



## CIF Luncheon Reception with John McCallum



Canada India Foundation (CIF) organized a Luncheon Reception for Canada's former Immigration Minister John McCallum. John, a senior liberal parliamentarian served as a Minister of Immigration, Minister of National Revenue, Minister of Veterans Affairs, Minister of National Defence as well as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance. He is now going to China as Canada's Ambassador.

CIF board members thanked John for his remarkable service to Canada and the warmth he has shown to Canada-India relations.

## CIF meets Immigration Minister Ahmed Hussen



Canada India Foundation met with Canada's Minister for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Mr. Ahmed Hussen at his constituency office in Toronto. Mr. Anil Shah, Ramesh Chotai and Vipul Jani represented CIF. Several issues regarding Canada-India relations were discussed and CIF also invited the Minister to the upcoming CIF Global Indian Award Gala in April.

## CIF meets CG Dinesh Bhatia



Canada India Foundation met with India's Consul General to Toronto Mr. Dinesh Bhatia at his office. CIF briefed him about the work we are doing, our activities this year as well as various issues regarding Canada and India. Anil Shah, Ajit Someshwar, Ramesh Chotai and Vipul Jani represented CIF at the meeting.

## CIF meets Dr. Subhash Chandra



Canada India Foundation had a very warm and friendly meeting with CIF India Chair Dr. Subhash Chandra at his home in Mumbai. Ajit Someshwar and Vipul Jani briefed Dr. Subhash Chandra about CIF's activities for this year and how to further expand CIF's reach as well as bringing the political and business leaders of both nations closer. Dr. Subhash Chandra was the recipient of CIF Global Indian Award 2016 and was briefed about the Gala this year with Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla receiving the Award on April 21 this year.

## CIF Lecture with Chief Ava Hill & Minister David Zimmer



Canada India Foundation Speaker Series was launched last year and now we are ready with the 3rd lecture. This time we will have not one, but two speakers. Ava Hill, Chief of Six Nations of the Grand River as well as Mr. David Zimmer, Ontario's Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation will discuss issues regarding Canada's indigenous people.

The 2 hour lectures, including live audience Q & A, will take place on Friday, March 31 from 5.30 to 8.00 pm at Sheridan College, Mississauga. To participate in this free event, send us an e-mail by March 23 at : vipul@canadaindiafoundation.com



## CIF Member Recognitions



### Bhim Asdhir

Excel high income fund has received the 2016 Fundgrade A+ Award. This award is presented annually to Canadian Investment Funds and their managers who have shown consistent, outstanding, risk-adjusted performance throughout an entire calendar year.

“ Throughout the past year, Excel High Income Fund has been recognized each month for outperforming its peers and to be presented with this A+ award from Fundata, following a year that was filled with so many surprises for global investors, is really an impressive feat “ said Bhim Asdhir, President & CEO of Excel Funds (and a senior member for Canada India Foundation) at the Annual Fundgrade A+ Awards ceremony held at the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Bhim’s company - Excel Funds Management Inc. is a multiple Lipper Fund Award winner specializing in emerging markets. CIF congratulates Bhim for yet another feather in his cap. For more information : [www.excelfunds.com](http://www.excelfunds.com)

### Hema Bhatt

Hema Bhatt, a Canada India Foundation member from Vancouver is the talk of the town in B.C., as her company Natu’ Oil Services Inc. has been awarded Business of the Year 2016 (11-30 employees) by the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce. The announcement was made at a Gala Dinner on January 28 at the Hardrock Casino.

The Business Excellence Awards were created to recognize outstanding businesses in the Tri-Cities (Vancouver) in 2005. This was the 12th year of the awards and Natu’ Oil Services Inc.’s inaugural year of participation. Congratulations Hema Bhatt. CIF is proud to have you as a member.



### Mukund Purohit

Mukund Purohit, a Canada India Foundation member received the highest honour conferred on overseas indians - the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award - at the recently concluded Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in Bengaluru (Karnataka) in January.

An 11 member jury-cum-awards committee, with Hon. Vice President as Chairman as well as nine other distinguished members from various walks of life chose the 30 winning candidates. Congratulations Mukund bhai. CIF is happy to see your work on the Canada-India file being recognized by the President of India through this prestigious award.



## Mayur Dave joins CIF



Mayur kumar Dave has joined Canada India Foundation as a new member of the board of governors. Mayur is Co-founder and Managing Director of C Shantilal Advisory Group Inc. and specializes in strategic advice for smart city planning and solutions.

A Mechanical Engineer by training, Mayur has a post-diploma in Business Administration and worked in the banking industry prior to starting his own niche Advisory business.

