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#### INSIDE PAGES

ICCC Sponsors	3	Member Insights Looking Back	54
Mandate & Vision	5	by Ravi Seethapathy	
President's Message	8	Looking Forward by Sangita Iyer	57
Messages	12	, <u> </u>	/O /O
Honorary Guests	20	Team ICCC 2019 – 2020	60 - 69
Award Winners 2020 Insights	24	Annual Awards and Gala	<b>72</b>
		Charity Golf	76
Canada Needs More India by Gary Comerford	30	International Women's Day	78
,		Minister Vic Fedeli's India Visit	80
Co-Opportunity Knocks by Richard Rothman	34	Webinar Series	84
Need to Forge a Strong Alliance by Vijay Sappani	38	New initiatives	88
		Year in Review 2019 - 2020	90 -102
Time for an 'MSME Bubble' by Mohit Singla	40	Hall of Fame	104 - 124
Protect Your Business by Jennifer Ritchie	44	Partners in Success	126
		ICCC Milestones	128
Values Driven Leadership by Dr. Basil Chen	48		

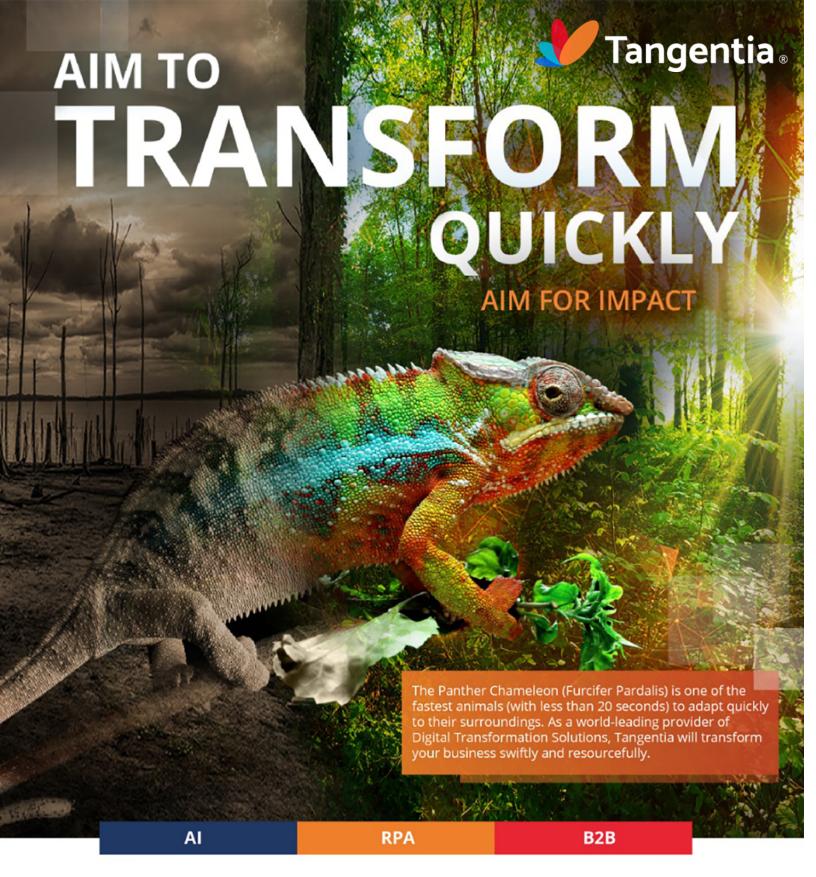
#### **Cover concept:**

#### **The Great Reset**

2020 is when everything changed. The pandemic's effect was revolutionary. Transformation is a synonym for revolution; both destroy the good and the bad in the process of creating a new paradigm, and both have positive and negative components. Eventually, the positives outweigh the negatives, and the new order is infinitely better than the old. This transformation used to be gradual; now, it is instantaneous. The swift pace at which our world digitalized during the lockdown is revelatory of a new world order that will out last the pandemic.

For the ICCC, the annual awards program is woven around a theme, which is chosen from many events that dominated the previous year. This chosen theme becomes the motif around which the awards program revolves. For 2020, the theme had to necessarily involve Covid-19. And it had to depict the rapid and positive transformation of the ICCC during the lockdown. The Chamber had leapfrogged its outreach to tens of thousands by utilizing the pandemic's constricting circumstances to branch out into unexplored directions and innovative programing.

Vinod John, our graphic designer, created a panel that illustrates the world's swift journey from coronavirus to digitalization, and he superimposed it with a visual of a revolving flower pattern to show the global transformation, placing the ICCC at the centre of the phenomenon. The theme visually encapsulates this phenomenon. The world – and especially the ICCC – was witness to a **New Era of Transformation**. We had all shown ample **Resilience**, but that wasn't enough. We all have the responsibility **Rebuild** our lives, to **Rejuvenate** our world. The cover illustration says it all.



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#### **Editorial Board**

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#### **Photo Credits**

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& Printing
The Printing Klub

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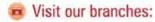
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The Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) was founded in 1977. The ICCC is a membership based, volunteer driven, not-for-profit, non-partisan and privately funded business organization representing its members from the Indo-Canadian business and professional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

#### **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 organizations.

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.

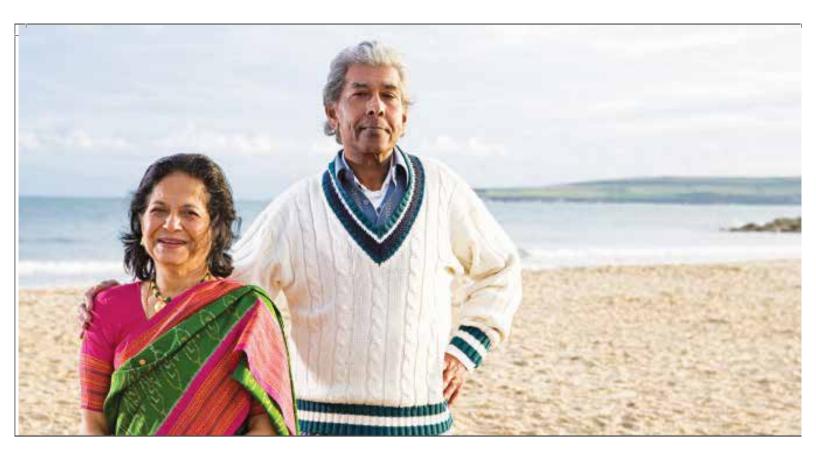
#### **VISION**

The Chamber works hard on behalf of it's 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.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### ICCC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### NEW ERA OF TRANSFORMATION

RESILIENCE • REBUILD • REJUVENATE



**Pramod Goyal** 

It would be easy to dismiss 2020 as annus horribilis, which is Latin for "a horrible year". There is no denying that the Covid-19 pandemic radically transformed the world and sent it hurtling down into an unfamiliar territory and terrain.

Public debt incurred by governments across the world to help sustain a modicum of economic growth and to directly assist people deal with crippling effects of the global lockdown has snowballed to unmanageable levels. It will take serious fiscal discipline measures to restore the public finances of majority of nations globally once the world moves back to post-Covid-19 normalcy.

When the pandemic-induced lockdown started several months ago, I was among the first to laud federal and the provincial governments for taking swift action to help alleviate the economic malaise that small businesses would begin to feel, and had forcefully advocated that a nuanced approach to dealing with the economic crises was imperative, especially in dealing with businesses.

And while there are several issues that we need to come to terms with in dealing with the traumatizing and enervating effects of the pandemic, I want to emphasize that there have been a number of positives that have emerged during the year that will have a long-lasting beneficial impact.

In choosing the theme for this year's annual magazine and the first virtual Gala - New Era of Transformation Resilience. Rebuild. Rejuvenate. - we were certain that we had to focus on the present crisis with a view to its future beneficial fallout.

The pandemic has brought the world together, unitedly we have shown nerves of steel to make a new future that accommodates what has worked in the past but focuses on fresh alternatives. This is transformation that considers resilience, has the zest to rebuild and the zeal to rejuvenate.

#### WEBINAR OVERDRIVE

At your Chamber, we were among the first public institutions to take cognisance of the changed situation and among the first to understand and accept that the confined workstyle was here to stay for a long time. The first initiative we launched was the Small Business Assist program where we offered pro-bono assistance to small business owners to avail of the government benefits to overcome the economic slowdown.

As an organisation that thrives on creating networking opportunities for its members, we introduced an exclusive virtual component to our programing in April 2020 by launching the weekly Thursday Talks webinar series.

Expectedly, it had an overwhelming response. We opened access to the

8

series on social media by livestreaming it on Facebook. On an average, our webinar series attracted over 2,000 people every week. Of course, the audience participation had to do with the innovative program subjects that our board enthusiastically contributed to with ideas and suggestions. The range of topics that we covered was extensive – banking, education, food and beverages, insurance, legal affairs, travel-tourism-hospitality, real estate.

From primarily providing information our small business to owner members about the impact of Covid-19 on different sectors of the Canadian economy, we branched out into varied, eclectic subjects encompassing the entire gamut of the Canadian sociopolitical and cultural economies to include discussions on cannabis, ethnic media, sports and entertainment, environment impact, cybercrime to name just a few. We also had a scintillating discussion on turning setback into comebacks by Shiv Khera, the world-renowned management guru.

Within a month of launching the webinar series, we also introduced Leaders Talks series, where we featured important political decisionmakers to discuss significant decisions that were being made at different levels of the government that had a direct impact on small businesses. This series featured, among others, Mayors Patrick Brown, and Bonnie Crombie; Ontario Ministers Victor Fedeli, Lisa MacLeod, Prabmeet Sarkaria, Nina Tangri; Federal Ministers Mary Ng, Marco Mendicino.

#### TRADE INITIATIVES

Over the last couple years since becoming the President of our Chamber, it has been my endeavour to



Pramod Goyal with Hon. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, India's Minister for External Affairs and Apoorva Srivastava, Consul General of India in Toronto

bring the organisation back on track to fulfil its core mandate of fostering bilateral trade between Canada and India, and creating business and professional opportunities for our members.

This resolve has led the incumbent board to embark upon a journey that has been fraught with challenges because it has entailed bringing about a transformation of mindset in our organisational ethos. By working collectively and with a unity of purpose, the incumbent board has successfully ensured transparency, accountability, and adherence to governance norms applicable to not-for-profit organisations. It will be our endeavour to ensure that the future leadership of the Chamber will maintain the organisational direction and discipline.

We also introduced a qualitative transformation in our programing. The accent has clearly been on adhering to the organisational mandate. In 2019, we hosted three back-to-

back trade delegations from India led respectively by the Trade Promotion Council of India, the Federation of Indian Exporters Organisation, and the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation. Together, the Chamber organised over a hundred one-on-one meetings for 35 Indian companies from multiple sectors.

In addition to our regular annual programs such as the international women's day celebration (which had an unprecedented participation by two federal and one provincial minister, the Consul General of India, legendary former mayor of Mississauga Hazel McCallion), we took the initiative to organise a bilateral trade conference that for the first time ever brought the trade ministers of Canada and India together. The conference also featured the high commissioners of India and Canda, who spoke of the steady progress of bilateral trade and investments; the program culminated with a panel discussion among

representatives of trade organisations on specific measures to be taken to enhance trade. We followed it with launching a trade and investment collaboration initiative between Uttar Pradesh and Ontario.

#### **CEASELESS STRIVING**

While we can all look back with a sense of satisfaction at the progress we have made in 2020 despite the difficulties but the task of transforming the Chamber is of necessity an ongoing process.

The inherently democratic nature of the ICCC's structure has given us the rich variety of leadership over the last four decades. We are in the process of securing this unique democratic feature so that in future the constitutional provisions are adhered to both in the letter and in spirit, and continue give our institution a leadership that is committed to the stakeholders' interests rather than its own.

As my Presidential term ends, and I pass on the baton to my successor, I'm reminded of my message from last year: "With your cooperation, we will turn our organisation into a catalyst of change, a force of transformation, and a ceaseless, continuous improvement program that will help the ICCC scale unprecedented heights."



Pramod Goyal with Minister Anita Anand and MP Sonia Sidhu



PRAMOD GOYAL



#### PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE





PRIME MINISTER , PREMIER MINISTRE

Statement from the Prime Minister of Canada

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) on another successful year of publication for their 2020 magazine and welcome everyone to the Awards and Gala event.

Now more than ever, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this magazine is essential in helping individuals to stay connected and foster a sense of community. It serves as a reliable resource for disseminating important information and illustrating Canada and India's significant economic, political, and social ties. Both Canada and India have much in common, from our shared respect of democracy to the people-to-people relations at the center of our friendship. We have worked together on mutually beneficial investments that grow both countries' economies and encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, leading to overall prosperity.

While this year's celebration will be virtual and different from previous years, it still holds the same meaning and significance by promoting Canada- India bilateral relationship and tightening our bond.

The pandemic has made planning and hosting events this year difficult, and I would like to thank the dedicated organizers at the ICCC for making this event possible.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable awards gala.

Ottawa

2020

#### HIGH COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE

अजय बिसारिया Ajay Bisaria



भारत का उच्चायुक्त, ओटावा High Commissioner of India Ottawa



#### MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) is bringing out its Annual Magazine for the year 2020. The ICCC has been a catalyst in the enhancement of economic relations between India and Canada. It has actively and creatively taken this process forward even during the current pandemic.

India and Canada, as dynamic democracies with a shared vision for global good, are natural partners. Our two economies have strong complementarities that create avenues for increased commercial interaction. India looks to Canada, with its vast natural resources and technological capabilities, as a strong partner in our growth story. With its young population and growing market, India provides opportunities for Canadian investors and producers to become globally competitive. Canadian investors have already tasted the fruits of working in the Indian market with healthy returns on the over USD 55 billion that are invested.

I am certain that ICCC will continue playing an important role in fostering business ties between India and Canada, particularly in bringing together the small and medium enterprises from the two countries for profitable collaboration. ICCC is also doing commendable and path-breaking work in providing a platform to Indo-Canadian professionals.

I take this opportunity to wish all office bearers and members of the ICCC all success in their constructive agenda.

(Ajay Bisaria)

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#### FEDERAL MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade



Ministre de la Petite Entreprise, de la Promotion des exportations et du Commerce international

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) on the release of your Annual Magazine 2020 edition. This is a great chance to take a moment to recognize the significant contribution that the ICCC has made to promoting Canada-India trade relations, as well as the strong people-to-people ties between out two countries.

Our world is going through an extraordinarily difficult time fighting the COVID19 pandemic. This is not just a health crisis of epic proportions, but an economic one as well. What we are confronting is unprecedented and requires a concerted, sustained effort from all of us.

The hard work of the ICCC has fostered important international business relationships between Canadian and Indian companies, and has supported Canadian businesses' access to India's large, fast-growing market. Efforts such as these will help us overcome the challenges of COVID-19 so that Canada's economy can continue to grow and prosper.

Your organization has played an important leadership role during this pandemic – from hosting events like the webinar that India's Minister of State for Civil Aviation Hardeep Singh Puri and I participated in September – to offering COVID 19 related resources for your members, and working with both governments to help promote trade.

With to your hard work and determination, as well as the services and programming you deliver, you are helping to diversify the Canada-India relationship by bringing people together across all sectors and levels, while helping to maintain the relationships between Canada and India that we have all worked so hard to build. And those links are crucial—now more than ever.

I would like to thank you for your efforts, and please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Mary Ng, P.C., M.P.







#### PREMIER'S MESSAGE





November 2020

#### A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD

I want to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the Annual Awards and Gala Night of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce. This is a celebration of business excellence, innovation and good citizenship — values that help define our Indo-Canadian business community.

I know this has been a challenging time for businesses and industries across the province. We've had to change the way we did business and think outside the box. I'm continually amazed and inspired by the spirit of innovation and by the sense of community I've witnessed across all sectors.

I thank the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce for hosting this celebration and for its dedication to promoting Ontario-India relations and creating business opportunities for Ontario-based Canadian small businesses. Ontario and India have a warm partnership and friendship based on strong people-to-people ties and a robust trade totalling \$3.4 billion in 2019. We're committed to seeing that number grow, and grow substantially. That's why we're helping our small and medium-sized businesses expand and export to India with confidence by supporting them with market access and intelligence through our Ontario Trade and Investment Offices in New Delhi and Mumbai. We're giving companies access to an international talent pool through the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program. We're also directly connecting businesses in India and Ontario to create new deals through targeted trade and investment missions to strengthen the economic corridor between our jurisdictions.

