



## CIF E-Newsletter



Volume 29

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June 2021

## Chair's Message



## Yoga & Meditation for a Post COVID-19 World

Hello friends. May was a very busy month for us at CIF. That is to be expected when you are an integral part of a project that has the making of becoming one of the most consequential events for healthcare professionals, managers and policy makers in both Canada and India.

I am referring to the recently concluded Canada India Health Summit (CIHS May 20-21), held virtually in partnership with the Toronto-based University Health Network, the Consulate General of India in Toronto and India's premier industry association, FICCI. Those of you who tuned in have experienced the quality and calibre of our participants at the Summit. The two-day long conference featured dozens of renowned scientists, technologists and industry leaders working in the field of healthcare, with special focus on the Covid-19 pandemic.

Over 60 experts shared their insights and scientific discoveries on a

Covid-19; Modelling pandemic and Vaccine Equity issues; and Chronic Conditions and Mental Health and Addiction. Thank you to each and every participant that made CIHS such a huge success. You can access the full program, including the papers presented at [CIHS 2021. \(Read more\)](#)

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## Canada India Health Summit 2021



**Toronto, Canada, May 21, 2021:** The most high-profile healthcare conference in the annals of Canada-India relations was held successfully as a virtual event on May 20-21, 2021. The Canada India Healthcare Summit 2021 (“CIHS 2021”), organized by **Canada India Foundation** (“CIF”), in partnership with the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry** (“FICCI”), **Toronto Rehab Institute-University Health Network** (“TRI-UHN”) and the Consul General of India in Toronto, featured about 60 speakers and several hundred attendees participating virtually from Canada, India and countries as far away as Japan and Botswana. It was the third healthcare summit being organized by CIF and, in addition to the speaking and panel sessions, it also provided the venue for the presentation of the first ever CIF Canada India Healthcare Innovation Awards to young entrepreneurs, as well as the announcement of a groundbreaking partnership between CIF and UHN on Integrated Disease Management, combining the modern medical knowledge and techniques that Canada is a leader in, and the millennia-long tradition of holistic medicine that India is known for. [\(Read more\)](#)



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## CIHS 2021 - DAY - 1

- Inaugural Session – Welcome Remarks – [Click here](#)

- Plenary Session I – [Click here](#)
- Breakout Session I: Artificial Intelligence and its Contributions to Overcome COVID-19 – [Click here](#)
- Breakout Session II: Biotechnology and its Contributions to Overcome COVID-19 – [Click here](#)
- Breakout Session III: Pandemic Response and Initiatives – [Click here](#)
- Concluding Session – Day 1 – [Click here](#)

## CIHS 2021 - DAY -2

- Opening Remarks – [Click here](#)
- Keynote Session II – [Click here](#)
- Plenary Session II – [Click here](#)
- Breakout Session IV: Artificial Intelligence and its Contributions to Overcome COVID-19 – [Click here](#)
- Breakout Session V – Biotechnology and its Contributions to Overcome COVID-19 – [Click here](#)
- Breakout Session VI – Pandemic Response and Initiatives – [Click here](#)
- CIF Canada India Innovation Awards - [Click here](#)
- CIF-UHN Partnership on Integrated Disease Management – [Click here](#)
- A Special Recognition: Mr. Ramesh Chotai – President, Bromed Pharmaceuticals – [Click here](#)
- Closing Session – Technical Committee Remarks – [Click here](#)
- Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks – [Click here](#)

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## CIHS Innovation Award Winner, Lactiga, in the News

Canada India Foundation is proud to learn that one of its Innovation Award recipients at the recently concluded Canada India Health Summit is making waves for his discoveries in combatting Covid-19. Dr. Vijay Mane, who co-founded Lactiga and their innovation to successfully extract antibodies from unused human breast milk was the subject of a major feature in the Globe & Mail newspaper recently.

To quote the Globe & Mail, “The final goal of Lactiga’s work is a COVID-19 treatment – not prevention – that reduces the viral load of SARS-CoV-2 in the airways. As the antibodies are absorbed through the respiratory tract, they would mitigate the severity of COVID-19 infection. The treatment would look like a liquid in a small cartridge. Using an already-available device with a mask that covers the mouth and nose, patients would inhale a mist.”

Ms. Saanika Venkatesh, Project Manager at Lactiga received the CIHS Innovation award for Lactiga.

The treatment is in the preclinical phase of development and if all goes

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# Canadian Doctors Launch Free Online Resource for Patients in India



Canadian Doctors for India

connected by **maple**

Toronto, June 14, 2021: About 50 community-spirited doctors practicing in Canada, have banded together to launch an initiative to offer online help through information and advice to patients in India currently battling a second wave of Covid-19.

Besides the huge challenges Covid-19 has placed on India's health systems, it also suffers from a chronic shortage of doctors. India has a low doctor-population ratio of 1:1500 (One doctor for 1500) while Canada has a ratio of 1:370. With the COVID crisis, doctors are reportedly even more stretched and difficult to reach, and patients are often afraid to leave home to access the medical system (including for non-COVID issues). ([Read more](#))

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## WhatsApp Message for copying/pasting:

*Canadian Doctors for India* is a free virtual health advice service set up by Canadian doctors to help people in India at this time of great need.

Anyone can use it!

For more information, [click here](#).

Please [register here](#) to get help.

Please share this with others!

**Note:** you must register above before downloading the Maple application. This is a **free program, and you will not be asked for payment**. If you are prompted to pay, please report this to [support@getmaple.ca](mailto:support@getmaple.ca)

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## HEADLINES

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## Alberta Minister, Prasad Panda, on India's 75th Anniversary

Rising in the Provincial legislative assembly of Alberta, **Prasad Panda**,

75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of India's independence. He opened his address by saying, "I am grateful to Albertans who elected me twice and gave me and my family every opportunity to pursue our Canadian dream. Our family loves Alberta and we will remain loyal to Alberta forever."

