



CENTRE FOR INDO-CANADIAN STUDIES
UNIVERSITY of the FRASER VALLEY

BI-ANNUAL REPORT 2012/2013



Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies at the University of the Fraser Valley

Bi-Annual Report 2012-2013

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Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies at the University of the Fraser Valley



Vision

The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies (CICS) is the University of the Fraser Valley's (UFV) nexus point where scholars and students from UFV programs, community members as well as groups from all sectors of the community and international visitors come together to develop the study of the Indian sub-continent and the Indian Diaspora. The Centre supports the development, maintenance, and strengthening of linkages between these two nations that lead to diverse experiences for students, faculty and community. The Centre also initiates and supports India-Canada studies, and programs and activities that promote the study of and engagement with the Indo Canadian Diaspora. The research arm of the Centre supports the appointment of Faculty Associates of CICS to undertake research in their special areas as well as being responsive to broader research needs as they arise. The Centre is also a hub and repository of the pioneering history of the Indo-Canadian Diaspora while developing much-needed research that benefits members of the community, government, and academia. The Centre is also the home of the BC Regional Innovation Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development.



Core Programs:

- India-Canada Studies program
- The BC Regional Innovation Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development
- Developing and sustaining academic, business, and community partnerships
- Conducting research, holding forums, and consultations on various business related, social, cultural and historical issues
- Support for UFV-wide-initiatives that enhance the vision of the Centre
- India Chapter of CICS at Chandigarh UFV campus

Goals:

The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies identified four major goals that it pursued through the years 2012 and 2013:

1. UFV and community activities
2. Faculty, student engagement and stakeholder relationships
3. Research and consultations
4. Resources and administration

To meet these goals, the CICS has relied on several inter-related strategies and one of the most effective strategies has been to strive to involve as many faculty, staff, students and members of the community as possible in the activities of the Centre. In the last two years, the Centre has involved 55 students in various roles: as work-study students, as practicum students, in leadership volunteer roles, as research assistants or as coordinators of events, activities, and programs. Centre Faculty Associates are involved in research projects, study tours, curriculum planning, presentations and activities with the Centre. The community has participated in activities of the Centre and in giving advice and support. The media has consistently sought the views of staff at the Centre when related stories have broken or are being analyzed and the Centre strives to provide a balanced and objective view on current events. The Centre's finances have been enhanced by research grants, government funding, and community fundraising.

Future plans:

1. Ongoing enhancement of the Centre's financial and staffing resources
2. Undertaking relevant and pertinent research
3. Strengthening and enhancing the India-Canada Studies program and India Chapter
4. Continuing to engage faculty, students, staff, and community in the work of the Centre



India-Canada Studies program

The India-Canada Studies program started out with a few courses in 2004. The multi-disciplinary program has grown exponentially since then and in the last few years it has matured in breadth and offerings. Starting out with History, Social Work, and English, the program now includes courses in Geography, Anthropology, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Social, Cultural and Media Studies, and Modern Languages. As the program grew over the years and as the interest in the courses grew, new faculty were hired, study tours were undertaken to India, academic exchanges were developed, student internships were initiated, and much more. In September 2008, the brand new and unique India-Canada Studies certificate was launched. Students now have the added opportunity to graduate with a concentration certificate that will assist them in their career and further education pursuits. Students are benefiting from a rich, vibrant, and interesting certificate program that incorporates a wide range of disciplines. In Canada, it is a unique offering that will draw many prospective students to UFV.

<http://www.ufv.ca/cics/courses-and-programs/india-canada-studies-certificate/>

India Chapter of CICS at Chandigarh UFV campus

In January 2014 The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies will be opening its India Chapter located at the UFV Campus in Chandigarh and will be hiring its coordinator to manage the office at that time. The aim of the CICS India Chapter is to facilitate research, programming as well as student engagement and mentoring similar to what is done in the Canadian CICS Chapter.

Student Internships and Scholarships

JAN 2012

Satwinder Gill's Internship to India

Satwinder Gill, an avid student volunteer at CICS and a General Studies student at UFV was very excited when he found out that he had been accepted to go on an internship to India for 3 months. He went to work on a project funded by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute. He spent 3 months in Janta colony, Chandigarh, Punjab working on an Urban Gardening Development Project. This project involved motivating people living in the janta colony near Chandigarh to grow vegetables on their roof tops and to adopt urban micro-agriculture practices. Satwinder Gill worked along with Dr. Dhian Kaur from Panjab University's Geography department and they chose 40 houses amongst the population of 10,000 for participation in the project. Satwinder had a wonderful and fulfilling time working with the people in Janta Colony and he suggests that students should look out for such wonderful opportunities as this is a great learning experience.