As we move to safely reopen our province, our Indo Canadian businesses will play a vital role in providing goods and services that will help support our economic recovery and get Ontario back on track.

Best wishes for your continued success.

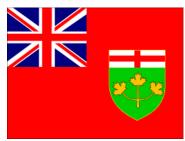
In Aul

Doug Ford Premier

#### ONTARIO MINISTER'S MESSAGE







#### A Message from the Ontario Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade would like to congratulate the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) on the publication of their 2020 annual magazine and their first ever virtual Annual Awards and Gala Night.

Our government's number one priority is to ensure that Ontario is open for business and open for jobs. Increasing trade and investment with partners around the world is necessary for us to achieve this goal. We commend the ICCC on its 43 years of promoting mutually beneficial trade and investment opportunities between Canada and India, and we extend our sincerest congratulations to the deserving award winners.

Ontario values its strong relationship with India, which is a priority market for our government. We know that increased and diversified Ontario-India bilateral trade and investment will lead to innovative and profitable opportunities to be enjoyed by both jurisdictions for many years to come.

Please accept our best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,

Victor Fedeli Minister

#### YUKON DEPUTY PREMIER'S MESSAGE





On behalf of the Government of Yukon, I wish to extend my warmest wishes to all members of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and congratulate this year's Annual Awards winners.

For 43 years, the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce has worked to advance economic and business relations between our two countries. In Yukon, we recognize the benefits of these cooperative initiatives and have taken steps to explore ways in which we can build upon this relationship.

Last year, Yukon was visited by then Consul General Mrs. Abhilasha Joshi of the India Consulate in Vancouver. I later met with the India High Commissioner in Toronto and this September, I was proud to participate in the Canada India Insight Virtual Conference which allowed me to highlight Yukon University and share information on our immigration programs.

From an immigration perspective, Yukon has a growing Indian community and we want to build on our close relationship with India for the mutual benefit of our people and businesses. Yukon is a great place to live, work and raise a family, and we look forward to strengthening relations with India.

We appreciate the work being undertaken by the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and I wish everyone all the best for the new year.

Hon. Ranj Pillai

**Deputy Premier** 

Minister of Economic Development

Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources



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**The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau** Prime Minister of Canada

**His Excellency Ajay Bisaria**High Commissioner of India





The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario

The Honourable Mary Ng Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade



The Honourable Anita Anand Canada's Minister of Public Services and Procurement





**Her Worship Bonnie Crombie**Mayor of City of Mississauga

**His Worship Patrick Brown**Mayor of City of Brampton





**His Worship Frank Scarpitti** Mayor of City of Markham



# AWARD WINNERS 2020

#### The Honourable Mary Ng

President's Award

The Honourable Mary Ng, Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade has been the pivot around which Canada – India trade relations have taken off on a higher trajectory since she has taken

charge of Canada's international trade portfolio.

The two-way trade and investments are expected to cross \$100 billion soon. Minister Ng hasn't let the pandemic slowdown her efforts at enhancing bilateral trade, and has often worked with the ICCC to ensure that trade remains the central focus of the bilateral relations between our two democracies.

She was elected as Member of Parliament for Markham–Thornhill in April 2017. Minister Ng is a devoted community leader who has always believed in the power of public service. She has 20 years of experience in the areas of education, women's leadership, job creation,

and entrepreneurship. Minister Ng immigrated to Canada from Hong Kong with her family, and grew up learning about the struggle and eventual success that many new immigrants experience in Canada.

Her years working for the Ontario Public Service, Ryerson University, and the Ontario Ministry of Education led to her being recognized as one of Canada's top-performing public sector leaders.

#### Arjun (Andy) Jasuja Lifetime Achievement

Arjun (Andy) Jasuja is the founder and Chairman of the Sigma Group of Companies, with a portfolio spanning diverse industries across technology, marketing, real estate, hospitality, and finance. As a serial entrepreneur, Andy has built and acquired numerous companies whereby leveraging his solid management and operational excellence to achieve long-term value and growth.

As Chairman, Andy is instrumental in guiding the group's investment strategy and identifying unique business opportunities across various industries. Andy has raised substantial capital from leading Venture Capital and Private Equity firms including Kleiner Perkins, Morgan Stanley, Cisco, and Birch Hill Equity Partners.

Andy spends considerable time supporting cultural and community causes and his work has been recognized with numerous awards some of which include the Ernst & amp; Young Entrepreneur of the Year Finalist award, the IIT-AC Distinguished Alumni Award, and the Fellowship

of the Institute of Canadian Bankers with Gold Medal.

Andy holds a Master of Applied Science degree in Systems Design Engineering from University of Waterloo and a B. Tech in Electronics Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), BHU, Varanasi.

#### Goldy Hyder Corporate Executive

Goldy Hyder is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Business Council of Canada. From July 2014 to October 2018, Goldy was President and Chief Executive Officer of Hill+Knowlton Strategies (Canada). Prior to joining Hill+Knowlton in 2001, he served as Director of Policy and Chief of Staff to The Right Honourable Joe Clark, former prime minister and former leader of the federal Progressive Conservative Party.

Goldy is vice chair of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada's Asia Business Leaders Advisory Council, and Canada's Co-Chair of World Trade Organization Business Advisory Council. He advises Catalyst Canada and the 30% Club that promote advancement of women leaders.

Goldy is a regular commentator in Canadian media on business, politics and leadership. He hosts "Speaking of Business" podcast featuring interviews with Canada's business leaders.

Goldy is a past co-chair of the United Way of Ottawa's Campaign Cabinet, former chair of the Ottawa Senators Foundation, and a former member of the Board of Governors at Carleton University. In 2013, he received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his contributions to Canada.

#### Ananya Mukherjee Reed

Woman Professional

Ananya Mukherjee Reed is an internationally renowned academic, a bold, visionary leader, a distinguished voice for social justice, and a cultural ambassador who builds critical bridges between India and Canada. She is Provost and

Vice-President Academic at the University of British Columbia (UBC) Okanagan. Previously, Ananya was dean at Ontario's York University, leading a faculty of 23,000 students. With the persistent lack of diversity in the uppermost echelons of Canadian academia, her success is an inspiration to many.

Ananya is an interdisciplinary scholar of Development Studies, with a focus on South Asia and India. She has collaborated with leading institutions such as the International Labor Organization; the UN Development Program; the UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), etc.

Ananya is currently involved with several Canada-wide initiatives to address systemic racism in higher education.

Ananya has made an immense contribution through her work on Rabindranath Tagore and BR Ambedkar, two iconic Indians. Her writing, lectures, creative productions, translations and soulful performances have engaged the Canadian mainstream with Indian thought and culture in unprecedented ways.

#### Jonita Gandhi Young Achiever

Jonita Gandhi catapulted to stardom as a playback singer in 2013 when she sang the eponymous title track of the film Chennai Express. Born in New Delhi, India, she immigrated to Canada with her parents when she was a baby. Raised in Brampton, Jonita's musical talents led her explore the world of music and playback singing. She has had formal training in Western and Hindustani classical singing.

Jonita's professional music career started with YouTube cover songs. The videos quickly went viral and led to a myriad of opportunities to perform. Her hits on YouTube began with covers of well-known Hindi-film songs.

Her jump to playback singing began with an opportunity to perform alongside Sonu Nigam. This tour crossed various countries including Russia, UK, US and the Caribbean.

She has worked with all the major music directors of the Indian film industries - both in Mumbai and in the South. She has worked with music directors A. R. Rahman and Pritam. Rahman featured her in the concert film One Heart and typically requests Jonita to perform with him at concerts.

Jabeen Boga Humanitarian

Jabeen has been a driving force in Canada's HR industry as a professional, educator and mentor for over a decade. As a recipient of HRD's Canada's Rising Star and Canada's HR Excellence Awards, Jabeen has gained national recognition for significant growth and retention with past global employers.

As a Regional HR Business Partner with Revera, Jabeen provides strategic consulting to Western Canada's leadership team to translate operational priorities into HR goals that support business objectives. Jabeen is part of Ashton College's Business Faculty and has received their Featured Faculty Award for her teaching excellence.

Jabeen carries the Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR), Certified Human Resources Leader (CHRL) and SHRM Senior Certified Professional (SCM-SCP) designations.

Jabeen chairs CPHR BC & Yukon's Career Network to advance HR professionals, volunteers as Ismaili CIVIC Lead for community outreach with the Ismaili Council of Canada and mentors for Beedie School of Business She was a Director for Delara India Assistance Society (DIAS), a not-for-profit organization that supports educational development in Goa, India. Her commitment has made a difference to over 150 students annually.

#### Jagdish Butany Male Professional

Jagdish Butany is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology at the University of Toronto, and was Director of the Division of Pathology in the Department. He was a Staff Cardiovascular Pathologist at the University Health Network (Toronto General Hospital), and Director of Autopsy Services (retired November 2019).

Trained in India (MBBS), Jagdish moved to Toronto in 1975 and trained in pathology at the University of Toronto, followed by a fellowship at the National Heart Lung & Blood Institute (Bethesda, USA.). He then worked at the Toronto General Hospital (now University Health Network) and the University of Toronto.He has received several UHN & U of T teaching awards. Jagdish played a significant role as the pathologist involved with the SARS pandemic in Toronto (2003). He has lectured in many countries and has over 300 peer reviewed publications and book chapters.

Jagdish has held leadership positions in the Canadian Association of Pathologists and the Society for Cardiovascular Pathology and is past chair of Gur Mandir, his community's Temple and president of the Toronto Netralya Lions Club.

#### **Sachindra Jain**Male Entrepreneur

Sachindra Jain is the Founder and Chairman of Soneil Group of Companies. Following his graduation from the Indian Institute of Technology in 1970 (God Medal), he came to Canada on a full scholarship to the University of Saskatchewan. He graduated with an MBA from the Rotman School of Management and worked as an electronics executive for 20 years.

In 1994, Sachindra founded Soneil and grew it into a real estate investments and multinational electronics corporation. The business began with a focus on electronics when Sachindra adopted the emerging "switch-mode technology" that he innovatively applied into all Soneil Electronics products. The business grew rapidly with sales throughout North America and Europe.

At the same time, Sachindra invested his savings in residential real estate by owning and managing several homes that he rented out for seed funding of Soneil Electronics.

In the early 2000s, Sachindra began investing in commercial real estate with the purchase of a retail plaza and grew it into what is now Soneil Investments, a corporation with assets over \$750M in its portfolio.

**B. K. SETHI**Member of the Year

B.K. Sethi is a dedicated community leader who has made it his life's mission to help Indo-Canadians establish themselves in business and profession. He served the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce as a Director in 2019, and was the key ICCC successful hosting of three back-to-back trade missions from India led by the Trade Promotion Council of India, the Federation of Indian Exporters Organisation, and the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation.

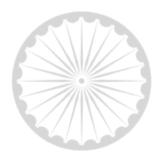
Mr. Sethi also introduced the ICCC to world class trade shows – SIAL Canada and TRUCKWORLD. Mr. Sethi has over four decades' experience in CPG, working with multinational brands in India, USA and Canada.

He pioneered ethnic food brands in Canada. He is a recognised expert and an eminent speaker in the food sector, having written several articles on opportunities in ethnic markets. He is a member of the Toronto Board of Trade, the Food, Health and Consumer Products of Canada, Advisory Council on Ethnic Programming -OMNI-TV.

He is a recipient of 2001 Scarborough Business Excellence Award, the Grand Prix Award for India House Brand, and the "Ethnic Specialist" SIAL-Canada.









#### EXPERIENCING INDIA FOR 25 YEARS:

#### CANADA NEEDS MORE INDIA



**Gary Comerford** 

Where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday, and not 24 years ago, when I first stepped foot in India. Since that first trip I have made 90 others, and through the years I witnessed the transformation of a country.

As I boarded the British Airways 747, I had visions of an exotic India waiting to welcome me. I was both excited and apprehensive, but had no idea how my life was about to change.

The moment I landed in Delhi, all my senses were bombarded at the same time. The smell of what I later learned was burnt kerosene permeated the air. My personal space vanished as I waded into a sea of passengers, relatives, airport workers — and people just looking for a place to sleep. In the background I could hear car horns, lots of them, blasting all at the same time. Why were these horns blowing?

I would learn that this was simply a typical day of organized chaos in a country of 1.3 billion people, 800 million of whom were impoverished. To say that this fortysomething executive had second thoughts would be the understatement of the century. So how is it that, today, I have such genuine affection for India? When I land in Mumbai now, I feel like I am returning home.

I assure you, it did not happen overnight.

My assignment for Sun Life was to help establish a life insurance company in India. A few years earlier, the Malhotra report had been written to evaluate the potential opening of the insurance industry to foreign companies. This meant Sun Life could possibly return to India, after being nationalized in 1956, provided it found an Indian partner.

How do you find an Indian partner? Nowhere in the world are there more consultants willing to use their connections to facilitate a partnership. Everyone — and I mean everyone — in India has a friend that can be of help. The good news for me was when I was introduced to Dan Gupta, the same executive who brought IBM back to India. It was Dan who facilitated a critically important introduction to the AVBirla group, one of the most prestigious diversified business houses in India.

I can remember as if it was yesterday, my first meeting with Mr. Bagrodia of the Birla Group. As I was sitting outside Mr. Bagrodia's small functional office, chai tea in my hand, I became totally mesmerized by the chaos that surrounded me. Couriers running in and out, papers everywhere, people just sitting waiting for direction. Years later, Mr. Bagrodia and I would joke about that first meeting, two very different officials grounded in two vastly different cultures. One an insurance executive from a country 12,000 miles away; the other located in Mumbai, running a cement company. What was it that allowed the joint venture to be successful? To me it was the simple fact that both companies developed a strong mutual respect for each other. The Aditya Birla group may

have depended on and respected the subject matter expertise of Sun Life, but I recognized on day one, and I never forgot, that Sun Life was a guest in India.

As I began the journey to re-establish Sun Life in India, there were no shortage of skeptics. Colleagues, friends, even board members were naysayers about this project. In 1995, India was not a shining star on the global horizon. But I did have the unwavering support of the CEO of Sun Life, Don Stewart. If you stopped to assess what was really happening, it was clear that a new era was about to begin.

For me it started by meeting my potential partners. They were entrepreneurs, risk takers, convinced that the baggage of the past was the previous generation's problem. For them success was the only option. This emerging leadership group were young, educated, tenacious and above all committed to being successful.

This is what I wanted to tap into, but convincing them you were the right partner wasn't easy. Fortunately, in India there is a deep respect for elders, and it was the combination of the energy of the new generation combined with the wisdom of elders that made it work. At one point in the talks, the Indian negotiating team attempted to renege on an earlier point of agreement. This was a deal breaker to Sun Life, and Mr. Puranmalka, a senior advisor to Kumar Birla realized this. I was asked to leave the room, and fully expected to be flying empty handed back to Toronto. I was soon called back into the meeting room, where Mr.Puranmalka simply said, "The AV Birla group would honour its commitments". I knew at that moment I had the right partner.



Gary in India: At a bed kit distribution for Sleeping Children Around the World in Belgam

Today we can look back at the past 25 years and see the enormous growth that India has achieved. GDP has increased tenfold since 1991. Prime Minister Modi is nothing short of a rock star both domestically and internationally. Crores of investment dollars have been made in infrastructure that has transformed the country. The airport I first landed in was probably one of the worst in the world; today Delhi has one of the finest airports in the world. Five hundred million people, through hard work and ingenuity, have pulled themselves from poverty over this period of time. A nation that once restricted the number of computers allowed into the country is now the home of TCS, the world's largest software development company and other world-class companies that are revolutionizing the technology we use every day.

Brookfield, Fairfax, Bombardier, Sun Life, McCain's, Teck and CPP Investments are just a few of Canadian corporations who are investing significantly in India. They do this because they see superior opportunities, and have the resources and international expertise required. I have travelled with more Canadian trade ministers than I can count, every one of them committed to expanding relations with India. In speech after speech, all the right things were said, but when you look at the numbers we have not seized this opportunity in India as well as many others. Trade with India is still a rounding error. Other countries have aggressively pursued business opportunities with India and reaped the benefits. Why has Canada not capitalized more on this opportunity?