He continued to speak on the "world's largest democracy India" that he described as "*mere pyare Bharat, my ancestral land*" that encompasses many mini India's within its vastness. "Many who have not visited India cannot fully grasp how vast and how diverse the country is."

Minister Panda delved into India's historically known democratic beginnings and observed perhaps that's why India took so effortlessly to modern democracy in 1947 when it gained independence. "This (75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration) is going to be the ultimate celebration of democracy," he said.

He listed a number of areas where Alberta and India are working together. "India is rich in human resources and Alberta is rich in natural resources. In the past few years, I have worked to get full partnership opportunities between Alberta and India and create prosperity for both. There are tremendous synergies between our two countries. I believe with a little common sense and hard-nosed business acumen and political will, we can forge an incredibly strong, mutually beneficial relationship."

Appreciating the remarks, CIF Chair, **Satish Thakkar**, noted, "We fully support the sentiments expressed so sincerely by Minister Panda. They reflect our own goals and aspirations for Canada and India and the efforts that we have undertaken towards achieving that aim. As India celebrates this milestone event, we also hope that our 'democracies working together' will benefit both our people a great deal."

Listen the full speech below:



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**India on Track to Reach Daily 10 Million  
Vaccinations**





The head of Indian Council of Medical Research said recently that the country will be in a position to vaccinate ten million citizens each day and is confident of reaching full vaccination targets by end of the year. [\(Read more.\)](#)

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## Canadian Company Plans mRNA Vaccine Production in India



Hyderabad-based Biological E. Limited has tied up with Canada's Providence Therapeutics to manufacture mRNA coronavirus vaccine with a minimum production capacity of 600 million doses in 2022 and a target capacity of 1 billion doses.

[\(Read more.\)](#)

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## Alabama Lifts Ban on Yoga after 27 Years

The Southern state of Alabama lifted its 27-year-long ban on teaching of yoga in its public schools with rider that parents sign waivers recognizing they are "part of the Hinduism religion." [\(Read more.\)](#)



## Indian Origin Scientist Leads Development of Breakthrough Battery Technology

An Australian company is developing a new technology, called aluminium-graphene batteries that it claims will retain three times the energy and 70 times faster recharge than the Li-ion batteries that are in use today. [\(Read more.\)](#)



## Gamified App to Make Sanskrit Learning Fun

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations in partnership Bengaluru-based Gamapp Sportswizz launched 'LITTLE GURU', that would make it possible for even children growing up outside India to learn the language. Little Guru is a gamified app based on an interactive platform which will make Sanskrit learning easy, entertaining and fun. [\(Read more.\)](#)



## Air Canada Flights Carry Critical Medical Equipment to India



Starting in the third week of May, Air Canada began operating cargo-only flights to India, carrying much needed Covid-19 related supplies that included critical equipment like ventilators and oxygen generators. [\(Read more.\)](#)

## Covaxin Makers Seek Approval in Canada

Ocugen, a US company partnering with Bharat Biotech, to make Covaxin available in N. America reported that they are in discussion with Health Canada for regulatory approval of the vaccine. [\(Read more.\)](#)



## Upcoming Events



CANADA INDIA  
FOUNDATION



UHN  
University Health Network

University of Toronto  
Toronto General  
Toronto Western  
Princess Margaret  
Toronto St. Michael's  
Mount Sinai



Vedic Spiritual



Canadian Ayurvedic  
Practitioners Association

# 7th International Day of Yoga 2021

Cardiovascular Prevention & Rehabilitation  
An Integrated Approach

## Speakers

**H.E. Ajay Bisaria**

High Commissioner  
of India in Canada



**Mr. Rajesh Kotecha**

Secretary Ministry of Ayush  
Govt of India



**Prof. Arun Chockalingam**

University of Toronto



**Dr. Manoj Nesari**

Advisor, Ministry of Ayush  
Govt of India



**Dr. Milos R. Popovic**

Institute Director, KITE  
Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, UHN



**Dr. Paul Oh**

Medical Director  
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention  
& Rehabilitation, UHN



**Dr. Jonah Sandrepogu**

Professor  
All India Institute of Ayurveda



**Sunday, 20  
June 2021**

10:00 AM. – 12:00 PM.

**Y MEDIA LIVE ON**

Visit our website  
canadaindiafoundation.com

**Register Here**

**Open Minds – Healthy Minds**





CANADA INDIA  
FOUNDATION



BRAHMA KUMARIS

Celebration of 7th International Day of Yoga 2021

*Open Minds - Healthy Minds*



LIVE  
ON



Sunday 20, June 2021  
7:00 PM – 8:20 PM  
EST CANADA



**Sister B K Shivani**  
Brahma Kumaris

**Hon. Michael Tibollo,**  
Minister for Mental Health & Addictions, ON

The Covid-19 pandemic has not only taken millions of lives and even more livelihoods across the world, but it has also led to an epidemic of mental illness. Experts predict depression, anxiety and other challenges to mental well-being, will persist well after the pandemic is brought under control. Does the time-tested and proven techniques and teachings derived from the ancient wisdom of India in Yoga & Meditation, hold the potential to create a better world now and in the future?

Join us to know more from Sister Shivani in conversation with Minister Tibollo!

**Watch live on [Youtube](#) & [Facebook](#)**

We sincerely appreciate any comments, feedback and suggestions from our readers and supporters. Please write to us at [info@canadaindiafoundation.com](mailto:info@canadaindiafoundation.com)

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