



CIF E-Newsletter



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Chair's Message



Budget 2021 a Key Factor in Canada's Recovery

Hello Friends. We are just days away from the budget to be presented during this pandemic. A lot of hopes and aspirations of the people ride on this budget as it would set the tone and method for the economy going forward into not just year ahead, but at least a decade to come.

These are extremely difficult times for any government to formulate economic and monetary policy as we are not even sure what the prognosis is on the Covid-19 front even after a year of living under unprecedented conditions.

The past measures towards supporting the citizenry, like wage subsidies, enhanced EI, rent support, grants and credits extended to businesses have been received well by the people and businesses in Canada.

At the same time, the experts agree that the support systems, and at this level of generosity, may not be a viable option in the long term. And Canada needs to get back to work and business as usual. [\(Read more\)](#)

Modi Calls for Research into Sikh Spirit of Service



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for extensive research and documentation of the Sikh spirit of service worldwide and the evolution of Gurdwaras as the living centres of community service. He said this during a high-level committee meeting to plan the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru whose life was an example of supreme sacrifice and wisdom. ([Read more.](#))

Meetings

“It (receiving the vaccines from India) will forever go down in my memory as an extremely happy and monumental event.” – Minister Anita Anand



On the morning of March 21, Canada's Minister for Public Service and Procurement, joined the members and the executive committee of Canada India Foundation in a meeting that, according to the Minister herself, "was long overdue". CIF Chair, Satish Thakkar, welcomed this "champion of the moment working tirelessly on the Covid-19 file on behalf of the people of Canada". The pride of the Indo-Canadian community, Minister Anand was introduced by immediate past chair of CIF, Anil Shah, as "our Friendly Neighborhood Member of Parliament from Oakville".

CIF met MP Michelle Rempel virtually



CIF team met Member of Parliament Michelle Rempel Garner virtually and discuss the potential of Canada India Relations, role played by India (known as pharmacy of the world with its largest capacity to manufacture world class vaccines and drugs) during Pandemic for providing the vaccine to over 70 countries. CIF chair Mr. Satish Thakkar said that both the countries can work together to overcome the post Covid challenges.

Ayurveda Speaker Series Session - 14

How Ayurveda Approaches Chronic Diseases Like Diabetes?



Vaidya Sanjay Kulkarni (www.ayurvedabliss.com), a popular Ayurveda practitioner, based in Pune, with 35 years of teaching and clinical experience, was the expert speaker at the CIF Ayurveda Speaker Series Session 14 held on March 15, 2021. The special guest of the session was Mr. Logan Kanapathi, MPP, who profusely congratulated the CIF for its continuing efforts in bringing Canada and India close through the Ayurveda Speaker Series and many other such initiatives. [\(Read more\)](#)

To see the video [click here](#).

Ayurveda Speaker Series Session - 15

Benefits of Regulating Ayurveda in Canada



The CIF Ayurveda Speaker Series 15 was held on March 29, 2021 that coincided with the Hindu holiday of Holi (festival of colors). Special Guest of the day was Mr. Andrew Scheer, former leader of the Opposition, who noted, “I confess that I do not know much about these thousands of years old health system. But then that is the purpose of your Speaker Series. More and more people are making changes to their lifestyles to maximize their health. And natural forms of medicine are becoming more and more popular. Many people prefer traditional health practices and natural products as a way to maintain healthy lifestyles. [\(Read more\)](#)

To see the program recording [Click here](#)

Ayurveda Speaker Series Session - 16

Diagnosis and Treatment of Obesity in Ayurveda



The 16th in the CIF Ayurveda Speaker Series was presented on April 11 by Vaidya Mukund Sabnis, who runs a popular clinic called Jeevanrekha Obesity Solutions. The topic of the day was Obesity: Diagnosis and Ayurvedic management. Vaidya Mukund Sabnis, drawing from the vast amount of research done in the subject, expertly combined it with ancient Ayurvedic wisdom to offer solutions for a worldwide problem. “Obesity is the terror within. Unless we do something about it, the magnitude of the dilemma will dwarf 9/11 or any other terror attempt,” said US Surgeon General, Richard Carmona, in 2006. [\(Read more\)](#)

HEADLINES

Canada, India in Talks for a Mini Trade Deal



India and Canada may come back to the negotiating table later this month after a gap of almost four years to explore the possibility of signing a mini trade deal. The two sides have been negotiating a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) since 2010 with the last round of negotiations held in August 2017. ([Read more.](#))

