



CIF E-Newsletter



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Chair's Message



Yoga Day Celebration on June 21, 2022. You Are Invited!

Summer is here. Almost. June 21 is the official start of the summer season. In other words, summer solstice, the longest day of the year and the first day of summer. June 21 is also the International Day of Yoga as declared by the United Nations in 2015 at the suggestion of India's Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.

Canada India Foundation and the scores of GTA's yoga enthusiasts are getting ready to celebrate Yoga Day on the morning of June 21, 2022, at Toronto's picturesque Trillium Park nestled along Lake Ontario.

We have been celebrating the event since 2015. In these seven years, we have received such a tremendous feedback that during one event in 2017, it drew a record crowd of 10,000. Even during the period we were in the grip of the pandemic, CIF continued to hold the event on a virtual platform.

Obviously, this is an event very close to our hearts, and a major priority of Canada India Foundation.

One of the things that we aim to achieve while working towards building strong Canada India ties, is to present and promote some of the finest aspects of ancient Indian culture here in Canada. And yoga and Ayurveda are without dispute two such traditions (though I would like to call them sciences) that have come out of ancient India. While yoga's origin story is lost in the mist of time, there is no doubt that the practice and philosophy behind it survived the millennia due to its sheer brilliance.

Today, practice of yoga encompasses an astonishing range of styles and traditions, posing some confusion among scholars and practitioners. However, at the core of yoga lies the quest by humans to design a path to ultimate happiness that includes the aspects of body, mind and spirit. A huge challenge, but they got it right.

Today, the world has come to acknowledge the power of yoga, even by those societies and individuals who were either hostile or skeptical of this ancient Indian knowledge system. Here, I would like to illustrate this with the example of Nouf Marwaai, a young Saudi woman whose efforts in support of yoga eventually led to the official recognition of Yoga by the Islamic Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. ([Read more](#))



CANADA INDIA
FOUNDATION

Democracies Working Together



celebrates

Yoga Day - Indigenous Way

*International Day of Yoga &
National Indigenous Peoples Day*

2022 June 21
10 am onwards
Trillium Park
Ontario Place, Toronto



Join us as we showcase
and celebrate Yoga,
India's gift of holistic
health to the world, and
Traditional Healing as
Canada's Indigenous way
for overall wellness

supported by



Anishnawbe Health Toronto

Please join to celebrate 8th International Day of Yoga & National Indigenous Peoples Day with Diplomatic Corps at Trillium Park, Ontario Place, 955 Lake Shore Blvd W, Toronto, ON M6K 3B9 on June 21st at 10:00am.

Please confirm attendance due to limited seating. Parking is at discounted rate of \$5:00, for the Canada India Foundation Yoga Event. It is advised to wear comfortable cloths in white to do yoga. Yoga mat will be provided.

Looking forward to see you with your family & Friends.

International Day of Yoga

Speaker: Sister Shivani



Tuesday, 21 June 2022 7:30pm -8:30pm
Live on Youtube, Facebook



**How do you find stillness
in the busy-ness of life?**

MODERATORS



Nikita Thakkar



Steven Robert

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Watch the lively session with Sister Shivani on Youtube/ Facebook

Please see it live on CIF Youtube & Facebook Page on 21 June at 7:30pm

Past Events

Gita Mahotsav to be Held in Toronto



Canada India Foundation hosted spiritual guide and founder of GIEO Gita, Sh. Gyananand Maharaj on May 28, 2022, at the Tamarind Modern Indian Bistro in Mississauga. Known for his passion in spreading the message of Gita, he was in Canada as a part of a worldwide tour to schedule events to coincide with the upcoming Gita Mahotsav, sponsored by the State of Haryana in India.

After being introduced by CIF Member, Sandeep Gupta, and welcomed by Chair, Satish Thakkar, Gyananand Maharaj gave a brief glimpse of the program highlights of the Gita Utsav to be held in Toronto. The event is expected to strengthen awareness among Canadians on the the Bhagwat Gita that is considered sacred by a billion Hindus worldwide. Dates to be announced in near future.

Gyananand Maharaj is known for his successful outreach in the past in countries like Mauritius and the U.K. where, following his efforts, a copy of the Gita was placed in its Parliament Library.

CIF Members Bid Fond Farewell to HC Ajay Bisaria



India's High Commissioner to Canada, H.E. Ajay Bisaria was accorded a warm send off by members and friends of Canada India Foundation as he ends his assignment in Canada at the end of June 2022. Bisaria, age 60, is set to retire with no announcement about his future plans.

