing Foundation, and is a Distinguished Alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology.





# AWARD WINNERS 2015

Since 1992, the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce has acknowledged the achievements and contributions of Indo-Canadians by instituting the following awards:

- Female Entrepreneur
- Male Entrepreneur
- Female Professional
- Male Professional
- Young Achievers
- Technology Achievement
- Corporate Executive
- Humanitarian
- Lifetime/Outstanding Achievement
- President's Award
- Member of the Year





#### Female Entrepreneur

### Nisha Amin

Founder & Owner  
Bite Bar Desserts Inc

Nisha Amin launched Bite Bar Desserts Inc business in 2013 with a flagship retail location in downtown Toronto. Over the first year of business Bite Bar tantalized dessert lovers' taste buds with a variety of bite sized desserts accompanied by dessert inspired cocktails, martinis, and herbal teas. Wholesale clients like The Sick Kids Hospital and Foundation, The Sony Centre, Barberians Steak House and Holt Renfrew also began to share a bite with their clientele.

In the first year Nisha created and marketed ethnically customized bite sized cupcakes continuing to trend set. These have been featured on Canada AM, Morning Live, and continues to grow in popularity each year. Bite Bar has been featured on The Morning Show, CTV Canada AM, The Toronto Sun, CHCH Morning Live, Toronto Star, Chateline Online, The Toronto Sun and local South Asian newspapers.

Nisha completed a BBA from Schulich School of Business. She completed Baking Arts and Culinary courses at George Brown College.

Nisha is a dedicated volunteer for different community groups such as local Youth Shelter providing lunch or dinner service, sponsorships to local community events including Habitat For Humanity, Sick Kids Foundation, Breast Cancer Canada and Canadian Cancer Society. Currently she is working on launching a not for profit organization geared to assisting small businesses in the city of Toronto.



#### Male Entrepreneur

### Prashant Pathak

Managing Partner,  
ReichmannHauer Capital  
Partners

Prashant Pathak is CEO of Ekagrata Inc. a principal investment company and also Managing Partner of ReichmannHauer Capital Partners a private equity firm. Mr. Pathak is focused on addressing all strategic, operational, financial, and organizational aspects of investments to drive superior returns. He is an appointee of Government of Canada on the Board of Business Development Bank of Canada. He is Chair of the Venture Capital and Investments Committee, for BDC Venture Capital.

Mr. Pathak has extensive international experience and built strong trusted relationships with several corporations, conglomerates and family holding companies from his work in Europe, Middle East Asia, and South East Asia. In addition to operations, he has experience in leading product and technology platform development.

He actively contributes to several community and not-profit institutions and causes. He was recognized as Canada's Top 40 Under 40TM for exceptional achievement across five dimensions - vision and leadership; innovation and achievement; impact; growth and development strategy; community involvement and contribution - and the capacity to encourage and foster growth. He was an inductee to the "30 most influential Indo-Canadians Power List" of Rediff's India Abroad magazine (2009) and adjudged South Asian Professional of the Year 2010 by Mid-Week Magazine.

Prashant has a MBA from INSEAD with Distinction and a B.Tech degree in Electrical Engineering from The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).







Female Professional

### Neeru Gupta

MD, Chair of Ophthalmology  
and Vision Science,  
St. Michael's Hospital

Dr. Neeru Gupta is a leading world figure in the field of glaucoma, and immediate Past-President of the Canadian Glaucoma Society. She is well recognized for her contributions as a surgeon, scientist, educator and entrepreneur. She is Chief of Glaucoma across all hospitals at the University of Toronto, and Founding Director of the Glaucoma and Nerve Protection Unit at St. Michael's Hospital, University of Toronto, where she has led numerous clinical trials relevant to the introduction of new treatments for glaucoma. She is Editor of the Translational Vision and Technology Section of the Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology.

The New York Academy of Medicine awarded the Lewis Rudin Prize for her work in new lymphatic circulation in the eye. She also launched the Human Eye Biobank for Research.

She is an educational zealot, volunteering her time to spearhead programs for every major organization in the field of glaucoma. She is the first Canadian to become a board member of the International Council of Ophthalmology, an umbrella organization of 120 eye societies. She is Chair of the Advisory Committee to the International Council of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Gupta is active in the training of the next generation of ophthalmologists at the University of Toronto. She received her medical degree from the University of Manitoba, and doctorate degree at the University of British Columbia.



Male Professional

### Manjul Bhargava

Professor of Mathematics,  
Princeton University

Manjul Bhargava is the R. Brandon Fradd Professor of Mathematics at Princeton University and an Adjunct Professor at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Mumbai, IIT-Bombay, and University of Hyderabad, and is the Stieltjes Chair at Leiden University in the Netherlands. Professor Bhargava is also widely acclaimed for his efforts to disseminate mathematics and improve mathematics education around the world. Professor Bhargava was born in Hamilton, Ontario.

His Ph.D. thesis broke new grounds on a problem that saw no progress for 200 years and earned him the Blumenthal Award, given to the best Ph.D. thesis written in mathematics anywhere in the world. Bhargava was appointed as a Tenured Full Professor at Princeton University at the age of 28, making him one of the youngest tenured full professors in history.

Professor Bhargava has received SASTRA Ramanujan Prize (2005), the Packard Fellowship (2005), the Clay Research Award (2005), the AMS Cole Prize (2008), the Fermat Prize (2011), the Infosys Prize (2012), Election to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (2013), and Election to the Indian National Science Academy (2014).

In August 2014, Professor Bhargava was awarded the Fields Medal, known as the "Nobel Prize of Mathematics" and considered the highest honor a mathematician can receive. In March 2015, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan, India's third highest civilian honor.







Young Achiever

### Hargurdeep Singh

President,  
Sheridan Engineering  
Association,

Hargurdeep is an exceptionally profession driven person, who has a high interest towards additive manufacturing (3D Printing). He is currently serving as a Project Leader and Researcher at Sheridan's Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Design Technologies (CAMDT) Lab in Brampton, Ontario.

Hargurdeep has published several research papers at international conferences and journals. He has received many international awards in the engineering field. He is the recipient of Ontario's Co-op Student of the Year award and OACETT Publication Award for his research in Cost Optimization in the area of additive manufacturing.

Hargurdeep also volunteers with various organizations. He is the President/Founder at Sheridan Engineering Association, Ambassador at Sheridan School of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering & Technology, Student Councillor at The Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT), Chair at The American Society of Mechanical Engineers Sheridan College Section, Director at the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce Young Professional Committee and last but not least, he is the Chair/Founder at The Elements of Indian Culture (a non-profit organization dedicated to educate Canadians about the Indian Arts and Culture).



Young Achiever

### Avish Sood

Coordinator,  
Sponsorship Sales, Toronto 2015  
PanAm Games

Avish Sood is an award winning Canadian sports marketing professional currently working on the Sponsorship Sales team for the Toronto 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games Organizing Committee. While completing a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Toronto, Avish quickly realized his passion for sports marketing after founding Canada's largest student-run sports marketing conference.

Prior to working on Sponsorship Sales at the Pan Am Games, Avish has worked as a Junior Accountant for the Score Television Network, Corporate Partnerships Intern for the Toronto Blue Jays and as the Director of Sponsorship for the Canada Cup. Additionally, Avish's avid interest in sponsorship has also led him to creating The Sponsorship Space, an online sponsorship industry resource with over 2,500 active followers. Avish has also worked with various properties including the National Football League (NFL), Jays Care Foundation and the Toronto Mets Baseball Club.

Avish has been recognized by Sports Launch Magazine's 30 under 30, Sports Networker's Rising Stars, Partnership Activation's Rising Stars, and University of Michigan's "BIG Initiative".







## Technology Achievement

### Rajiv Manucha

President & CEO  
MSR Customs

Born in Faizabad, India, educated at the University of Toronto (Engineering and MBA) with IBM experience, Rajiv Manucha launched his own technology company in 1981 – MSR Customs, which automates international trade compliance processes, and provides importers with duty refund opportunities.

Rajiv has led MSR to a successful multimillion dollar international company with its own 40,000 square foot building, employing over 120 people.

Rajiv developed software to automate the production of import documents for freight forwarders and customs brokers in 80s and Networks and the internet enabled development of centralized and distributed models of customs management software in 90s.

Rajiv invented software that automated the screening of people against international government 'watchlists' ensuring trade transactions complied with national security laws in 2000. MSR now has 100 thousand users globally, including in India. The cloud and ERP/Web connectivity furthered the technical evolution, allowing quick integration into common business applications, as well as mobile options in 2010.

Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies. The US's Top 100 Logistics Companies. Certifications include those from Canadian and US Customs authorities, Microsoft, Oracle, and Salesforce.

Rajiv generously supports United Way (India, Canada), Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and Doctors without Borders.

Rajiv lives in Toronto with his wife, Laurie. Three of their four boys are still at home, the eldest is at Yale University.



## Corporate Executive

### Asim Ghosh

President and CEO of  
Husky Energy

Asim Ghosh was born in New Delhi in 1947. He graduated from the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi in 1969 with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering, and later earned an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

He began his career in Canada in 1971 with multinational consumer goods company Procter and Gamble. He joined Rothmans International in 1980, eventually becoming senior vice president of subsidiary Carling O'Keefe, one of Canada's largest breweries. He was the co-founding CEO of Pepsi Food's startup operation in India, and eventually moved to Hong Kong to set up a consumer goods joint venture between Pepsi and investment holding company Hutchison Whampoa. Shortly thereafter, he became the CEO of AS Watson Industries, a Hutchison subsidiary.

In 1998, Ghosh took on the role of leading Hutchison Whampoa's telecommunications joint venture in India, Hutchison Essar, growing the business from a one city operation into the country's second largest mobile phone provider, with more than 63 million subscribers.

In June of 2010, he became CEO of Calgary-based Husky Energy.

Asim sits on the Board of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, serves as a director of the charitable Li Ka Shing Foundation, and is a Distinguished Alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology.







Humanitarian

## Jag Parmar

Founder  
Inseyet Films

Jag Parmar spent 15 years serving the community and working with people who face daily challenges of being the most underprivileged individuals. She was a Co-Investigator and Author of the study, Human Right Count, which was initiated by Global Network for People living with HIV. The preliminary results of this qualitative study, which documented Human Rights violations of people living with HIV, globally, were presented at the 18th International AIDS Conference in Vienna.

She was the Writer, Director and Producer of two short films that were created to serve as educational tools to challenge HIV Stigma. Short film, Her Decision, was a self-funded project that is currently being used as an educational tool by the United Nations Mission in Sudan.

Short film, Life outside My Window, was also about the broader impact of HIV in Canada. This film was fully funded by Abbott Virology- a pharmaceutical company dedicated to improving the lives of people with HIV.

Her feature film, Dowry, premiered at the Reelworld Film Festival in 2015 and earned stellar audience reviews. She was selected as Top 20 Emerging Artist of 2012. This film is about the dowry system and its impact on South Asian women.

Jag Parmar hold a Master's Degree in Experimental Psychology, specializing in Research Design and Statistical Analysis.



Lifetime/Outstanding  
Achievement

## Venkatesh Mannar

President  
Micronutrient Initiative

Venkatesh Mannar is a leader and champion in global nutrition pioneering effective technology and development initiatives that benefit the world's most vulnerable citizens.

A chemical engineer (IIT Madras, India; Northwestern University, USA) and food technologist, Mannar started his career in Chennai, India as Managing Director of a large salt company.

He moved to Canada with his family in 1990. Through his work with UNICEF, WHO, World Bank and CIDA, Mannar was the principal architect of the global salt iodization program that has led to a dramatic reduction in iodine deficiency disorders across the world. In 1994, as President Micronutrient Initiative (MI) he delivered cost-effective and sustainable solutions for micronutrient deficiencies. His work benefits nearly 500 million adults and children in over 75 countries.

In 2009 Mannar was recognized as the third most influential citizen by Ottawa Life Magazine. He is recipient of Nokia Tech Award, IIT Madras's Distinguished Alumnus Award, outstanding South Asian Canadians by Desi Magazine Toronto, Indo Canada Ottawa Business Chamber's Award of Excellence and Order of Canada, one of the country's highest civilian honours, for his leadership in the global fight against malnutrition.

After retirement, Mannar has rededicated his efforts to alleviate under nutrition with a focus on India. He is pursuing his research and teaching interests in nutrition and food technology through appointments as Adjunct/Visiting Professor at the University of Toronto and Cornell University.



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#### Member of the Year

### Avinash Mehra

Vice President & Portfolio Manager,  
CIBC Wood Gundy

Avinash (Avin) Mehra is a Vice President & Portfolio Manager, with CIBC Wood Gundy- the Wealth Management Arm, of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. He is widely acclaimed as one of the few avid practitioners of Options as defensive tools in Portfolio Management & has appeared on the panel of experts for Montreal Exchange (MX) , with a mandate to teach Wealth Managers, the use of options as defensive tools, in the money management of their client portfolios.

Avin migrated to Canada in 1990, had progressive responsibility in Commercial Banking & Trade Finance in CIBC, working as a Coach & Sales Team leader with Trade Finance Division, before joining the Wealth Management industry, at Merrill Lynch, in May 2000.

He has taught Mathematics, Law & Banking Courses in India, UK, Bahamas, Miami & Canada. Currently, he conducts regular seminars in diverse financial topics, including options, stock markets, taxation, financial planning etc.

Currently, Avin is chair of Mentorship Committee of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce, with a mandate to help new Indo-Canadians settle down successfully in Canada. This involves coordinating with highly successful Indo Canadian Entrepreneurs & Professionals, to give back to the society, by paving the way for successful transition for the newcomers (Mentees).

Avin lives with his family in Thornhill, Ontario. His is a family of successful entrepreneurs.



#### President's Award

### Mayor Frank Scarpitti

City of Markham

Mayor Frank Scarpitti was elected as Mayor of Markham in 2006 and 2010 and in 2014.

He was first elected to Markham Council in 1985 as a Regional Councillor. In total, the people of Markham have voted for Mayor Scarpitti eight times over 29 years.

Mayor Scarpitti also serves on York Region Council, is the current Chair of York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, a member of the Region's Finance and Administration Committee and is the Chair of York Region Police Services Board.

He is Vice Chair of Power Stream, the second largest municipally-owned electricity distribution company in Ontario, and Chair of Markham Enterprise Corporation, which owns Markham District Energy, operator of four energy plants.

Mayor Scarpitti gives time to a number of non-profit associations related to health, culture and quality of life programming. As Co-Chair of the Markham Stouffville Hospital's Capital Campaign his efforts contributed to surpassing the \$50 million goal.

He led Markham's initiative to secure the Markham Pan Am Centre and currently is Co-Chair of the Markham Pan-Am Host Advisory Committee.

He was a strong advocate of internet voting and pioneered internet voting in the municipal elections of 2003 that has been used in all subsequent elections.

Mayor Scarpitti and his wife Nancy have three children.

**AIR CANADA** 





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Collins Barrow is a proud supporter of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and its Annual Awards & Gala Night 2015.

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**Charan Kumar Bommireddipalli**

Partner, Enterprise Governance

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# IS IT TIME FOR A SECOND OPINION?



**ANDRE KENT,**  
**VICE-PRESIDENT, INVESTMENT ADVISOR**

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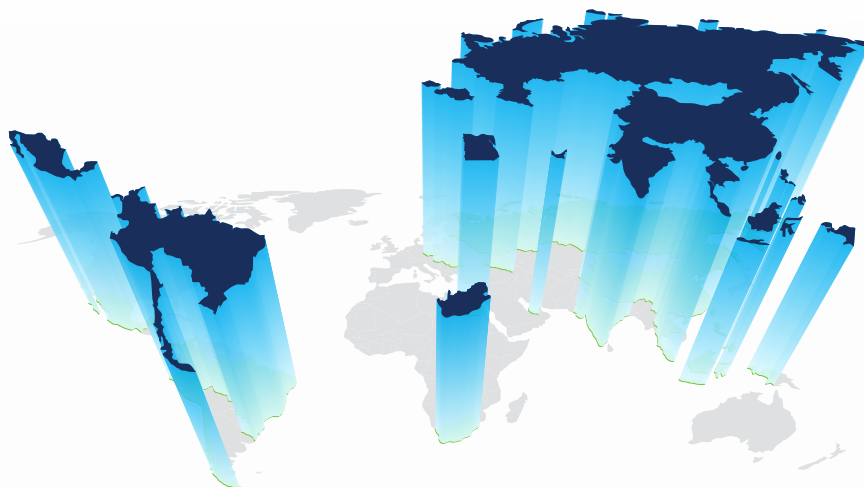


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INSIGHTS





# PRIME MINISTER MODI'S VISIT IMPARTS HUGE MOMENTUM TO BILATERAL TIES



By Vishnu  
Prakash

The visit of Prime Minister Hon'ble Narendra Modi to Canada last month has placed the bilateral relationship in a qualitatively higher league. India and Canada, vibrant democracies and pluralistic societies, have remarkable synergies and are natural partners, as both Prime Minister Modi and Prime Minister Stephen Harper underlined.

2. The relationship has been built on the strong foundation of close people-to-people links. I have been here in Canada for just a few weeks, but am amazed at how well the highly educated, industrious and affluent, 1.2 million strong, Indo-Canadian community has assimilated into the mainstream. My Canadian interlocutors, at the highest levels, have had nothing but praise for the community, which

has not only enriched the Canadian social fabric, but has also made noteworthy contributions to its academic, economic, cultural and political dynamism. It was indeed heartwarming to see some ten thousand members of the community and friends of India, turning up at the Ricoh Coliseum at Toronto, to warmly welcome Prime Minister Modi and hear him with rapt attention!

3. It is also heartening that economic and business ties have become the key driver of India Canada relationship. India, Asia's third largest economy and the fastest growing major economy in the world, is well on its way to become the world's third largest economy by 2030. Demography has bestowed India with unique strengths. It is gratifying that In-







dia is becoming younger as the world is aging. Highly skilled Indian professionals in all fields including IT, Biotechnology and Services, have strengthened competitive advantages of Canadian companies, in addition to bringing down their operational costs. On the other hand, India wants to benefit fully from Canada's rich experience and expertise in skill development and higher education. Over 30,000 Indian students are currently studying in Canada. Every year more than 10 million young Indians are entering the job market. It is a national imperative to impart them suitable skills.

4. The NDA Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unleashed the creative energies of Indian youth, entrepreneurs, scientists and scholars. In September last year, the 'Make in India' campaign was launched to enhance the industrial share of India's GDP from the current 15% to 25%. India's over 200 million strong and growing middle class offers one of the most attractive markets for the entire range of Canadian products. We also welcome the Canadian companies that are setting up manufacturing facilities in India in growing numbers. Both countries are in active discussions to conclude bilateral CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement) and FIPA (Foreign Investment Protection Agreement) at the earliest, which would give a big stimulus to our business engagement.

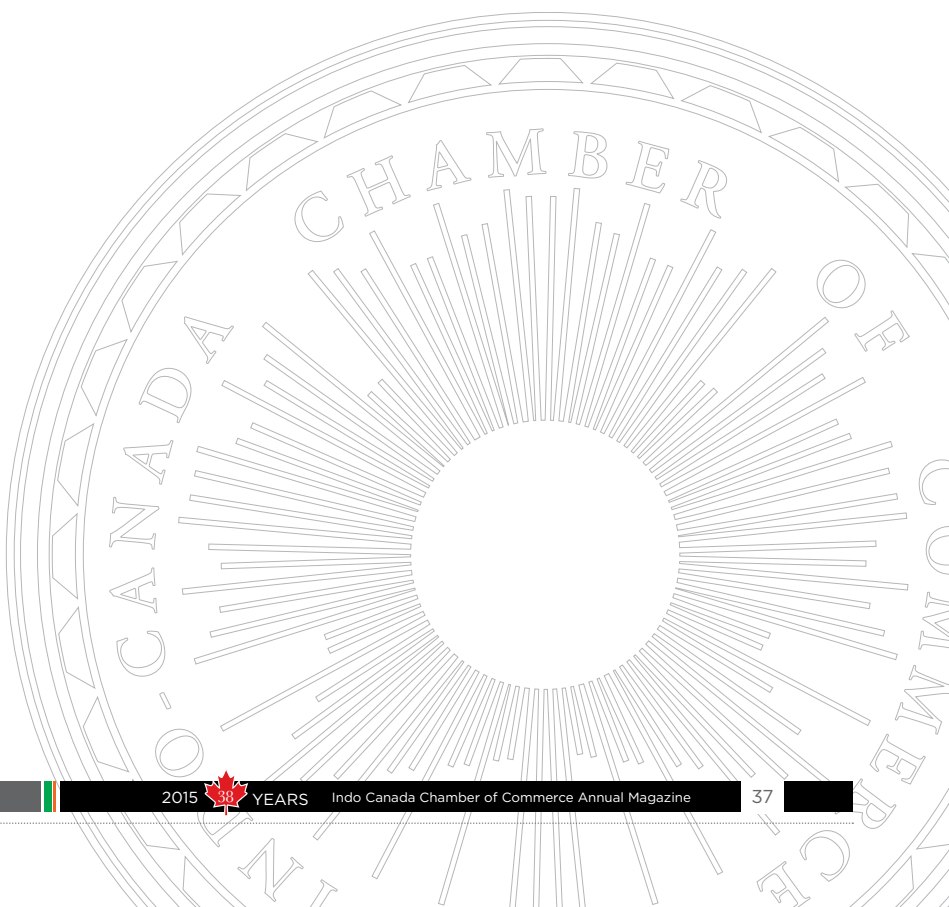
5. A wave of rapid urbanization and infrastructure development is sweeping the nation. A blueprint is being developed to add 100 million residential units over the next 10 years. More than 200 million people are expected to move to the cities in the next 25 years. 100 smart cities are being established across the country. These initiatives are opening up unprecedented opportunities for Canadian business houses, town planners, consultants, engineers, as well as waste, water, environment

and energy management companies. The bilateral agreement to source uranium from Canada, concluded during PM Modi's visit is a big step in that direction.