I have worked and travelled throughout Asia. witnessing firsthand the explosion of these economies. But, of course, one economy above all others has dominated the conversation: China. **Countries** including Canada have been captivated by China, hypnotized by the allure of quick profits and growth. But the initial exuberant optimism has not always translated into the results expected.

There is no question that India is a better bet for Canada, and now is the time to develop and execute a

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Gary with Yezdi Pavri and Kam Rathee

comprehensive trade strategy that will position Canada as a true trading partner with India. The hundred-thousand-plus Indian students currently studying in Canada, and the one million Indo Canadians, would welcome this.

Simply put. Canada needs India more that India needs Canada, and we need to recognize this. Sticking to outdated negotiating tactics has not worked, and bold change is in order. Prime Minister Trudeau may be naturally cautious about re-engaging in a significant way with India, but there are prominent individuals and associations willing and able to assist the government in developing a new approach to India. Simply put, the time is now for active reengagement. If my colleagues and I had refused to go back to India every time there was an uncomfortable moment in negotiations or a stalemate, Birla Sun Life today would not be a Life Insurance company with 85,000plus Life Insurance agents and Birla Sun Life Asset management, an asset management company with 2,26,633 crore (\$31 billion USD) of assets under management.

It is time for aggressive engagement with India, particularly given the highly volatile relationship we are currently experiencing with China. Anyone who has attempted to do business in India knows it is not easy. But if I look at India today, I see more opportunity than I could possibly have imagined in 1995. Canadians have always succeeded by looking beyond our borders, and now is the time to take a new, bold look at an old friend.

Gary Comerford is the Vice-Chair of Canada India Business Council, Board Member, Novelis; Chair of Board of Directors, Brock University.



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#### WHY FOCUS ON COMPETITION?

#### CO-OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS



**Richard Rothman** 

Since the publication of Michael Porter's seminal work Competitive Strategy in 1980, the primary filter for defining market opportunities has been competitive advantage. Popular strategy frameworks such as Porter's Generic Strategies recommend that opportunities be identified and assessed primarily through the filter of countering competitive threats.

For example, Blue Ocean Strategy advises companies to only contest markets in which there are no existing competitors or customers. Clayton Christenson's Disruptive Innovation Model advises companies to create innovations that are cheaper, simpler, and/or more convenient versions of what competitors already offer.

#### WHO CARES IF YOU ARE DIFFERENT?

Strategy models that define opportunities primarily through the filter of competitive advantage lead companies to define their market opportunities largely in terms of how they can be different from competitors. But the people who pay you-your customers-do not give a hoot whether you are different from your competitors. They only want you to provide them with increasingly relevant and useful services, delivered through a fair value exchange.

From a common sense perspective, it is fairly obvious that your competitors are among the least important people in your world. Do your competitors buy anything from you? Do they fund your company? Do they work directly for you and build your business? Do competitors drive your growth? Of course not. So why make them the point of prime focus?

Imagine that you are an individual, not a business, and you are entering the job market. Where should you focus first? How much would an aspiring career-seeker need to focus on his or her competition? Obviously, not much—or not at all.

#### COMPETITORS ARE A CONSEQUENCE

Competitive advantage is something that every company strives for. But it is a false god. If you fail, it is rarely because of your competitors. Your competitors are not the cause of your failure. They are the consequence of your failure.

Your competitors never deny you opportunities for increased relevance and market growth. You miss opportunities because you failed to identify and harvest relevant opportunities that help your customers and other stakeholders to adapt to the changing environment.

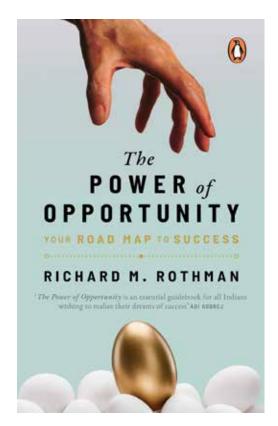
Consider some of the most successful companies in the world, the ones which are currently valued at over \$1 trillion. These include Apple, Google, and Amazon. Are they valuable because they have striven to be different from their competitors? Clearly they have not. They have high profits and market leadership because they provide consistently relevant and useful services to an increasing number of people, at a fair value exchange. You can do so as well, but it requires a change of mindset.

#### **BUSINESS IS NOT WARFARE**

The mindset of competitive strategy is based on warfare. War is always a zero-sum contest in which only one side can win. The popular substitute for warfare is team sports. For the Indian cricket team to win the match, the other side has to lose. The competing teams have no reason to cooperate.

But business is not warfare. You can never completely defeat your existing competitors, nor do you need to. There need not be a single winner; there can be many. Companies with competitive advantage are said to have a competitive moat which guarantees durable profits. This brings to mind the image of the business as a fixed, medieval fortress with high walls, surrounded by a wide body of water, and protected by archers who rain arrows on any competitors who are foolish enough to attack. This stolid conception of competitive advantage may have been relevant in the 15th century, but it hardly fits today's rapidly evolving business landscape. Just as medieval walls could not stand up to artillery, no fixed competitive moat can survive the relentless forces of change.

To make matters worse, popular strategy frameworks such as Porter's Five Forces position key stakeholders, such as customers and suppliers, as fundamentally hostile forces that are constantly attempting to capture a bigger slice of a limited pie of industry profits. But this mindset fundamentally hampers opportunity.



In the 21st century, success does not lie in simply holding on to what you have. That is a recipe for stagnation and irrelevance. The potential for growth is now unlimited. Success lies in constantly identifying and embracing opportunities created by constant change.

#### **GROWTH REQUIRES CO-OPPORTUNITY**

Identifying, evaluating, and choosing opportunities the best requires effort constant consistent of adaptation based collective on opportunities learning. Harvesting does not require conflict, but coopportunity.

Viewing stakeholders as competitors leads companies to pursue uncooperative win-lose relationships with their employees, customers, suppliers, channels, and investors. This discourages collaboration and collective learning, leading companies

# Don't be a rule-taker, be a rule-breaker. Richard M. Rothman

to become fixed in their thinking and increasingly unaware of changes in their broader environment, which is the source of most opportunities.

Just as a marriage cannot survive without consistent cooperation, neither can a business. An adaptive business must be a fundamentally cooperative enterprise; this requires the constant collaboration of stakeholders of all types in win-win exchanges of value.

The most successful companies of our age, such as Google, Apple, and Amazon, create and maintain cooperative advantage by adapting faster and more successfully than others. They do this by purposefully surrounding themselves network of collaborators. They nurture an ecosystem of stakeholders and enterprises who contribute to and benefit from the assessment and development of a wider range of cooperative opportunities created by change.

#### BUILD A COOPERATIVE MOAT

A cooperative moat is not a static body of water protecting a pile of stones. It is a constantly growing, virtuous circle of cooperative value creation, ideally with you at its centre. It is like a living and constantly evolving organism capable of rapid adaptation and growth based on opportunities. It is a circular engine of value creation which attracts not only customers and stakeholders, but also other companies who exchange value on your platform.

A competitive moat is inward-focused and defensive, hampering its growth and ability to adapt to change. In contrast, a cooperative moat is outward-facing and capable of unlimited growth. The moat itself is not a barrier; it is a cooperative learning community which massively increases the ability of its members to take advantage of opportunities.

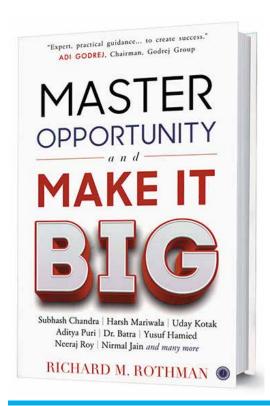
To build a cooperative moat, you need to nurture a collective learning community of employees, customers, investors, channels of distribution, suppliers, and even influencers and critics. Ideally, this community would attract businesses that use the ecosystem as a platform, as app developers do with Apple and Google, and vendors do with Amazon. The internet allows virtually unlimited connections, fostering the development of all types of cooperative moats, and fostering

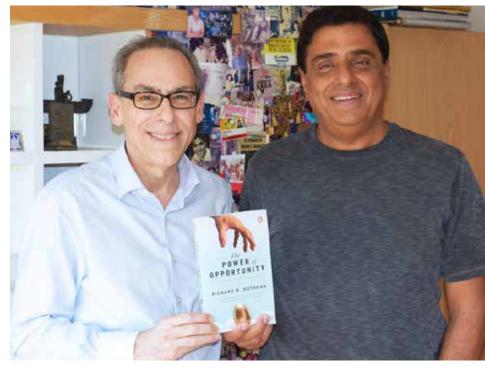
the growth of network effects.

#### EVERYONE CAN CREATE A MOAT

Even traditional offline companies can create cooperative moats. For example, traditional book publishers, such as Penguin India face creeping irrelevance and declining market share, as authors increasingly self-publish and sell directly on Amazon and Flipkart. How can Penguin foster the creation of a cooperative moat to add more value for authors, in order to hold them in their orbit and grow their business?

First, they must focus on what they do well, and create a framework for customers, stakeholders, and vendors to collaborate. Penguin has strong skills at choosing quality authors at the higher end of the Indian market. But because of the economics of the business, it can provide only limited marketing resources to its new authors.





Richard Rothman with entrepreneur and philanthropist Ronnie Screwvala

The emergence of online channels and social media has drastically changed the landscape of book marketing. This is a huge pain point for authors, as many of them, especially new ones, do not know how to market books, only how to write them. I recommended Penguin India to create a community of its thousands of authors-past and present-who can cooperate and share learnings. A collaborative community of Penguin authors will attract businesses that offer the needed marketing resources, which can be peer reviewed by members of the community. The value created by this exclusive learning community would create a collaborative moat for Penguin, and no doubt lead to the identification and adaptation of many new opportunities that will add even more value in the future.

Richard M Rothman is founder and Managing Director, Open Mind Opportunity Consultancy, and author, The Power of Opportunity.

#### CANADA & INDIA:

# NEED TO FORGE A STRONG ALLIANCE



**Vijay Sappani** 

As 2020 comes to an end, it is a good time to take stock of Canada's standing in the world. Obviously, the year has been challenging for Canada, having failed in its UNSC bid, facing coercion from China, and more. But with emerging challenges also come opportunities for new alliances and partnerships. For instance, the world has realized that China poses the biggest threat to global stability. India, on other hand, could hold the key to global stability and economic progress in the region and beyond.

In this context, Canada and India are two vibrant and pluralistic commonwealth democracies that have all the ingredients to be durable global partners. However, scratch the surface and what emerges is a historically weak relationship.

India and Canada had a cordial relationship in the first few decades of India's independence, but since the mid-1970s a series of events resulted in a lack of trust in security that has impacted bilateral relations even until today. Key among them is the Pakistan-backed Khalistan separatist movement thriving in Canada and its support among few Canadian politicians. The Air India bombing of 1985 also casts a gloomy shadow on Canada-India relations.

Today, 35 years after the Air India terror attack and ten years after the release of the Justice John Major Report, the level of security co-operation between these two democracies remains abysmal. Decades of mistrust exists

at all levels of decision-making in both countries. Precisely because of this, Canada and India need to put greater emphasis on improving a bilateral security relationship which will pave the way for improved trust and engagement.

The Canadian government declared in July that it will not recognize a referendum called by pro-Khalistan groups demanding a separate homeland for Sikhs in India. The federal government said "Canada respects the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of India, and the Government of Canada will not recognize the referendum."

But both countries need to do much more to bring the bilateral relationship to a point where they regard each other as natural allies. A National Security Advisor (NSA)-level dialogue was initiated by the Harper government and continues to this day. It now needs to deliver something more meaningful, with a focus on deeper institutionalcollaboration level on bilateral, regional, and global security issues. The Canada-India Joint Working Group on Counterterrorism also shows the importance both countries attach to addressing terrorism.



As a confidence-building measure, both countries need to prioritize and address the issue of Pakistan-backed Khalistani separatists with a clear resolve. This can single-handedly help build trust between the security agencies and lead to greater bilateral relations. The US-India style 2+2 Ministerial dialogue and a dedicated hotline needs to be pursued between the foreign and defence ministers of Canada and India.

In the coming years, China needs to be a key focus. India is emerging as a dominant player for security partnerships with both our NATO and Asian allies, with a growing emphasis in 2020 on countering China.

The navies of Canada and India have conducted anti-piracy patrols in the Gulf of Aden for over a decade. Joint patrols and expanded naval exercises in Indo-Pacific waters should be a priority; this should include not only India but other members of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, such as the US, Australia, and Japan. Further and deeper cooperation in defence is needed. Canada should expand arms sales and joint ventures with our NATO allies to support India in high altitude warfare, which would improve its ability to counter terrorists from its west and China's belligerence in the east.

Cybersecurity is another area which both countries have identified as a point of collaboration. 2020 presents the right reasons for our democracies to invest in deeper relations and joint programs on cyber security threats faced by our nations.

Canada and India need to strengthen



institutional, people-to-people, and parliamentary relations. The lack of a Canada-India Parliamentary Association hampers a reliable and robust vehicle to build relations between Members of Parliament of both countries.

Canada and India share values of freedom, justice, human rights, commitment to the rule of law, and a Westminster-style parliamentary system. We can have one of the strongest people-to-people bonds. In a new world order where the threat of China's economic might is acutely palpable, it is time to break from the shackles of the past and build a relationship that will cement our status as natural allies.

Vijay Sappani is a life member of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and board member for the Macdonald-Laurier Institute and several other Indo- Canadian institutions.

#### INDO-CANADA RELATIONS POST-COVID:

# TIME FOR AN 'MSME BUBBLE'



Mohit Singla

The bilateral trade and investment between India and Canada is way below par when you look at their economic potential, strong people-topeople ties and trade complementarity. Diversification of the trade basket and creation of a robust JV connect programme for their SMEs could create sustainable growth drivers going forward.

As India and Canada pick up the pieces and chart their post-COVID economic roadmap, it is an opportune time to reassess where we stand on our bilateral engagement and how we should take it forward. The first key agenda point is of course the Indo-Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) which could herald a paradigm in the economic integration. So we would welcome an early conclusion of the CEPA with a framework that realistically matches the expectations and aspirations of both countries.

A major positive for both countries remains the strong people-to-people engagements, which have helped build the foundations and continue to strengthen their bilateral relationship. India has a strong competitive edge in services, and the 1-million strong Indian diaspora is playing a major role in the Canadian economy. Over the past few years, more Indians are seeing Canada as an attractive destination for immigration. The number of Indians admitted as permanent residents to Canada increased by 105% from 39,705 in 2016 to 80, 685 in the first 11 months of 2019.

Canadian initiatives to streamline the path of permanent residency for Indian workers have played a pivotal role in this regard. This is proving lucrative for tech workers as well as Indian technology companies, who are opening affiliate offices in Canada. Another significant factor worth noting is the 127% increase in Indian students coming to Canadian universities from 76,075 in 2016 to 172,625 in 2018, according to the Canadian Bureau for International Education. Therefore. this key adhesive that binds the two nations is expected to get only stronger going forward.

#### TRADE ENHANCEMENT

When you look at just the macro numbers, India's imports from Canada stood at US\$ 3.84 billion in 2019, and exports were at US\$ 2.89 billion (ITC Trade Map). India accounted for around 0.9% of Canada's total imports and 0.8% of Canada's total exports during the year.

There is noticeable momentum in exports since 2016, while imports have been largely range bound over the past few years. But overall, it is aptly clear that these figures are way below par in the overall perspective of Indo-Canada relations, when you consider the sizes of their respective economies, peopleto-people networks and the high complementarity in their trade basket. Our interactions with Indian exporters to Canada have revealed that they do not face too many NTBs at Canadian borders, and a rules-based system is largely being followed between the two countries. In our view, diversification of merchandise and services exports can help catalyse bilateral trade. Data shows that the top 20 export items account for 37% of total exports from India to Canada. Both economies can benefit through identifying and exploiting opportunities in new product areas.