NOV 2012

AUCC Students for Development Interns

Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) Students for Development (SFD) project UFV student interns Adam Rieu and Stacy Thorensen spent the fall semester working as interns in the local Chandigarh area. Their project was supervised by Dr. Garry Fehr, Geography UFV, Dr. Dhian Kaur, Geography, Panjab University and Dr. Krishna Mohan, Geography, Panjab University. They worked with a local NGO and a local school to build urban gardens to increase food security. As part of the project, they held a public engagement seminar at Panjab University which was attended by about seventy five students and people from the local partnerships. The students had a very productive internship and made long lasting friendships. UFV Indo Canadian Community Advisory Members (ICCAC) Dr. Malwinder Dhami and Kelly Khakh of Envision Credit Union each provided a generous donation towards the purchase of seeds and other materials for the project.



MAY 2013

CICS Student assists with forum at Panjab University

Inderbir Kaur went to Chandigarh India to assist with a Shastri Indo Canadian Studies funded project on the development of colleges in India. She assisted with a consultation with related faculty and staff at Panjab University under the guidance of Professor B.S. Ghuman.

JUNE – JULY 2013

Law student joins CICS as student research intern

Parveer Ghuman joined the CICS over the summer of 2013 as a Law student research intern from Panjab University under the supervision of the Director Satwinder Bains. His research paper was an investigation entitled: *Canadian government, justice and community response to domestic violence with special reference to Violence Against Women in Relationships Policy in British Columbia (VAWIR); recommendations for improving the policy and framework in India.*

JULY 2013 - SEPT 2013

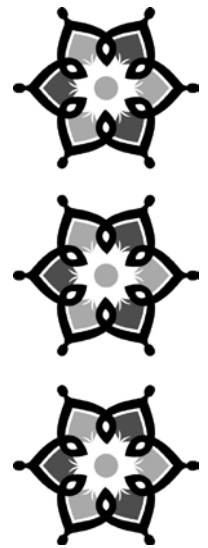
Masters in Social Work student from Panjab University joins CICS as student research intern

Lovepreet Singh Behniwal joined the CICS over the summer of 2013 to investigate the role of family in the care of Indo Canadian immigrant seniors living in Abbotsford.

NOV 2012

The Toronto Dominion Bank Presents Cheque Installment for Student Scholarships

Representatives from TD Canada Trust were on hand to present the final installment of \$20,000 as part of their \$50,000 donation in total. The TD India Canada Studies Endowment Bursary is available to any UFV student who is enrolled in, or has completed a minimum of 6 credits applicable to the India Canada Studies program. Kenda Allen, District VP Abbotsford Commercial Banking Centre TD and Karen D. Landon, District Manager, Agriculture Services TD Bank were on hand to present the cheque. The cheque presentation, as well as some delicious desserts, was hosted by the Development office at UFV and its Director, Madeleine Hardin.



2013 Scholarship Recipients

The CICS was pleased to award scholarships to two CICS Research Assistants: Anecia Gill and Suman Lally. Anecia was the recipient of the HSBC Endowment Scholarship for her ongoing commitment to various CICS projects, including working to create a promotional video for the CICS as well as helping to exhibit her family's pioneering history at the Sikh Heritage Museum. Suman Lally was the second recipient of the HSBC Endowment Scholarship. Suman worked for a semester as a research assistant for the CICS and assisted with the pioneer project and helped to interview and write the histories of some of the pioneering families in BC.

Academic Partnerships

NOV 2011-Ongoing

University of Mumbai establishes Indo-Canadian Studies Centre

UFV Associate Dean of Arts Susan Fisher went to Mumbai at the beginning of October to represent UFV at the opening of the Indo-Canadian Studies Centre (ICSC) at the University of Mumbai. This Centre, supported by a grant of \$50,000 from the government of British Columbia, is intended to be a "sister" Centre to the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies. The formal establishment of the ICSC will result in even stronger connections between UFV and the University of Mumbai, leading to student and faculty exchanges and collaborative research and conferences. The Centre was officially opened by Dr. Rajan Welukar, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Mumbai, and Marvin Hildebrand, Consul General of Canada in Mumbai. In their speeches at the opening, both Dr. Welukar and Mr. Hildebrand spoke of the importance of building Canada-India exchanges and linkages.