6. During his visit, Prime Minister Modi interacted with a cross-section of the Canadian society including CEOs of Pension Funds, banks and leading industries. His interlocutors expressed their admiration for the wave of reforms that have been unveiled to simplify procedures, reduce bureaucratic red tape, enhance FDI limits and create a more welcoming environment. The Government of India is determined to make India one of the most attractive places for doing business. Corporate taxes in India are being reduced, a nationwide Goods and Services Tax (GST) is expected to be rolled out on 1st April 2016 and retrospective taxes have been done away with. Land and labour reforms are on the anvil. We want to see Canada as one of our preferred partners.

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*The writer is the High Commissioner of India to Canada.*







# PROSPECTS FOR TWO-WAY INVESTMENT BETWEEN CANADA & INDIA



By Nadir Patel

During the visit of Prime Minister Modi to Canada in April 2015, our two Prime Ministers noted "The historic significance of Prime Minister Modi's visit to Canada in advancing bilateral ties to a new level marked with **"नया उत्साह: नए कदम** - New Vigour: New Steps". The two Prime Ministers agreed to elevate our bilateral relations to a strategic partnership. Underlining this enhanced relationship are commercial linkages, which constitute key drivers of the wide ranging Canada-India partnership. In this respect, the Prime Ministers reaffirmed the need to elevate two-way trade and investment to their full potential.

The challenge therefore is to realize this potential and determine where the prospects for investment are in each other's countries and overcome the hurdles to see two-way investment flows increase.

In 2014, the stock of investment from Canada into India stood at approximately CAD1.13 billion, representing just 0.1% of Canada's to-

tal global investment abroad according to Statistics Canada. India ranked as the 33rd place where Canadians invest. On the other hand, India's investment into Canada amounted to CAD3.97 billion, placing India as the 16th largest investor into Canada but accounted for only 0.5% of total foreign investment into Canada.

The numbers clearly show that there is significant room for growth. To facilitate this growth, a bilateral investment treaty will be an extremely important step forward. Canada and India are currently negotiating a Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA), which we are hopeful will come into effect in the not-too-distant future. A FIPA will provide a boost of confidence to investors and stimulate two-way investment flows.

Canada offers significant advantages as an investment destination and consistently ranks as one of the best countries in the world for doing business. According to the World Bank,







Canada led all G-7 countries for growth over the decade 2004-2013 and the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) ranks Canada 2nd best in the G-20 for doing business over the five-year period 2015-2019.

Overall business costs in Canada are the lowest in the G-7 and 7.2% lower than the U.S., according to KPMG's 2014 Competitive Alternatives Report. Further, KPMG's Focus on Tax 2014 places Canada as the most tax competitive country in the G-7.

In addition to Canada's strong fiscal framework, which is reflected by its triple A credit rating from Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch, other key benefits for Investors include: a highly educated workforce, a competitive R&D environment and financial stability. In fact, for the past seven years, the World Economic Forum has declared Canada's banking system to be the soundest in the world.

This past decade also saw Canada aggressively pursuing Free Trade Agreements with key emerging markets. Foreign investors in Canada have preferential access to the North American market (through NAFTA) and the European Union (through the recently concluded Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement) as well as key markets in Latin America and the Middle East. Canada continues to open doors and gain access in essential global markets - including India, where a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement is being negotiated. In addition, Canada is pursuing Free Trade Agreements with a number of other countries.

Indian companies would do well to look to Canada as a place to invest in order to expand their businesses and source products and technologies that will serve India well. As Prime Minister Modi commented during his visit, Canada has what India needs.

Indian investors should look to Canada in the resource sector as well. Canada has an abundance of minerals and traditional energy products which can meet the needs of India's growing manufacturing sector. Similarly, food processing opportunities near the source of inputs can be pursued for the domestic and international markets. Canada presents a great location to consider investing in our high technology sectors with easy access to the US and Europe and a highly skilled workforce.

With the "Make-in-India" initiative, Canadian companies can and should consider investment opportunities in manufacturing, renewable energy, food processing, bulk handling and cold chain storage, transportation and urban infrastructure sectors in India, to name a few. Canadian companies should explore partnerships with Indian companies to bring technological expertise to India to pursue these new and expanding opportunities.

With the prospects of a FIPA, the Government of India's commitment to economic reforms, a very welcoming investment climate in Canada and huge markets in North America and Europe which will be easily served by way of our Free Trade Agreements, two way investment prospects for increased investment between Canada and India have never been stronger.

As Canada's High Commissioner to India, I would encourage businesses to examine how their strategies are being developed to take advantage of this exciting new environment, and Canada's Trade Commissioner Service across India stands ready to help along the way.

*Nadir Patel is the High Commissioner of Canada to India.*





# INDIA-CANADA: BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH DIASPORA NETWORKS



By Dr. A Didar Singh

Among the G8 countries, Canada is home to the highest proportion of foreign born population, i.e. 20.6 per cent of its population is foreign born. The Indian Diaspora forms a huge chunk of this expatriate population. Currently, 3.8 per cent of the Canadian population is of Indian origin/descent. The Indian Diaspora in Canada also commands the highest per capita income among all the racial and ethnic groups in Canada.

According to local records in Canada, the first Indian to visit Canada was as far back as 1897. However, it was the change in the Immigration Policy in 1962 and the subsequent introduction of the points based system in 1967 which liberalised Canada's immigration policy and contributed to the change in the composition of the migrant profiles. Thus, it was in the 1960s that Indian immigration increased to Canada. Currently, the concentration of immigrants is highest in Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Stephen Harper have embarked on a new action plan "New Vigour: New Steps" to further strengthen the commercial relations with Cana-

da. The two leaders have recognized the importance of this relationship and are committed to elevate their bilateral relations to a strategic partnership. Addressing the large Indian Diaspora, Prime Minister Modi has welcomed them to make their contributions to India's growth. In the recent past, we have been witnessing a small but growing number of return migrants.

The immigrant population in Canada could play a significant role in improving Canada's international trade performance. It has already been noted that a big chunk of Canada's international trade is with United States and to some extent with China and Brazil. Canada needs to develop new markets for its products and services particularly with countries like India that are exhibiting economic growth. With bilateral merchandise trade totaling nearly US \$ 6.3 billion in 2014 in addition to the over US \$1.5 billion in bilateral services trade in 2013. India represents exciting opportunities for Canadian businesses to increase the two way flow of goods, services and human resources.

There exists a huge scope of collaboration across key areas including the economy, trade







and investment, civil nuclear cooperation, energy, education and skills development, agriculture, defence and security, science, technology, innovation and space, culture, people-to-people ties, and regional and global issues. Diaspora networks should capitalize on such priority areas to promote trade, investment and knowledge transfers. They can serve as a conduit of information, capitals and goods across borders contributing to economic growth and prosperity of both the nations.

The visit of Prime Minister has infused new vigour in the relationship with Canada on both the sides. Indian industry is particularly excited about the opportunities of collaboration announced to strengthen business to business linkages. They are looking forward to benefit from the expertise and best practices of Canadian Companies for urban transformation and smart city development to transform the landscape of India. India needs to build upon its capabilities in the areas such as intelligent transportation systems, civil engineering and urban planning, water and wastewater management, pre-cast and wood construction, energy technology and efficiency and affordable housing.

Likewise, Indian Industry needs cutting edge technologies of Canada to meet the challenges of energy supply and achieve energy security over the long term. Both sides have recognized the further collaboration in areas such as energy efficiency and innovation, oil and gas development, exchange of regulatory best practices, renewable energy, and nuclear energy.

Indian and Canadian Industry would also benefit immensely from freer talent mobility. Education and Skill development are also priority areas for future cooperation to leverage the socio-economic development of India. This requires strengthening exchange in technical education, in vocational programs for high-skill trades, mutual recognition of skills and qualifications and in areas where we can build

on the entrepreneurial and innovative spirit of our nations. Considering the ambitious goal of new government for "Skill India", Prime Minister Modi signed 13 MoUs between the National Skill Development Council of India and 13 Canadian colleges, institutes, and Sector Skills Councils in the fields of agriculture, apparel and textiles, automotive, aviation, construction, green economy, healthcare, hydrocarbons, IT, telecom and electronics, sports sector, and water.

The other key areas of enhanced co-operation between India and Canada are science, technology and innovation, defense and agriculture. The leaders also saw the completion of memoranda of understanding in a range of areas, including civil aviation, rail regulation, education and skills development, and space cooperation, and projects focused on maternal, newborn and child health. Canada and India also finalized all steps necessary for the entry-into-force of the Social Security Agreement, which will take place on August 1, 2015.

I would like to conclude by stating that we need to build upon the opportunities of collaboration to unleash the full potential of our relationship with Canada. In this present era, the trade in global economy has grown in size, complexity and interconnectedness. The supply chains have become much more complex with many inputs coming from various parts of the world. As a Chamber of Commerce, we need to create a mechanism on network through which we can connect with ethno-cultural chambers of commerce or chambers of commerce to connect our Indian companies with the Diaspora groups interested in International trade. We need to encourage increased participation of chambers of commerce and immigrants networks in incoming and outgoing trade missions. We are optimistic that India and Canada's successful partnership will enable vibrant growth of their economies in the coming times.

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*Dr. A Didar Singh is the Secretary General of FICCI.*





# TOWARDS STRATEGIC AND MODERN PARTNERSHIP



By Kant K. Bhargava

## Dimensions of Canada-India Partnership

The Joint Statement issued on the occasion of visit of Prime Minister Modi contains reference to two Prime Ministers agreeing to elevate their bilateral relations to a strategic partnership. In the press conference that followed, Prime Minister Modi observed that Canada-India partnership:

- is a natural partnership of shared values.
- is an economic partnership of immense mutual benefit.
- is a strategic partnership that can help address many of shared global challenges faced by Canada and India.
- is nurtured by the emotional bonds of a vibrant Indian community of 1.2 million.

These sentiments are by and large shared by all Canadians as well as people of India. Scholars are of the view that the historic visit of Prime Minister Modi will be a springboard for a new strategic partnership between two democracies. *It is noteworthy that the two sides have agreed to establish a Finance Ministers Dia-*

*logue for the purpose of deepening the India-Canada economic and financial relationship.*

The future will witness intensified cooperation in Economy, Trade and Investment; Civil-Nuclear Cooperation; Energy; Education and Skills Development; Agriculture; Defence and Security; Science, Technology, Innovation, and Space; Culture and People-to-People Ties; Regional and Global Issues.

## Indian and Canadian Interests

Of particular interest to India are areas of agriculture; education and skill development, defence trade and security; energy, stem cell research; smart cities initiative; India's manufacturing competitiveness and increase in its IT-enabled services exports to Canada.

Canada's interest is in investment and trade opportunities in the context of its prioritisation of India in its Global Markets Action Plan which aligns well with bilateral objectives. Higher exports to India are expected of Canadian oil and natural gas exports to India, uranium, agricultural related products and defense trade items in the future.







## Key Tasks of Stakeholders

Beyond these areas, the key tasks of stakeholders in two countries are to:

- i) Find areas for commercial and financial collaboration in the context of forthcoming Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and Foreign Investment Protection Agreement (FIPA) and provide inputs to the Finance Ministers Dialogue mentioned above.
- ii) Highlight and persuade the two governments to undertake related reforms and policy measures to unlock the full potential of collaborations in commercial and financial areas.
- iii) Facilitate the resultant trade and investment opportunities.

## Indian Diaspora - A Sturdy Bridge

Canada and India have witnessed an upsurge in their bilateral relationship in the past few years, with ties between the two countries arguably stronger than ever after the recent visit of Prime Minister Modi. But what binds this relationship in ways that push it to succeed even through difficult times is the people to people links and the catalytic and bridging roles of Indo Canadians in building comprehensive economic partnerships.

## Shastri Indo Canadian Institute (SICI) and Modern Partnership

Non-governmental entities like SICI influence and encourage political, economic, business, and especially cultural, and educational ties between Canada and India. It is time for SICI to think of organizing Track One and a Half Dialogue on a *Forward Looking and Modern Partnership* between Canada and India that goes beyond CEPA. Such a Dialogue between businesses, scientists and governments of two

countries will help in search of various areas in knowledge economy where mutually beneficial partnerships can be built. For example, given the interests of two countries in the emerging disciplines of Studies on Ocean and Glaciers, the post CEPA period may provide for joint study and research in these fields. CEPA should be construed not as an end in itself but a launching pad for a modern partnership that will involve more bilateral collaboration than ever before- not just at the federal level but also at the state, provincial and local levels, and between the private sector and civil society of two countries.

## Global Partners and Global Partnerships

Canada's interest, long overdue, in having observer status in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and India's ongoing interest in and contributions on Arctic issues, particularly through India's observer status in the Arctic Council highlight the importance of global partnerships in addition to bilateral partnership between two countries. Also, Canada and India remain committed to the larger effort to integrate South Asia and connect with markets and people in Central and Southeast Asia. They share a commitment to advancing human rights, promoting gender equality, women's empowerment, and Asia-Pacific economic integration.

To conclude, the future beckons the two countries to promote both bilateral and global partnerships and move forward together for a better world. This is the central premise as well as objective of building a defining partnership for the 21st century. Time is now ripe for all stakeholders in Canada-India relations to work together towards this end in a concerted manner

*The writer is Honorary Advisor to the Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce and a Retired Indian Ambassador.*





# SMART CITIES IN INDIA:

THE CHALLENGES OF GOVERNANCE AND EXPERTISE AND THE POTENTIAL FOR INDO-CANADIAN CO-OPERATION



By Bharat  
Punjabi

The Indian government's recent decision to formally launch the Smart Cities mission under which 100 smart cities would be built — and the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) for 500 cities with outlays of Rs. 48,000 crore and Rs. 50,000 crore, respectively is a watershed decision for India's urban sector. It also presents substantial opportunities for Canadian businesses in large metropolitan centers with their vast expertise in architecture, urban design, information technology, civil and transportation engineering to collaborate with Indian private and public sector firms. Canadian firms already play a major role in the transportation sector in India and the smart cities project will open more opportunities for partnerships and collaborations. The Smart Cities mission with its focus on adequate and clean water supply, sanitation and solid waste management, efficient urban mobility and public transportation, robust IT connectivity, e-governance, and citizen participation has been getting more attention since most smart city projects have hitherto been planned in countries in the developed world. This is by far the first time that the government of a developing country has evinced such an interest in building smart cities. So what are smart cities and what is the potential of achieving success on this front in India? According to the economist, Laveesh Bhandari, "smart cities are the one that embrace change and use the latest in technology and infrastructure, build responsive and participative governance that guarantees universal access to life and property

as well as ensures opportunities from overall economic progress." While the exact guidelines behind smart cities are yet to be released by the Indian Government, it is quite clear that the Government's plans behind India's urbanization are both ambitious and entail financial risks for both private sector companies and state agencies. They also involve a clear move towards recalibrating governance in Indian cities, which would make urban areas both fiscally responsible, but also grant them some power to manage and provide urban services on their own in the long run.

The challenges for India's urban areas are two fold; one is the problem of reforming urban and metropolitan governance. The second is the availability of administrative and technical expertise for managing large metropolitan city-regions. Besides the potential offered by Canada's dynamic private sector in developing smart cities, it is in governance where Canada's experience and expertise in administering large cities and metropolitan areas could come in handy. The institutional legacies of a federal system and the division of powers between federal, state and local levels of government in both countries are common challenges. City-regions like Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver might be different from Mumbai, Delhi and Bangalore, but all these cities suffer from the fragmentation of governance, issues of public transportation and the funding of civic infrastructure. While technology could play an important role, major reform in governance is an even



bigger challenge in the Indian context where these problems of co-ordination are greater. Thus, while the scale of the social, economic and political challenges posed by migration from rural areas and the pressure on existing urban infrastructure are great in the Indian context, a lot can be gleaned from some of the innovation in urban governance carried out in the Canadian context. Canadian experiences and success in local urban self-government and metropolitan governance tell us that Indian cities need to be given more autonomy in managing their jurisdictions and coordinating urban services in city-regions. They need to be given more powers in levying taxes and local democracy should be allowed to thrive in large urban centers. Obviously, cities cannot be made entirely independent of their hinterlands and the nation-state, but the stranglehold of state governments in India on cities has compounded our problems, according to K. C. Sivaramakrishnan, a noted civil servant and expert in a recent 2014 book on the governance problems of large Indian metropolitan cities.

The second challenge is the problem of finding the right kind of administrative and technical expertise in the management of Indian cities in the context of the move towards smart cities. Currently, I am affiliated with the University of Toronto where there is a wide expertise on both Canadian and global cities. Starting with the President of the University, who is a world renowned urban geographer to the various urban research centers such as the Institute of Municipal Finance and Governance (IMFG) and Global Cities Indicators Facility (GCIF), there is a wide range of technical expertise available on contemporary Canadian and global urban problems. There is a synergy between the university's expertise on Toronto's problems and the city's economic mission to boost innovation and the productivity of

its population. Such synergistic relationships between universities and cities abound in numerous Canadian urban centers and act as an important catalyst not only for smart cities and effective participative governance in Canada, but also serve as building blocks for planning inclusive cities that are efficient, equitable and technology savvy. Indian cities such as Bangalore, Mumbai, and Delhi need to develop such synergies between its academic institutions that house urban planning departments and the problems of development in city-regions. The present policy move towards smart cities could thus inaugurate a new era of sub-regional co-operation between Indian and Canadian cities with the latter using its experience to help build these synergies. Once the Indian government makes bold moves towards developing universities that shape its capacity to solve urban problems, the project of smart cities could be better sustained to ensure long term economic development in the country. Canadian governments at various levels and its leading universities could play a major role in this regard.

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*Background: Bharat Punjabi is a post-doctoral Fellow at the Institute of Municipal Finance and Governance (IMFG) at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs. He holds a PhD in Geography from Western University and has degrees in Economics (University of Mumbai) and Social Anthropology (York University).*







## P.M. MODI'S "TRANSFORMATIVE" CANADA VISIT



By Kasi V.P. Rao

When Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi touched down in Ottawa in mid-April, it represented a landmark moment in the Canada-India relationship. While past visits to Canada by Indian Prime Ministers have been multilateral in nature, like Dr. Manmohan Singh's visit in 2010 at the time of the G-20 meetings, PM Modi's bilateral visit was the first in over four decades and occurred within the first year of his assuming power. It provided a platform to showcase the multi-dimensional aspects of our country-to-country relationship in a multitude of areas, including economics, geo-politics, culture, higher education, and people-to-people connections.

PM Modi had already interacted with a number of Canadian federal and provincial political leaders, CEOs and members of the diaspora well before he set foot on Canadian soil. There was a degree of familiarity he demonstrated that gave his Canadian meetings and events added interest and momentum. Of course, the fact that he is a highly-skilled orator was on full display before a packed audience at the Ricoh Coliseum community event in Toronto.

The meetings Modi held in Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver provided welcome opportunities to create pathways to concluding various negotiations that had languished in recent years, such as those pertaining to CEPA and investment promotion and protection. The Canadian business community—particularly institutional investors—recognizes the new and changing India (under a majority government), and is betting on India in the long term. A recently released study by the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada entitled, "Canadian Companies That do Business in India: New Landscapes, New Players and the Outlook for Canada," notes this very point.

In a similar vein, a breakthrough was achieved in securing commercial opportunities in civilian nuclear co-operation. As well, Canada's experience and expertise in nuclear safety and governance are areas for follow-up. India's plans to create "100 smart cities" in the context of our own broad range of energy-related technologies provides meaningful opportunities for the province of Ontario, the city of Toronto, and leading institutions such as the University of Toronto to build collaborative strategies.

The higher education arena is an important plank in the bilateral relationship. It is intimately connected to Modi's "Make In India" program. In order for India to increase the manufacturing sector's share of the economy from its current one-sixth to one-fourth in the next decade, a combination of hard and soft infrastructure reforms are underway. Policy reforms related to power and land acquisition will be key in realizing this transition. Over 100 million jobs need to be created in the next decade and for that to happen, the manufacturing sector will have to occupy a more sizable role in the economy. A skilled workforce will be a critical component in making that objective a reality.

Therefore, the "soft" infrastructure reforms are vital for "Make In India" to succeed. The Canada-India research and development agenda is well under way through pioneering initiatives such as IC-IMPACTS, which brings leading Canadian research-intensive universities (UBC, UofA and UofT) and their Indian counterparts together to deal with areas of global concern, including safe and clean water, crop research, urban infrastructure and public health. Ryerson University's "DMZ," the leading business incubator, which connects start-ups through the Bombay Stock Exchange Institute, and York



University's plans to extend its business school campus in southern India, both illustrate the breadth and diversity of strategies being deployed by our institutions of higher learning.

The "skills agenda" is an area in which Canadian institutions such as Seneca and Durham College are already playing a highly responsive role in meeting India's needs. During PM Modi's Canadian visit, an MOU was signed between thirteen Canadian colleges and institutes with the National Skill Development Corporation of India. Canada's role in up-skilling India's workforce is welcome news indeed. The combination of a vibrant research agenda with a parallel skills initiative represents the brain chain between our two countries.

Canadian "hard" and "soft" infrastructure expertise, the commitment from the institutional investor community, and the liberalization in Indian financial services regulations act to sup-

port and underpin India's reform agenda. Another aspect, not widely recognized but nevertheless a key part of the reform process, is the explicit recognition in the last Indian budget of the virtues of "co-operative federalism" and the rollout of a GST-program in spring 2016. These are areas in which Canada has experience and knowledge to partner with India.

All of these dossiers came into sharper convergence during Prime Minister Modi's visit and provide a remarkable foundation for the future. The promise of a closer bilateral relationship that was first envisioned almost six decades ago looks ever more real with this transformative visit.

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*The writer is Vice President Asia Pacific Foundation and Director, Toronto Office.*







# INDIA SET TO TAKE ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY



By Bhim D. Asdhir

Dramatic reforms by the investor-friendly Narendra Modi administration, accelerating economic growth, stable monetary and fiscal conditions, a rapidly growing middle class, increasing foreign direct and institutional investments and a huge demographic dividend have all combined to put India on the path to becoming the world's next economic superpower.

Ironically, as many countries around the world struggle with low growth, the Indian economy has taken off and is poised to be the world's fastest economy for many years to come. In fact, in Fiscal 2016, India's economy is forecasted to grow by 8% - 8.5%, compared to 7.4% in Fiscal 2015, surpassing China which for almost two decades was the leader in global growth.