An enthusiastic group of admirers gathered at the Albany Club, downtown Toronto, to meet with the popular diplomat and bid him a fond farewell.

CIF Chair, **Satish Thakkar**, spoke of the tremendous progress Canada and India have made under Bisaria's watch. He also thanked him for being a mentor to CIF over the past two years. He noted, "During his time, Canada India relationship grew from lukewarm to warm. What we all remember is the way his office facilitated the transfer from India of vaccines, critically needed by Canada, and the equally urgent need for PPE and other equipment that Canada supplied to India. During this short stint, HC has been an effective and firm voice on behalf of India and held the course even when faced with provocation. He has been a tireless advocate on behalf of India's growth story. He does not miss a single opportunity to spread the message of what India holds out for the world today. Even during the worst part of the pandemic, confidence in India by Canadian investors held firm, and a major role was played by his unique ability to communicate with conviction and instill confidence." ([Read more](#))



CIF Team Wins India@75 Golf Cup



India has emerged as a major destination for international tourism. Indian High Commission in Ottawa organized a Golf tournament for the promotion of tourism on June 07, 2022 at Cedarhill Golf & Country Club. India@75 Golf Cup saw enthusiastic participation of golfers not only from Ottawa but also Toronto & Montreal. CIF team won the 1st prize, the ICICI team won the 2nd prize.

CIF visits Ottawa



CIF members visited Ottawa to attend the farewell reception organized by Mr. Chandra Arya, Member of Parliament, in honor of H.E. Ajay Bisaria. The CIF team also interacted with a number of other heads of organizations and decision makers during the day long visit to Ottawa. CIF Chair Mr. Satish Thakkar also addressed the gathering at the reception and appreciated the work done by the

High Commissioner Bisaria for the promotion of bilateral strategic ties between Canada and India.



CIF Congratulates Vikas Swarup

CIF congratulates Shri Vikas Swarup on being conferred with an honorary Doctor of Letters by the University of Guelph, Ontario. CIF Chair Satish Thakkar lauded his role and work during his tenure as High Commissioner of India in Canada to strengthen the bilateral strategic relations between the two democracies. The former diplomat is also known globally for his novel Q&A, which was turned into the Oscar winning film, Slumdog Millionaire.





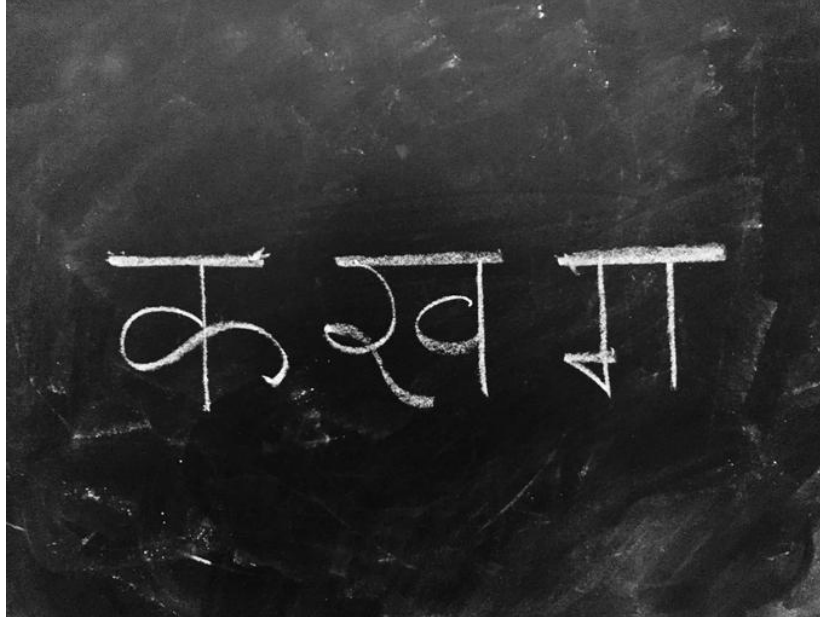
HEADLINES

Country-wide Yoga Day Celebrations Planned in India



India is celebrating International Yoga Day in a special way to mark the nation's 75th anniversary. On the day, 75 ministers representing the Indian government will host yoga day events at 75 historic and cultural sites across the country. Prime Minister Modi will lead the celebrations from Mysore Palace, Karnataka. ([Read more.](#))