Food and Beverages is one such important sector. At the 6-digit level, India's top exports to Canada are frozen shrimps & prawns (US\$ 90.74 million); semi-milled or wholly-milled rice (US\$ 66 million); shrimps & prawns, prepared or preserved (US\$ 19.46 million); food preparations nes (US\$ 17.7 million) and soyabeans (US\$ 13.12 million). The top 10 exported categories accounted for over 64% of India's total F&B exports to Canada. Overall, India accounts for just 1.1% of Canada's imports from the world in food and beverage products. India's rich agri resource base and the rapidly developing food processing sector give us confidence that this statistic will improve significantly in the coming years.

TPCI has been doing extensive work to accelerate the momentum in this area. Canadian buyers are an integral part of our flagship trade show Indusfood, which is the largest integrated F&B and tech trade show in South Asia. We have also undertaken focused BSMs, like the Food and Agri BSM last year in collaboration with CGI Toronto and Indo-Canada Chambers of Commerce to help Indian and Canadian companies explore trading arrangements and long term business partnerships. Our team organised another successful virtual BSM in July this year in collaboration with High Commission of India in Ottawa.





TPCI has in fact increased the tempo of BSMs via the virtual mode in the post-pandemic period to overcome the difficulties faced by Indian and overseas companies.

We are seeing potential for exports of various products like coffee, processed/ready-to-eat food products, fresh fruits and bakery products, etc. India views Canada as a lucrative market with the food and drink consumption expected to grow to increase in the coming years thanks to improving lifestyles, higher disposable incomes and the presence of the Indian diaspora. We also see a higher demand for health supplements and even very specific products like moringa (drumsticks) and makhana (foxnuts).

#### ESTABLISHING THE SME CONNECT

FDI inflows from Canada to India stood at US\$ 1.94 billion between April 2000 and June 2020 according to DPIIT, and it was ranked 20th on this parameter. But on the plus side, Canada is emerging as a leader when

it comes to infrastructure and PE investments. Major Canadian investors like Ontario Teacher's Pension Plan (OTPP), Canada Pension Plan & Investment Board (CPPIB), Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ), PSP Investments, Brookfield Asset Management, Fairfax, have invested across sectors - core infrastructure, real estate, renewables, telecom, banks, NBFCs, start-ups and are well diversified across asset classes. Overall investment from Canada to India has surged from US\$ 5 billion to US\$ 60 billion in the past 5-6 years, and we need to build on this strong momentum.

People-to-people engagement is a cornerstone of business relations. One often overlooked area between the two economies is the potential of business collaboration between their MSME sectors. On the lines of air bubbles being set up between nations in the present situation, I would like to propose that the Indian and Canadian governments collaborate to create a special kind of bubble between the two economies – an MSME bubble.

**SMEs** form an important part of both Indian and Canadian economies. There are around 63.4 million Micro. Small and Medium enterprise units in India (mainly in rural and semi-urban areas) that contribute around 29% to India's GDP and 49% to exports. The MSME sector provides employment to over 111 million people and manufactures around 8,000 products, from traditional to high tech precision items. Canada is home to 1.18 million employer businesses, out of which 1.15 million are small businesses.

It will be prudent for both countries to ensure that their MSMEs get the requisite avenues and resources to scale, be globally competitive and expand their international presence. A major problem we observe for MSMEs in India is the lack of timely information and knowledge on the right partners they can align with to fulfil their global ambitions.

Therefore the two governments can consider launching a robust SME joint venture connect programme, which will facilitate such engagements between small and medium businesses in identified sectors of importance. MSMEs in India are eager to leverage such collaboration opportunities for investments. technology collaborations. market expansion, new product/service development, etc. A 'bubble' of this kind will help integrate MSMEs, which are the heart of industry on both sides, and provide a fillip to bilateral trade and investment that should see steady and sustainable growth over the years.

Mohit Singla is the Chairman of Trade Promotion Council of India.



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#### CYBER SECURITY THREATS:

## PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS



**Jennifer Ritchie** 

For a small business owner, the topic of cybersecurity can seem overwhelmingly complicated, but a basic understanding of cybersecurity is considered necessary for running a business, particularly a business with any kind of online presence. But even those companies without an online presence can be quite vulnerable to cybersecurity threats.

According to the Nilson Report, as of December 2018, there were 22.11 billion payment cards in circulation, worldwide. Add eWallets to this, the convenience of online purchase and Card-not-Present transactions, and you end up with an influx of potential security gaps that cybercriminals can exploit.

Knowing what you are up against is the first step in prevention. According to Cyber.gc.ca and a Juniper Research study, "Fighting online payment fraud in 2020", the following list shows the main key areas seeing increasing or waves of cybercrime in the payment industry. Cyber-attacks are constantly evolving, but business owners should at least be aware of the most common types.

• Identity Fraud is the fraudulent acquisition and use of sensitive personal information, such as national identification numbers (e.g., social security numbers), passports and drivers' licenses. This information enables a skilled thief to assume an individual's identity and conduct numerous crimes.

- · Phishing is the practice of sending seemingly official emails from legitimate businesses steal to sensitive personal information from customers, such as account login details, passwords, and account numbers. A variation of phishing is SMS phishing (or smishing) where a fraudster sends a text message that asks a mobile phone user to provide personal information such as their online banking password or asks the user to make a phone call to a number controlled by the fraudster and then enter their ATM PIN number or online password.
- Chargeback fraud, similar to friendly fraud, where a chargeback request is made in spite of received goods and services. While friendly fraud is non-malicious in nature, chargeback fraud is a pre-meditated intention to commit fraud.
- Malware (malicious software) is an umbrella term that refers to software intentionally designed to cause



damage to a computer, server, client, or computer network. Malware can include viruses and ransomware.

• Ransomware is a specific type of malware that infects and restricts access to a computer until a ransom is paid. Ransomware is usually delivered through phishing emails and exploits unpatched vulnerabilities in software.

One of the biggest challenges facing retailers, merchants and payment processors is detecting cyber threats as early as possible and taking action to defeat attacks. So let's discuss a few simple steps you can take to protect your business.

- Lock Down Your Login by enabling strong two factor authentication and setting strong passwords. Passwords acts as the keys to your business' preserved data thus should be treated with the utmost care. They should not be left in the open since hackers handle every clue with care, and your passwords are obviously top of their priorities.
- Keep your operating system, browser, and other critical software up to date by installing updates regularly.
- Training employees on basic internet best practices can go a long way in preventing cyber-attacks. Employees are still the weakest link in companies fight against cyber-attacks. The point is that if your employees can't recognize a security threat, they won't avoid it.
- Limit the amount of personal information you share online and use privacy settings to avoid sharing information widely.
- · Use antivirus software and keep it



updated. Using an antivirus software is one of the most reliable ways of protecting your company's machines and mobile devices from malware attacks. These tools are designed to detect potentially dangerous content before being launched on your computers.

- Safeguard your Internet connection by using a firewall and encrypting information. Setting up a firewall is a rather basic recommendation but worth the mention. It's integral in the security of your website since it searches for and blocks malicious traffic on your site. It will also help protect your employees from navigating to potentially harmful websites.
- Avoid phishing attacks by verifying unknown links, attachments, or emails before opening.
- Protect sensitive data and back up the rest. This process will save you from losing your clients due to broken trust or reputation damage. It will also protect you from crippling losses in the business, especially if confidential

data lands in the wrong hands where they might be used in committing unlawful activities like frauds etc.

For more information on how you can protect your business and stay safe year-round, visit:

https://cyber.gc.ca/en/guidance/baseline-cyber-security-controls-small-and-medium-organizations

Now that you know why cybersecurity is important for businesses of all sizes and the measures in which to protect your business, it's time to take consideration of potential

vulnerabilities in your system and work to strengthen security measures. Your customers and business partners depend on you to safeguard the vital information they put in your hands.

By having the correct protocols in place to prevent a cyberattack, you can rest easy knowing you're doing everything within your power to protect your customers and your business.

Jennifer Ritchie is Vice President, Partner & Client Success at Payroc

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# E WEEKLY VOICE

#### BUSINESS, COMPETITION, PROFIT:

# VALUES DRIVEN LEADERSHIP



Dr. Basil Chen

#### (For Canadian Institute of Sathya Sai Education)

The world jointly exhaled with guarded optimism when Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca announced the success of their COVID-19 vaccine. According to Trudie Lang, who directs the Global Health Network at the University of Oxford: "To go from identifying a new virus to having several vaccines at the point of applying for regulatory approval is an incredible milestone for science" (Cohen, J. 2020) and if I might add, it is indeed a giant leap forward for mankind.

This example of grit, innovation, and collaboration reinforces the notion that business in general represents a force for the good and society through the institution of business can profoundly affect individual's well-being.

Business is the best engine of value creation: it provides useful products and services to its customers, it creates jobs and prosperity, and it pays taxes. That said, we do need to recognize an obvious fact regarding profit seeking organizations - they are relentlessly driven to add value to their firm; stated more forcefully, they are "genetically coded" to make money. With this predisposition, business embarks on an eternal quest to seek out organizational competitive advantage that is sustainable over time.

THE SEARCH FOR THE HOLY GRAIL

Companies use a myriad of strategies

to obtain sustainable competitive advantage: from generic strategies such as overall low-cost provider; focused-low cost: broad differentiation: focused differentiation; and best-cost provider to some unconventional strategies such as holacracy (a selfmanagement team paradigm e.g., Zappos).

Irrespective of the strategy employed, both scholars and practitioners agree generally that effective leadership (which is the ability to influence a group toward the achievement of a vision or a set of goals) is indispensable in enhancing organizational performance; in fact it is the invisible "grist" that powers the organizational "mill."

Now not all leaders are cut from the same cloth - what about leaders like Bernard Ebbers of WorldCom; Ken Lay of Enron; Dennis Kozlowski of Tyco and Bernard Madoff (who devised one of the largest Ponzi scheme in the history of finance)? They all suffered from fundamental character flaws.

According to Joanne B. Cuilla (Cuilla, 2005) how leaders get their followers to do things (motivate, impress, influence, inspire, and persuade) and how the goals are to be decided (forced obedience or voluntary consent) have normative implications. Cuilla further argues that after an exhaustive examination of definitions in leadership studies, perhaps the ultimate question is not "What is the definition of leadership?" The ultimate point of studying leadership is "What



#### is good leadership?"

The use of the word good here has two dimensions; morally good and technically good or effective. For the statement "She is a good leader" to be true, it must be true that she is effective and also ethical. As we begin to dig and explore the general notion of leadership we notice that ethical moral dimensions are central to leadership and it is not an amoral phenomenon. Contemporaryleadership theories such as ethical leadership, transformational leadership and authentic leadership (the list is not exhaustive) are grounded in solid moral foundation.

THE FRAGRANCE OF VALUES

#### **Ethical Leadership**

Ethics is concerned with the kind of values and morals an individual or

society finds desirable or appropriate at a particular period in time. Furthermore, ethics is concerned with the virtuousness of individuals and their motives. Current advocates of virtue-based theory stressed that more attention should be given to the development and training of moral values. Rather than telling people what to do, attention should be focused on telling people what to be, or helping them to become more virtuous.

#### **Transformational Leadership**

This approach is concerned with improving the performance of followers and developing followers to their fullest potential. People who exhibit transformational leadership qualities often have a strong set of internal values and can be counted on to do the right thing, and they are effective in motivating followers to act in ways that support the greater good

rather than their self-interest. Transformational leaders are strong role models for their followers with a highly developed set of moral values and a self-determined sense of identity.

#### **Authentic leadership**

In response to leadership failures. authentic leadership is emerging to address the demands for genuine, trustworthy. and good leadership. Authentic leadership describes leadership that is transparent, morally grounded, and responsive to people's needs and values. Research identified four components form the foundation of authentic leadership theory: 1) Self-Awareness; 2) Internalized moral perspective; 3) Balanced processing; and 4) Relational Transparency.



#### **Three Leadership Theories**

Leadership is not an amoral phenomenon - it carries with it an explicit moral dimension where one is deeply rooted in authenticity and has the potential of transforming both leaders and followers. Pedagogically, one could argue that true leadership is underpinned by authenticity and propelled by transformational and ethical actions to produce extraordinary results.

#### Silicon Valley's Values Connection

As we deepen our exploration of virtues and values with intensity; we will be drawn irresistibly into the flame of truth along with an unquenchable thirst to seek out the source of the nectar.

Therefore, it not surprising that many tech titans including Steve Jobs (Apple), Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook), Larry Page (Google), and Jeffrey Skoll (eBay) from Silicon Valley visited India to find solace and meaning. In April 1974 Steve Jobs went to India to study Indian spirituality and planned to meet Neem Karoli Baba (an Indian Guru/Saint made famous in the West by Richard Alpert aka "Ram Das," a former Sociology professor from Harvard).

Although, Jobs never met Neem Karoli Baba in person he did spend time in his ashram and was influenced by Neem Karoli Baba's teachings. Years later Mark Zuckerberg recounts how his mentor, Steve Jobs counseled him to visit Neem Karoli Baba's ashram which he thought would be a good place for Zuckerberg to reflect on the future of his company, Facebook (Gowan, A. 2015).

I would be remiss if I did not mention the names of sons and daughters nurtured under the Indian sun. Here is a small sampling of notable business leaders rooted in ethical business practices and have made significant contribution to society: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Indra Nooyi, Azim Premji, Shiv Nadar, Adi Godrej, Adar Poonawalla, and NR Narayana Murthy.

I cite these examples to make the case that as we plumbed the depths of our beings we tap into the fountain of life's core values of honesty, nonviolence, fortitude, and access to a moral compass that can differentiate between "right" and "wrong;" thereby leaving ourselves fully transformed,

which in turn leads to societal transformation.

To conclude, I offer up three takeaway items for our reflection: 1) we fully acknowledge that leadership is not an amoral phenomenon, in fact it is underpinned by ethical morals and values; 2) we continue to develop, refine, and test the ideas as espoused by scholars and practitioners in the crucible of organizational life - from the boardroom to the lunchroom; and 3) at an individual/personal level. whether it is in my house, your house or the White House the musical note that flows and guides our lives would be one that is anchored in and driven by values.

Dr. Basil Chen, Ph.D., MBA, CPA, CMA, is Professor of Accounting and Finance at The Business School, Centennial College, Toronto, Canada. His research interests include values driven leadership; positive organization identity; positive organization scholarship; virtuous organizational practices; and performance measurements. He received his Ph.D. in Values Driven Leadership from Benedictine University (Chicago).

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#### LOOKING BACK

## LEARN. SERVE. EXPERIENCE.



**Ravi Seethapathy** 

Indo-Canada The Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) offered me a great opportunity to learn, serve and experience, the various interactions (both govt and business) - first as a volunteer in 1994 (thanks Sudha Berry), then as a Nominated Board Member (thanks Hari Panday) and elected Board member, followed by as a Vice President and finally as the President (1998-2000).

The ICCC primarily serves as a focal point of Indo-Canadian businesses (and its service providers') interests, allowing others (political, bureaucracy, industry, education, professions) to view its membership in all its strengths and capabilities (business, education, wealth, charity). A second objective is to be a strong voice in the Canada-India bilateral trade corridor.

The ICCC has a rich legacy of hard work, deeply rooted in volunteerism. To this day, the ICCC Charity Golf Tournament, Annual Awards & Gala, and its many business events are comparable with other prestigious events held across Canada.

Headwinds create opportunities.

My presidential term witnessed "rough weather" on the bilateral front. Canada-India relations had hit a rough patch with Pokhran II (May 1998). So, a key challenge was for the ICCC, to make itself more visible to both countries and to be seen as being capable of solutions / thought leadership. We quickly developed a three-pronged strategy:

- (1) visibility in govt policy deliberations (2) bilateral engagement alternatives, and
- (3) showcasing our expertise

Several initiatives included

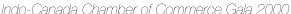
- (a) forming the Ottawa Council (thanks Mukesh Gupta) with a dinner inauguration at the Queen's Confederation Room on Parliament Hill (thanks Surjit Babra)
- (b) participation in the South Asia Council of DFAIT
- (c) forming a SME Council to showcase sectoral pain points; and (d) hosting high profile business events and participating in track II dialogs in both India and Canada.

Our capable Board (many thanks Rashmi Brahmbhatt, Rakesh Goenka, Pradeep Sood, Kris Krishnan, Reema Duggal, Srini Iyengar, Ronji Boroaah, Mukesh Gupta, Sohaila Charnalia and others) did a yeoman voluntary service to enable this strategy.