"The government's commitment to ensuring that India becomes an economic superpower is firmly entrenched in its reform-oriented policies," says Bhim D. Asdhir, President and CEO of Excel Funds Management Inc. Excel is the Manager of the Excel India Fund, the largest and longest running mutual fund in Canada focused on investing in India.

To put India's meteoric rise to economic superpower status in perspective, IMF Managing Director, Christine Lagarde estimates that by 2019, the Indian economy will more than double in size compared to 10 years ago. Addressing a conference in New Delhi in March, she said "when adjusting for differences in purchase prices between economies, India's GDP will exceed that of Japan and Germany combined; and India's output will also exceed the combined output of the next three largest emerging market economies—Russia, Brazil, and Indonesia."

India, the world's largest democracy with a population of 1.2 billion, is currently the third largest

economy in the world based on Purchasing Power Parity, behind the US and China; and the 10<sup>th</sup> largest in terms of GDP, ahead of Canada, according to World Bank data.

Long recognized as the sleeping giant, India awakened with a start with the election of Narendra Modi as Prime Minister in May 2014, who led the Bharatiya Janata Party to India's first majority government in more than a quarter of a century. "The investor friendly, business savvy and entrepreneurial Modi spurred renewed optimism over the future of India," says Asdhir.

Modi is also expected to foster greater stability and increased transparency by eliminating corruption and regulatory bottlenecks that have impeded the country's progress, he adds.

By the end of his first year in office, Modi's vision of a "New Age India" has started to materialize; while his structural, policy, regulatory and institutional reforms are also coming to fruition.

He has so far implemented the Make in India initiative to promote local manufacturing and plans are afoot to establish several other programs such as Digital India to reform government systems and empower citizens; Skill India to harness the country's demographic dividend; and the National Institution for Transforming India. Steps are also being taken to improve the primary education and health systems, increase productivity in agriculture and establish a well-designed welfare and subsidy mechanism.

The government has also made changes in a range of areas, among them promoting massive infrastructure development; reforming the Land Acquisition Bill and mining laws; imple-



menting the direct transfer of subsidies; introduced the Goods and Services Tax; and lowering corporate taxes.

In addition to government initiatives to transform the country, India has youth on its side, with a median age of 27 years. By 2030, India is expected to have the largest labor force in the world - larger than the combined labor force of the US, the Euro Area, and Indonesia, according to Lagarde.

The demographic dividend is accentuated by India's growing, upwardly mobile middle class, which is expected to fuel consumption and infrastructure development, supporting the acceleration of growth of Indian companies and the economy.

Recognizing that the government cannot develop India on its own, Modi has called for an increase in the role of the private sector. He has also relaxed foreign institutional and for-

eign direct investment restrictions, opening the doors to foreign investors.

In 2014, foreign private and institutional investments into India reached record levels, with a significant increase expected in 2015.

As a result of India's phenomenal growth, its stock market was the best performing large emerging market in the world last year. The Excel India Fund, which focuses solely on investing in India, was the best performing mutual fund in Canada out of more than 4,000 other mutual funds for the same time period.

Lagarde aptly sums up India today. She said, it is on the verge of a new chapter, filled with immense promise; it is set to take its rightful place in the global economy.

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*The writer is President & CEO of Excel Funds Management Inc.*







# ALIGNING CANADA'S MINING EXPERTISE WITH INDIA'S DEMANDS



By Indira Singh

India's Parliament recently passed the long waited Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation (MMDR) Amendment Bill. Mr. Narendra Singh Tomar, the union mines minister stated "This Ordinance is a revolutionary step in the revival of the mining sector in the country, hitherto stagnated due to various reasons.... While simplification and transferability will attract private investment, classification of minerals will lead to their scientific exploration and delays will be reduced by according more power to the states." The union mines minister also stressed the need for a mineral database in India. "Detailed exploration is the first step in mining. To set realistic goals and make workable plans, it is imperative to know the true measure of our resource base". The implementation framework is being developed. It will take some time for the Bill to come into force, but the government has set the tone for the direction it wishes to see take hold.

The revival of India's mining sector requires access to capital, mining expertise, and state of the art technologies. At present, India lacks the necessary expertise on a number of fronts: an unprecedented opportunity for Canadian suppliers of mining equipment, technology and services. These companies could either invest in and or be a provider of technology, equipment and goods or expertise to India. Canadian companies are world leaders in a number of areas and Canadian mining assets abroad totalled exceeded C\$150 billion in 2012, in 109 countries. Seventy percent of global mining equity was raised on the TMX in 2012.

India needs what Canada has - a wealth of world-class expertise in mining-related services and technologies including: the management

and financing mining projects; achieving zero waste mining; maximizing the gains from mined minerals; improving worker health and safety; and ensuring restoration of the ecological balance. Three key areas are: increased exploration activities; access to the equipment, services and technology; and the need for potash solution mining. Areas where the Canadian industry can promote its brand and make its mark are consistent with the newly launched Canadian Extractive Sector Trade Strategy.

**Exploration:** The total mineral potential in India covers 5.75 lakh sq. km., of which an area of only 75,000 sq. km. has been explored in detail so far. Geological Potential for World class mineral discoveries in India is similar to Australia, Brazil, Canada and South Africa. It is latent. The last discovery of world class lead zinc silver deposit was made at Rampura Agucha in Rajasthan in 1982. A number of world class deposits have been discovered before 1982. Malanjkhand porphyry Cu-Mo-Au Precambrian Porphyry deposits at Malanjkhand, Madhya Pradesh, India was made in 1971. Since, Ancients had mined in many parts of India up to 360 m depth. The Canadians have explored and developed mines to 2000 m depth and have technology which will be suitable for India.

"(Canada is) home to the largest number of publicly listed exploration companies in the world, and over one-half of the properties of those companies are outside of Canada...With 800 active Canadian companies exploring in over 100 countries, Canada is a global mining superpower" said Rod Thomas, President of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC).

Exploration technologies locate large, high grade reserves with minimal ground distur-





bance and disruption to the environment. These include GPS surveying, air borne technologies, and down-hole seismic imaging technologies that allow exploration companies to locate new deposits not otherwise discoverable with traditional methods.

**Equipment, Services and Technology:** Canadian suppliers are looking to export their products, technologies and services and India offers unmatched opportunities throughout the mining lifecycle. India needs new mining techniques and technologies across the full spectrum of exploration, production and environmental issues including: mine safety; underground mining; heavy capacity equipment; waste minimization and recycling; operational improvement technologies; new mining techniques; increased usage of robotics; exploration technologies to help achieve zero waste mining; maximizing the gains from mined minerals; improving worker health and safety; Airborne Geophysical Surveys, and heavy duty equipment and assay laboratories ensuring the restoration of the ecological balance; Joint Ventures in the area of geological studies and development of mineral deposits; and fuel exploration activities.

**Potash Solution Mining:** While India's general need for mining equipment, technology and services is well known, a specific need where India's public and private sector companies lack expertise is potash solution mining. The private sector players have confined themselves to minerals such as gold, diamond, base metals and iron ores. The exploration and development of minerals such as potash has been completely neglected because of a lack of experience. According to Dr. Desh Sikka, mining veteran, potash occurs in Rajasthan, India can be mined by solution mining.

It is imperative that fertilizer is made available to Indian farmers at an affordable price to India's sustain economic agricultural growth and to promote balanced nutrient application. But

the rising cost of an annual subsidy of US\$11.4 billion has drawn criticism and is unsustainable in the long run - in the past decade fertiliser subsidies have quadrupled. Since India is projected to need approximately five million tonnes of potash a year, it needs to explore innovative approaches to securing a continued long-term supply. Without domestic production sources, India remains a key importer of potash. It is estimated that Indian potash imports will reach a four-year high of about five-million tonnes this year.

The Government of India is encouraging Indian Companies to establish Joint Ventures abroad and to enter into long-term agreements for the supply of fertilizers and fertilizer inputs to India. Canada is not only a major producer of potash but has untapped expertise in potash solution mining. This provides a unique opportunity for joint ventures between Canadian and Indian companies and is in India's national interest. Furthermore, it provides global Indian companies the opportunity to develop expertise and gain experience in mining potash, which are presently lacking.

To conclude-India needs what Canada has. Canadian suppliers are seeking new export markets for their products and technologies and India offers unmatched opportunities throughout the mining lifecycle: everything from exploration to rehabilitation to solution mining potash. This could well be a win-win situation: Canada gains access to one of the world's largest markets while India gains access to advanced technology without having to invest in significant R&D over several decades.

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*The writer is the Chair of the Canada Energy and Mining Committee and the Principal, Mining Consultancy International Inc.*





# INVESTMENT POTENTIAL IN RAJASTHAN



By K.L. Jain

The State of Rajasthan (India) is one of the most promising investment destinations in the country. Besides abundant land, well developed infrastructure, skilled work force and immense mineral wealth, Rajasthan also offers stable government for sustainable policies.

Rajasthan abuts five major states of India- Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, besides a significant portion of it (about 4500 sq. km. area) falling into the National Capital Region (NCR). The Land-locked states of Northern India access the ports of western coast through Rajasthan.

The State has a well-developed transportation network through road, rail and air. The rural areas are also very well connected with the road network of National and State Highways.

Rajasthan offers well developed information and communication facilities. Cellular and landline services and internet connectivity are available off the shelf across Rajasthan. A State-wide optic fibre backbone is in place.

A well-developed industrial infrastructure has been created in the State by the nodal agency, Rajasthan State Industrial and investment Corporation Ltd. (RIICO) which has developed 323 industrial areas on 70,000 acre land. The industrial areas include Special Purpose Industrial Parks for stones, agro-processing, bio-tech, auto components, leather, IT, textile, apparel, wool and gems & jewellery, Export Promotion Industrial Parks at Jaipur, Neemrana (Alwar) and Boranada (Jodhpur), Special Japanese Zone in Neemrana, Special Economic Zones for gems and jewellery (Jaipur) and handicrafts (Jodhpur) apart from the world class multi-product Mahindra SEZ at Jaipur. On the lines of Japanese Zone, A Special Ko-

rean Zone is to come up at Ghilot (Shahjahanpur). A number of private sector industrial areas have also been developed/planned.

The State presently has over Rs. 2 lakh crore investment in large and medium scale industries employing about 1.80 lakh workers, and about Rs. 20,000 crore investment in small scale and micro enterprises generating employment to more than 17.25 lakh peoples. Some of the major multinational corporations having units in Rajasthan include Lafarge, Honda, Genpact, Ericsson telecommunication, Gillette, Bosch & Lomb, MICO-Bosch, Electrolux Kelvinator, Mitsubishi Chemicals, Mikuni, St. Gobain Glass, Daikin Air-conditioning, Nippon Pipe etc.

Rajasthan is taking firm steps to augment availability of power for the industrial, commercial and domestic consumption. The total installed capacity by March 2013 was 11,168 MW which was expected to go up to 18,861 MW by 2014. Some of the 14 power projects with total installed capacity of 11,590 MW which was approved for the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017) including 7,750 MW in State Sector and 3,840 MW in private sector, have been already commissioned and on the remaining projects, significant progress is being made. The State is also targeting to harness the renewable energy sources (solar, wind, bio-mass) in a very big way to become the power surplus state.

A large number of oil and gas reserves have been found in Rajasthan which are being commercially exploited, with current production of 1.75 lakh barrels per day which is slated to go up to 3 lakh barrels per day shortly. An oil refinery is also being established jointly with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited.



With about 39% of the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) linking Delhi and Mumbai would pass through Rajasthan, throwing up great opportunities for industrial establishments along the route in the 150 km band on both sides of the DFC. About 60% of the State's area falls within the project area of influence.

Rajasthan is one of the most picturesque parts of the country and the State is one of the most favoured tourist destinations of both domestic and foreign tourists. The State is dotted with rugged forts, beautiful palaces and havelies, lakes, museums, wildlife and bird sanctuaries, fairs and festivals, colorful culture, soulful music and delicious cuisine. Tourism accounts for about 15% of State's GDP. The State also offers great opportunities for holding conferences and seminars, besides being a favourable destination for medical treatment as well as religious tourism.

Starting with a modest export of just 400 crore in 1990-91, The State now has export turnover of about 40,000. Major items of export include agro and food products, textile and apparel, gems & jewellery, Handicrafts, dimensional stones, non-ferrous metals, chemical & allied items, etc.

Rajasthan also has well developed social infrastructure of schools, colleges, universities, medical colleges, engineering and technical institutes, hospitals and nursing homes, banks.

Beside the above mentioned factors, The State offers polity and good governance, stable policies, competitive taxation policies, attractive investment incentives, etc. The present State Government has taken bold initiatives in implementing modified land acquisition policies, Labour reforms, Factories Act reforms etc. In fact, the State's Single Window dispensation is quite effective and has been given statutory backing by way of an act of the Legislative Assembly.

Government of Rajasthan is organizing Resurgent Rajasthan Summit to promote the State as a top investment destination in the region. The Summit, to be organized on 19-20 November 2015 will host strategic conferences, panel discussions, round table deliberations, presentation on investment opportunities and one-on-one business meetings. This event is a focus endeavor to realize the State's vision of inclusive growth and long term Industrial development. Resurgent Rajasthan 2015 will bring together investment from all over the world (including CEOs and big business owners), high-level government officials, international dignitaries and representatives of foreign missions. Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce is also invited to join the Resurgent Rajasthan Summit.

*Mr. K. L. Jain is Honorary Secretary General of Rajasthan Chamber of Commerce & Industry*







# BUSINESS IMMIGRATION TO CANADA- “RIDE THE EXPRESS”



By Jagmohan  
Nanda

The Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE) recently conducted a survey of its member companies with respect to skills requirements and human resource priorities. The high response rate clearly underscores the importance of these issues to corporate Canada.

It is important to note that Canada is suffering from skills shortages in certain regions, sectors, and occupations. This has also been confirmed by reports from TD Economics and the Conference Board of Canada. The main sectors that suffer due to skills shortages are energy, utilities, mining, construction, accounting, manufacturing, retail, food service, and insurance. Workers in engineering and I.T. sector occupations are often difficult to recruit. As well, chronic shortages in several skilled trades such as carpenters, plumbers, mechanics, electricians, boilermakers, welders, heavy equipment operators and machinists have been reported. It is expected that these shortages will grow as Canada's population ages and the economy expands.

The reason for skill shortages is that the education system is not producing the types of graduates that companies need. There is often reluctance on the part of some Canadians to relocate for the purpose of employment. However, the foremost barrier in skill shortages is the challenge of recruiting workers from outside of Canada. The recent reforms made by Citizenship and Immigration Canada through 'Express Entry' help companies recruit the required skilled workers faster. However, some obstacles remain such as issues related to foreign credential recognition, difficulties in attracting immigrants to certain regions of the country, and integrating new Canadians into the community and work place.

Skills shortages are a major concern for companies that are in expansion mode or planning huge projects. This has resulted in a loss of projects, lost efficiency, weakened profitability, inflated staffing costs, and an inability to deliver.

## SOLUTION:

The Canadian Government through Citizenship and Immigration Canada has addressed the needs of corporations and businesses and has recently introduced a new electronic system called 'Express Entry'. The system is being used by the CIC to manage applications received under such categories as:

- Canadian Experience Class
- Provincial Nominee Programs
- Federal Skilled Worker Program

Canadian businesses can hire candidates from the Express Entry system in order to meet labour needs when there is a skills shortage and an inability to fill job vacancies with Canadians or permanent residents. Express Entry candidates with a valid job offer will quickly receive an invitation to apply (ITA) for permanent residence. Note that there is no change in the program eligibility criteria for any of the above categories.

Applicants applying under the Canadian Experience Class already have work experience in Canada. Potential candidates interested in applying to the Canadian Experience Class must go through the Express Entry system and will likely benefit from faster processing.

Most provinces in Canada are assisting businesses to recruit candidates from within or outside of Canada. As a general rule priority is given to candidates who are in Canada with study or work experience. Businesses can also



recruit candidates from outside Canada through Provincial Nominee Programs. Under the Provincial Nominee Programs, provinces can nominate people who meet specific local labour market needs for permanent residence. Provincial Nominee Programs are being adopted by most provinces but the criteria for each program differs from province to province.

Canadian businesses looking to recruit workers in skilled occupations can offer jobs to foreign workers in Canada. Skilled workers have skilled professional work experience and are chosen as permanent residents based on their ability to contribute to the Canadian economy. Potential candidates interested in applying to the Federal Skilled Worker Program must now go through the Express Entry system.

Canadian employers can also hire foreign workers through the Temporary Foreign Worker Program or the International Mobility Program. The Temporary Foreign Worker Program allows employers to hire foreign workers to fill temporary labour and skills shortages. Employers need to obtain a Labour Market Impact Assessment from Employment and Social Development Canada to hire the foreign worker. The Labour Market Impact Assessment is intended to verify the need for the foreign worker and that no Canadians are available to do the job.

The International Mobility Program lets employers hire foreign workers without the need of a Labour Market Impact Assessment. Exemptions from that process are available where there are reciprocal benefits for Canadians and other competitive advantages for Canada. The employer needs to pay an employer compliance fee and submit the Offer of Employment form to CIC before the foreign national can apply for a work permit.

Employers have the option to hire workers from within Canada or from abroad. Normally, employers can hire a foreign worker for up to four years. Foreign workers may go on to become permanent residents through the Federal Skilled Worker Program, Canadian Experience Class, or a Provincial Nominee Program.

In conclusion, various options are available through Citizenship and Immigration Canada to resolve the issue of labour shortages. These depend on the temporary or long term skills requirements of the employer and whether the worker will avail of either the temporary worker category or seek permanent residence. Express Entry should produce faster results.

*The Writer is the founding principal of Nanda & Associate Lawyers Professional Corporation.*







# CANADA-INDIA LINKAGES IN HIGHER EDUCATION



By Dr. Shanthi Johnson

I want to congratulate the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) for creating and promoting bilateral business and trade opportunities between Canada and India for over 38 years and for recognizing eminent Indo-Canadians for their contributions. Each of the 1.2 million strong Indo-Canadians who call Canada home contributes to the vibrant fabric of Canadian society in his or her own unique way.

Connectivity and strategic partnerships are important for progress, peace, and prosperity at the global level. Canada and India have long standing relations in fostering educational and cultural cooperation. India's 2nd prime minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri coined the phrase *Jai Jiwan*; *Jai Kissan* (translates to – hail soldier, hail farmer) highlighting the importance of food security and national security, which remains a priority today for our countries. Others have added “*Jai Vigyan! Jai Vidwan!* (hail knowledge, and hail the learned)” indicating the importance of education as a tool for bringing about social change, community development, health, and economic prosperity. The future of higher education and opportunities for international cooperation depends on national leadership, organizational support and action, institutional partnerships, and person to person linkages.

Education is one of the key priorities of both governments, as evidenced by the Education Cooperation MOU each signed in 2010 and the highest level state visits by the Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper in 2013 and Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Narendra Modi in 2015. Translating the national level vision are the strategy documents such as Canada's International Education Strategy released in 2014 and India's 12th five-year plan (2012-2017). In

both countries, the priority of higher education is based on value and interest in creating a globally focused work force, with nuanced differences. While Canada's priorities are framed around the Global Markets Action Plan and education as trade to drive innovation and prosperity, India's priorities emerge from the need for expansion, equity, and excellence in higher education to meet the needs of a burgeoning population. In 2012, international students contributed \$8.4 billion to the Canadian economy. In India, 50% of the population of over 1 billion are under 25 and need to be educated, resulting in the proliferation of institutions, increases in the number of globally mobile students seeking education abroad superseding that of China, and countries/institutions around the world competing for students from India. Provincial governments have also taken active roles in promoting higher education, such as Saskatchewan's International Education Strategy and Premier Wall's visit to India in 2014.

Higher education has also seen growth in organizations supporting bi-national linkages and partnerships. Several players have emerged in this corridor such as the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, AUCC, CIC, CIBE, CIEC, MITACS, and IC-IMPACTS, to name a few. Additionally, traditional trade and business organizations such as the ICCC, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Canada-India Business Council, and others have included higher education as a priority area. The availability of multiple players has enriched the landscape for unique partnership opportunities. For example, in 2013/14, the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and the ICCC conducted a series of roundtables on unlocking the potential of Canada and India relations



in areas such as trade/investment, agriculture and others with a cross-cutting theme of education, research and innovation. By bringing together scholars, students, educational institutions, businesses, and other key players, these roundtables highlighted how the presence of multiple players warrants a more synergistic and coordinated approach to academic partnership. The bi-national bridge of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and other organizations in the Canada-India education corridor and international efforts such as the Global Initiative of Academic Networks will foster deeper and enduring cooperation and partnerships.

Institution to institution partnerships have increased considerably. A recent Shastri Institute survey (2012) found more than 300 institutional cooperation MOUs in higher education in various stages of operation, and most Canadian academic institutions have internationalization strategies. While student recruitment remains a priority, there is an urgent need to infuse the tripartite academic mission of

teaching, research and service. Strong relations between nations are ultimately built through the engagement of innumerable citizens, both mainstream and Indo-Canadian. The exchange of people, skills and ideas enriches both countries, and opportunities for two-way faculty exchange, knowledge mobilization, and student mobility are vital.

Canada and India are working together in numerous sectors but we can and must do more. Enhancement of partnership in various fields, including education appears to have gained momentum with the recent meetings of the two Prime Ministers and joint commitment to implement cooperation in higher education. Generating innovative ideas and recommendations can further this partnership. We, as individuals, organizations, institutions, and governments have a role in shaping society today and into the future. We can achieve this effectively and sustainably by listening, linking, and leading with our hearts and minds.

*Dr. Shanthi Johnson, Professor, University of Regina  
Former President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute*





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# YEAR IN REVIEW 2015

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015

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### **Dharma P Jain, President**

Dharma P. Jain, is an accomplished finance professional and practicing CPA, CGA serving to medium and small businesses in Canada. He has over 25 years of international experience. He is a thorough professional and specializes in structured business financing, business consulting and advisory, compliance & assurance, business restructuring, risk management and taxation. Mr. Jain is professionally and socially active and engaged in helping the community. He sits on the Audit Compliance Committee of City of Brampton and member of Mississauga International Partnership program Committee.