Hindi, Urdu, Bengali Accepted in UN Communication Material



The United Nations got a multilingual boost when it adopted the India-sponsored resolution to include more South Asian languages in its communication material. Hindi, Urdu and Bengali will now be used to disseminate important information from UN. [\(Read more.\)](#)

Indian, Canadian foreign ministers hold talks on Indo-Pacific, Ukraine

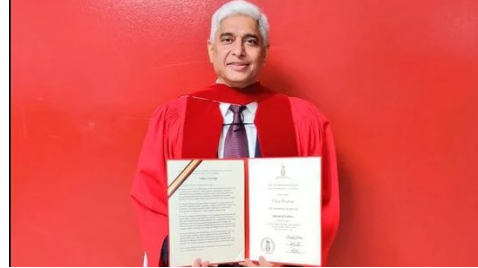


The foreign ministers of India and Canada held a telephonic conversation on Wednesday ahead of a potential bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Canadian counterpart Justin Trudeau this month. That meeting is yet to be finalised but, if it does occur, will be on the margins of either the Commonwealth Heads of Government meet in Kigali in Rwanda or the G7 Summit in Germany. [\(Read more\)](#)

Vikas Swarup, Former HC, awarded honorary degree in University of Guelph

India's former high commissioner to Canada and well-known author of

Slumdog Millionaire, Vikas Swarup, awarded an honorary degree from the University of Guelph. Swarup is a strong supporter for U of G's Canada India Research Centre for Learning and Engagement. ([Read more.](#))



ISIS claims attack on Sikh temple in Afghan capital



The group Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) claimed responsibility for an attack on a Sikh temple in Afghanistan's capital of Kabul that killed at least one worshipper and wounded seven others. ([Read more](#))

Indian Girl Wins Spelling Bee Prize worth US\$50,000

As expected, yet another child of Indian immigrant parents, has won the National Spelling Bee contest in the US. Harini Logan, 14, beat out competition from yet another Indian origin student, Vikram Raju, to win the prestigious prize. ([Read more.](#))



Canada, India Increase Engagement on Climate Action



On the sidelines of the meeting held in Stockholm to mark the 50th anniversary of the first UN conference on climate change, Canada and India signed an agreement to increase bilateral cooperation on climate action, environmental protection and conservation. ([Read more.](#))

Punjab CM Seeks Canada's Help to Nab Gangsters

In the wake of increased pressure from the people in the wake of the recent killing of a popular singer, Sidhu Moose Wala, Chief Minister of Punjab, Bhagwant Mann, has sought increased support from Canada to nab Canada-based gangsters. The request was made to the Canadian High Commissioner to India, Cameron Mackay.



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

India Sets World Record in Highway Construction



National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) recently set a world record, duly acknowledged by Guinness Records, by building 75km of highway in 5 days. The stretch of highway ran between Amravati and Akola in Maharashtra State. [\(Read more.\)](#)

Canadian Universities Plan Setting Up India Chairs

Under a partnership agreement between the Indian Council of Cultural Relations and prominent Canadian Universities, India Chairs will be set up to promote Indian studies in Canada. [\(Read more.\)](#)



Quebec's Unsubsidized Private College Students Not Eligible for Work Permits



Foreign students who wish to study at Quebec's unsubsidized private colleges will not be eligible to receive Post Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) beginning Sept. 1, 2023. Quebec has instructed Immigration Canada to issue PGWP to only those students graduating from public or subsidized private educational institutions. [\(Read more.\)](#)

CIF Welcomes New Members

Sanjay Makkar

Sanjay Makkar is a successful entrepreneur, and founder President of InsureU! in Mississauga, a complete premier professional financial services firm, providing consultation and solutions in Risk Strategies, Personal/Group Health Insurance, Estate and Succession planning, and Property & Casualty Insurance as part of Broker Distribution Channel. Sanjay leads a large team of professionals and staff members under his firm. Sanjay also served as President of ICCG and Co-Chair of Panorama India.



Surinder Sharma



Surinder Sharma served at senior management positions in large multi-nationals. In Canada, he launched an Energy Conservation Services Company in 2001 in technical collaboration with Energy Automation Systems Inc., US having a wide range of technology products that helped Climate Change and reduce the KW load in Ontario. His company, Power Saving Systems Inc. assists commercial and industrial properties to conduct

Energy Audits and do Project Management for retrofit and technology solutions that help save energy footprint of large commercial properties and manufacturing plants. Surinder assisted Al Gore's "The Climate Reality Project" in Ontario and conducted several workshops on Energy Conservation & Climate Change.