FEB 2012

University of Mumbai Partnership Yields Fellowship Opportunity

CICS Director Satwinder Bains visited the Indo Canadian Studies Centre (ICSC) at the University of Mumbai to meet with colleagues and to fulfill a fellowship opportunity. The ICSC was initiated by the BC Premier Gordon Campbell on his Trade Mission to India in 2008 in partnership with the CICS at UFV. Phase II of this agreement has been initiated as a result of initiatives taken by the Honourable Michael De Jong in his role as Minister of Health and MLA for West Abbotsford during the Indian Trade Mission headed by Premier Christy Clark in 2011. Satwinder Bains met with Dr. Nilufer Bharucha and colleagues to discuss and map out strategies for joint activities with both Centres. Discussions focused on the modalities of student exchange and internship at both the partner Universities. As well, Satwinder gave a lecture at the University Grants Commission Course for Mumbai College Teachers on Multilingualism and the maintenance of heritage



languages. The next day she met with MA English students at the University and gave a lecture on the following topic: The Indo Canadian Diaspora: Identity and Cultural Politics.

Both lectures were well received with enthusiastic and critical discussions about language, home, identity, belonging and transnational migration. Daniel Boond of the Canadian Consul General’s office in Mumbai participated in the lecture by providing an overview of Canada’s response to higher education for international students.

NOV 2012

UFV Instructor Trevor Carolan Visits Mumbai

Dr. Trevor Carolan, an instructor with the Department of English at UFV visited the University of Mumbai and was invited to do a reading from his book *The Lotus Singers* at the Mumbai Writers Festival. Trevor’s trip to Mumbai was coordinated by the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies.

NOV 2012

Dr. Evered Builds ‘Home Away From Home’ Initiative with Punjabi University, Patiala

Dr. Evered and his UFV team including Satwinder Bains, Director of the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies, Mr. George Peary BBA Instructor and Dr. Prabhjot Parmar, Dept of English instructor were received with warmth by the Vice Chancellor of Punjabi University Patiala Dr. Jaspal Singh and Registrar Dr A.S. Chawla. The delegation met with faculty from various departments to discuss opportunities for research collaboration on the “Home Away from Home” initiative undertaken by Punjabi University for students in the Indian Diaspora. Under this initiative Punjabi University hosts students from around the globe to learn about Punjabi culture, art and language

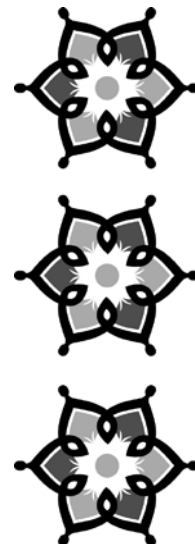


NOV 2012

UFV President and Vice-Chancellor Visits Panjab University, Chandigarh

One of the first items on the agenda for Dr. Mark Evered during his trip to India was to visit Panjab University in Chandigarh. Dr. Evered brought greetings from UFV to the new Vice-Chancellor of Panjab University, Dr. Arun Grover. Dr. Evered was joined by Jackie Hogan UFV Chief Financial Officer, Satwinder Bains, Director of the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies, Dr. B.S Ghuman Dean of Arts at Panjab University and Mr. R L Kapoor, Advisor to the Vice Chancellor. The meeting also allowed discussion on joint research and student engagement opportunities between the two Universities and to reaffirm UFV’s commitment to build on successes of the past. UFV has had a vibrant and extensive research collaboration with Panjab University since 2004.





FEB 2013

UFV Faculty Members Present at International Conference in Mumbai

Dr. Prabhjot Parmar, Faculty English Department and John Potts, International attended and presented at the International Conference on *Hyphenated Identities, Hybrid Selves: Explorations through Literature and Cinema* at the University of Mumbai. The conference was hosted by the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies sister Centre, the Indo-Canadian Studies Centre (ICSC) in Mumbai. The 2013 Indo-Canadian Conference at the University of Mumbai set out to explore questions about hyphenated identities and hybrid selves with a specific focus on Indo-Canadian authors and filmmakers and how they negotiate the space of the hyphen as they express what it means to be “Indo-Canadian.” The conference was very well attended and further strengthened the ties between the University of Mumbai and the University of the Fraser Valley.