### **Rajni Tekriwal, Vice President & Corporate Secretary**

Rajni Tekriwal, a Barrister & Solicitor is the founder of Rajni Tekriwal Law Professional Corporation in Vaughan, Ontario. She has over 19 years of international experience in the legal field. Rajni practices in the fields of Corporate Law, Real Estate, Family Law, Child Protection and Wills & Estates. In India, she was actively involved with Rotary International (Inner Wheel) and held various leading positions at the State level. Currently, Rajni is also serving as the Vice- President of RANA (Canada).



### **Tony Chawla, Vice President, Programs & Events**

Tony Chawla is the President / Broker of Record for HomeLife/Diamonds Realty Inc Canada. He manages a hard working team of over 60 salespersons in the real estate sector and his real estate brokerage is among the top 5% firms working in the same field in Canada in terms of gross sales commission. He is a pharmacist by profession and has extensively worked in the social sphere in India. He is also organizer for Miss India Worldwide Canada.



### **Brij K. Sharma, Vice President - Finance & SME**

Brij K. Sharma, CPA, CA is the President and CEO of Brij K. Sharma Professional Corporation, Chartered Accountants and Business Advisers in Toronto. He has a wide experience of public accounting and tax planning with small to large sized professional firms. He is also actively involved in community services



### **Pathik Baxi, Vice President, Membership & Legal Affair**

Pathik Baxi, partner of Simmons, da Silva LLP is a skilled and experienced litigator, with his practice focused on a broad range of commercial litigation matters, as well as advising clients faced with Receiverships, Construction Lien Matters and Mortgage Enforcement Remedies. Moreover, Pathik also has a broad experience in representing a variety of non-for-profit, religious and community based organizations.





### Jagdish Bajaj, Director

Jagdish Bajaj is an entrepreneur with an extensive background in Information Technology as well as Construction & Renovation. Currently he is the President of Tango Kitchens, a kitchen remodeler serving homeowners, builders and contractors. Prior to Tango, he founded Decorstone, an importer and distributor of natural stone.



### Sanjay Makkar, Sanjay Makkar, Director, Affinity Programs

Sanjay Makkar is founder President of InSureU! Insurance & Investments Solutions Inc., a complete premier professional services firm, providing consultation and solutions in Risk Strategy Consulting, Personal/Health Insurance, Estate and Succession planning. Sanjay worked with Sun Life Financial and was awarded for performing at the highest level of production and service. He is active in community and business services.



### Ginni Sethi, Director Women Entrepreneurs Professionals (WEP)

Ginni Sethi, President, Grand Victorian Convention Centre & Park Inn by Radisson Plaza Mississauga, and Chairperson at Black Diamond Entertainments, is a successful, leading business person. She is active member of Lions Club, Everyday child and served as a Patron for AWIC. She was founder of WE-ELITE and contributed in the formation of ICCO's Women Entrepreneurs and Professionals (WEP) committee. As philanthropist, Ginni supported charities through Sethi Foundation with a significant donation for medical care, women shelters and education for girls in India.



### Hardesh Marwaha, Director - Information Technology (IT)

Mr. Hardesh Marwaha is multidimensional entrepreneur with over 25 years of International IT industry experience for enterprise corporations. He is independent technical consultant with in-depth IT experience in application and infrastructure Architecture. Hardesh worked as several management roles at IBM, Software AG, Accenture and CAPCO. He is actively invested in Real Estate, IT service and Business Service provider companies in GTA area. He is socially activate and engaged in Indian and Canadian non profitable charitable organizations.



### Dr. Rajesh Tyagi, Director- Council Affairs - (East)

Dr. Rajesh Tyagi is an assistant professor at HEC Montreal, Department of Logistics and Operations Management. He is the co-author of Six Sigma for Transactions and Service (2005) and A Complete and Balanced Service Scorecard: Creating Value Through Sustained Performance Improvement (2008). He co-founded a biomedical device manufacturing company in Singapore. He was Secretary-Treasurer of Shastri Indo-Canada Institute. As Director of ICCO he organized numerous round table discussions on India-Canada relations.



### Ajay Gupta, Director - Mining

Mr Gupta is a Chartered Accountant (CA) from ICAO, Canada; a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) designations from USA. He is also a fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (FCA). Presently, he is a Chairman and CEO of Homeland Energy Group Ltd., a public company listed on TSX venture exchange, engaged in acquisition and developing mining properties overseas. He has over twenty five years of international experience in the field of Corporate Finance, Corporate Governance, Mergers and Acquisitions.





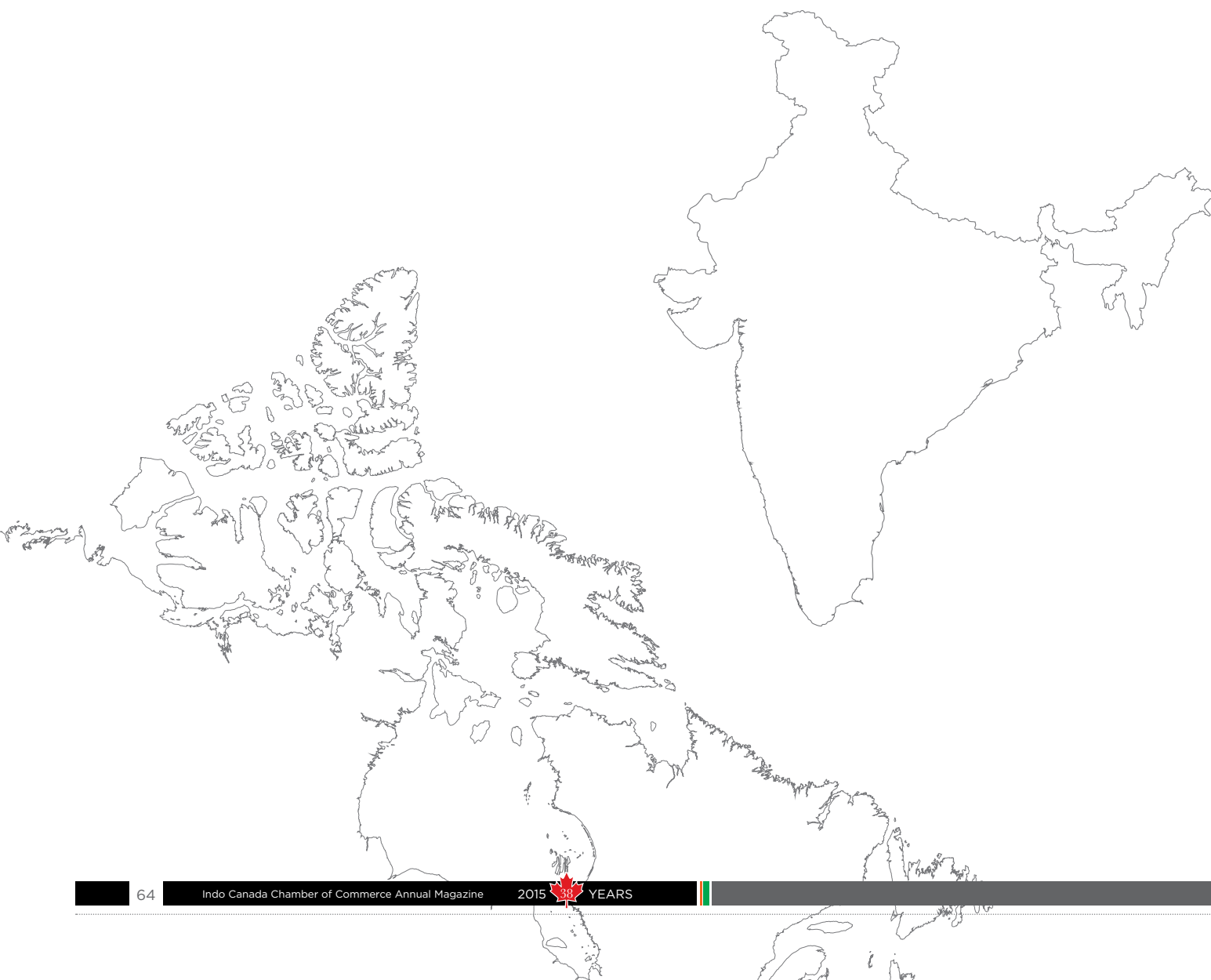
### Harpreet Dhillon, Director- Council Affairs - (West)

Mr. Harpreet Dhillon is actively contributing in non-profit and professional associations in local Calgary community. He brings with him over 20 years of international leadership experience in strategic technology enabled services including technology start-ups, telecommunication, construction and public sector. He is championing ICCC goals and mentoring professional immigrants. He has held numerous leadership positions including Chief Operating Officer for food-technology venture, President & Board member of Punjabi Professional Association of Alberta, Canada.



### Naval Bajaj, Immediate Past President

Naval is a dynamic entrepreneur and a Certified Business Consultant at 7-Eleven Canada. He holds a Master of Engineering, Master of Business Administration and Bachelors of Law degrees. Naval has held leadership positions at the Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA-Canada), and Panorama India. Naval is Top 25 RBC Canadian Immigrant Award winner 2014 and also honored with South Asian Professional of the year midweek award. He was also one among the 25 South Asians in the Midweek South Asian Power List.







## ADVISORY BOARD 2014-2015



### Bob Dhillon

Bob Dhillon is the president and CEO of Mainstreet Equity Corp., its founder and largest shareholder. Mr. Dhillon is a proponent of the intellectual capital and technological capabilities. Mainstreet has invested in the outsourcing to India of its corporate digital assets. Mr. Dhillon received his M.B.A. from the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario in 1998. He currently sits on the school's Entrepreneur Advisory Council. Mr. Dhillon is also the owner of National Payments, a mercantile protection business, and is the honorary consul general of Belize in Canada.



### Deepak Ruparell

Deepak is founder and president of the Silver Hotel Group – one of the largest privately owned hotel investment, development, and management companies in Canada. Under his leadership, the company focuses on all areas involving hotel investments. Silver's current portfolio includes 16 hotels located in Canada and the U.S., and ranges from full service and limited hotels to independent boutique hotels.



### Don Stephenson

Don Stephenson joined the federal Public Service in 1981 and served at the Department of Communications as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister, Director of the Arts Policy Division, Director of the Cultural Initiatives Program, and as Cultural Policy Adviser to the Minister of Communications. From 2002 to 2004, he was Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Economic and Regional Development Policy, Privy Council Office. In August 2004, Mr. Stephenson was appointed as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the Office of the United Nations and World Trade Organization.. In 2008 he was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade Policy & Negotiations. Mr. Stephenson continues to serve as Chief Trade Negotiator for the Canada - India Comprehensive Partnership Agreement.



### Goldy Hyder

Goldy Hyder is President of Hill+Knowlton Strategies Canada's leading strategic communications firm. He is a seasoned public affairs practitioner with public, private and non-profit clients in variety of sectors. Currently, Goldy is a Board and Executive member of United Way Ottawa and Co-Chair of the 2013-2014 community campaign, Board member of the Ottawa Senators Foundation and Chair of its Communications and Community Investment Committee. Goldy is a regular commentator on business and politics in the national media and appears weekly on CBC's hit show The Lang O'Leary Exchange's Big Picture Panel. Goldy received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013 for his distinguished service to Canada.



### Jeff Zabudsky

Dr. Jeff Zabudsky is Sheridan's sixth President, a position he assumed on February 1, 2010. Prior to joining Sheridan, Dr. Zabudsky worked at post-secondary institutions in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta, including six years as President and CEO of Red River College in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He chaired the 2011 United Way of Oakville campaign, and served on the campaign cabinet of the United Way of Peel. He is a member of Mississauga's Healthy City Stewardship Centre, is on the Board of Directors for the Mississauga Board of Trade, and is a member of Mississauga's Economic Development Advisory Board. Dr. Zabudsky received Athabasca University's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011 and Ryerson University's Alumni Award of Distinction in 2013.





### Pradeep Merchant

Dr. Pradeep Merchant was appointed as Chief of Division of Neonatology at the Ottawa Civic Hospital and the Medical Director of the Rich Little's Special Care Nursery. Currently, he is the Site Chief of the Division of Neonatology at the Civic Campus. He has been instrumental in developing and is a current Chair of the "Canada-India Center for Excellence in Science, Technology, Trade and Policy" in Ottawa at the Carleton University. He has been appointed on the Board of Governors for Carleton University. Dr. Merchant has been recently conferred Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.



### Sriram H. Iyer

Sriram H. Iyer is President & Chief Executive Officer of ICICI Bank Canada and Regional Head of ICICI Bank's North American operations, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ICICI Bank Limited. Mr. Iyer joined ICICI Bank Canada from its parent company as a core member of the executive team that established the bank's presence in Canada. Under his leadership the bank has become one of the fastest growing banks in the country. Mr. Iyer was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce Corporate Executive of the Year in 2012. He was named on Canada's Top 40 Under 40TM list in 2008.



### Usha George

Usha George is Professor and Dean at the Faculty of Community Services, Ryerson University. Dr. George came to Ryerson in 2006 from the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto, where she had served as the associate dean and interim dean. She held the Royal Bank Chair in Applied Social Work Research at the University of Toronto. She also served as the Director of the national Joint Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Settlement. Dr. George is a distinguished scholar and researcher in the areas of newcomer settlement and integration, and diversity and organizational change.



### Venki Raman

A banker by profession, Venki Raman is a motivational speaker who mentors newcomers to Canada. Over the past 17 years Venki has led several large teams successfully delivering high customer satisfaction, coupled with strong business results. Venki's motivational leadership style of his current team of over 250 people, is reflected in the enthusiasm and passion with which his team members help clients achieve "what matters" to them. Venki's leadership style travels beyond his team, to newcomers whom he motivates and guides in career planning. Most recently, Venki participated in mentoring sessions through the United Way guiding newcomers to look beyond their obstacles and focus on their strengths, to make themselves highly marketable.



### Vim Kochhar

Vim Kochhar a former Senator, the first person of Indo-Canadian heritage appointed to the Senate of Canada on January 29, 2010 and retired from the Senate on September 21, 2011. Rotary Cheshire Homes (RCH) was founded in the early 1980s by Joyce Thompson and Vim Kochhar. RCH offers housing to persons who are deaf-blind. Vim Kochhar set the wheels in motion to develop housing for physically disabled persons. As a member of the Toronto-Don Valley Rotary Club, Kochhar enlisted the help of his fellow Rotarians in organizing the first Great Valentine Gala in February 1984.





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Jagmohan Nanda  
Jay Banerjei

Mokshi Virk

## Energy

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Anand Kundra - Chair  
Jayesh Bhatt

## Golf

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Anil Shah - Chair  
Pradeep Sood  
Rahul Mehta  
Vikram Dua  
Tavinder Malhotra

## Information Technology

---

Hardesh Marwaha - Director  
Souvik Kar - Chair  
Vivek Vyas  
Sandeep Kharat  
Praveen Pillai  
Japjeet Sethi  
Suraj Gupta

## Membership

---

Pathik Baxi - Vice President &  
Director, Membership, ICCC  
Jay Banerjei - Chair  
Yvas Normandin

Delanka Kulaweera  
Anil Adat  
Bharat sheth

## Mining

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Dharma P. Jain - President, ICCC  
Ajay Gupta - Director, Mining, ICCC  
Indira Singh - Chair  
Sampat Poddar  
John Mason

Tushar Pandey  
Aditya Rebbapragada  
Naval Bajaj - Immediate Past  
President, ICCC





## Mentoring Committee

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Avin Mehra - Chair  
Ashok Baghwala  
Manish Puri  
Vishwas Sawant  
Samy Ramchandran

## New Immigrants Committee

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Ripudaman Dhillon - Chair  
Ankur Kundra - Co-Chair  
Pratap Purohit  
Naval Gupta

## WEP

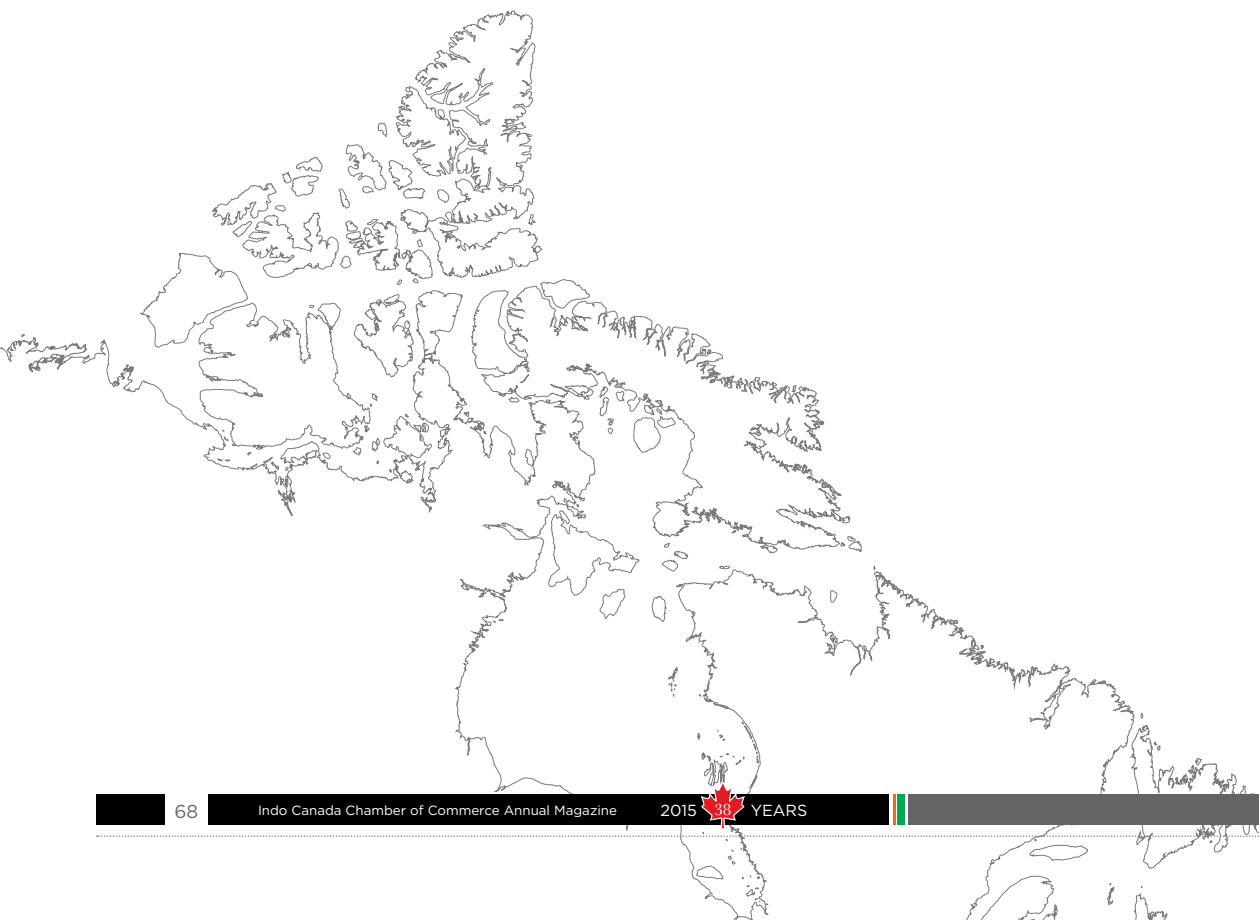
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Ginni Sethi - Director  
Shibani Sahney - Chair  
Smita Dayal - Co-Chair  
Sunita Malik  
Sunita Vyas  
Mini Khurana  
Shelly Srivastav  
Rinku Deswal

## Young Professionals

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Sameer Sharma - Chair  
Shreya Chawla  
Vishaal Bedi  
Harry Chana  
Aditya Purohit





# ALBERTA COUNCIL REPORT



Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce Alberta Business Council (ICCC - ABC) in collaboration with Calgary Economic Development cordially organised an interactive round table session on "How to Thrive during the current economic landscape"

on April 10, 2015. The roundtable provided a platform for a diverse group of representatives from financial sector, economist oil & gas industry, local small and medium business and entrepreneurs to engage in an exploratory discussion highlighting Canadian economic cycle - boom & bust in Alberta



and resources, programs and opportunities available during the interim slow down. Mr. Harpreet Dhillon, Director Council Affair-West ICCC welcomed the panelists and guests.

Mr. Dharma P Jain, President ICCC in his special address welcome Michelle Mobarrez, Regional Vice Presidents Personal Banking, BMO Bank of Montreal and Leigh Doucette, Vice-President Commercial Banking/Small Business, BMO Bank of Montreal and Mr. Devinder Shory, Member of Parliament. Mr. Jain briefed the upcoming programs of the chamber and role of the councils in promoting its mandate.







## HALIFAX COUNCIL REPORT



ICCC President Mr. Dharma Jain visited Halifax council on May 8, 2015. Mr Jain along with members of the council Mr. Tom Puthiakunnel and Mr. Abbas Hamza attended several meetings coordinated with Ms. Lynda Arsenault, Director Outsourcing & Technology, Nova Scotia Business Inc.

They met first with Director Jason Guidry and Account Executive Minder Singh, of Halifax Partnership.

They discussed how The Halifax Partnership and the ICCC can work together to promote the ICCC through the Halifax Partnership (HP) Connector Program and through their multiple investment attraction initiatives. ICCC council has shown willingness to sponsor various HP events - i.e. Annual May-

ors breakfast etc. Several other ideas were also exchanged.

Mr. Jain held the second meeting with Ms. Laurel Broten President & CEO of Nova Scotia Business Inc. and Ms. Lynda Arsenault. They discussed how NSBI can better utilize ICCC specifically to use it as a platform to promote business growth between India and the Province of Nova Scotia. They also discussed how NSBI could promote the local chapter of the ICCC.



The third meeting was held with The President of Halifax Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Valerie Payne. Ms. Payne discussed how over the years they had increased the profile of the Halifax Chamber including; growing its membership base, holding valuable events and gaining credibility as a leading Chamber of Commerce in Canada. As the ICCC Halifax Chapter is trying to grow in all of these above areas, they exchanged views of best practices on how the ICCC Halifax Branch can also achieve this level of success. Several other ideas were also discussed.





# MONTREAL COUNCIL REPORT

## PANEL DISCUSSION ON CANADA INDIA RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON QUEBEC INDIA RELATIONS

Mr. Dharma P Jain, President Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce participated in the panel discussion on Canada India relations with special focus on Quebec on 12 February 2015 at University of Quebec à Montreal (UQAM). Other panelists were from various ministries of the Government of Quebec. And, panel was moderated by Professor Rajesh K Tyagi.