As a consequence, ICCC hosted Yashwant Sinha, Finance Minister of India, Canadian Cabinet Ministers, Premier, Mayors and cross-section of large TSX corporate CEOs (thanks Advisory Board: Rai Sahi, Steve Gupta, Surjit Babra, Suresh Thakrar, Malik Khan, Anil Shah, Uma Malik, Dr. Dhun Noria).

In my view, these timely interventions, resurrected the "turning tide" to establish ICCC's due recognition by mainstream and governments in both







Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce Gala 2000

countries. The recognition of ICCC continued post presidency for me (2000-2008) and was very gratifying, as I continued to serve in the bilateral corridor, i.e.

- (1) Co-Chair, Canada-India S&T Mapping Study with H.E. David Johnston (2002-2004). This enabled the S&T bilateral Agreement in 2004 (thanks High Commissioners, DFAIT, MEA, DST, University Presidents, Ministers Jim Petersen, and Kapil Sibal) and
- (2) Chair, Canadian Advisory Council, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (succeeding H.E. Ms. Flora Macdonald). These activities kept the bilateral corridor very active and allowed Pokhran II discord to diminish. Canada and India found new seeds to grow its bilateral relationship.

As volunteers, we stand on the broad shoulders of our past torch bearers. Team building and succession planning is critical for success. Such a transparent approach allows for generosity and goodwill from well-

wishers all around.

It has been 20 years since my term, and I think the ICCC has maintained this rich legacy and tradition. There will be always ups and downs, but the strategic picture and trajectory must be a shared vision.

Going forward, as the bilateral corridor takes on many new dimensions and complexities (public health, technology, pandemics, fiscal crisis, climate change, etc.), the ICCC needs to factor these attributes in its business/trade focus to maintain its currency. In a modern world, business relations will always be the hallmark of bilateral relations. So, the ICCC has a unique role cut out for itself.

Ravi Seethapathy was the President of ICCC from 1998 to 2000. A hands-on President, Ravi has continued to be actively engaged with the Chamber before and after his Presidency. He has been a member of the ICCC for over 25 years.



# On behalf of all the members of the **Indian Institutes of Technology Alumni Canada**

we offer our congratulations to our partner the

#### Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce

on the first virtual Annual Awards 2020 program and wish all members of the Chamber health, happiness and success in 2021.

IIT Alumni Canada and US also hosted our first major virtual conference in December 2020 with over 16,000 attendees and PM of India Narendra Modi and CEO/COO/CTOs of IBM, FedEx, NEC, Zoom, Honeywell, Microsoft and many others as speakers.

# About Indian Institutes of Technology Alumni Canada

IIT Alumni Canada is a not-for-profit networking organization with its members drawn from the 23 campuses of Indian Institutes of Technology in India.

In 2006, the US Congress passed a resolution 'Appreciating the contributions of IIT Graduates in both technology and for creating jobs in high value technology areas in the US'.

This is only the second international University that the US Congress has recognised.

The Association is headquartered in Toronto, Canada, and has Regional Chapter in Vancouver, BC and Ottawa.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE IIT ALUMNI CANADA**

- To keep in touch with other alumni and our alma mater and thereby rejuvenate and strengthen the bonds created during our education at IITs. IIT Alumni events are open to all professionals and we call them 'Friends of IIT'.
- To share and project our professional (engineering and business) skills by organizing technical and business seminars and conferences.
- To establish a network of the members to help each other in the areas of their interest.
- To welcome and help new Canadians to adapt and settle into a new life and also assist in their search for employment. We have a very robust and active 'Mentorship program'
- To be true Canadians and to use our talents and resources to help both Canada and India and build Academic and business relationships.

#### **Contact Info:**

Website: www.iitalumnicanada.com

Ashraf Ali, P.Eng. – President e-mail: <u>aali@afdtek.com</u> Tel: 647-271-9846

Vishwas Dhekney, P.Eng. – VP (& President-Elect) e-mail: vdhekney@gmail.com Tel: 416-894-9060



#### LOOKING FORWARD

## LEARN. CONTRIBUTE. SUPPORT.

I am excited to be part of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC), an esteemed forum that has existed for over four decades; a forum that focuses on the power of collaboration and supports mutual commercial ties between the world's finest countries – India and Canada.

As an Indo-Canadian filmmaker, a Positive Psychology Educator, and a Learning and Development Professional, I look forward to offering my unique skillset in the art of storytelling, programs in wellbeing and leadership training, and I am eager to network with fellow entrepreneurs and professionals with diverse experiences and learn about them and from them.

My hope is to be able to share a short documentary GuruCool, written and directed by me, with all of you soon. GuruCool is a conversation about the 21st century education system among Indian educators and stakeholders while making global comparisons. GuruCool has been selected to be screened at several festivals around the globe and we continue to win awards in different categories.

I believe that being a part of ICCC will be an enriching experience for me and succour my vision of making insightful and inspirational films about people, places and events that have social relevance to the community.

Being a new member, I am still getting familiar with the incredible contributions and achievements of past/existing members, and about the Chamber's initiatives. It is commendable how ICCC shared information about the impact of the lockdown in different sectors, government assistance programs, and continued creating networking opportunities through the weekly webinar series.

As we embark towards 2021, I have faith in our leadership team to steer us through the new normal as we together explore synergies between India and Canada and accomplish more milestones.

As a member, I am eager to contribute in my capacity to support the mandate of the organization and build many new contacts. Let us all keep making a difference and join hands to create a pandemic of positivity as we forge ahead. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2021!

Sangita Iyer is an award-winning Documentary Filmmaker, Positive Psychology Expert, Learning & Development Consultant. Sangita became a member in 2020







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TEAM ICCC 2019 - 2020

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PRAMOD GOYAL President & Board Chair

Pramod Goyal is a dynamic entrepreneur, business strategist and a highly experienced management consultant with over 30 years of experience in founding, managing, and advising growth companies, including strategy consulting, corporate finance, audit and governance; private equity transactions and strategic business relationships. He is currently the President and CEO of Canadawide Financial Corporation Limited, a multidisciplinary business advisory and management consulting firm. Pramod has served many professional, private and non-profit boards and committees. He is a prominent and active member of the South Asian business and professional community.



TAUSEEF SHEIKH Vice President & Corporate Secretary

Tauseef Sheikh is a seasoned, top-performing banking professional with experience in Global Banking, Retail Banking and Wealth Management. Prior to joining HSBC Bank in Canada, he was with HSBC India and part of the start-up team of the NRI (Non-Resident Indian) office in Canada. He was responsible for building a North American platform for providing onshore and offshore banking products with particular focus on cross- border Private Banking services. He is also the Ambassador for Diversity and Inclusion with HSBC in Canada. He believes in giving back to the community.



SANJAY KULKARNI Vice President & Director, Finance

Sanjay Kulkarni is the CEO and President of Sankul Enterprises Inc., a boutique firm providing CFO services and business value advice to small and medium sized companies. Sanjay is a CA(I), CS(I), CMA, CPA, CFA and Chartered Director. With years of experience in financial services, Sanjay is a problem-solving leader with the ability to effect change by improving processes, setting robust goals/corporate objectives and identifying/resolving critical issues. An expert in negotiations, Sanjay is a strong business leader with a a distinguished career of 25 years in Canada.



SURINDER SHARMA Vice President & Director, Membership Engagement

Surinder Sharma is a veteran technocrat who has served as Senior Professional with multinational companies in India, Bahrain, UAE and Canada. He is engaged in energy conservation and demand management programs aimed at protecting environment. In 2001, Surinder founded Power Saving Systems Inc. that assists companies reduce carbon footprint by reducing electricity usage by conducting energy audits and retrofit programs. Surinder is the Past President of the IIT Alumni Canada, Founding Member & Past Chair of Panorama India, Board Member of the Mississauga Board of Trade from 2012 to 2017.

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#### VIJAY THOMAS Vice President & Director, International Trade & ITC

Vijay Thomas is founder and CEO of Tangentia, which has evolved to become a leading global Robotic Process Automation, Artificial Intelligence and B2B solutions company with a multi-national footprint with offices in USA, Canada and India. Tangentia has 100+ customers in 30+ countries and 150+ employees worldwide. Vijay is a seasoned speaker on e-commerce, B2B, Automation and Artificial Intelligence. He is active in the Indian start-up scene and is an angel investor. Vijay has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a MBA.



#### DON PATEL Director Government Affairs, Affinity & Business Development

Don. R. B. Patel is a committed social activist with passion for community service. He combines his professional excellence with entrepreneurial success in many retail businesses. He has an extensive experience in real estate, and he is the owner of RE Brokerage with a growing team of 20+ realtors. Being in Canada for nearly three decades, he is actively involved with many organizations like Toronto Real Estate Board, CREA, Meals on Wheels, Humans for Harmony, POSUN, GPAC, United Way, Clean City, just to name a few, and is an active ICCC member for over a decade.



#### VIRENDER RATHI Director, Legal Affairs

Virender Rathi is the President of Xcent Lawyers LLP. He is a versatile lawyer who specializes in Immigration and Real Estate. Virender graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School. He is a member of the Law Society of Ontario, Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association and CASAL. A strong votary of community service, he dedicates time and resources to the Indo-Canadian community in the Greater Toronto Area. He is strongly committed to community and actively involved in many NFP's including the ICCC.



#### RIPUDAMAN SINGH DHILLON Director, Immigration, Education & Skills Training

Ripudaman established ICC Canada Immigration Solutions Inc. to help new immigrants to easily settle in Canada. His entrepreneurial zeal led him to launch Guru restaurant in 2013 in Heartland. His affinity for public service inspired him to start Radio Dhun, Ontario's first multicultural, multilingual radio station; in 2017 he acquired Radio 1220AM. The International Fashion Festival Toronto he launched in 2014 promotes local designers. Ripudaman is a philanthropist and was the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario's candidate in 2018 and a candidate of record for Brampton North.



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VIKAS SHARMA Director, Small & Medium Enterprises

Since 2006, Vikas has been the President and Owner of a post-industrial plastics recycling company in Toronto. He has considerable experience in global trade, with exports to China, India, Vietnam, Mexico and the USA. He specialises in India and North America trade. Vikas is the President and Founder of the Care4Cause Foundation, which offers dignity, compassion and respect to individuals suffering poverty and unfortunate circumstances. He became the Director of the Tiger Jeet Singh Foundation in 2019 and worked on expanding its Christmas Miracle on Main Street toy drive event.



**BHAVIK PARIKH Director** 

Bhavik Parikh is an innovative technologist, data architecture and researcher who has worked with multiple fortune 500 companies and provided B2C, B2B and B2G solutions. He serves on various not-for-profit boards across Canada, USA and India. He has worked in various business domains including human resource, finance, space, health, pharmaceutical and education. Bhavik has a Bachelor's in Business Community Enterprise and Information Technology from University of Liverpool, and Master's in Information Systems Engineering from University of Manchester.



#### ADVISORY BOARD 2019-2020

#### **ADITYA JHA**

Order of Canada recipient Aditya Jha is a rare combination of a philanthropist and a serial entrepreneur He is CEO of dgMarket International Inc., USA. His POA Foundation has 14 scholarship endowments and five entrepreneurship grants at five educational institutions, and supports charitable projects in Canada, India, and Nepal. Ryerson University's Ted Rogers School of Business Management honoured him with an honorary Doctorate in 2009, and the Learning Partnership inducted him into Champions of Public Education in Canada Hall of Fame (2013). He is a speaker at many globally recognized business schools.



#### **AKHIL TYAGI**

Akhil Tyagi is Area Director for Asia & AustralAsia – Infrastructure, at the International Trade Programs Division, Ontario Ministry of International Trade. Working with the Ministry, Akhil has contributed to increase export capabilities of several Ontario companies and led key trade missions to India that generated business opportunities for Ontario manufacturers and service providers. Akhil specializes in growth strategies with focus on globalization and in raising capital from domestic and international markets. Akhil is a Mechanical Engineer and holds an MBA.



#### **ASHWIN JOSHI**

Dr. Ashwin Joshi is Associate Professor, Marketing and Director, MBA Program, Schulich School of Business. He began his academic career at the University of Winnipeg, followed by stints at St. Mary's University and at the University of Calgary. He joined the faculty of the Schulich School of Business, York University in 1999. Since then, Ashwin has taught across a wide range of programs within the School. Relationship building is a key theme in his research and consulting practice.



#### ATUL TOLIA

Dr. Atul Tolia is the Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and specialist in Diagnostic Radiology. He was a professor at the Faculty of the University of Toronto in Diagnostic Imaging as a specialist in Neuro, Cardiac, Vascular, and Interventional Radiology and is private practice of Diagnostic Radiology. Atul has played a pivotal role in the formation of many bilateral sociocultural, economic, and business advocacy organisations. He is a recipient of many accolades.



#### ADVISORY BOARD 2019-2020



#### JOSEPH SELVARAJ SAVIER

Joseph Selvaraj Savier, President & CEO, SBI Canada Bank, has a master's in management and a diploma in International Banking and Finance. He has over 30 years of global banking experience. He has served as Dy. General Manager (Treasury Marketing Group), Global Markets at State Bank of India, Corporate Centre, Mumbai, CFO & Secretary, State Bank of India (California), Los Angeles, and Corporate Secretary to the Board. In SBI, he was involved in the design and execution of two of the landmark HR initiatives called 'Parivartan' and 'Aarohan' that impacted more than 200,000 employees.



#### RAMESH CHOTAL

Ramesh Chotai was born in Northern Uganda and pursued his education in Britain completed his training as pharmacist in U.K. and Switzerland. Ramesh came to Canada in 1972 and started as a pharmacist/manager at an Oshawa pharmacy. He started Bromed Pharmaceuticals in 1976. He served as President of the Hindu Temple and Cultural Centre, Mississauga, Vice President of the Canadian Museum of Hindu Civilization, Chairperson of Canada India Foundation and Co-Chair of Trillium Hospital Foundation where he raised \$600,000.00.



REETU GUPTA

Reetu Gupta is President and CEO of the Easton's Group of Hotels, Canada's largest private hotel development firm and The Gupta Group, as well as the Co-Founder and Chief Strategy Officer of Rogue Insight Capital Ltd. She has an MBA from the Schulich School of Business. She became the COO in 2015. In 2012 Reetu created and launched The Gupta Group – the residential real estate arm of the company consisting of high-rise condo multiuse developments. She is the Founder and President of The Shakti Society.



SHANTHI JOHNSON

Shanthi Johnson Professor & Dean, School of Public Health, University of Alberta, is a leader in the fields of health promotion and healthy aging. An internationally renowned researcher with multidisciplinary perspective, she has led significant research and has secured notable grants. She has delivered more than 300 presentations and has authored over 150 peer reviewed articles and reports in prestigious journals such as the Lancet. Johnson has played a key leadership role as associate dean in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies at the University of Regina (2008–2014).

#### ADVISORY BOARD 2019-2020

#### **SURJIT BABRA**

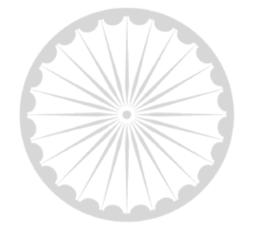
Surjit Babra is a Serial Entrepreneur. He is the Chief Executive Officer of SkyLink Capital (Investment group) and SkyLink Group of Companies Inc. Mr. Babra, along with his partners, built many companies including SkyLink Aviation, SkyLink Travel Group, SkyLink Express. After exiting from these companies, he invested in 2014 in Highbury Canco Corp, a large food manufacturing company in Leamington ON. Babra is a recipient of many awards, including Mother Teresa Humanitarian of the Year Award, B'nai Birth Canada's Award of Merit, Gulland Excellence Award, Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.



#### **VENKI RAMAN**

A banker by profession, Venki Raman is a motivational speaker who mentors newcomers to Canada. He is passionate about the upliftment of the youth, and constantly contributes his time and energy for the betterment of the underprivileged and hospitals. Venki's personal mission is to "kindle the human spirit" in every person he encounters – personally, in business and in the community. Venki's motivational leadership style travels beyond his team, to newcomers whom he motivates and guides in career planning. Venki regularly mentors newcomers to look beyond their obstacles and focus on their strengths, to make themselves highly marketable.







#### PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT

Presidents Secretariat is the office of the President of the Chamber. It provides advise, co-ordination and the administrative support for the exercise of the duties, responsibilities, and powers vested in the President by the Chamber's constitution.