MAY 2013

CICS Sends Dr. Wendy Burton to Engage in Faculty Training for SDCC College Professors

The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies presented a faculty development opportunity for SDCC College in Chandigarh by sending Dr. Wendy Burton to spend five days to work with faculty by offering a four-hour faculty development workshop to 30 faculty members. 145 faculty members from SD College as well as UFV Chandigarh attended the workshops over the five days. Feedback during and after the sessions were positive, with faculty reporting that the workshop was “highly informative and educative and are looking forward to such more sessions.” The media covered the event, and news reports, with pictures, appeared in many prominent newspapers. The President and other dignitaries of SD College met with Wendy, and they were astute, encouraging, and appreciative of the initiative taken by CICS/UFV.



NOV 2013

UFV Signs MOU with Himachal Pradesh University

UFV President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Mark Evered, Vice-Provost Academic Dr. Peter Geller and Director of CICS Satwinder Bains visited the UFV India campus in November, 2013. One of the items on their agenda included successfully signing an MOU with Vice Chancellor Professor A.D.N Bajpai of Himachal Pradesh University in Shimla, The MOU entails joint cooperation on research, programs and activities that are mutually beneficial to the two Universities under the auspices of the Canadian Studies Centre’s Director. Dr Meenakshi Paul.

NOV 2013

UFV Strengthens ties with Panjab University

In addition to building new ties with Himachal Pradesh University, Dr. Evered and Dr. Peter Geller also strengthened ties with Panjab University, Chandigarh. This included working on further details of a faculty development program being offered in partnership Panjab University. India is developing a community college system to meet the growing demand for access to education and to increase the employability of its population through applied skills development. Without a tradition of structured and regulated trades and vocational skills training, India is looking for models to adapt to the Indian context. Indian federal and state governments, as well as public and private institutions, are seeking rapid growth in academic, technical, and vocational education. UFV is working with Panjab University to develop instructor education programs to transform practitioners into trainers. Instructor education has been a critical factor in the success of labour market-driven training in BC, according to Geller.



The BC Regional Innovation Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development

JULY 2013

Dr. Amandeep Sandhu hired as new Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development

UFV and the CICS welcomed Amandeep Sandhu as the new BC Regional Innovation Chair in Canada-India Business and Economic Development. Dr. Amandeep Sandhu was named the University of the Fraser Valley's new BC Regional Innovation Chair in Canada-India Business and Economic Development. He took up his post on July 1. This research chair is housed at the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies at UFV. Sandhu will also be a faculty member in the UFV School of Business. He replaces DJ Sandhu, who previously served as chair. The research chair's mandate is to help local businesses capitalize on opportunities in India by providing market intelligence and advice.

"UFV welcomes Dr. Sandhu — we are very fortunate to have someone with such a strong academic and applied background appointed to the chair position," said Dr. Adrienne Chan, AVP of Research at UFV.

Dr. Sandhu was also welcomed by the UFV Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies' community advisory committee. "It was with great pleasure that I learned of Amandeep Sandhu's appointment as the Canada-India Innovation Chair. I believe he is fully suited for this position and will make an excellent team member. We wish Dr. Sandhu the best of luck as he advances in his role, and the committee looks forward to working with him," said Ken Uppal, chair of the Indo-Canadian community advisory committee at the UFV Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies.

With a passion for community and its relationship with commerce, Sandhu brings four years of experience as an assistant professor in the department of sociology with Philadelphia's Temple University, along with a lengthy academic resumé.

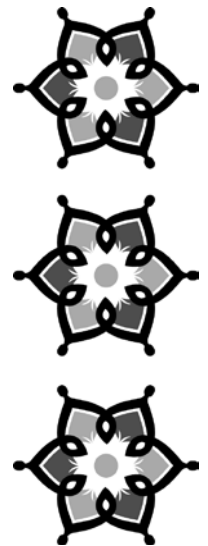
He holds a PhD (sociology with global studies emphasis) from the University of California (2008), and a BA from UBC (1999). Before Temple University, Sandhu taught sociology at the University of California. A native of India, he moved to Canada at the age of 20, and now speaks four languages (Punjabi, Hindi, Arabic, and English). Research has taken Sandhu to India several times since 2006, helping him understand the interconnectivity of global flows of capital, infrastructure, information, and labour. "Basically that is how the world works today," he explains. "It combines economy and society."