Mr. Dharma P Jain  
Speaking at the event

The event was organized by the Institute of International Studies in Montreal (IEIM) and Centre for Research on India, South Asia and its Diaspora (CERIAS).

Canada and India have many MoUs and agreements in place in fields of Health Research, Scientific and Technological Cooperation, Agriculture and Allied Sectors, Mines and cooperation in Earth Sciences etc. These agreements have laid a strong foundation for a comprehensive partnership. At the same time, they also raise important questions about the need to identify appropriate implementing mechanisms and the supportive role of the Indo-Canadian diaspora, Jain Said.

The other speakers in the panel highlighted the major sectors of cooperation between Quebec and India. The panelists were Marie-Michèle Brien, Export Quebec Ministry Econ-



Session in progress

omy, Innovation and Exports, Jason Naud, Innovation Sector – Partnerships International, Ministry of Economy, Innovation and Export, David Ruiz, Asia Pacific Branch, Department of International Relations and Francophonie.

Prof. Rajesh Kumar Tyagi, Assistant Professor, HEC Montreal & Director Council Affairs East (ICCC) said that ICCC has released its report on “Unlocking the Potential of Canada-India partnership Present Initiatives and Future Agenda”. The French version of the report will be released soon. He also moderated the session.







## WINNIPEG BUSINESS COUNCIL



The Winnipeg Business Council is proud to report that it has grown, both in membership and relevance, over the past year. The Winnipeg Council hosted Mr. Don Stephenson (Chief Trade Negotiator, Canada-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade) for a round table discussion with key stake holders within Manitoba's international trade leadership and organizations that help facilitate trade. This event both raised the profile of the Winnipeg Business Council and provided meaningful feedback for the CEPA negotiation process.

The council more recently hosted a larger event, with some 70 attendees, with keynote speaker, Hon. Maxime Bernier, Minister of State of Small Business, Agriculture and Tourism. The event was highlighted by the attendance of Mr. Dharma P. Jain, the ICCC President, and our patron supporter MLA Bidhu Jha who iterated the importance of the ICCC to strengthening trade between Manitoba and India and also the range and growth of trade between Manitoba and India, respectively.

With renewed private sector sponsors, the Winnipeg Business Council is positioned and determined to surpass their 100 member goal, create long term private sector corporate partnerships to provide funding for long term planning, host several networking and trade information workshops with ever higher profile speak-



ers, and assist in the planning for a Manitoba based trade mission to India.

It is very important to note that the Winnipeg Business Council of the ICCC was founded by Dr. Digvir Jayas and Romel Dhalla in 2008 and that it was under Dr. Jayas' leadership, commitment to community, and his interconnectedness to public/private organizations globally that the council was able to exist and perform so many of the critical functions such a trade organization is expected of. Thus, our council and the ICCC owe a major debt of thanks to Dr. Jayas for his many years of service as President.







## ANNUAL AWARDS & GALA NIGHT

14 JUNE 2014

Over 1,200 eminent Indo-Canadians converged at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on June 14, 2014 to celebrate and honour the achievements of eleven Indo-Canadians from diverse fields honoured at Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce's Annual Awards & Gala Night. Joe Oliver, Federal Minister of Finance, was the Chief Guest and the keynote speaker. The theme for 2014 gala was "Unleashing Diaspora Power: Building for a New Future."





















## ICCC'S 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

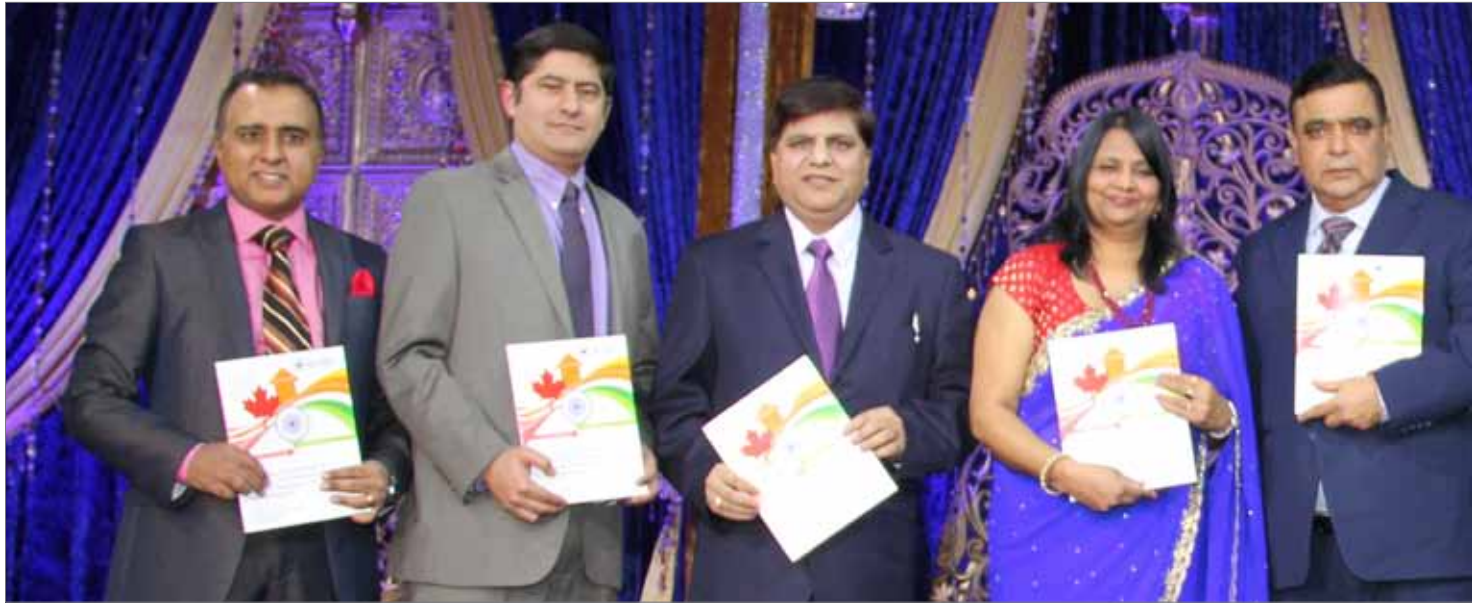
29 JULY 2014

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce's (ICCC) 16th Annual Golf Classic was an overwhelming success with over 140 enthusiastic amateur golfers having a great time. Tuesday, July 29, 2014 turned out to be a perfect day for golf, and the Wooden Sticks, at Uxbridge ON, a perfect venue. It was a comparatively cool day but participants had a great time. The team comprising Manjeet Gill, Sudhir Anand, Preet Sandhu and Avtar Brar won the tournament. Dharma P Jain, President, ICCC, presented the winning team with the rotating trophy along with Mr. Sandeep Mukherjee from TD Bank. Speaking at the occasion Mr. Dharma P Jain, President ICCC said that the long standing dream of the ICCC for having its own headquarter has been fulfilled and the golf revenues would be utilized for the Chamber's new headquarters.









## WINTER GALA 2014

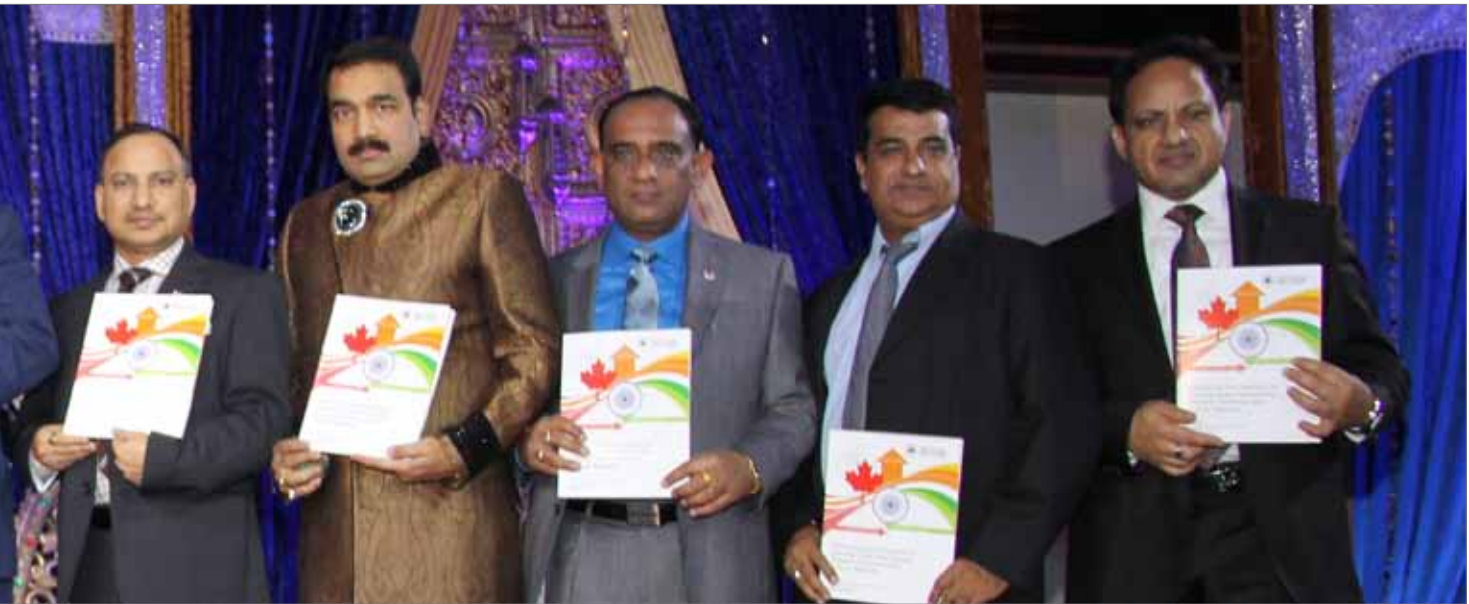
5 DECEMBER 2014

### ICCC – The Royal Darbar - Winter Gala 2014

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce celebrated Winter Gala 2014 with its theme 'The Royal Darbar' Indian Royalty is known to the world for its majestic life style, attractive Rajput and Mughal era architecture and delicious dishes. Royal families in India have been instrumental in creating a new cultural identity for India. The highlight of the evening was the release of ICCC report on "Unlocking the Potential of Canada-India Partnership: Present Initiatives and Future Agenda" by Honourable Deepak Obhrai, Parliamentary Secretary to The Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Dignitaries at the event included several prominent political leaders such as Hon. Chris Alexander, Federal Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Hon. Deepak Obhrai, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Member of Parliament Parm Gill and Patrick Brown, Consul General Akhilesh Mishra, Mayor Bonnie Crombie, and MPPs.









# INDIA MISSION 2015

The Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce's India Mission 2015 delegation to Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Jaipur and New Delhi from January 6 to 13, 2015, consisted of members from financial sector, small and medium businesses, hospitality, travel and tourism, information technology and real estate sector. Delegates also attended the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) 2015 and Vibrant Gujarat 2015, held in Gandhinagar from January 7 - 11, 2015.

In Gandhinagar, ICCC delegation attended the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) 2015. The mega event of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) 2015 was a major platform for connecting with the Indian decision makers and businesses leaders. The deliberations of PBD 2015 provided useful information about India's priority in the business sector for the coming years to the international business community.

The chamber also released its Report on ***"Unlocking the Potential of Canada-India Partnership: Present Initiatives and Future Agenda"*** in Ahmedabad, India on 10 January 2015, in a business reception hosted by Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industries.

India Mission delegates also had an opportunity to attend the Global Vision Award ceremony where Hon. Deepak Obhrai was conferred the award. Delegates also visited Cadila Pharmaceuticals where they had fruitful discussions with the Cadila leadership for promoting collaboration between the two countries in pharmaceutical industries.

The ICCC-led delegation attended inaugural session of Vibrant Gujarat 2015. Altogether over 50,000 delegates from 120 countries attended the Summit. Canada was one of the partner country of the three-day global business summit. The summit was focused to attract new investment in the sectors such as healthcare, automobile, aerospace, renewable energy, mega projects, sustainable development, information technology, railways, infrastructure, small scale industries etc.



ICCC and Federation of Rajasthan Trade and Industry (FORTI) signed Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate and collaborate for strengthening the bilateral trade relations. ICCC held a B2B meeting with Rajasthan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (RCCI).

To conclude, ICCC's India Mission 2015 identified Small and Medium Enterprises as a priority area in the light of 'Make in India' initiative taken by the new business friendly government of India. The India Mission 2015 also brought to light important regional opportunities in various sectors, such as mining and minerals, organic foods and food processing, Information Technology sector, and travel & tourism.











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## YEAR IN REVIEW

17 July 2014

### ICCC - Dharma P. Jain is the 26th President of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce



Dharma P. Jain was elected the 26th President of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce at the Annual General Meeting of the Chamber held Thursday July 17, 2014.

The three other directors elected for a two-year term at the meeting are Jagdish Bajaj, Sanjay Makkar, and Ginni Sethi.

In a statement issued in Toronto, Jain said, "I am delighted to be the new President of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC). The Chamber is a great business and commerce institution with deep roots in the Indian diaspora. It has achieved its status as a preeminent organization of Indo-Canadians because of the sterling contributions of many business and community leaders."

11 August 2014 6:30 PM

### ICCC-Business reception for Visiting FKCCI Delegation from India

Dharma P. Jain was elected the 26th President of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce at the Annual General Meeting of the Chamber held Thursday July 17, 2014.

The three other directors elected for a two-year term at the meeting are Jagdish Bajaj, Sanjay Makkar, and Ginni Sethi.

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21 August 2014 6:30 PM

### ICCC - ICC-Delmar Global Imports & Exports Seminar



Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) and Delmar International, a leading Total supply Chain and Logistic Company, organised a joint 'Global Imports & Exports Seminar' in Mississauga on 21 August 2014. The seminar was attended by the Indo Canadian importers, exporters, distributors, retailers and manufacturers. The seminar was informative for the audience as it presented opportunities for global trade in the light of changing international economic order.





3 September 2014

## ICCC- Roundtable on “Promoting Canada India Bilateral Trade & Investment”



Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) in partnership with City of Brampton and City of Markham organised a business roundtable on, “Promoting Canada India Bilateral Trade & Investment” with a visiting international business delegation from India. The delegation was led by Mr. Bharat Lal was exploring the new areas for promoting bilateral trade and investment between Canada and India in sectors such as energy, education, information technology, finance, infrastructure, automotive industry and chemicals.

Consul General Akhilesh Mishra highlighted the importance of such a flagship event ‘Vibrant Gujarat 2015’. He said that the event will provide a certain boost to Canada India business relations.

3 September 2014

## ICCC- Business reception for visiting ‘Vibrant Gujarat’ Delegation from India

Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) in partnership with City of Brampton and City of Markham organised a business reception for visiting ‘Vibrant Gujarat’ business delegation from India on 03 September 2014 in Toronto. The delegation led by Mr. Bharat Lal, Resident Commissioner was exploring the new areas for promoting bilateral trade and investment between Canada and India in sectors such as mining, energy, renewable energy, automotive industry, education, information technology, finance and infrastructure.

Hon. Bal Gosal, Federal Minister of State for Sports, emphasised that India is a priority market for Canada. Free trade negotiations are undergoing at the final stage between the two countries. Once the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) would be signed; the bilateral trade will get a big boost which is close to US \$ 5.8 billion at present.



11 September 2014

## ICCC- Media Interaction



The board of directors of Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) held a media interaction for discussing the future strategies of the chamber to engage different stakeholders for the promotion of Canada India bilateral trade relations and taking forward the twin mandate of the ICCC to provide a platform for community entrepreneurs and promoting the diaspora.

This media interaction was first of its kind in Chamber’s history. The purpose behind this was to let media tour the newly acquired Chamber’s headquarter, meet with newly elected board of directors and share new boards’ vision for the upcoming year.



25 September 2014

## ICCC organised its hard hats tour to Sigan industries



Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) organised its Hard Hats Tour of the Sigan Industries on 25 September 2014, which was attended by ICCC members. This was an innovative learning opportunity for the members as they were given a privileged “behind the scenes” tour of Sigan Industries. Mr. Manjit Singh is a proud Chamber member, shared his success story. He also gave the overview of the project that how they have developed it to fulfill the needs of the clients by doing in house research and development.

30 September 2014

## ICCC seminar on “Saving for Retirement- A Strategy to Protect & Grow Your Wealth for Retirement”



Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce in partnership with CIBC Wood Gundy organized a seminar on, “Saving for Retirement- A Strategy to Protect & Grow Your Wealth for Retirement” on 30 September 2014. The subject of the seminar was very timely because in several surveys, Canadians have expressed their two most important Financial Concerns as “Ensuring you’re prepared for Retirement” & “Ensuring You don’t outlive your savings”.

Mr. Avin Mehra, Vice President & Portfolio Manager, CIBC Wood Gundy was the guest speaker at the seminar. Mr. Mehra addressed the seminar with questions of “Why, What, When & How” & outlined the sources of income in retirement, including CPP, OAS, Company Pension, RRSP, TFSA, IPP, RCA, Home Equity etc., as also the Risk Management/Risk Mitigation strategies.

8 October 2014

## ICCC-Keys to Successful Business Management



Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce organized an interactive session on, “Keys to Successful Business Management” on 08 October 2014. The session was part of ICCC-RBC speaker series. It was focussed on the ICCC’s Women Entrepreneurs Professionals.

Ms. Naznine Virjee, Vice President, Commercial Markets, Retail Sector, RBC Royal Bank was the guest speaker of the evening. She said that for a successful business; a strong blue print of a business plan is essential, supported with an effective marketing strategy. It should be ensured that you have adequate funds and a planned cash flow. Information regarding your potential customers, market, challenges, competitive landscape helps you in preparing your blueprint.

16 October 2014

## ICCC-Trends in Global Markets: A special Focus on India

India is a country of future and future has arrived. Young and educated population of India, business friendly government and robust banking system will write the Indian growth story in the years to come. The growth potential in India is expected to propel Canada-India business ties, Benjamin Tal, Chief Economist, CIBC bank said on October 16, 2014.





Mr. Benjamin Tal was addressing members and invited guests at the Speaker Series of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce in Brampton. He further said that the world economy is going down but the trend in Indian economy is opposite to these developments. He added that the new Government in India is business friendly and have the potential to attract more investment to develop their economy with the reforms in regulations.

21 October 2014

## India is emerging as an attractive market for FDI



Manufacturing, service sector, optimum use of natural resources and young & skilled educated workforce will lead the Indian growth story in the coming years, Peter Hall, Chief Economist, Export Development Canada said October 21, 2014.

Hall was addressing ICCC members and invited guests at the Speaker Series of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce in Brampton. He said that over build housing market, increased consumer debt and a trading economy with lower growth of manufacturing sector compelled Canada to diversify its trade partners and look beyond USA. Canada can utilize the Indian market for starting manufacturing activities to boost the economy.

31 October 2014

## Achieving Excellence in Business & Profession thru Stress Management



Modern civilization is engulfed with high degree of stress due to their extravagant life style. This is affecting our health, mental peace, family life and business success. Therefore, stress Management is essential in the modern competitive world to achieve excellence in businesses and other professions, said Nikhil Desai, International Speaker, Motivator & Trainer. Mr. Desai was interacting with the ICCC members at the ICCC headquarter at 924 The Eastmall Toronto on 31 October 2014.

26 November 2014

## ICCC-Young Professional's Networking Event 'Meet & Greet'



Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce's Young Professional Committee organised its first networking event 'Meet & Greet' on 26 November 2014 in Brampton. The event provided a platform for young entrepreneurs to network and discussion about their future plans to grow their career, professional and business endeavours.

Mr. Sameer Sharma, Chair, Young Professionals Committee welcomed all the guests and informed the purpose of



committee was to help achieve the twin objectives of ICC, by involvement of young Indo Canadians in the entrepreneurial activities of the chamber. He informed to host events such as “Chai with CEO” and career fairs.

27 November 2014

## CCC-WEP: Women in Business - Breaking the Glass Ceiling



Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce organized an interactive panel discussion on, “Women in Business - Breaking the Glass Ceiling” on 27 November 2014 at the ICC headquarter in Toronto. The session was part of ICC-CIBC speaker series. It was focussed on the ICC’s Women Entrepreneurs Professionals (WEP).

Ms. Gillian Whitebread, Vice President- Diversity & Inclusion and Executive Talent Management was the main speaker. Ms. Hazel Fernandes, Senior Director- Executive Talent Management, Ms. Supreet Warna, Senior Director, Frontline Effectiveness and Fahra Murad, Manager, Sponsorship Marketing were the other panelist.

2 December 2014

## ICCC-Intergenerational Tax Planning: Transferring Wealth to next Generation



Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce organised an interactive session on Intergenerational tax planning: transferring wealth to next generation on 02-December 2014 at the ICC headquarter.

Mr. Phil Friedlan, J.D, MBA, of Friedlan Law was the guest speaker at the session. He shared his expertise on importance of estate planning, tax and non-tax issues, consequences of failure to plan in advance and other family issues. In Canada it is estimated that approximately \$ 1 trillion would be transferred between generations over the next generation. Out of 100 families;54% do not have plans in place, he said. Planning in place is must to create, preserve and review that wealth in the person’s lifetime and distribute those assets after the death as per the wishes of that individual.

5 December 2014

## ICCC-Sports Forum 2014



The first of its kind Sports Forum organized by Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) was a great success highlighting the need to have more engagements of players in the decision making process to make the Canadian emerging sports most popular and at par with other international teams on the globe.

Hon. Bal Gosal, federal minister of state for sports kicked off the proceedings with an exciting keynote address. The minister said that federal government is funding \$ 200 million every year for the sports and an additional \$500 million for creating sports infrastructure in Ontario for the upcoming Pan Am & Parapan American Games 2015.





Moderated by Mukesh Narula, National Head Coach - Cricket Canada and with participation from sports sector that included Mr. Ben Kavenagh, Regional Development Manager- Americas, International Cricket Council, Mr. Ingleton Liburd, Cricket Canada, Ms. Monali Patel, Canadian National Cricket player, and Binoy Thomas, Editor Weekly Voice; the panel that discussed Emerging Sports.