## Ticket Sales now open for CIF Gala 2017



*CIF Global Indian Award Gala is taking place at the International Conference Centre in Mississauga on Friday, April 21. This year’s award recipient is Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of the \$ 41 Billion Aditya Birla Group. CIF Global Indian Award Gala is one of the most high profile events with top tier CEOs and Political leaders attending it year after year.*

*The Gala tickets and table sales are now open. The Sponsorship opportunities are also open now. Call or e-mail Vipul Jani at : [vipul@canadaindiafoundation.com](mailto:vipul@canadaindiafoundation.com)*

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### Disclaimer:

This monthly, free, e-newsletter is produced by Canada India Foundation (CIF), a registered Non Profit Organization with an aim to provide meaningful communication between it’s own board of governors as well as with a larger audience of policy makers and industry leaders. Views expressed by Guest writers are their own and CIF does not necessarily agree with them. We do not claim to provide any advice on any subject. Similarly, we are not liable for any misrepresentation or misleading claims made by an advertiser. Content provided in this newsletter is for general information purpose only.

- Editor

## ICFO raises \$ 1 million for William Osler

Indo Canadian Friends of Osler (ICFO) organized a fundraiser for William Osler Health System's three hospitals in the Greater Toronto Area.

The event, led by Satish Thakkar (an Executive Committee member for Canada India Foundation) committed and raised one million dollars at a glittering Gala on Sunday, February 12 at the Pearson Convention Centre in Brampton.

Resources raised from "The Butterfly Soiree" will assist an eight member team from Osler to travel in March 2017 to participate in the CIF Health Summit in New Delhi on March 30-31.



## CIF participates in PBD / Vibrant Gujarat Summits

Canada India Foundation participated in the recently concluded Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) as well as Vibrant Gujarat Summits in Bengaluru (Karnataka) and Gandhinagar (Gujarat) respectively. During these summits, CIF members and executives met with several Chief Ministers, Federal Ministers and Mayors from India and discussed various issues related to Canada-India Bilateral relations.

CIF also met with the High Commissioner of Canada to India Mr. Nadir Patel, Senior Business Leaders as well as with leading organizations like FICCI. Efforts are now on to take these discussions to their logical conclusion. Stay tuned for some very exciting announcements soon.

## Happenings

- Leaders from Government, Business, Media and other fields from Canada & India participated at the World Economic Forum in Davos from January 17 to 20. Canada's Minister of International Trade Francois-Philippe Champagne met India's Minister of Commerce Nirmala Sitharaman, while Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains and the North American Head of India's Tata Consultancy Services Surya Kant discussed Innovation, Canada-India Collaboration and Investment.
- Minister of Canadian Heritage Melanie Joly met with Indian filmmaker Karan Johar during his participation in the cultural diversity panel.
- Canada's Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Amarjeet Sohi led a Canadian Delegation to the Vibrant Gujarat Summit in Gandhinagar (Gujarat) from January 10 to 13.
- Canadian companies participated at the Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata from January 20 to 21.
- Canadian companies, industry experts and trade officers showcased Canadian expertise in the Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector at the Canada Pavilion at the India Food Forum Expo in Mumbai from January 31 to February 02. The Canada Pavilion was supported by the Province of Ontario.
- Canadian companies will showcase Canadian Wood at the Canada Pavilion at the Delhi Wood Expo in Greater Noida (New Delhi) from March 01 to 04.
- Canada will display its Agriculture and Agri Food expertise at Aahar Food and Hospitality Fair in New Delhi from March 7 to 11.

(Source : Connect - Canada in India, High Commission of Canada, New Delhi)

## Indo Canadians and Canada :

### "A story of mutual love, respect & success"

.....By : Barj Dhahan

As we celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial this year, let us consider the role of Indo-Canadians in building one of the greatest democracies in the world.



From the blueberry and strawberry farms in British Columbia's fertile Fraser Valley to the Centre Block of Parliament in Ottawa, and from small town lumber mills to the large corporate headquarters in Toronto, Indo-Canadians occupy positions of leadership and influence. We are as Canadian as anyone else.

Pablo Picasso, one of the most influential artists of the 20th century, once said that "Action is the foundational key to all success." Starting with the adventuresome pioneers nearly one hundred and twenty years ago, we have been

working hard with unflinching determination to succeed in Canada. We stood up to the discriminatory immigration laws of the early 1900s. We challenged the notorious Continuous Passage Act which culminated with the infamous incident of the Komagata Maru in 1914. For nearly fifty long years we opposed and fought the systematic removal of our right to vote. Until 1947, we were barred from the professions of law, engineering and medicine, and prevented from owning property in certain parts of the country. Having overcome these barriers and obstacles, we have become an integral and dynamic part of the great Canadian mosaic - enriching the social, economic and political landscape of Canada.