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PRASHANT SRIVASTAVA Special Advisor Skills Development



SARABJEET S. ARORA Advisor Memberships & Special Events

# ICCC COMMITTEES 2019-2020

DIRECTOR - IN - CHARGE	CHAIR, CO-CHAIR	MEMBERS	
CORE COMMITTEES			
EVENTS & PROGRAMS			
Pramod Goyal President & Board Chair	Ajay Tandon, Chair	Kalpesh Joshi Sanjiv Malik	
INTERNATIONAL TRADE & MARKET ACCESS			
Vijay Thomas VP & Director, International Trade and ITC	Jayesh Menon, Chair Rohit Bakshi, Co-Chair	Mario Martins Anu Vithal Sid Singh Praveen Swarup	
MEMBERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT			
Surinder Sharma VP & Director, Membership Engagement	Sudhir Anand, Chair	Pathik Shukla Manu Datta Jatin Grover Vivekta Singh	
SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES			
Vikas Sharma Director, SME	B. K. Sethi, Chair Bhupen Garg, Co-Chair	Raman Dua Tarun Basil Kesh Gelda Pravin Dalal Anureet Kukreja	
WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS & PROFESSIONALS			
Pramod Goyal President & Board Chair	Sukhdeep Kang, Chair	Vijeta Budhwar Aruna Anand Sangita Iyer	
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS & ENTREPRENEURS (YPE)			
Bhavik Parikh Director	Priyanka Goyal, Chair	Akshay Makhija Aditya Anand Rachel Goyal Anjali Yadav	

# ICCC COMMITTEES 2019-2020

DIRECTOR - IN - CHARGE	CHAIR, CO-CHAIR	MEMBERS	
SECTORAL COMMITTEES			
BANKING, FINANCIAL SERVICES & INSURANCE			
Sanjay Kulkarni, VP & Director, Finance	Vipin Gupta, Chair Pritpal Mann, Co-Chair	Gautam Bhanj Deo Sachin Rustagi Shishir Jaiswal	
EDUCATION, ADVANCED SKILLS & TRAINING (EAST)			
Ripudaman Dhillon Director, EAST	Vikas Gupta, Chair Prince Sharma, Co-Chair	Devinder Bhatia Rajeev Rampal Pushproop Brar	
HOSPITALITY & TOURISM			
Tauseef Sheikh Vice President & Coporate Secrfetary	Ajay Tandon, Chair Deepak Shamnani, Co-Chair	Tarique Anwar Abhinav Nongmeikapam Amit Talreja Umesh Patel	
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)			
Vijay Thomas, VP & Director, International Trade & ITC	Atul Gera, Chair Anil Dasratha, Co-Chair	Malav Kansara Anil Nair Mukesh Bhakar Avinash Kumar Venky Jeyaraman	
INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION			
Pramod Goyal President & Board Chair	Manan Gupta, Chair Akbar Dewji, Co-Chair	Amrit Pal Singh Gajendra Rathore	
LEGAL, TAX & COMPLIANCE (LTC)			
Virender Rathi Director, Legal Affairs	Chetan Seghal, Chair Deepinder Loomba, Co-Chair	Shruthi Raman Baljeet Kaliravana Bipin Poddar Anand Vashisht	
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT			
Surinder Sharma VP & Director, Membership Engagement		Pappur Shankar Nani Pradeepan	

#### ICCC COMMITTEES 2019-2020

#### STATUTORY COMMITTEES

#### **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Pramod Goyal, President & Board Chair
Tauseef Sheikh, Vice President & Corporate Secretary
Aditya Jha
D. P. Jain

#### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Hari Panday, Chair
Vinod Munshi, Member
Pramod Goyal, President & Board Chair (representative of the Board)

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Sanjay Kulkarni, Vice President & Director, Finance Bhavik Parikh, Director Don Patel, Director, Government Affairs, Affinity and Business Development Virender Rathi, Director, Legal Affairs



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ANNUAL AWARDS & GALA NIGHT 2019

#### ANNUAL AWARDS & GALA NIGHT- 2019



ICCC's 27th Annual Awards & Gala Night was celebrated successfully with the participation of all the levels of the Government on 17 June 2019. Among the political dignitaries who participated in the program included Hon. Ahmed Hussen, Canada's Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship; Hon. Andrew Scheer, Leader of the Official Opposition and Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada; Hon. Todd Smith, Ontario's Minister of Economic Development and Job Creation. Ambassador Dinesh Bhatia, the Consul General of India in Toronto, represented the Government of India. Visiting Industries Minister of the Indian Province of Chhattisgarh, Mr. Kawasi Lakhma was also graced the occasion. Mayors Patrick Brown (Brampton); Frank Scarpitti (Markham); and Bonnie Crombie (Mississauga); besides several Members of Parliament, the Provincial Parliament and Municipal Councils participated in ICCC's marquee event. The theme was 'Rising India: Time to Act'.







































#### ON THE GLORY ROAD...

#### ICCC AWARD RECIPIENTS WIN MORE ACCOLADES

The Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce's annual awards have a hoary past. The awards were instituted in 1992-93 and began on a modest scale. Over the years, the awards have grown to become one of the most coveted recognitions for Indo-Canadians across Canada. Over 280 Indo-Canadians have been honoured with the prestigious ICCC awards since their inception. The Hall of Fame section of the magazine annually updates the award recipients.

One of the most amazing and yet unnoticed aspects of the ICCC awards is that in most cases, the ICCC recognizes these achievers and then other institutions from the Canadian mainstream also honour these achievers. This is not an unusual phenomenon because the Indo-Canadian community knows and recognizes achievements of its community members before anyone else does, and in doing so, it focuses a beacon of light on the individual and his/her achievements.

There have been innumerable instances in the past where the ICCC award recipients have subsequently gone on to win many accolades. Here, we illustrate this point by two recent examples.

Ena Chadha, the recipient of ICCC's Woman Professional award in 2019, was appointed as the interim chief of the Ontario Human Rights Commission on 22 July 2020. Chadha was born in New Delhi, India and raised in Brampton, Ontario.

Chadha is an experienced and respected human rights lawyer, educator and mediator. She recently served as a co-reviewer of the Peel District School Board systemic racism review. She is the former Chair of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Human Rights Legal Support Centre and a past Vice-chair of the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario, where she issued several leading decisions in the areas of race, disability and sexual harassment. She also began her career as counsel to the OHRC.

Ananya Chadha, the recipient of ICCC's Young Achiever award in 2019, was one of five young women selected as the recipient of Canada's Most Powerful Women - Top 100 Awards - the RBC Future Launch Future Leaders Award. The award recognizes five exceptional young women, between 15 and 29 years old, who are transforming their communities through innovation, collaboration and courage.

Ananya is a pilot and a first-year engineering student at Stanford University. She has worked in gene-editing and developed a platform to put genomic data on blockchain for anonymous uploading. She developed neurotech devices like brain-controlled prosthetics, remote control cars, MP3 players controlled with EEGs, electrodes and brain signals.

Ananya was on the Investment committee at Babel Ventures, worked on Artificial Intelligence at IBM and developed COVID reports for Department of National Defence. She won the Top 29 Canadians, Developer 30 under

30 award, the Top 23 Women in Tech in Canada and is 2019 winner of the Impossible Science Student Challenge.





CHA

CHARITY GOLF 2019

#### ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC- 2019



The 21st Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce's (ICCC) Annual Golf Charity Classic was an overwhelming success with over 120 enthusiastic amateur golfers having a great time. Monday, July 27 2019 turned out to be a perfect day for golf. The ICCC contributed \$3,864.00 to the The Canadian Cancer Society. The team comprising Avtar Brar, Indy Brar, Mohinder Singh and Bhinder Singh won the tournament. Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC, representatives of the ICCC Golf Committee and the representatives the then corporate sponsor presented the winning team with the rotating trophy. Patrick Brown, Mayor of Brampton, was the Guest of Honour at the award presentation reception.







INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2020

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY- 2019



Over 200 women and men participated enthusiastically in Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC)'s eighth annual International Women's Day on 6 March 2020 at Pearson Convention Centre. The program comprised insightful address by Hon. Mary Ng, Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Development; Hon. Anita Anand, Canada's Minister of Public Service and Procurement; and Alexis Black, Intellectual Property Officer, Canadian Intellectual Property Office. A riveting panel discussion involving panelists Hon. Jill Dunlop, Ontario's Associate Minister for Children and Women's Issues; Apoorva Srivastava, Consul General of India in Toronto; Maria May; Dean of Faculty of Applied Arts and Health Sciences followed the speeches. Aruna Anand of ICCC's Women Entrepreneur and Professional Committee introduced the panelists.











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MINISTER VIC FEDELI'S INDIA VISIT

#### MINISTER VIC FEDELI'S INDIA VISIT



The ICCC team comprising Pramod Goyal, President, Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce; Vijay Thomas, Director, International Trade and Information Technology; and Arvind Bhardwaj, Director, Program and Events, accompanied Hon. Vic Fedeli, Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade on his India trip between 18 and 22 November 2019.

The Ontario Minister went to New Delhi and Mumbai during the trip. The trip comprised two independent delegations – the first had representatives from stakeholder organisations and the other had Canadian businesses from the information technology and infrastructure sector.

The two-way trade between the province of Ontario and India is worth C\$3.2 billion. Nine per cent of



Pramod Goyal with PC Sarangi, India's Minister of State for MSME



Pramod Goyal with Vijay Kalantri of WTC-Mumbai and Fred Eisenberger, Mayor of Hamilton







Pramod Goyal with D. K. Agarwal, Former President, and Dr. Ranjit Mehta, Principal Director, PHD Chamber of Commerce;

Canadian exports to India are from Ontario. The province has Trade and Investment Offices in New Delhi and Mumbai to attract and facilitate investment deals, help small- and medium-sized enterprises expand their export capacity and promote the province's open for business mandate. More than 50 Indian companies across all sectors have operations and investments in Ontario, and over 52,000 Indian post-secondary students studied in Ontario's world-class universities and colleges during the 2018 to 2019 school year.

"Minister Fedeli's visit will lead to more intense cooperation between Ontario and India," Pramod Goyal said. In New Delhi, Mr. Goyal met India's Hon. PC Sarangi, Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Hon. Rita Bahugana, MP, in New Delhi.

18 December 2019 'UNPACKING INDIA'

Ontario is determined to enhance its trade in merchandise and services with India, said Honourable Victor Fedeli, Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, at 'Unpacking India' program organised jointly by Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and Loopstra Nixon LLP in Toronto on 17 December. The ICCC participated in the trade visit and four of its board members accompanied the Minister.



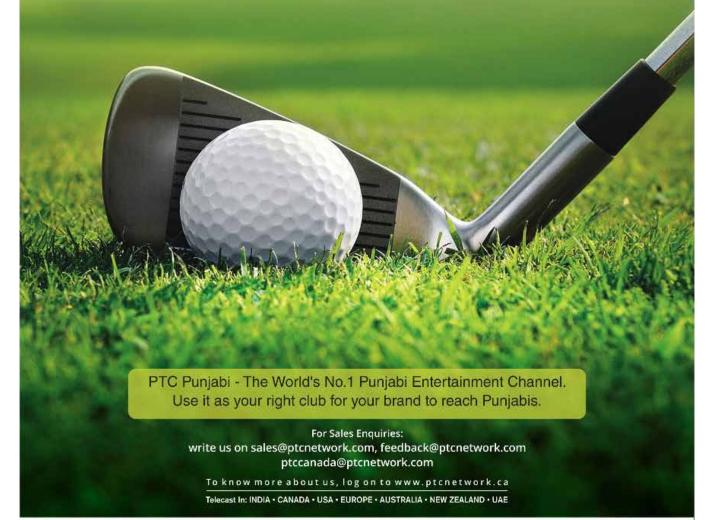
Speaking at the 'Unpacking India' program, Minister Fedeli acknowledged the positive role that Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce is playing in fostering bilateral economic relations between Canada and India. The Minister said the two-way merchandise trade between Ontario and India is worth C\$3.2 billion, that is over one-third of total Canada – India trade. Nine per cent of Canadian exports to India are from Ontario.



# WHEN YOU KNOW YOUR GOAL

USE THE RIGHT CLUB TO REACH THE 18TH HOLE





















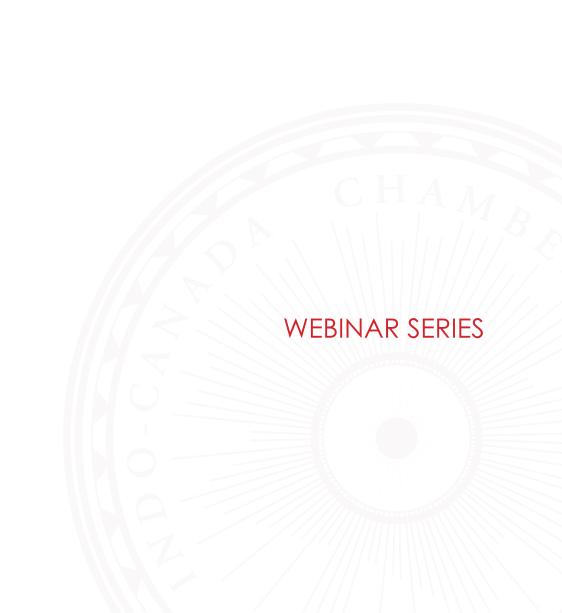












#### WEBINAR SERIES





#### THURSDAY TALKS | LEADERS TALK | KNOWLEDGE ON THE GO

When Covid-19 pandemic compelled governments to impose lockdowns, Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce was forced to cancel its programs. To continue engaging our stakeholders and sponsors, but primarily to meet the demand for information of our small business owner members about the pandemic, the impact of the lockdown on their businesses, and information about different government assistance programs, we launched a weekly webinar series – Thursday Talks.

The purpose of these webinars was to help small business owners understand the impact of the pandemic on different sectors. We invited sector experts as panelists and engaged them in lively discussions. The demand for the webinar series was so overwhelming that after the first two webinars, we had to open the access to the webinars on Facebook Live, where, on an average, over 2,000 people routinely participate as an active audience, asking questions, leaving comments, and more significantly, networking virtually through social media.

Creating networking opportunities is one of the goals of the Chamber, and to be able to do so even during the pandemic and the lockdown was a singular achievement. We branched out into a web series called Knowledge on the Go, where we explored sectors that are growing quietly and acquiring a strong presence in the Canadian economy, such as cannabis, alternative energy, the ethnic media, cybersecurity and paywalls. To get firsthand information from the government, we also invited decisionmakers to discuss reopening plans and schedules, and assistance to small businesses.







#### WEBINAR SERIES







The Leaders Talk series has featured Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Ontario's Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction; Hon. Lisa MacLeod, Ontario's Minister of Heritage, Sports, Tourism and Cultural Industries; Mayors Bonnie Crombie (Mississauga) and Patrick Brown (Brampton).

Then, we branched out into the bilateral sphere and invited Minister Mary Ng, Canada's Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade to interact with Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, India's Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Commerce and Industry and Housing and Urban Affairs to discuss bilateral trade.

Later, Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and International Trade, Vic Fedeli interacted with Uttar Pradesh's Minister of MSME, Khadi & Village Industries Sidharth Nath Singh at the Ontario-Uttar Pradesh Trade and Investment Collaboration Initiative.













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#### NEW INITIATIVES

#### **IBD STRATEGY**

ICCC joined hands with Toronto Business Development Centre (TBDC) to prepare a comprehensive international business development strategy. The ICCC received a CanExport grant to conduct the IBD Strategy.

The IBD Strategy is envisaged to be a document that outlines the ICCC's strategic vision and logical plan about the export markets the ICCC considers as a priority. The ICCC and TBDC, through Leading System Consultant Inc., a



market research consulting firm, plan to work with ICCC's membership, source third-party information, and prepare an IBD strategy that would be submitted to the Ministry of International Trade.

The IBD Strategy Development process would entail the following measures:

- Membership Survey
   Consultations:
   Market Research
   Public Report Launch
- Seek Board Approval
   Draft IBD Strategy:

The collaboration had also envisaged a virtual cleantech mission to India in February 2021, which has had to be postponed by a year because of inadequate response stemming from the uncertainties that have enveloped the global business because of Covid-19.