The second panel comprising Mr. Rowan Barrett, Executive Vice President/Assistant General Manager, Canada Basketball, Mr. Mark Healy, Chief Marketing Officer, Tennis Canada, Mr. Navaid Mansuri, Senior Vice President, Television and Broadcast Operations, Rogers Media, Mr. Vijay Setlur, Sports Marketing Instructor, Schulich School of Business - York University and moderated by Mr. Bobby Sahni, Partner, Co-Founder Ethnicity; discussed the other popular national sports and how these sports can be made popular among the South Asian Community.

9 December 2014

## ICCC's Workshop on Growing Your Export Business

Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce has organized a workshop for Canadian exporters to discuss how Export Development Canada (EDC) can provide guidance, support and assist you in growing your international business on 9 December 2014.

Mr. Navi Dhami, Account Manager, EDC said & Ms. Amesika Baeta, Small Business Account Manager EDC said that EDC can help the exporters with their commercial banking experience



to boost their international trade. Canadian exporters can grow their international business financial & risk mitigating solutions.

17 December 2014

## Interactive Session on HST Rebates on New Homes and Condos

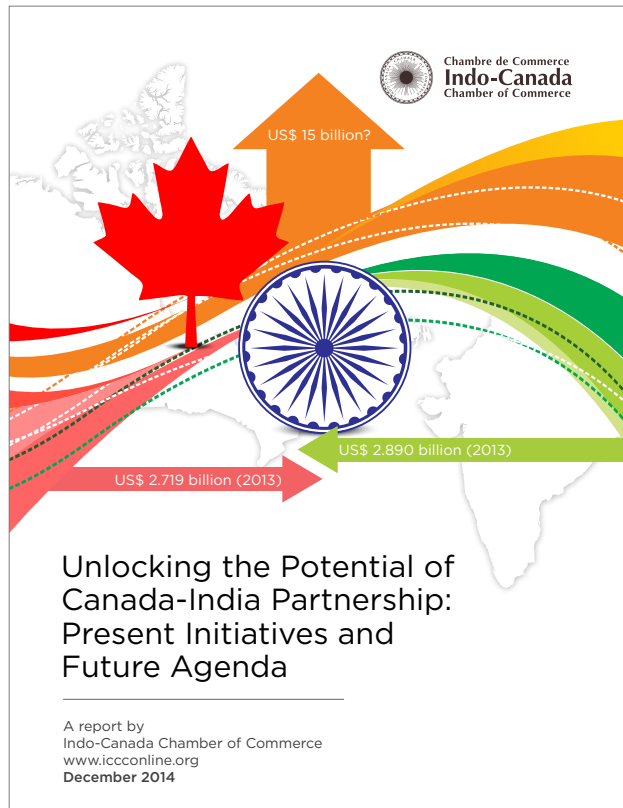


Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce organised an interactive session on Interactive Session on Harmonised Sales Tax (HST) Rebates on New Homes and Condos on 17-December 2014 at the Nanda & Associate Lawyers Professional Corporation, Mississauga. Mr. Jagmohan Singh Nanda, founder, Nanda & Associate Lawyers, and Ms. Sabrina Hussain in the joint presentation said that HST as it relates to the real estate industry. The awareness of HST among the new home buyers is very low.



10 January 2015

## ICCC released its Report on Canada India Partnership



The Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) is pleased to announce the release of its Report on “**Unlocking the Potential of Canada-India Partnership: Present Initiatives and Future Agenda**” by Honorable Deepak Obhrai, Parliamentary Secretary to The Minister of Foreign Affairs in Ahmedabad, India on 10 January 2015, in a business reception hosted by GCCI. The booklet was earlier released in Canada in Dec 2014.

Canadian High Commissioner H. E. Nadir Patel, Mr. Devinder Shory, Member of Parliament, Ms. Dipika Damerla, Associate Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario, representatives of BC and Ontario Trade commissioner offices in India, members of CIF, ICBC, GCCI, and other business chambers from UK, America and Australia were present along with other eminent Indo Canadians. The event was attended by over 200 people.

26 January 2015

## Open House – ICCC Women Entrepreneurs & Professionals (WEP)



Women Entrepreneurs Professional (WEP) Committee of Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce organized an open house on 26 January 2015 at the ICCC headquarter in Toronto.

Ms. Ginni Sethi, Director WEP of the Chamber welcomes all participants and said that the open house is to attract new women entrepreneurs to be part of the ICCC WEP. She gave a brief introduction of the ICCC that it is a 38 year-old institution with a mandate to foster bilateral economic ties between Canada and India, a privately funded organization with a coast-to-coast presence in Canada, and the largest Indian Diaspora organization in Canada.

28 January 2015

## Estate Planning: Investment Strategies for different Life stages



Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce organised an interactive session on Estate Planning: Investment Strategies for different Life stages on 28-January 2015 at the ICCC head-quarter.





Ms. Kamla Doodnauth, RBC Wealth Management Estate and Trust Advisor and Ms. Punita Bansal, CFP, Financial Planner, RBC Financial Planning were the guest speakers at the session. In a joint presentation they said that to protect the family assets and their proper distribution to minimise the burden on your beneficiaries, estate planning is a must. The individuals 'will' should be drawn up by a professional to achieve his desired objectives and to be enforceable by law after ones death.

13 February 2015

## ICCC launched its fifth round of mentoring program



The Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) launched its fifth module of the mentoring program on 13th February 2015. The fifth module has been started in multiple sectors to cater the demand of newcomers. ICCC has already completed four rounds in information technology, accounting and finance.

The program has been divided into five technical sessions which will cover the skill development, understanding of Canadian work culture, resume writing, interview handling and job search techniques. ICCC will organise joint sessions of all the mentees for resume writing and survival skills required for the job market

23 February 2015

## ICCC - Pre Budget Consultation with Hon Minister Kevin Sorenson

Canadian government's 2015 budget will focus on four major areas of supporting family, business development, trade & culture and balancing the budget announced Hon. Kevin Sorenson, Minister of State for Finance during a pre-budget consultation round table with the members of Indo-Canada



da Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) on 23 February, 2015 in Brampton. Minister Sorenson added "the government started negotiations with 43 countries for free trade agreement in which most of them have been signed or in near conclusion to get signed shortly." He also said that the government is cutting its expenditure to lessen the burden on the economy and to utilize the saved money for family health benefits. It will not put any extra burden on the tax payers.

25 February 2015

## EHSP - A Business Solution for Health Risks



Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce organized an interactive session on an interactive session on The Executive Health Savings Plan (EHSP) on 25-February 2015 at the ICCC headquarter.

Mr. Dawit Hamilton, Regional Sales Director - Individual Insurance and Mr. Percy Dastur, Chartered Financial Advisor from Desjardins Financial Security Independent Network were the main speakers.

Mr. Hamilton gave a detailed presentation on the benefits of executive health saving plans. It is an advanced sales concept offering critical illness coverage through a company. The success of a company depends largely on the contribution of key leaders, employees and partners.



27 February 2015

## Estate Planning: Investment Strategies for different Life stages



Hon. Chris Alexander, Canada's minister for Citizenship and Immigration emphasized that the government is promoting the immigration under 'Express Entry Scheme' to get required skilled category workers for Canada. The Minister was addressing members of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce at an interactive session last week in Toronto.

Dharma P Jain, President, ICCC welcomed the minister and introduced him to the members of the chamber. He said that the ICCC is a 38 year year-old business organization with twin objectives of fostering bilateral trade between Canada and India, and creating business and professional opportunities for the Indian Diaspora in Canada," Jain said.

He lauded the government's efforts to speed up the process for student visa and super visa for the parents and grandparents and regulating the immigration for incoming immigrants to match the requirement of the Canadian labour market.

2 March 2015

## ICCC- Business reception for Indian delegation to PDAC



Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) organized a business reception for the Indian mining delegation visiting the annual Prospectors and Developers Association Convention (PDAC) in Toronto on 2nd March, 2015. R. Sridharan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, led the Indian delegation comprising over 24 representatives from the government and the private sector.

Dharma P Jain, President, ICCC, emphasized the significance of the PDAC convention and the role chamber has played in promoting bilateral trade and investment between Canada and India in the mining sector.

Akhilesh Mishra, Consul General of India in Toronto, lauded the remarkable work of ICCC in promoting bilateral trade between Canada and India, and its focused initiatives in the mining sector.

9 March 2015

## ICCC- Foreign Reporting Requirements: A Tax Landmine for the Unwary



Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce organised an interactive session on Foreign Reporting Requirements – A Tax Landmine for the Unwary on 09 March 2015 at the ICCC headquarter.

Mr. Vinay Khosla, Tax Partner, Bateman MacKay LLP was the guest speaker at the session. In his presentation, he discussed in detail the T1135 requirements, definition of specified foreign property, determining cost, excluded properties, penalties and extended reassessment. Its mandatory





to report foreign properties and income from those properties for Canadian residents who have specified foreign properties worth over \$100,000 CDN at any time in the reporting period, said, Khosla.

12 March 2015

## ICCC-International Women's Day Panel Discussion



Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) organized the fourth annual International Women's Day panel discussion on Thursday March 12, 2015, at the Marriott Hotel, to discuss the role of women's in active politics. The theme of the panel discussion was Women in Politics.

The panelists and the audience included highly successful women entrepreneurs, professionals, and public figures. The panelists were: Hon. Asha Seth, former senator, Senate of Canada, Ms. Harinder Malhi, Member of Provincial Parliament, Ontario, Ms. Nirmala Armstrong, Regional Councillor, City of Markham and Dr. Ananya Mukherjee, Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, York University.

25 March 2015

## Economics and Strategies following the Budget

Indo- Canada Chamber of Commerce organized an interactive session on Economics and Strategies following the Budget on 25-March 2015 at the ICCC headquarter.

Mr. Avery Shenfeld, Managing Director and Chief Economist CIBC World Markets Inc was the guest speaker. He said that after the recession; economies of major countries has started gaining its momentum but the lower



crude oil prices affected it adversely whereas some oil importing countries got benefit. BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) countries will contribute more in the international economy to move further.

2 April 2015

## ICCC organised its hard tour to Sheridan's Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Design Technologies

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) in collaboration with Brampton Board of Trade (BBOT) organised its hard hats tour of the Sheridan's Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Design Technologies on 02 April 2015, which was attended by ICCC members. This was an innovative learning opportunity for the members as they were given a privileged "behind the scenes" tour of Sheridan.





1 May 2015

## ICCC: Post budget roundtable with Minister Tim Uppal & Minister Bal Gosal



Indo-Canada Chamber Commerce (ICCC) held an interactive post budget session with Hon. Tim Uppal, Minister of State (Multiculturalism) and Hon. Bal Gosal, Minister of State (Sports) at ICCC head office, Toronto on 1 May 2015.

Minister Uppal in his remarks affirmed that the small and medium businesses are the major drivers of our economy and we have taken care of them so the Canadians will get the maximum return of their tax dollars.

Minister Gosal said that our government is committed to more growth with lower tax rates and more benefits to our citizens. Government has delivered what has been committed in the past for families and small businesses. "The government adopted an all inclusive approach to consult the people through different channels prior to our budget drafting", Minister said.

5 May 2015

## CIBC's offers for Newcomers to Canada



Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce organized an interactive session on Opportunities available with the CIBC for the newcomers to Canada on 05-May 2015 at the ICCC headquarter.

Mr. Hassan Pirnia, Vice President of Marketing Solutions and Client Offers at CIBC responsible for direct marketing, analytics, and offer development across the retail bank was the guest speaker. He focused his discussion on the simple topics pertaining to the new immigrants and started with the overview of Immigration in Canada from different parts of the world. Ontario is the recipient of highest number of new immigrants every year followed by Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia.

19 May 2015

## Young Professionals Mix & Mingle



Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce's Young Professionals committee organised a networking Mix & Mingle in collaboration with Brampton Board of Trade (BBOT) on 19 May 2015 at Brampton. The event provided a platform for young entrepreneurs to network with successful business leaders. ICCC President Mr. Dharma P Jain and Mr. Sameer Sharma, Chair, Young Professionals Committee welcomed all the guests. The business leaders from different walks of life attended the event and shared their success stories.





# ENGAGING PARTNERS, IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES: ICCO'S PARTNERS

## In Canada



### Canadian Aboriginal & Minority Suppliers Council (CAMSC)

CAMSC operates as a private sector-led, non-profit membership organization composed of major Canadian and global corporations. The organisation aims to boost economic development opportunities and through these, employment, for Aboriginal peoples and visible minorities.

The purpose of the CAMSC-ICCC MoU is to collaborate to increase access to business opportunities in the corporate supply chain for their respective members, and when / where it makes sense given our respective mandates, to lobby government to effect change on issues related to economic development of minority businesses and communities in Canada.



### The Diamond Bourse of Canada (DBC)

The Diamond Bourse of Canada (DBC) was founded in 2010. It is a membership-based not-for-profit industry organisation that represents the entire scope of Canada's diamond industry stakeholders.

The purpose of the DBC-ICCC MoU is to work together by jointly lobbying government, producers and various diamond industry stakeholders for the diversification of the traditional rough diamond distribution models. Specifically, both organizations will aim to create the conditions for the creation of a viable and competitive primary-market for rough Canadian diamond goods -- which is open to all buyers -- within Canada itself.

## In India



### Indo-Canadian Business Chamber

The Indo-Canadian Business Chamber (ICBC) is committed towards fostering and furthering trade and bilateral relations between India and Canada. ICBC's objective is to promote, foster and encourage commercial trade and economic cooperation between persons, firms, companies, organizations, and trade bodies in India and Canada.

The purpose of the ICBC-ICCC MoU is to work cooperatively to promote and foster trade and bilateral relations between India and Canada through various activities, events, delegations visit to India and to Canada. Both organisations are the 'Go To' organisations for their members - when an ICCO member is in India, s/he may contact ICBC for trade facilitation, and ICBC members may contact ICCO on their business trip to Canada.



### Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre - Delhi

The Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre is a not-for-profit, public-private initiative of Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). OIFC has a mandate to promote overseas Indian Investment into India and facilitate build networks for PIO;s and NRIs.

The purpose of the OIFC-ICCC MoU is to foster a closer networking between Indian diaspora members of ICCO, and with people and organizations in India. The organisation will facilitate visits of delegations and support in the organization of programs, meetings, conferences.





#### **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**

The Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the growth of industry in India, partnering industry and government alike through advisory and consultative processes.

The purpose of the CII-ICCC MoU is to enhance the capabilities of the SME sector and develop its role in the fostering of Canada-India relations. In addition, the two organisations will work together to promote bilateral economic relations between Canada and India through various activities, events and facilitating visits of business delegations to India and Canada.



#### **All India Association of Industries (AIAI)**

The All India Association of Industries has been serving the trade and industry for over 50 years. Under the dynamic leadership of the Late Shri Babubhai M. Chinai (M.P), the AIAI was established in 1956, which is today the leading association of industries in India's commercial capital.

The purpose of the AIAI-ICCC MoU is to cooperate on improving and expanding trade and economic cooperation between India and Canada. The organizations will encourage and promote bilateral trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, and shall determine, by mutual agreement, the areas and subjects of such cooperation.



#### **Small and Medium Business Development Chamber of India (SME Chamber of India)**

Small & Medium Business Development Chamber of India puts efforts for the development and growth of SMEs by organising Seminars, Conferences, Workshops and Training Programs to educate & create awareness amongst the SMEs. Chamber provides information and guidance to new and existing entrepreneurs in managing and growing their business.

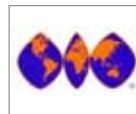
The purpose of SME Chamber of India MoU is to enhance connectivity between Indian and Canadian SMEs from manufacturing & services sector and companies involved in Pharmaceutical & Chemicals, Healthcare, Energy, Research & Development, IT, Bio-Technology etc. and desirous of the need to strengthen partnership.



#### **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industries (FICCI)**

Established in 1927, FICCI is the largest and oldest apex business organization in India. It's history is closely interwoven with India's struggle for independence, her industrialization, and her emergence as one of the most rapidly growing global economies.

The purpose of the FICCI-ICCC MoU is to enhance dialogue and contact between the business communities of Canada and India; to facilitate close bilateral trade relations; and to establish mechanisms to foster increased trade and investment opportunities.



#### **World Trade Centre - Mumbai**

The World Trade Centre Mumbai is the realization of the vision of one man, Dr. M. Visvesvaraya - Engineer, Scientist and a great son of India. Named after him, M. Visvesvaraya Industrial Research & Development Centre (MVIRDC), a non-profit company registered under the Indian Companies Act, is the promoter of WTC.

The purpose of the AIAI-WTC-Mumbai MoU is to cooperate on improving and expanding trade and economic cooperation between India and Canada. The organizations will encourage and promote bilateral trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, and shall determine, by mutual agreement, the areas and subjects of such cooperation.



#### **Visvesvaraya Industrial Trade Centre (VITC)**

The Visvesvaraya Industrial Trade Centre is the designated Nodal Agency of the state for promotion of International Trade from Karnataka. VITC has been operational since 1965 under the aegis of Department of Industries & Commerce. VITC is named after Chief architect of modern Karnataka, Bharat Ratna Late Sir M. Visvesvaraya, who was instrumental in the industrialization of the state.

The purpose of VITC MoU is to expand trade and economic cooperation, sharing of information on trade and investment & publications, development of joint venture and technology transfers and investment and exchange of trade delegations.





#### **Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI)**

The erstwhile Mysore Chamber of Commerce, the precursor of the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry, was established on May 8, 1916, in Bangalore. The main objective of FKCCI is to provide an opportunity of personal service and jointly deliberation and action concerning the larger issues pertaining to Industry, Trade and Commerce.

The purpose of FKCCI MoU is to promote friendly relations between the two organisation for strengthening trade and investment, technological and industrial cooperation between the two countries.



#### **The Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI)**

Founded in 1949, The Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry [GCCCI] works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the growth of industry and trade in Gujarat, partnering both of them through advisory processes.

The purpose of the MoU is to exchange information on general economic status, investment opportunities, trade policies and legislative changes in both the countries to strengthen trade, technological and industrial cooperation.



#### **Federation of Rajasthan Trade and Industry (FORTI)**

Federation of Rajasthan Trade and Industry (FORTI) is a proactive and dynamic apex chamber of Rajasthan. It is working at grass root level with strong national and international linkage since 1965. The Chamber act for upgrading, developing and attracting new investment in state, through its research based policy. Organize seminars, workshops and exhibitions at regular intervals. FORTI is the voice of Rajasthan business, trade, industry, public and also the government.

The purpose of the MoU is to facilitate one-to-one interaction between representatives of business and Government in India, and in the regions where FORTI and/or ICCCI have presence.



#### **PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PHDCCI)**

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, established in 1905, is a proactive and dynamic multi-State apex organisation working at the grass-root level and with strong national and international linkages. Chamber acts as a catalyst in the promotion of industry, trade and entrepreneurship.

The purpose of the MoU is to build a dependable, pragmatic and advantageous relationship between the two countries through increased cooperation among the industrialists, businessmen and entrepreneurs by dissemination of information, technical cooperation and exchange visits of business delegations.



#### **Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU)**

Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University has been established by GERMI as a Private University through the State Act enacted on 4th April, 2007. University has been promoted by Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC) to promote energy education and research with special focus on the oil and gas sector.

The letter of cooperation has been signed to undertake joint research initiatives having impact on India-Canada relations and exploring the avenues for strengthening the furthering excellence in education.



#### **Rajasthan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI)**

Established in 1949, Rajasthan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) is the Apex Organisation of Industry and Trade in Rajasthan. Its objective is to promote trade, commerce, industry and mining in the state of Rajasthan in particular, and the country in general.

The purpose of the MoU is to facilitate the dialogue between the different industrial houses in the state of Rajasthan by organising joint roundtables, seminars, conferences and B2B meetings.



#### **Middlesex Asian Business Association (MABA) UK**

The Middlesex Asian Business Association (MABA) is to provide a voice for business on regional, national and international level. Their mission is to consistently support business community by responding quickly to issues of concern and representing them effectively at all times.

The MoU was signed to encourage and promote co-operation between the two Associations in the field of finance, health-care, education, investments, infrastructure, technology transfers, joint ventures and collaborations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and shall determine, by mutual agreement, the areas and subjects of such cooperation.



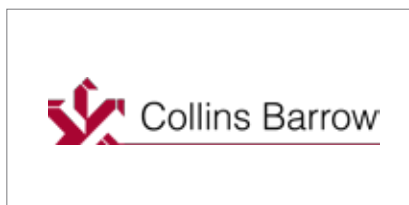


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We are proud of our ongoing partnership with the **Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce** and congratulate this year's award recipients.