Anshul Ruhil

Mr. Anshul Ruhil is an entrepreneur and technologist, having over 22 years of rich experience as a Farmer, Technologist and Entrepreneur. He is President of Ruhil Holdings with investment interests in real estate, farming and software development in Asia and North America. Under his leadership, his company recorded over 100% year on year growth in last 8 years.



Kundan Joshi



Kundan Joshi is the founder and CEO of TheAppLabb, a leading app innovation firm focused on strategy, design and development of Apps & emerging technologies. TheAppLabb has built over 650 apps in the last 15 years with over 150 employees. Some of their clients include Unilever, Samsung, Dell, Suncor, Petro Canada, RBC, JBS, Hudson's Bay,

TIFF, among others. TheAppLabb received the 2019 & 2020 Top Mobile App Developer Award for Canada and US, as well as the 2019 Top 3 AI Developer Award by Clutch. TheAppLabb was also ranked among the Top places to work in Canada and Top places to work in Technology by Globe and Mail - Great Places to Work in 2021.

Pranav Patel

Pranav Patel is one of the most prominent Indo Canadian representing community at large. Mr. Patel is Barrister, Solicitor and Notary Public. Mr. Patel has served community for so many years as an Advisor & Coach @ Law Society Of Ontario, Canada, Mentor & Honorary Advisor @ Lincoln Alexander School Of Law, Canada, Probono Lawyer - Consulate General Of India (Toronto), Ambassador & Champion @ William Osler Hospital, Past President, ICCO, Trustee – Indo Canadian Human Rights Assembly, President-Canada India Bar Council,



Anita Dalakoti



Anita is currently the CEO of Apple Insurance & Financial Services Inc. where she leads a team providing general insurance to a range of clients in the greater Vancouver area. Anita is also the President of Dalakoti Financial & Insurance Services Inc. where she provides financial management services, estate planning, personal insurance, corporate & tax planning services. Anita is passionate about bringing the very best financial expertise and services to her clients. Prior to her leadership of Apple Insurance & Financial Services, Anita spent over a decade as a Personal Financial Advisor with Sun Life Financial and Sun Life Investments Services.

Vijay Thomas

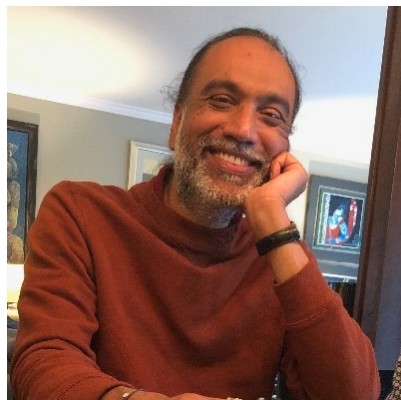
Vijay Thomas is Founder and CEO at Tangentia, a leading digital transformation company with operations in Canada, USA and India. Tangentia is recognised as a leader in the digital transformation space and counts many prestigious companies globally like customers including Suncor, Jaguar Land Rover, Reliance Retail, Royal Bank of Canada, Canopy Growth, LCBO, Whirlpool and many others. Tangentia was on the Profit 500 list of fastest growing companies in Canada 6 years in a row and Tangentia America was also part of the INC 5000 list of fastest growing companies in the USA.



Spotlight

Panjab University alumnus Amandeep Singh Gill appointed as UN chief's Envoy on Technology

Senior Indian diplomat and Panjab University alumnus Amandeep Singh Gill beat a crowded field to become effectively the UN Secretary-General António Guterres's first Envoy on Technology. He replaced Italian and EU diplomat Maria-Francesca Spatolisano who was in an acting capacity for the past five months pending the selection of a full-time envoy. [\(Read more\)](#)



Upcoming Events



CANADA INDIA
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Democracies Working Together



FRUITSY

&



PRESENTS

7th Annual Golf Tournament 2022 Aug 11 (Thursday)

Woodington Lake Golf Club

7110 4th Line, Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0



Proceeds going to Families of Fallen Soldiers in Canada & India

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MANOJ PUNDIT
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GOLF BALLS



REGISTRATION - 9:30am onwards

Shot Gun Start 11:00am

Breakfast & Lunch on the Course

Dinner Served 6:00pm onwards



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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