#### TOGETHER 2021

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce is collaborating with Schulich School of Business on Together 2021, an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp & Venture Competition being held from 4 to 10 January 2021. The program brings together Schulich School of Business in Toronto and Hyderabad, Startup India.

The benefits of the initiative include:

- · Inspiring and empowering the next wave of Indian Student Entrepreneurs & innovators
- Deeply connect India's Innovation Ecosystem with Toronto's Innovation Ecosystem
- Expand connections between innovation leaders in Toronto and India.
- Profile India as the place for strategic collaboration and global market expansion opportunities
- Connect top student and tech talent from India to leaders and aspiring entrepreneurs

#### The program comprises

• Student Entrepreneur Pairs • India as the Primary Market • Self Reliability, Sustainability & Social Purpose • Schulich/Lassonde @YorkU • Elite Mentoring & Coaching.







YEAR IN REVIEW 2019- 2020

#### WELCOME & FAREWELL

03 July 2019 FAREWELL RECEPTION TO DINESH BHATIA

We bid farewell to Amb. Dinesh Bhatia, Consul General of India in Toronto at the Edward Village Hotel. Amb. Bhatia was to take charge India's Ambassador to Argentina. In his address he applauded the role of the ICCC in fostering India Canada relations since over four decades. He said that he attended over 70% of the ICCC's events in the last three years which promoted business and commercial relations with India. ICCC builds the brand



India in Canada and works closely with the CG office to promote Canada in India as well.

28 October 2019
WELCOME RECEPTION TO APOORVA SRIVASTAVA

We organised a welcome reception in the honour of the new Consul General Apoorva Srivastava. The reception was attended by senior members of the Chamber, leading sponsors and stakeholders, along with the board of directors, and the advisory board members of the Chamber. Ms. Srivastava took charge as the Consul General of India in Toronto in August 2019, and since then has been active in her community outreach. She is a career diplomat, having joined the Indian



Foreign Service in 2001. The Consulate General of India in Toronto is an important stakeholder of ICCC.

27 August 2020 FAREWELL TO SAIFULLAH KHAN

We organised a farewell reception in the honour of the outgoing Commercial Consul Saifullah Khan, who was leaving for his posting in Fiji after serving Toronto for three years. Pramod Goyal, ICCC's President, lauded Mr. Khan as an affable diplomat who believes in working in the background and shun limelight. In 2019 alone, the ICCC and the Commercial Section of the Consulate jointly hosted three important delegations from India. Mr. Khan thanked the ICCC for making his tenure in Toronto so successful.



25 July KUNDAN JOSHI

Kundan Joshi, Founder and CEO of the AppLabb, a former Vice President and Director of the ICCC, and the initiator of the immensely popular Chai with CEO series, kicked-off the event by sharing his success story as a serial entrepreneur. Kundan is a well-known community leader, avid youth mentor, passionate start-up advisor, and active advocate for new immigrants. TheAppLabb has created apps for top brands. TheAppLabb



received the 2019 Top Mobile App Developer Award for Canada and U.S. and 2019 Top 3 Al Developer Award by Clutch.

26 September 2019 REETU GUPTA

Reetu Gupta, the President and CEO of the Easton's Group of Hotels, Canada's largest private hotel development firm was the second CEO to be featured at the Chai with CEO networking session. Reetu spoke of creating and seizing opportunities and to utilize one's talent for social activism. After graduating from the Schulich School of Business, Reetu's career quickly progressed from Executive Director to becoming President & CEO in 2018.



In 2012 Reetu created and launched The Gupta Group – the residential real estate arm of the company consisting of high-rise condo multiuse developments.

17 October 2019 PRIYA DHAWAN CHAHAL

For members of ICCC's YPE Committee it was an absolute pleasure listening to Priya Dhawan-Chahal, District VP, Midtown Toronto speak on her journey in financial services at Chai with CEO event. With extensive experience in customer experience, business development, and strategy, she is determined to take Scotiabank to new heights. As a program champion for the Scotiabank Women Initiative, she is now helping women take their

OUNG PROFENTERS

businesses to the next level through access to capital, support from senior business leaders, and education tailored to their individual needs.

#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

02 November 2019 ICCC - IIT AC

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and IIT Alumni Canada signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the IIT Alumni Canada's Annual Gala. The MoU establishes the principles and the basis for increased cooperation between ICCC and IITAC to strengthen the strategic partnership for the purpose of maximizing the benefits from our mutual interests. The MoU was signed by Pramod Goyal, President, Indo-Canada



Chamber of Commerce, and Ashraf Ali, President of the IIT Alumni Canada. Surinder Sharma, VP & Director, Membership Engagement, ICCC, who is senior member of IIT-AC brought the two organisations together.

15 January 2020 ICCC - ICAI

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and the Toronto Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The purpose of this MoU is to establish the principles and the basis for increased cooperation between ICCC and TCICAI with to strengthen the strategic partnership to maximize the benefits from mutual interests. Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC, and Dweep Mehta, Chairman, TCICAI signed the MoU on behalf of their respective



organisations. Dharma P Jain, former President of ICCC, and active at the ICAI-Toronto brought the two organisations together.

02 June 2020 ICCC - CBRN

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce has joined Canadian Chamber of Commerce's Canadian Business Resilience Network (CBRN). The Canadian Chamber established CBRN to bring together a vast network of over 450 chambers of commerce and boards of trade, as well as over 100 business and industry associations to help the business community prepare, persevere and prosper as we collectively face the COVID-19 pandemic.



22 August 2019

TPCI: B2B MEETINGS & BUSINESS RECEPTION

More than 30 Indian companies from agriculture, food processing and F&B sector led by the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) participated in B2B meeting organised by the ICCC. Five to eight one-on-one meetings for the Indian companies were organised. The program included an inauguration session, B2B meetings and a business reception. Acting CG Saifullah Khan inaugurated the program. Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC, and



members of the board of the Chamber, participated in the inauguration ceremony, which included a walk through by Mr. Khan to know the needs of the visiting delegation.

09 September 2019

FIEO: B2B MEETINGS & BUSINESS RECEPTION

ICCC organised B2B meetings for a trade delegation led by the Federation of Indian Exporters Organisation from India. The delegation comprised 13 companies from India from diverse sectors such as engineering, garments, food & beverages and furniture. Ms. Apoorva Srivastava, the new Consul General of India in Toronto, along with ICCC President, Pramod Goyal inaugurated the B2B meetings. Mr. Saifullah Khan, the Commercial Consul, at



the Consulate General, was also present along with other diplomatic and government organisations.

10 – 13 October 2019 INDIA SHOW

For the first time ever, India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), a Government of India Enterprise, with the support of the Consulate General of India in Toronto, brought to Canada, – India Show, at The International Centre, Mississauga. Speaking at the inauguration भारत of the program, Apoorva Srivastava, the

Consul General of India in Toronto, said the organising of such a show was important because it would lead to bigger programs in the future. As a partner organisation, ICCC organised B2B meetings for the Indian companies.



#### MEETING WITH DIPLOMATIC CORPS

13 September 2020 HIGH COMMISSIONER & CONSUL GENERAL

The Executive Committee of the ICCC met His Excellency Ajay Bisaria, High Commissioner of India to Canada, and Ms. Apoorva Srivastava, Consul General of India in Toronto in downtown Toronto when the High Commissioner visited Toronto in September. The High Commissioner lauded the efforts undertaken by the ICCC and suggested that it take an active role in promoting small businesses. The ICCC Executive Team and the Indian diplomats



discussed the different ways in which the ICCC can promote and enhance bilateral trade. Pramod Goyal spoke of ICCC's role in fostering bilateral trade, and creating business opportunities for Indo-Canadians.

22 September 2020 COMMERCIAL CONSUL

ICCC board members Surinder Sharma, Vijay Thomas, Don Patel and Vikas Sharma met Shuban Krishen, the new Consul, Commercial, Consulate General of India in Toronto to discuss areas of cooperation and collaboration. The new Commercial Consul outlined the following priorities of the Commercial section:

- Focus on promoting India's trade, technology, and tourism.
- · Focus on promoting India's image as an

alternate and reliable low-cost manufacturing destination in the post-pandemic scenario as companies seek to de-risk manufacturing value chains from over-dependence on a single location.



ICCC's Board of Directors discussed different ways of collaborating with the Consulate General of India Toronto during a WebEx meeting with Consul General Apoorva Srivastava and Commercial Consul Saifullah Khan. CG Apoorva Srivastava lauded the ICCC's role in enhancing trade between India and Canada. "We look forward to closer interaction with the Chamber." She said the focus for India is Trade, Technology, Tourism.





27 September 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2019 Annual General Meeting was attended by nearly 80 members, a majority of whom participated in a discussion on all the agenda items including an update on sale of the building by the President, and financials by Mr. Abu Becker & Mr. Sanjay Kulkarni. Many past presidents, vice presidents, and board members participated in the meeting. Mr. Pramod Goyal and Mr. Tauseef Sheikh were re-elected on the board for another term. Additionally, the following four new directors were elected to the board: Mr. Arvind Bhardwaj, Mr. Surinder Sharma, Mr. Vijay Thomas and Mr. Sanjay Kulkarni.

03 December 2019 SPECIAL GENERAL MEET

An overwhelming 84 percent of members of the ICCC who voted at the Special General Body meeting on 03 December approved of the appointment of the following directors.

- Pramod Goyal Tauseef Sheik Sanjay Kulkarni Surinder Sharma
- Vijay Thomas
   Arvind Bhardwaj
   Don Patel
   Virender Rathi





#### 03 July 2020 MEETING WITH GT20

We organized a meeting with Cosmos Sports and Entertainment, the organisers of the GT20 short-form cricket tournament in Toronto. The meeting was held exclusively for select members of the ICCC and was meant to discuss investment opportunities in the GT20 tournament franchise that Cosmos is planning to expand to different Canadian cities. Cary Kaplan, President of Cosmos, spoke of the tremendous opportunities expected to arise



in cricket in Canada. Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC, emphasized ICCC's role in promoting such programming and thereby helping organizations create awareness, gain audience and popularity.

#### 04 July 2019 FAD DIETS VS HEALTHY HABITS

Modern day life is full of long hours of work, mental stress, physical fatigue and less hours to sleep, which adversely impact human health. To be on top of everything, one should be healthy with sound mind. To address these issues, the ICCC organised an interactive session on Fad Diets vs Healthy Habits. The speakers included Sunita Mohan, Homeopathic Doctor, Metabolic Balance Coach, Holistic Nutritionist and coauthor of family cookbook, "Feed Me... I'm Hungry;" Anjali Dua, a Registered Dietitian and



Certified Diabetes Educator; and Reema Sarin a Certified Yoga Teacher, an avid practitioner of Yoga.

# 21 July WALK FOR CANCER

Nearly 1 in 2 Canadians are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. The ICCC's Women Entrepreneurs and Professionals (WEP) committee organized Walk for Cancer to raise funds to donate to the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS). Mini Khurana, Chair WEP Committee, welcomed the guests. Anu Kalra, member WEP Committee, said that the CCS is the only national charity that supports Canadians in communities across



the country. Reema Sarin, renowned yoga teacher, prepared participant for Walk for Cancer.

### 27 July 2019 IMPACT OF TARIFF CONFLICT ON GLOBAL TRADE

Rising trade tensions between the United States and China have impacted the global economy adversely and resulted in an overall shrinkage of global trade by 2.3 percent. With the tensions unlikely to dissipate in the near-term, the World Bank expects the global economy to grow by just 2.6% this year – the weakest since financial crisis of 2008-2009.

Royce Mendes, the Director and Senior Economist of CIBC Capital Markets, in his annual presentation on the global economic trends, emphasized that the impact of the trade tensions between two of the world's largest economies will also be felt on the Canadian economies; already China has stopped the imports of some agricultural commodities claiming that these are contaminated. The tariff war between the US and China has crossed \$360 billion – with US tariffs on China crossing over \$250 billion and Chinese counter tariff crossing \$110 billion. He said that the consumer debt will remain a perennial





pressure point for Canadians, but they are unlikely to get into a payment default ever.

# 14 August 2019 VIP RECEPTION FOR SURESH PRABHU

The ICCC and the Consulate General of India in Toronto organized a VIP reception for Suresh Prabhu, India's Sherpa to G7. Prabhu was visiting Canada as the official emissary of India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi to prepare the official agenda of the Government of India on key issues for G7 and G20 Summit.

Mr. Prabhu projected India's growth potential in the next five years. One of the most significant



aspects of the Indian growth story is the focus on infrastructure and how that will transform the Indian economy into a three trillion-dollar colossus. Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC, emphasized the pivotal role that the Chamber has been playing over the last 43 years to foster bilateral trade between Canada and India. He also said that the Chamber constantly endeavours to create opportunities for Indo-Canadians in their business and professional spheres.

#### 29 August 2019 ICCC SMALL BUSINESS EXPO & SYMPOSIUM



His Worship Frank Scarpitti, Mayor of Markham, and Hon. Mary Ng, Canada's Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion inaugurated the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce's (ICCC) Small Business Symposium and Expo 2019 at Markham's Civic Centre on 29 August 2019.

Mayor Scarpitti emphasized the business-friendly policies that Markham has adopted and how the City administration encouraged small business owners from diverse ethnicities thrive. Minister Ng congratulated the ICCC for organizing the symposium and the expo. She said ICCC's support to small businesses is important because small business owners from diverse ethnic backgrounds often do know how to tap into the available resources to succeed, and organisations such as the ICCC fill that gap admirably.

The symposium included two panel discussions on

- Business growth challenges and opportunities facing small businesses and
- Information Technology SMB's Enabler for a Level Playing Field: Growing business through technology

B.K. Sethi, Director, Small Business, ICCC, moderated the first panel discussion on business growth. The eminent panelists included Emel Iscan Demir, Manager, Major Accounts, Business Development Bank of Canada; Christina Kakaflikas, Manager, Economic Development, City of Markham; and Karl Maiterth, Manager, Export Marketing Unit, Ontario Food Exports.

Vinod Vyas, Founder and Senior Partner, Partho Technologies Inc. moderated the second panel discussion on IT and SMBs. The panelists included Baskaran Rajamani, Partner, Risk Advisory, Deloitte Canada; Anil Dasaratha, Director Sales, Wipro Limited; Akshay Kalle, CTO, Pathways Communications; and Ahmed Adel, Azure PMM Manager in Microsoft Canada.

Over 20 small businesses participated in the Expo displaying their products and services.

# 08 October 2019 INTERACTIVE SESSION: VIKAS GAUTAM

We organised an invitation-only interactive session with Mr. Vikas Gautam, Chief Executive Officer, Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management Company Ltd. Mr. Gautam spoke on the Indian economy and emphasised that despite claims of a slowdown, the economy has inherent resilience and is continuing on the high growth trajectory. Mr. Gautam spearheads the global business at Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management Company Ltd (ABSLAMC).



In January 2018, Sun Life Global Investments completed the purchase of Excel Funds Management Inc. and Excel Investment Counsel Inc.

#### 17 – 19 October 2019 VIBRANT GOA

Vijay Thomas, Director, International Trade & Information Technology, ICCC, led a delegation to Vibrant Goa Global Expo and Summit 2019 (VG GES 2019). The prime focus was inclusive development in innovation, sustainability, industries, technology, youth and skill development, knowledge sharing and networking. VG GES 2019 showcased all the developments, newer projects and vision of growth. The knowledge summit aimed to



bridge the gap between Goan industries and other national, international players. ICCC Members including Gurcharan Kandra, Vinod Vyas, Indu Reddy, Kalpesh Joshi were part of the delegation.

# 18 October 2019 GLOBALSOFT 2020: BUSINESS RECEPTION

Nalin Kohli, Chairperson of Globalsoft gave a presentation on Globalsoft 2020 exhibition that is scheduled to be held in Hyderabad in February 2020. He gave insights into the Indian IT sector and the trillion-dollar opportunities in the new and promising areas of Cyber Security, Smart Cities, Health IT, Fintech, Online Education, Analytics, and E-Commerce and other subsectors. Indiasoft is the annual flagship event of the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC),



supported by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

### 21 November 2019 CANADIAN TCS & CANEXPORT SME

Sue Rauth, Deputy Director and Amit Ranjan, Trade Commissioner, both from the Regional Office of the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) addressed members and guests of the ICCC on the services offered. Their presentation, 'Programs and Services of the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service, provided a perspective for entrepreneurs to explore the global markets. TCS provides services at no cost to qualified clients. The selection criteria is simple and involves



companies who have developed an export plan; have selected and researched their target market.