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FAX: 905 427 0064  
EMAIL: [BROMED@SYMPATICO.CA](mailto:BROMED@SYMPATICO.CA)





HALL OF  
FAME

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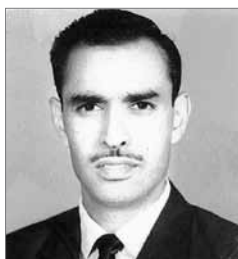




## ICCC PAST PRESIDENTS



1977-78 • 1979-80  
Kishore C. Doshi



1978-79  
Homi Billimoria



1980-81  
Mike Flecker



1981-82  
Bakul Joshi



1982  
Ramesh Chotai  
(acting)



1982-83  
Harshad Patel



1983-84  
Suresh Goswamy



1984-85  
Vinu Vasani



Photo  
Unavailable

1985-86  
Rajeev Jain



1986-87  
Rasik Morzaria



1987-89  
Sat P. Chopra



1989-91  
Benny Lobo



1991-93  
Ajit Someshwar



1993-94  
Manoj Pundit



1994-96  
Hari Panday



1996-98  
Raj Kothari



1998-00  
Ravi Seethapathy



2000-01  
Rakesh Goenka



2001-03  
Kris Krishnan



2003-05  
Pradeep Sood





2005-2007  
Ajit Khanna



2007 -08  
Sunil Jagasia



2008-10  
Asha Luthra



2010-11  
Vinay Nagpal



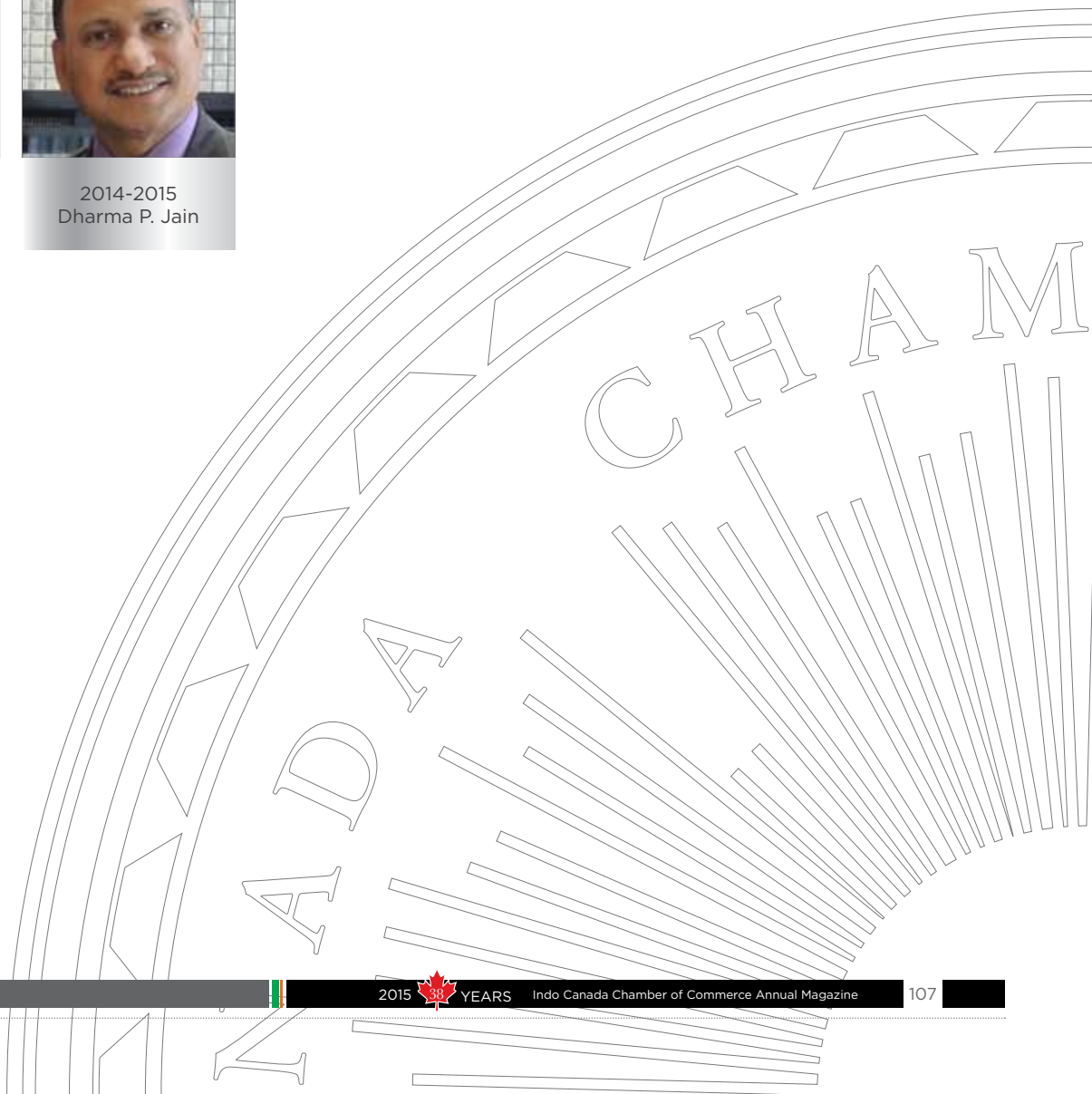
2011-12  
Satish Thakkar



2012-2014  
Naval Bajaj



2014-2015  
Dharma P. Jain







# LIFETIME/OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AWARD



1992  
Shan Chandrasekar



1993  
Ranjit Kumar  
Chandra



1994  
Prasanta Basu



1995  
Satya Poddar



1996  
Sudi Devanesan



1997  
Nalini Stewart



1998  
Herb Dhaliwal



1999  
Bhausahab Ubale



2000  
Ujjal Dossanjh



2001  
Balbir S. Sahn



2002  
Naranjan S.  
Dhalla



2003  
C. Sen Gelda



2004  
M. N. Srikanta  
Swamy



2005  
Chandrakant P.  
Shah



2006  
Ben Sennik



2007  
Budhendranauth  
Doobay



2008  
Ashok Vijn &  
Ratna Ghosh



2009  
Suresh Thakrar



2010  
Baljit Chadha

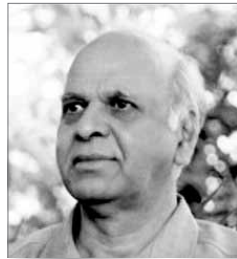


2011  
H. Rayadu Koka





2012  
Pawan Singal



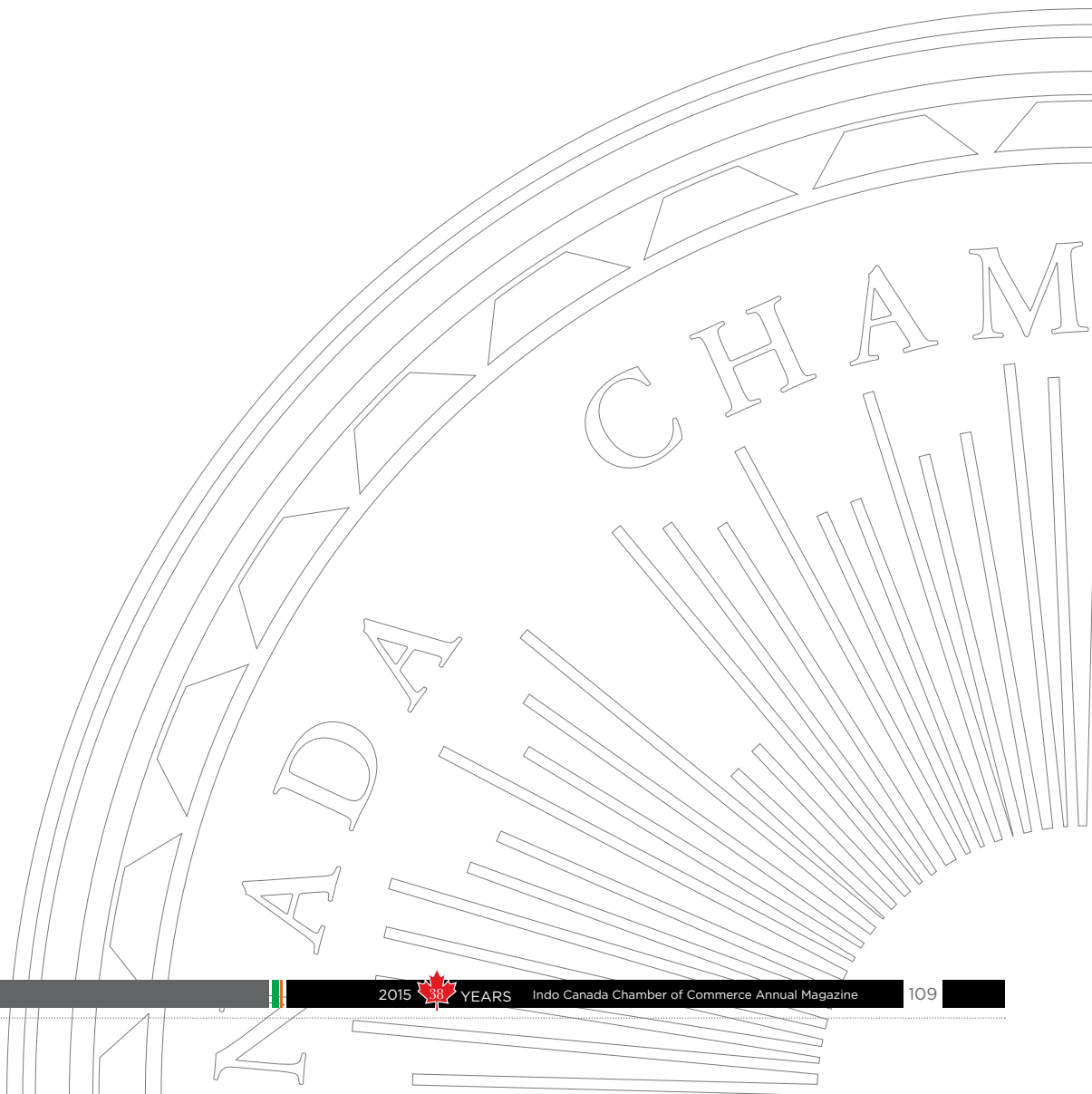
2013  
Jagannath Wani



2014  
Aditya Jha



2015  
Venkatesh Mannar







# HUMANITARIAN AWARD



1992  
Kappu Desai



1993  
Nurajehan N. Mawani



1994  
Sunera Thobani



1995  
Vim Kochar



1996  
Keshav Chandaria



1997  
Bonnie & Fred  
Cappucino



1998  
Anup Singh Jubbal



1999  
Bhadur Madhani



2000  
Cassim Degani



2001  
Shiv L. Jindal



2002  
Hussein Kanji



2003  
Shree Mulay



2004  
Gary Singh



2005  
Abhijit Guha



2006  
Rahul Singh



2007  
T.D. Dwivedi



2008  
Vivian S. Rambihar



2009  
Terry Papneja



2010  
Gagan Bhalla



2011  
Meenu Sikand





2012  
Chandrakant  
Sachdev



2013  
Chandrasekhar  
Sankurathri



2014  
Kishor Modha



2015  
Jag Parmar







# FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARD



1997  
Kiran Kataria



1998  
Deepa Mehta



1999  
Seema Narula



2000  
Nilufer Mama



2001  
Neena Kanwar



2002  
Razia  
Nathani-Suleman



2003  
Afsana Amarsy



2004  
Dhun Noria



2005  
Rani Advani



2006  
Rashmi Rekha



2007  
Manishi Sagar



2008  
Nina Gupta



2010  
Anita Gupta



2011  
Lisa Mattam



2012  
Pravina Budhdev



2013  
Raj Girn



2014  
Sarab Hans



2015  
Nisha Amin



# MALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARD



1992  
Santokh Singh



1992  
Om Arora



1993  
Rai Sahi



1994  
Asa Johal



1995  
Navin Chandaria



1996  
Surjit S. Babra



1997  
K.C. Vasudeva



1998  
Madan Bhayana



1999  
Krishan Singhal



2000  
Kashmiri Lal Sood



2001  
Steve Gupta



2002  
Bill Malhotra



2003  
Nirmal Mussady



2004  
Bob Dhillon



2005  
R. K. Bakshi



2006  
Gyan Chand Jain



2007  
Bhim D. Asdhir



2008  
Vikas Gupta



2009  
Soham Ajmera



2010  
Pyarali Nanji





2011  
Raman Agarwal



2012  
Harpreet Sethi



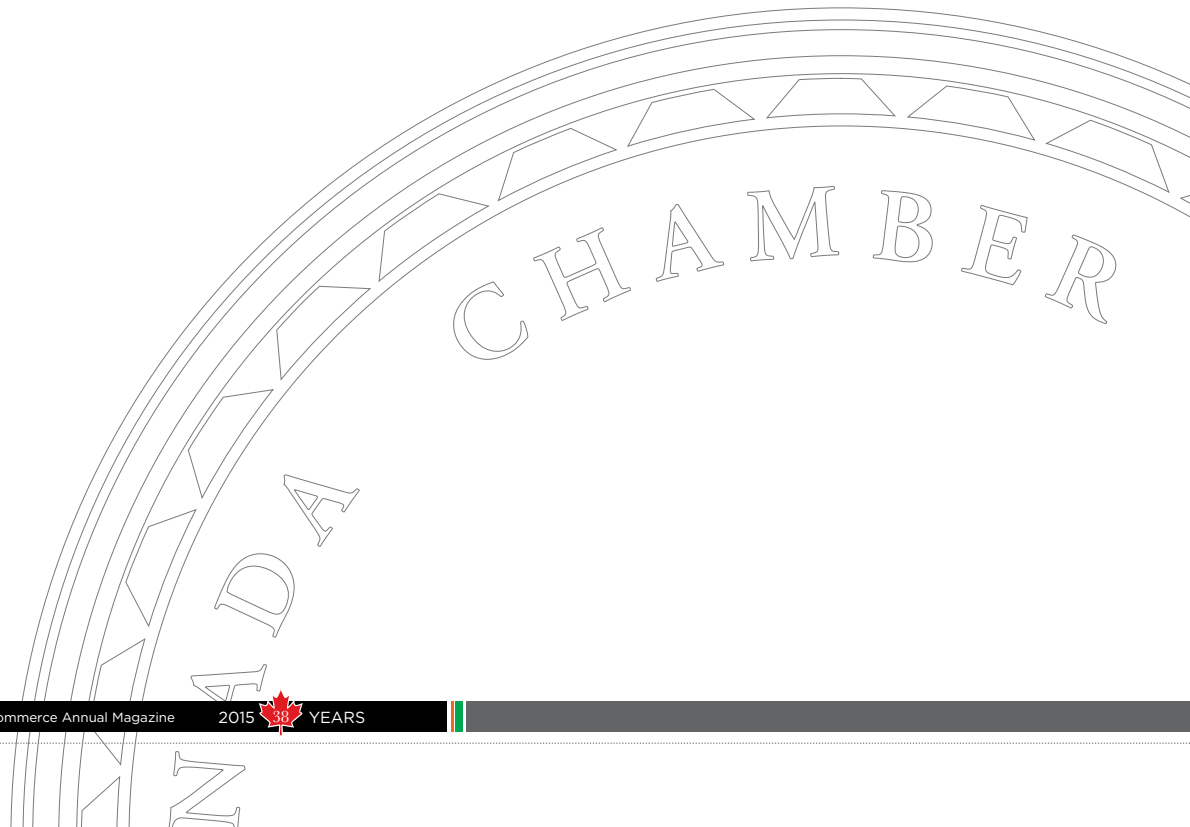
2013  
Sujay Shah



2014  
Sanjeev Sethi



2015  
Prashant Pathak





# FEMALE PROFESSIONAL AWARD



2000  
Shobha Khetrpal



2001  
Naseem Somani



2002  
Lalitha Shankar



2003  
Lata Pada



2004  
Suhana  
Meharchand



2005  
Veena Rawat



2006  
Mitali De



2007  
Sheila Kumari Singh



2008  
Poonam Puri



2009  
Sonia Anand



2010  
Shirish Chotalia



2011  
Usha George



2012  
Madhur Anand



2013  
Sadhna Joshi



2014  
Shanthi Johnson



2015  
Neeru Gupta





## MALE PROFESSIONAL AWARD



1992  
Satinder Lal



1993  
Haroon Sidiqui



1994  