Today we account for nearly twenty per cent of all legal professionals in the country. In fact, we are now lawmakers and judges. We serve on police boards and some are Chiefs of Police. From landowners to real estate developers, we dominate residential construction, trucking and logistics industries. We are taxi drivers and technologists. While we continue in the traditions of our pioneers as farmers and lumbermen, we are also teachers, mechanics, mathematicians, doctors and engineers. In British Columbia, Indo-Canadians grow over eighty percent of the berries and sixty percent of fruits. We are into food processing and technology start-ups.

We are knowledge workers and knowledge generators. We are Canadian Research Chairs and University Presidents. We are innovators and sustainable infrastructure designers and builders. From a village boy who became a Premier, to the many who are serving as Municipal Councillors, Provincial Legislators and Federal Cabinet Ministers, we are shaping Canada's politics, policies and programs affecting the daily lives of all Canadians.

Among us are Olympians, hockey and football players, comedians and entertainers, authors and journalists, broadcasters and film makers, movie stars and fashion models. In the world of finance and corporate board rooms, we are in prominent executive roles, including Chief Executive Officers of Canada Post and TD Bank. Indo-Canadians are leading the massive technological innovation taking place in the delivery of services.

Diwali, Vaisakhi and Eid are celebrated across Canada as are Christmas and Hanukah. The twin sisters of Yoga and Ayurveda, India's ancient pathways to healthcare are devotionally followed from Osoyoos to Oshawa. Hockey Night in Canada in Punjabi is an example of how far we have come. And today the President of Canada's most iconic brand Tim Hortons is a son of Indian immigrants. Are we successful? Absolutely ! Is Canada thriving? Without a doubt !

*(Barj Dhahan is President of Sandhurst Group of Companies, one of the largest Tim Hortons' Franchisees and Esso Dealers in British Columbia, and real estate developers. A past Chair of Canada India Foundation, Barj is also the co-founder for Canada India Education Society, a registered Canadian Charity, and the Dhahan Prize for Punjabi Literature. Barj is a certified Yoga teacher and a Motivational Speaker as well)*

## CIF hires a new Audit firm



Canada India Foundation has hired the services of SAV Associates Professional Corporation to do the Audit work for CIF. After carefully considering various other companies and proposals, SAV Associates were awarded this portfolio.

## Member Profile

**Anil Shah**



Anil Shah, a Chemical Engineer by profession and a Metal Trader at heart, is the President of Ni-Met Metals Inc. Ni-Met was incorporated in Toronto in 1990 to trade in Metals and Allied Industrial Raw materials. Anil founded another company - Margi Industrial Services Pvt. Ltd in Mumbai in 1983. After running it very successfully for 7 years, Anil migrated to Canada.

Ni-Met has offices in Canada, India, China, Thailand, Dubai, USA, Chile and UK and is now eyeing expansion in Sri Lanka.

A highly successful risk taker, Anil has an eye for opportunity and is a serial philanthropist. He was a member of the fund raising committee for Trillium Hospital (2002-2003), Co-chair for Trillium Hospital Foundation's Diwali Gala Dinner (2004 & 2009), Director - Trillium Health Centre Board (2004-2007), Board Member - Trillium Health Partners Foundation (since 2009), has been a member of the Golf Committee for Canadian Psychiatric Research Foundation, has raised and donated \$ 30,000 to the Polio Foundation, Ahmedabad (India), a member of the Canadian Cricket Association's fund raising sub committee and has donated significant amount of money towards a Hostel for underprivileged children in India through Aim for Sewa.

Anil is a founding member and the current National Convenor for Canada India Foundation. He is an avid Golfer and lives in Oakville. For more information : [www.anilshah.ca](http://www.anilshah.ca) (and) [www.ni-met.com](http://www.ni-met.com)

## Upcoming Events

### CIF Health Forum :

*Canada India Foundation is organizing a 2-Day bilateral Health Forum at Hotel ITC Maurya in New Delhi on March 30-31, 2017.*

### CIF Award Gala :

*CIF Global Indian Award Gala 2017 is taking place at International Conference Centre in Mississauga on April 21. This year's CIF Award Recipient is Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of the \$ 41 Billion Aditya Birla Group.*

### .. and a lot more

*CIF is working on several other high profile events and activities this year, including a Golf Tournament and a Canada-India Bilateral Conference. Stay tuned for more updates very soon.*



Know more about  
Canada India Foundation and  
the work we do.  
Visit us at [www.  
CanadaIndiaFoundation.com](http://www.CanadaIndiaFoundation.com)

# Canada India Foundation Global Indian Award Gala 2017

Date : April 21, 2017

Venue : International Conference Centre, Mississauga

### Award Recipient:

**Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla**  
Chairman, Aditya Birla Group

*Come, join CIF at one of the most anticipated,  
high profile events in the Indo-Canadian Business Community*

Meet, Network with the Movers and Shakers

Table Sales, Ticket Sales and Sponsorship Opportunities now open.



For more information, contact : Vipul Jani

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