Canada set to receive 1M Pfizer-BioNTech doses, Moderna playing catch-up



OTTAWA -- A batch of more than 855,000 doses of vaccine from Moderna is now on route to Canada, Procurement Minister Anita Anand said Monday afternoon. ([Read more.](#))

India to approve coronavirus shots green-lit by WHO, others

NEW DELHI -- India said Tuesday that it will approve the use of all coronavirus vaccines that have been given

an emergency nod by the World Health Organization or regulators in the United States, Europe, Britain or Japan. [\(Read more.\)](#)



Canada is the No. 1 Country in the World, According to the 2021 Best Countries Report



Washington: For the first time, Canada takes the top spot overall in the 2021 Best Countries Report, a ranking, and analysis project by US News & World Report; BAV Group, a unit of global marketing communications company VMLY&R and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. [\(Read more\)](#)

Canada Pension to partner RMZ to build offices in Southern India

Canada Pension Plan Investment Board will invest 15 billion rupees (US\$200 million) to develop offices in southern India with local firm RMZ Corp. The joint venture will develop 10.4 million square feet in Chennai and Hyderabad, the companies said in a statement published Monday. [\(Read more\)](#)



Upcoming Events

Speaker Series

Innovation for indoor community living during prevailing Pandemic

Speaker



Prof. Meena Augustus, Ph.D

Webinar Details

Tuesday 20 April, 2021

Time: 04:00 pm EDT

REGISTER HERE

Rajasthan - Destination Renewable Energy Equipment Manufacturing



Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited (RIICO) is organizing a webinar titled “Rajasthan - Destination Renewable Energy Equipment Manufacturing” on **Tuesday, 27th April, 2021 from 3:30 PM IST.**

Online registration for the event can be done using the following web link: [click here to register](#) or copy paste the following link in their browser: <https://tinyurl.com/p2n8dnc9>

[Click here for more details](#)

CIF Members in News

Smart Villages: Bridging the Global Urban Rural Divide

By V. I. Lakshmanan

Editor: Arun Chockalingam, V. Kumar Murty

About the Book

This book brings together technical expertise, best practices, case studies and ground-level application of the ideas for empowering the rural population of the world to live economically prosperous, environmentally sustainable, and socially progressive lives, on par or comparable with the quality of life enjoyed by the global urban population. The idea of Smart Villages takes on greater urgency in light of the investments made in this millennium on "Smart Cities", taking advantage of the technological advances, particularly in digital connectivity. For more details please [click here](#)

Norton Kothari

CIF Board of Governors Member
Mr. Norton Kothari, Chairman
Kothari Group, has been inducted
into the Board of Directors of
Trillium Health Partners
Foundation (THPF)

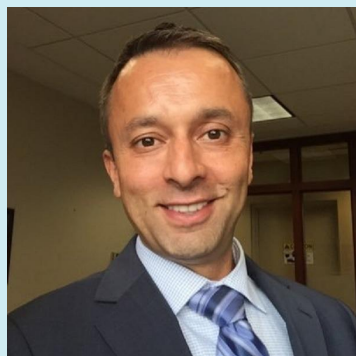


Sandeep Goel

CIF Board of Governors
Member Mr. Sandeep Goel,
President & CEO ICICI Bank
Canada, has been inducted
into Campaign Cabinet of
Trillium Health Partners
Foundation (THPF)

Community Spotlight

Mohan Sharma has joined the Superior Court of Justice of Ontario as a Judge



Justice Mohan Sharma has joined the Superior Court of Justice of Ontario as a judge, replacing Justice Lorne Sossin in Toronto, who was elevated to the Court of Appeal for Ontario effective Nov. 24, 2020. Justice Sharma has served as the Ontario Superior Court's executive legal officer in Toronto, offering legal and policy advice to the judges; as senior counsel at the Office of the Chief Justice; and as the ministry of the attorney general's counsel in residence at the Law Commission of

Ontario. For the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General, he has also held the roles of policy counsel at the Court Services Division and advisory counsel at the Crown Law Office-Civil. [\(Read more\)](#)

We sincerely appreciate any comments, feedback and suggestions from our readers and supporters. Please write to us at info@canadaindiafoundation.com

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