Sabi Marwah



1995  
Kunjar Sharma



1996  
Salim Yusuf



1997  
Trichy Sankaran



1998  
Clarence  
J. Chandrani



1999  
Rama Bhatt



2000  
Ramachandra  
Munikoti



2001  
Ramesh Khosla



2002  
Vern Krishna



2003  
Salim Daya



2004  
Virendra K. Jha



2005  
Tad Murty



2006  
Asit K. Biswas



2007  
Raj Anand



2008  
Gopal  
Bhatnagar



2009  
Vivek Rao



2010  
Prabhat Jha



2011  
Subodh Verma





2012  
Sunit Radia



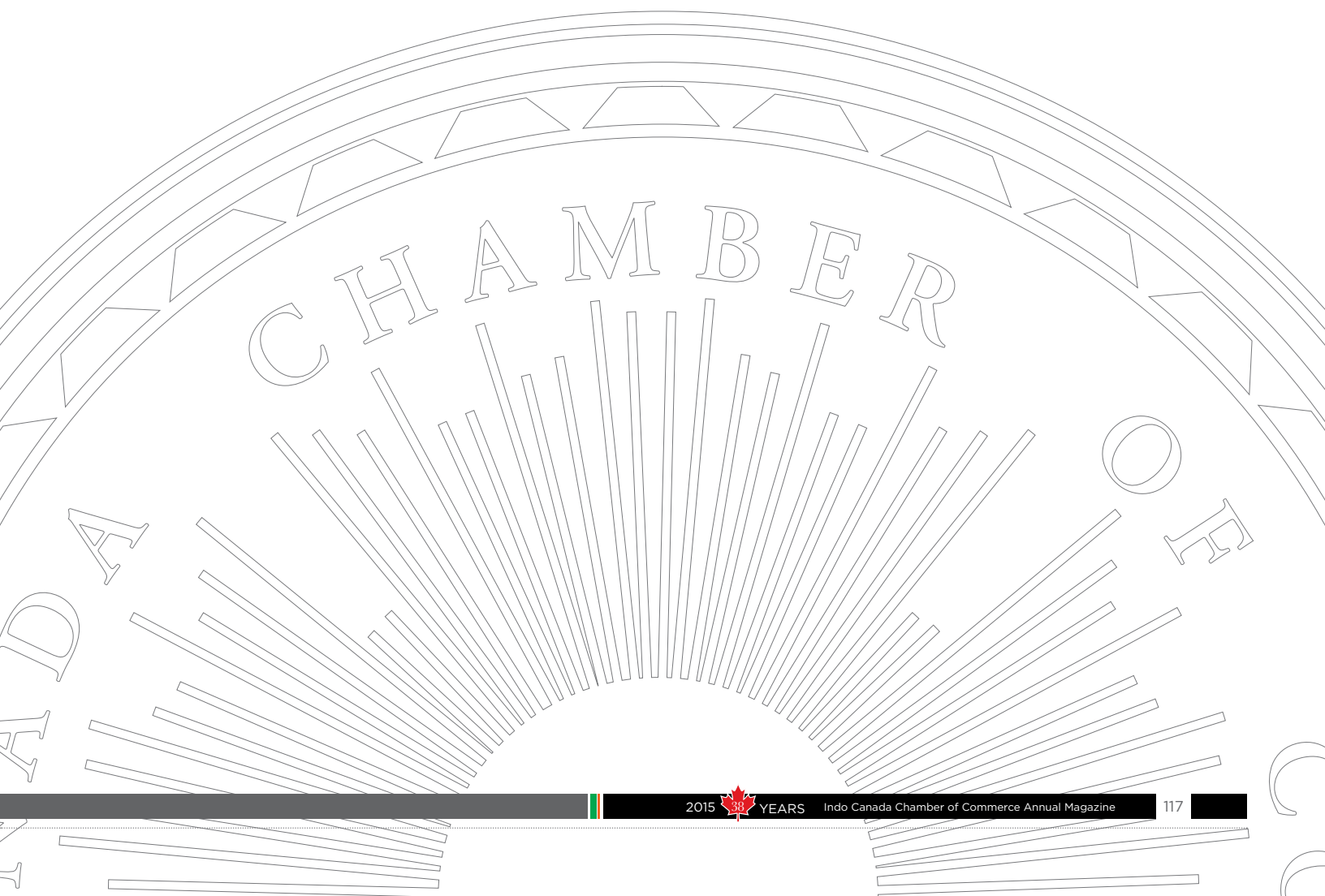
2013  
Raj Kothari



2014  
Deep Saini



2015  
Manjul Bhargava







# YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARD



1993  
Rochan Sankar



1994  
Akaash Maharaj



1995  
Manisha Bharti



1996  
Aashna Patel



1997  
Sanjay Nath



1998  
Aziz Hurzook



1999  
Emmanuel Sandhu



2000  
Dilnaz Panjwani



2001  
Anita Gahir



2002  
Manisha Bawa



2003  
Shahmeer Ansari



2004  
Rahul Raj



2005  
Manjit Minhas



2006  
Ravi Sood



2007  
Ankit Kapur



2008  
Asha Suppiah



2009  
Suraj Kumar Gupta



2010  
Guru Gobind Singh  
Children's Foundation



2011  
Jasmeet Sidhu



2012  
Aakash Sahney





2013  
Bilaal Rajan



2013  
Sapna Shah



2014  
Aaron Joshua Pinto



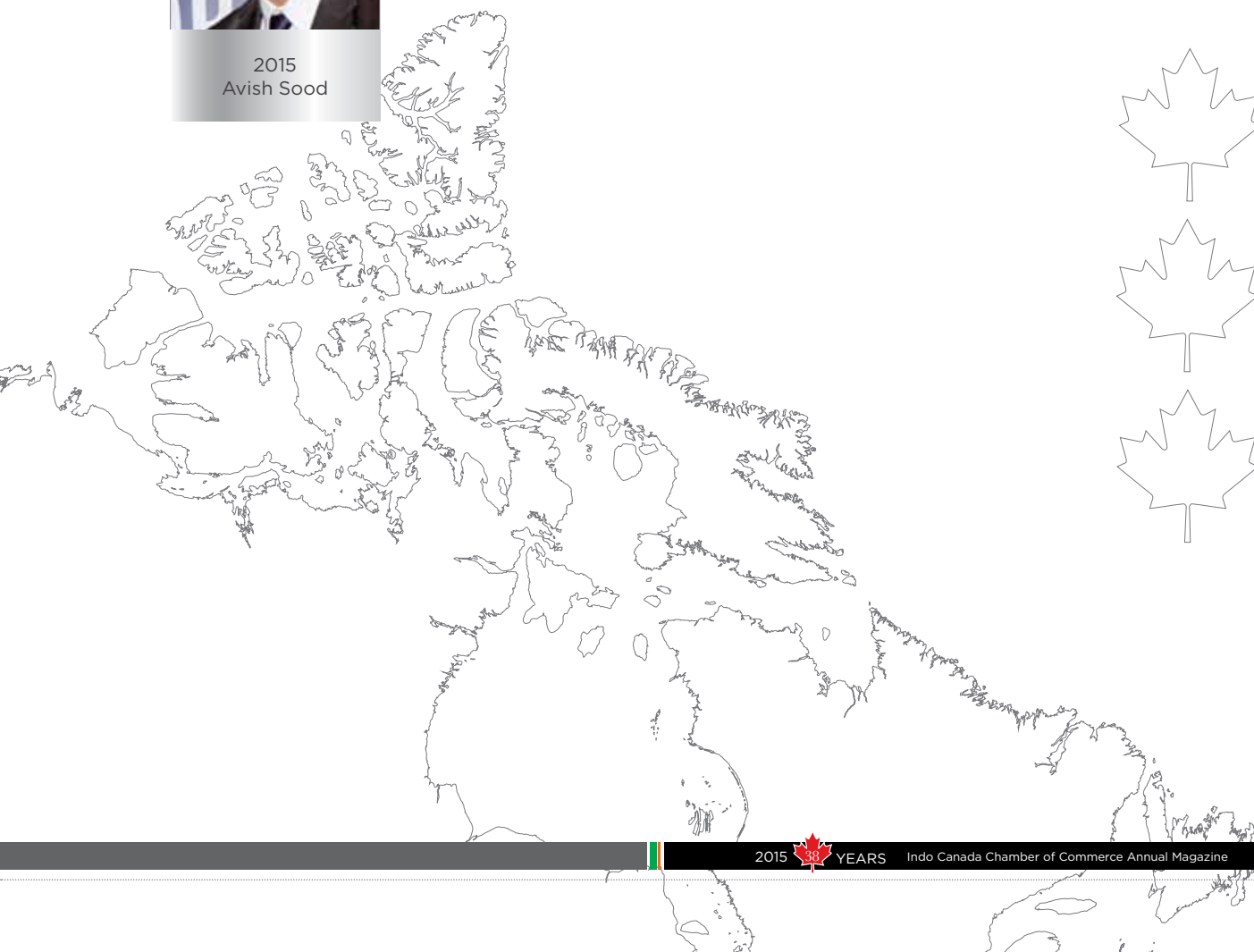
2014  
Nikhil Seetharam



2015  
Hargurdeep Singh



2015  
Avish Sood







# TECHNOLOGY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



2002  
A. Jasuja



2002  
V. Chanchalani



2003  
Sunil Kumar Sethi



2004  
Aditya Jha



2005  
Dipak Roy



2006  
Sankar Das Gupta



2007  
Nishith Goel



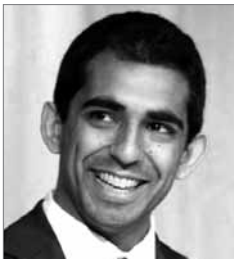
2008  
Karan Sher Singh



2009  
Jamal Deen



2010  
Harinder Pal Singh  
Ahluwalia



2011  
Kunal Gupta



2012  
Raja Singh Tuli



2012  
Suneet Singh Tuli



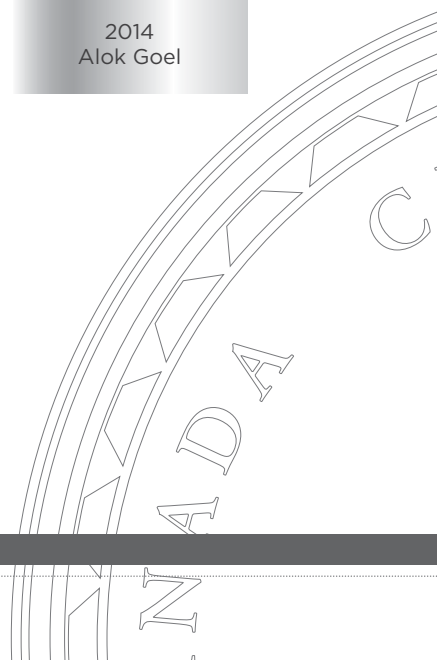
2013  
Nilesh Bansal



2014  
Alok Goel



2015  
Rajiv Manucha





# CORPORATE EXECUTIVE AWARD



2006  
Nadir Mohamed



2007  
Bharat Masrani



2008  
Kishore Kapoor



2009  
Hari Panday



2010  
Zabeen Hirji



2011  
Nitin Kawle



2012  
Sriram Iyer



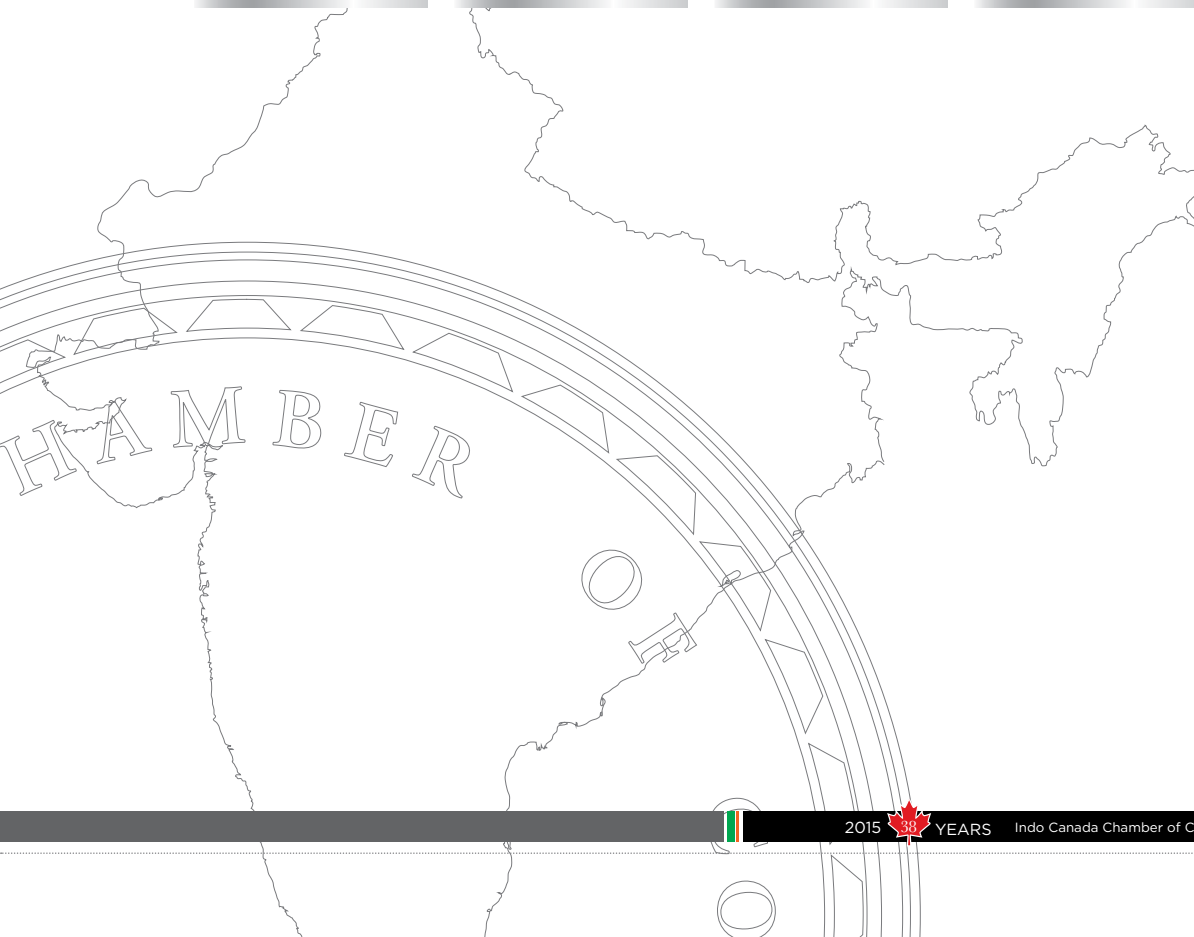
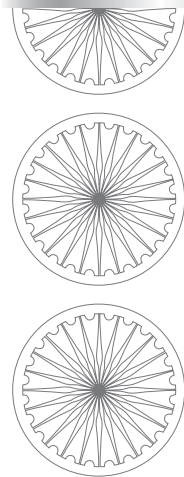
2013  
Deepak Chopra



2014  
Sanjay Tugnait



2015  
Asim Ghosh







## MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD



1992  
Raymond Christian



1993  
Gordan Pohani



1994  
Hira Joshi



1995  
Reema Duggal



1996  
Rajiv Bhatnagar



1997  
Ravi Seethapathy



1998  
Pradeep Sood



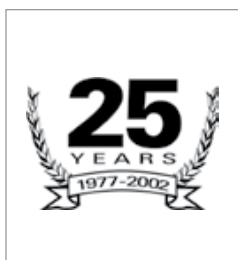
1999  
Rashmi Brahmbhatt



2000  
Rakesh Goenka



2001  
Suresh Thakrar



2002  
All ICCC Members



2003  
Sampat Poddar



2004  
Sudarshan  
Jagannathan



2005  
Anil Shah



2006  
Young Professionals  
(YP) Committee



2007  
Geetha Ramesh



2008  
Rina Gill



2009  
Surinder (Pal)  
Ghuman



2010  
Satish Thakkar



2010  
Harjit Kalsi





2011  
Ruby Sohi



2011  
Davy Sohi



2012  
Kasi Rao



2013  
Women Entrepreneurs & Professionals  
(WEP) Committee



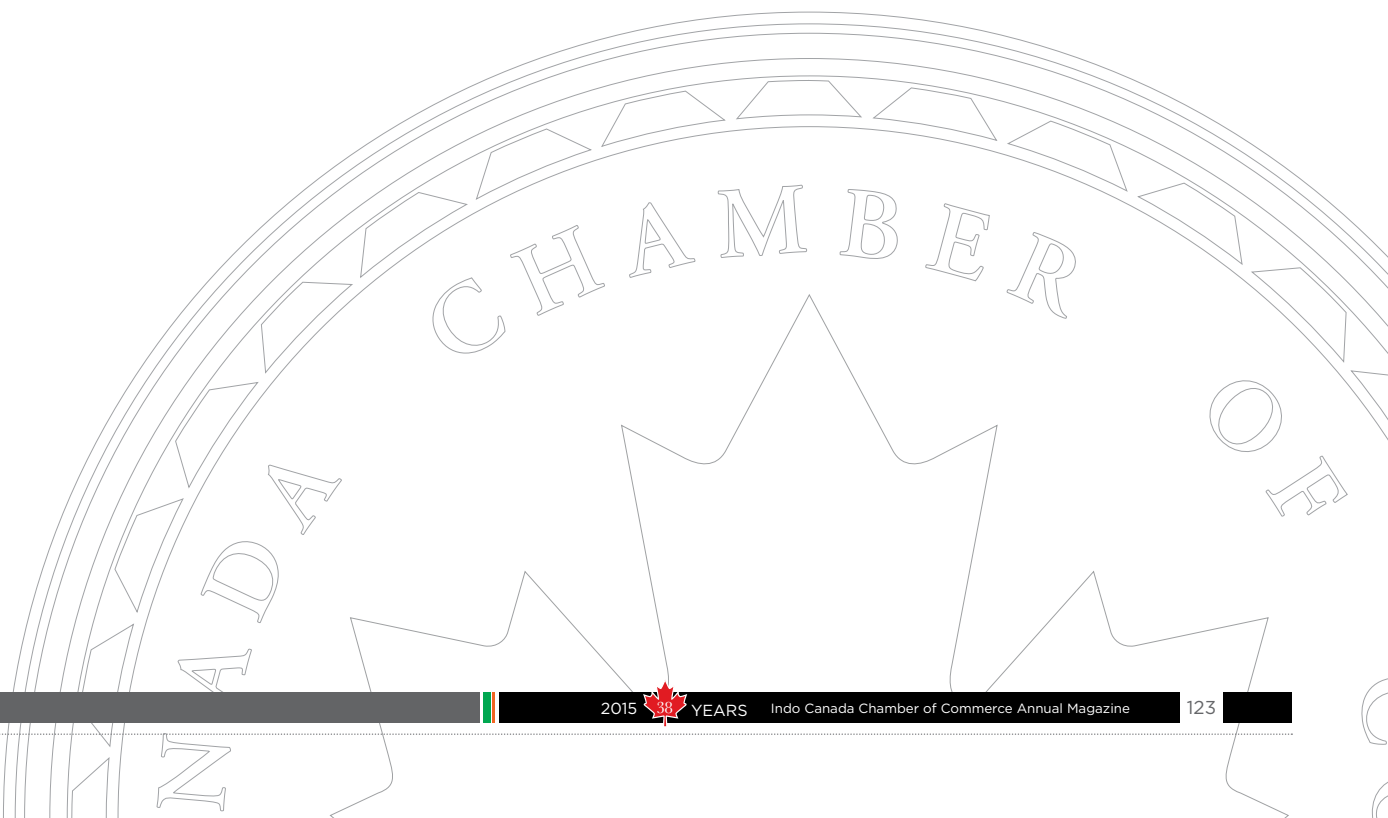
2014  
Kant Bhargava



2014  
Indira Singh



2015  
Avinash Mehra







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1993  
Paul Fernandes



1994  
Amar Erry



1996  
Ajit Jain



1997  
Rajiv Bhatia



1998  
Menaka  
Thakkar



1999  
Rohinton Mistry



2000  
Firoz Rasul



2001  
Maria Minna



2002  
Mobina Jaffer



2003  
Colin D'Cunha



2004  
Ramesh Chotai



2005  
Ratna Omidvar



2006  
Rajesh  
Subramaniam



2007  
Subha Rajan  
(Tampi)



2008  
Gary M.  
Comerford



2009  
Asha Seth



2010  
Harinder Takhar



2011  
Vasu Chanchlani



2012  
Preeti Saran



2013  
Stewart Beck

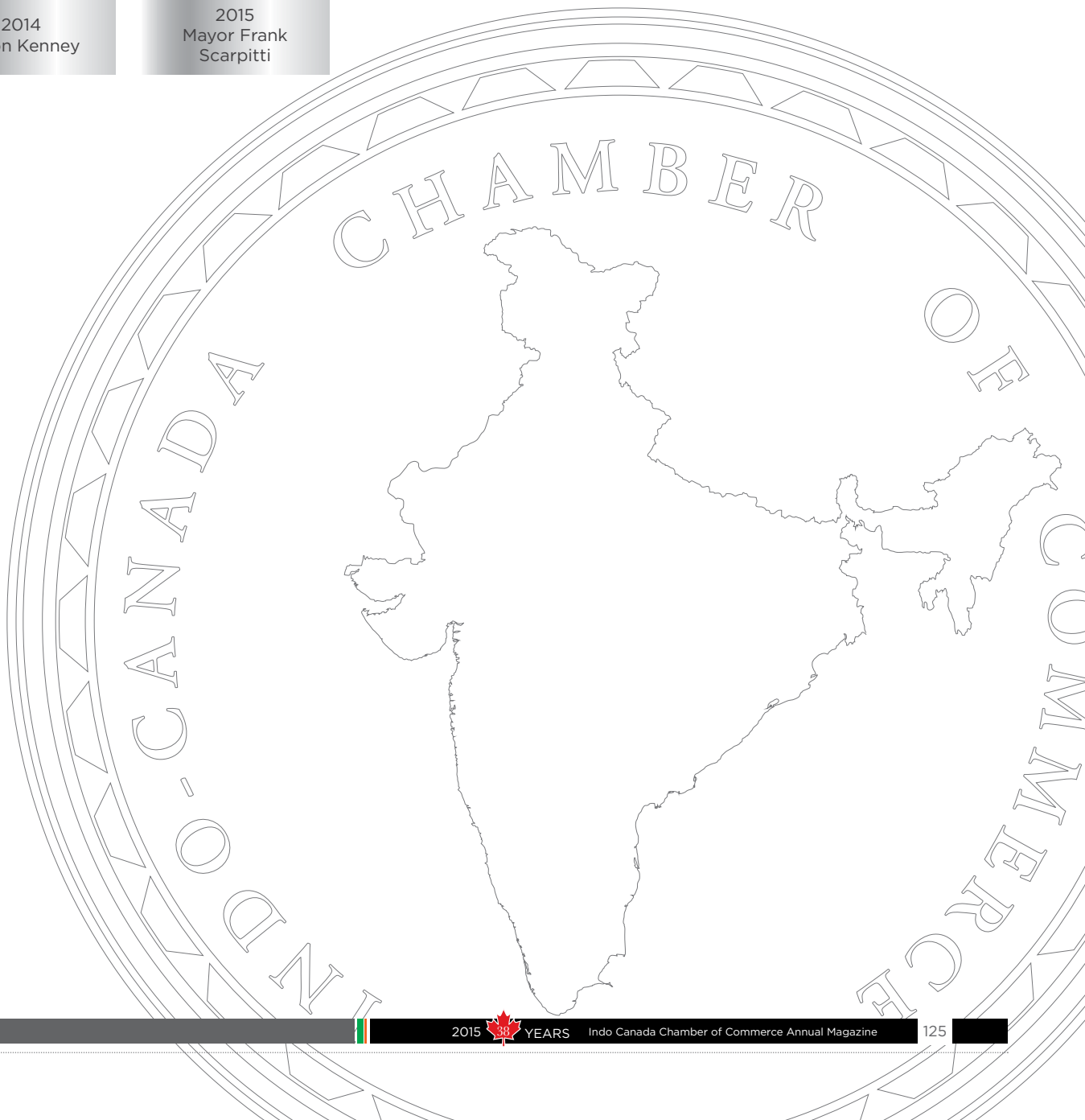




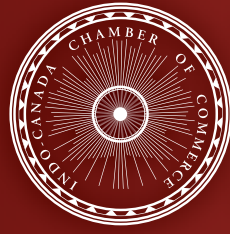
2014  
Jason Kenney



2015  
Mayor Frank  
Scarpitti







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RBC Financial Group  
Chair, CAMSC

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Gursewak Singh, CEO, New Malwa Express



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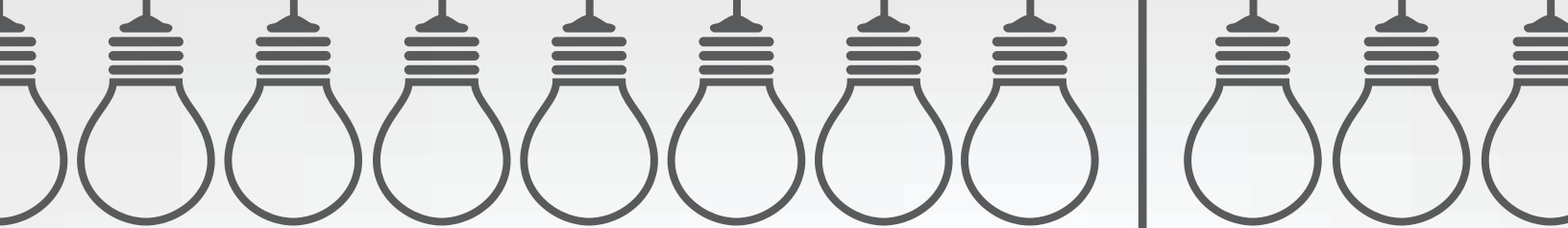
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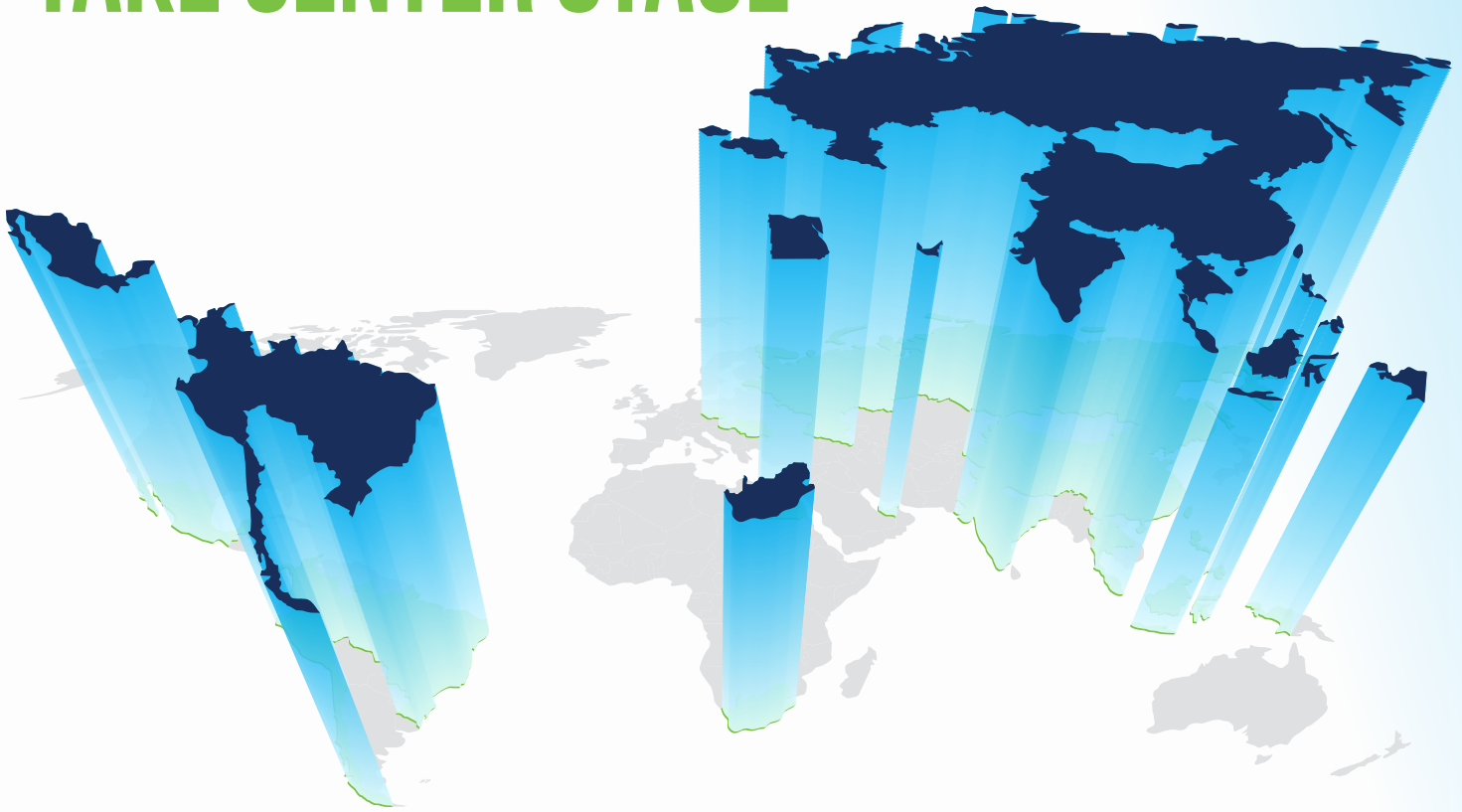
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