06 December 2019
WEALTH MANAGEMENT & TAX STRATEGIES

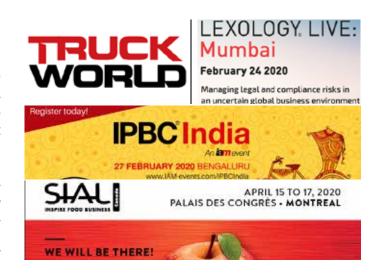
Rakesh Vijay, Senior Wealth Manager and Trevor R Parry, Senior Tax and Estate Planning Advisor at Raymond James made a presentation on Wealth Management and Tax Strategies. The audience comprised a select group of members and guests including high net worth investors and advisers. Rakesh Vijay spoke on the Benefits of Fee Based Accounts versus Buying Mutua Funds and Trevor Parry spoke about Tax Challenges and Superior



Solutions for Your Business. Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC, said, "Today's session is our effort to bring quality programming that adds value to their strong and continuing association with us."

06 February 2020 COLLABORATES WITH GLOBAL TRADE SHOWS

The ICCC collaborated with TRUCKWORLD 2020, SIAL Canada, and Law Business Research (LBR). "We are delighted to announce these tie-ups with three of the most prominent trade shows – two in Canada and one in India," said Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC. TruckWorld and SIAL Canada shows were postponed because of Covid-19. We collaborated with LBR to promote three events in India between late February 2019 and mid-March 2020: •Lexology Live •Brand Strategy India •IPBC India



### 02 March 2020 INDIAN DELEGATION AT PDAC

Consulate General of India and the ICCC jointly hosted a business networking reception for the Government of India delegation participating in the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) at the Ontario Investment and Trade Centre. Mr. Somnath Mishra, Managing Director, IAS, Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited, led the Indian delegation comprising over 20 public and private sector companies. Pramod Goyal, ICCC President



emphasized the strong bilateral relations between Canada and India in the sector.





Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce in collaboration with the Consulate General of India organised a seminar and a panel discussion on the Indian budget on Tuesday 26 February 2020. Road Map to a New India: Indian Budget 2020-21 drew unprecedented enthusiastic response from the members of the ICCC and invited guests.

In her keynote address, Apoorva Srivastava, the Consul General of India in Toronto, emphasised the people-first approach of the Indian budget. "Infrastructure, social welfare and agriculture are the main focus of the budget," she said.

The presenters included Vandana Kumar, Joint secretary, Government of India; Arvind Vijh, Director, Deloitte, Canada; Chetan Sehgal, Partner, BDO Canada. Kumar said the Indian government is working 24X7 to ensure that the momentum that the Indian economy has acquired in the last five years, continues and the recent slowdown is tackled. Vijh explained the new provisions introduced in the budget that are aimed at both easing regulations and spurring investments. Sehgal spoke about the new provisions that affect the Non-Resident Indian community. These pertain to by changing the benchmark from 182 days to 120 days.

#### ICCC MOURNS

02 August 2019 HON. DEEPAK OBHRAI

We deeply mourned the passing away of Hon. Deepak Obhrai (1950 – 2019), Member of Parliament from Calgary Forest Lawn. Hon. Obhrai was a great leader of the Indo-Canadian community. He was the longest serving Member of Parliament in the House of Commons, never having lost an election in over two decades. In a statement released in Toronto, Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC, said, "Our Chamber and our community has lost a



dear friend who dedicated his life to the community. Hon. Deepak Obhrai's untimely death has taken away a shining star from the Canadian public life."

18 October 2019 HARJIT SINGH KALSI

Harjit Singh Kalsi (1953 – 2019), former Vice President and Director of Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce passed away on 18 October following a complicated surgery at Toronto General Hospital. Mr. Kalsi was actively involved with the Chamber for over two decades. "Harjit was always active and believed in upholding the sanctity of the organisation," said Pramod Goyal, President, ICCC. "His untimely passing is tragic. On



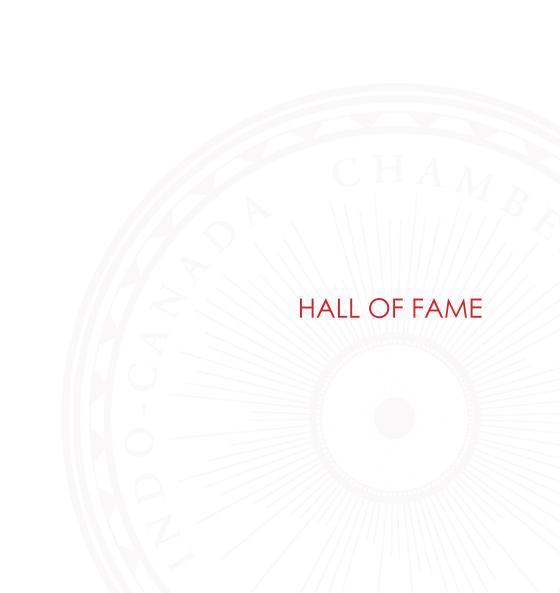
behalf of the Chamber, I offer sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family." In his 66th year, he was beloved husband of Kiran and adoring father of sons Baljit, Jaspal and Ajit.

23 October 2019 KANT BHARGAVA

We mourned the passing away of Amb. (Retd.) Kant Bhargava, IFS, (1934 – 2019) on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019. He served Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce as Senior Advisor from 2004 to 2015. He was active with the Indo Canadian Community and was instrumental in many ICCC's initiative to foster Canada India trade and commerce relations. He was a great friend and guide of the Chamber. He served chamber as a member and received the Member of the Year award in 2014 for his



contribution to the progress of Indo Canadian Community.

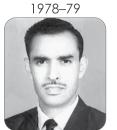


### **ICCC PAST PRESIDENTS**

1977-78 & 1979-80



Kishore C. Doshi



Homi Billimoria



Mike Flecker



Bakul Joshi



Ramesh Chotai (Acting)

1986-87

1982-83



Harshad Patel



Suresh Goswamy



Vinu Vasani



Picture Not Available



Rajeev Rasik Jain Morzaria

1987-89



Sat P. Chopra



Benny Lobo



Ajit Someshwar



Manoj Pundit



Hari Panday

1996-98



Raj Kothari



Ravi Seethapathy



Rakesh Goenka



Kris Krishnan



Pradeep Sood

### ICCC PAST PRESIDENTS





Ajit Khanna



2007-08

1

Sunil Jagasia





Asha Luthra

2010-11



Vinay Nagpal



Satish Thakkar

2012-2014



Naval Bajaj

2014-2015



Dharma P. Jain

2015-2016



Sanjay Makkar

2016-2017



Arun Srivastava

2017-2018



Kanwar Dhanjal

27 Sep - 3 Dec, 2018



Pranav Patel

2018-20



Pramod Goyal

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Shan Chandrasekar



Ranjit Kumar Chandra



Prasanta Basu



Poddar



Sudi Devanesan



Nalini Stewart



Herb Dhaliwal



Bhausaheb Ubale



Ujjal Dossanjh



Balbir S. Sahni



Dhalla



C. Sen Gelda



M. N. Srikanta Swamy



Chandrakant P. Shah



Ben Sennik



Budhendranauth Doobay

106



Ashok Vijh & Ratna Ghosh



Suresh Thakrar



Baljit Chadha

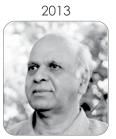


H. Rayadu Koka

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Pawan Singal



Jagannath Wani



Aditya Jha



Venkatesh Mannar



Dr. Virendra Jha



Pradeep Sood



Dr. Sadhna Joshi



Dr. V. I. Lakshmanan



Arjun (Andy) Jasuja



### **HUMANITARIAN AWARD**



Kappu Desai



Nurajehan N. Mawani



Sunera Thobani



Vim Kochar



Keshav Chandaria



Bonnie & Fred



Anup Singh Jubbal



Bhadur Madhani



Cassim Degani



Shiv L. Jindal



Hussein Kanji



Shree Mulay



Gary Singh



Abhijit Guha



Rahul Singh



T.D. Dwivedi



Vivian S. Rambihar



Terry Papneja



Gagan Bhalla



Meenu Sikand

### **HUMANITARIAN AWARD**



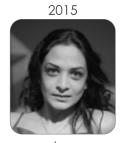
Chandrakant Sachdev



Chandrasekhar Sankurathri



Kishor Modha



Jag Parmar



Mina Mawani



Haresh (Mike) Mehta



Surinder Sharma



Jabeen Boga

2016- Not Awarded



### FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARD





Deepa Mehta



Seema Narula



Nilufer Mama



Neena Kanwar



Razia Nathani–Suleman



Afsana Amarsy



Dhun Noria



Rani Advani



Rashmi Rekha



Manishi Sagar



Nina Gupta



Anita Gupta



Lisa Mattam



Pravina Budhdev



Raj Girn



Sarab Hans



Nisha Amin



Geeta Sankappanavar



Balwinder Takhar

# FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARD







Sukhdeep Kang

\* 2020- Not Awarded



### MALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARD



Santokh Singh



Om Arora



Rai Sahi



Asa Johal



Navin Chandaria



Surjit S. Babra



K.C. Vasudeva



Madan Bhayana



Krishan Singhal



Kashmiri Lal Sood



Steve Gupta



Bill Malhotra



Mussady



Dhillon



R. K. Bakshi



Gyan Chand Jain



Bhim D. Asdhir



Vikas Gupta



Soham Ajmera



Pyarali Nanji

## MALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARD



Raman Agarwal



Harpreet Sethi



Sujay Shah



Sanjeev Sethi



Prashant Pathak



Karnail Singh Sidhu



Ray Gupta



Suneet Singh Tuli



Ambrish Thakkar



Sachindra Jain



### MALE PROFESSIONAL AWARD



Trichy



Haroon Sidiqqui



Sabi Marwah



Kunjar Sharma



Salim Yusuf



Sankaran



Clarence J. Chandrani



Rama Bhatt



Ramachandra Munikoti



Ramesh Khosla



Vern Krishna



Salim Daya



Virendra K. Jha



Tad Murty



Asit K. Biswas



Raj Anand



Gopal Bhatnagar



Vivek Rao



Prabhat Jha



Subodh Verma

# MALE PROFESSIONAL AWARD











Deep Saini

Manjul Bhargava

Dr. Samir Sinha



Anil Arora



Dr. Rajiv Midha



Sudhir Anand



Jagdish Butany



### FEMALE PROFESSIONAL AWARD





116

Neeru Gupta \* 2018- Not Awarded



Ritu Bhasin



Indra Narang



Ena Chadha



Sonia

2004

Suhana

Meharchand

Shanthi Johnson



Ananya Mukherjee

### TECHNOLOGY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD











Chanchalani

Sethi

Aditya Jha

Dipak Roy







Nishith Goel



Karan Sher Singh



Jamal Deen



Harinder Pal Singh Ahluwalia







Raja Singh Tuli



Suneet Singh Tuli



Nilesh Bansal



Alok Goel

Rajiv Manucha



Kundan Joshi



Parth Patel



Vijay Thmoas

## YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARD



Rochan Sankar



Akaash Maharaj



Manisha Bharti



Aashna Patel



Sanjay Nath



Aziz Hurzook



**Emmanuel** Sandhu



Dilnaz Panjwani



Anita Gahir



Manisha Bawa



Ansari

2008



Rahul Raj



Manjit Minhas



Ravi Sood



Ankit Kapur



Asha Suppiah



Suraj Kumar Gupta



Guru Gobind Singh Children's Foundation



Jasmeet Sidhu



Aakash Sahney

# YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARD



Bilaal Rajan



Sapna Shah



Aaron Joshua Pinto



Nikhil Seetharam



Hargurdeep Singh



Avish Sood



Aditya Mohan



Sameer Sharma



Abhishek Jain



Ananya Chadha



Jonita Gandhi



### MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Raymond Christian



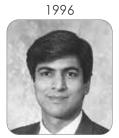
Gordan Pohani



Hira Joshi



Reema Duggal



Rajiv Bhatnagar



Ravi Seethapathy



Pradeep Sood



Rashmi Brahmbhatt



Rakesh Goenka



Suresh Thakrar



All ICCC Members



Sampat Poddar



Sudarshan Jagannathan



Anil Shah



Young Professionals (YP) Committee



Geetha Ramesh



Rina Gill



Surinder (Pal) Ghumman



Satish Thakkar



Harjit Kalsi

### MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Ruby Sohi



Davy Sohi



Kasi Rao



Women Entrepreneurs & Professionals (WEP) Committee



Kant Bhargava



Indira Singh



Avinash Mehra



Nareshkumar Chavda



Jatinder Bawa



Chirag Shah



Dharma P. Jain



B. K. Sethi





### PRESIDENT'S AWARD











Amar Erry

Jain

Rajiv Bhatia

Menaka Thakkar

Rohinton Mistry



Firoz Rasul



Maria Minna



Mobina Jaffer



Colin D'Cunha



Ramesh Chotai



Ratna Omidvar



Rajesh Subramaniam



Subha Rajan (Tampi)



Gary M. Comerford



Asha Seth



Harinder Takhar



Vasu Chanchlani



Preeti Saran



Stewart Beck

# PRESIDENT'S AWARD

2014



Jason Kenney

2015



Mayor Frank Scarpitti

2016



Bharat Masrani

2018



Roseann O'Reilly Runte



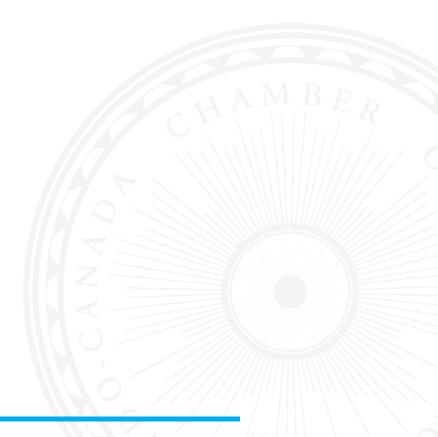
Deepak Obhrai

2020



Hon. Mary Ng

\* 2017- Not Awarded



### CORPORATE EXECUTIVE AWARD



Nadir Mohamed



Masrani



Kishore Kapoor



Hari Panday



Zabeen Hirji



Nitin Kawle



Sriram lyer



Deepak Chopra



Sanjay Tugnait



Asim Ghosh



Pavi Binning



Peter Dhillon



Atul Tiwari



Ajai Bambawale



Goldy Hyder



# PARTNERS IN SUCCESS

### PARTNERS IN SUCCESS

### **IN CANADA**











Ontario Trucking Association



### **IN INDIA**

















Goa Chamber of Commerce & Industry

### PARTNERS IN SUCCESS











Middlesex Asian Business Association



Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre



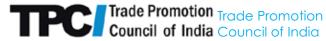






Small & Medium Business Development Chamber of India

















Grow. Engage. Prosper.





















### Your Partner in Success since 1977

### **Milestones**

1977: 12 March - ICCC Founded as an Association

1993: Introduced the Annual Awards Gala

1993: RBC became the first corporate sponsor

1995: Incorporated as a Not-for-Profit organization

1997: Hon. Paul Martin, Finance Minister, attends the ICCC Annual Gala

2007: The Right Hon. Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada,

attends the ICCC Annual Gala

2008: Asha Luthra is elected as the first woman President of the ICCC

2011: The Right Hon. David Johnston, Governor General of Canada,

and Hon. Dalton McGunity, Premier of Ontario attend PBD Canada 2011,

the convention of and for the Indian Diaspora

**2012:** Government of India honours ICCC with the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award – India's highest honour for overseas organisation

2014: Chamber acquired it's own Headquarters in Toronto

2017: Canada India Business Symposium – First Inbound Business Mission with about 150 Companies

2019: Established First Overseas Chapter of ICCC at New Delhi, India First Ever participation in Largest Food Show - SIAL

5 Trade Missions – 3 inbound and 2 Outbound

2020: Massive Virtual Exposure - Webinar Series

Social Media outreach >20,000 for individual programs







# TIME TO MEET AGAIN

Have a healthy journey with all precautions taken down to the smallest detail for your in-flight safety.

TURKISH AIRLINES