Noting that UFV's size was one of many benefits that attracted him to the position, Sandhu looks forward to growing the university's partnerships here at home, and abroad. "(UFV's size) provides a much more healthy sense of what you're doing and of your work. It provides for a more intimate setting," he says. "It provides for me to be on the ground doing research while continuing my work in India and throughout this community.

"It's not just the beginning of something new; it's building on what's already here."



Developing and Sustaining Community Partnerships



JULY 2012

Second Exhibition Installation at the Sikh Heritage Museum

The month of July saw the unveiling of the second exhibition opening at the Sikh Heritage Museum titled *Punjab-The People, The Land, The Legacy*. Pioneer families, dignitaries, and many others from the community attended and viewed the beautiful paintings. This second exhibition featured the art work of acclaimed local artist Manjit Singh Sandhu. Mr. Sandhu painted individual images of some of the key pioneers who immigrated to Abbotsford, Canada in the early 20th century. The exhibition also featured traditional Punjabi artifacts. The exhibition opening was followed by tea and snacks across the street at the newer Gurdwara hosted by the Khalsa Diwan Society, Abbotsford. The museum is open to the public seven days a week and all are invited to view the exhibitions.

SEPT 2012

Ag-Forum India Canada Foundation

The Director of the CICS presented a paper on Agriculture and Diaspora philanthropy in India at the India Canada Agriculture Forum hosted by the Canada India Foundation.

SEPT 2012

Lecture by Author Kathy Marsden

Author Kathy Marsden presented her experiences in growing up with the community of Paldi at the Sikh Heritage Museum. Marsden's novel, "Paldi: Two Cultures, One Heart" is a fictional story which intertwines the lives of its two characters-one Punjabi, the other of European origin. Kathy's very engaging presentation presented the audience with an amazing display of vibrant images as she discussed the town of Sikh pioneering town of Paldi on Vancouver Island, as well as the namesake Paldi located in Punjab, India. The presentation was very well attended with over 30 community members, UFV staff and faculty attending.

NOV 2012

Abbotsford Building Connections, City of Abbotsford

The CICS presented and hosted one of the sessions in the Diversity Networking Series. Employers from around the region attended the session to learn about business diversity initiatives and how to connect to diverse employees.

JAN 2013

Third Exhibition at Sikh Heritage Museum

Community members, local politicians and dignitaries took part in the official opening of the third exhibition at the Sikh Heritage Museum. Located on the ground floor of the National Historic Site Gur Sikh Temple, the Sikh Heritage Museum's third official exhibition was called *Canadian-Sikh Identity: The Turban Challenge and the Evolution of the Sikh Turban of Pagri*. After visitors took part in the viewing the exhibition, everyone was invited into the darbar hall to take part in some speeches. Those speaking included: MLA John Van Dongen and Abbotsford Mayor Bruce Banman. The highlight of the opening was a keynote address provided by Staff Sergeant Baltej Singh Dhillon. Mr. Dhillon provided an inspiring and thoughtful address, highlighting his struggles to maintain his *kes*h and his *pagri* while serving in the RCMP, but also highlighting the amazing changes in Canadian society in terms of acceptance, and not just mere tolerance.





MARCH 2013

CICS and Abbotsford Building Connections Host Interfaith Dialogue

March 11th saw the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies spatial aura changed to one of enlightenment and tranquility as it played host to a very unique style Interfaith Dialogue. This “Interfaith Dialogue: Sacred Texts and Religious Expressions,” featured small tables which were laid out across the room as a representative from her/his faith sat at a particular table. Participants then had the opportunity to take part and switch from table to table, ie. faith to faith, as they engaged in some lively discussion on what that respective faith utilized as a sacred text and/or religious expression. The dialogue was a great success with over 40 attendees taking part. Following some delicious dinner, the group came together to discuss ways in which more openness and respect for all religions can be encouraged in the community. The event brought together some wonderful ideas, but most of all allowed the participants to realize the many commonalities most religions share.



JUNE 2013

Fourth Exhibition Opening at Sikh Heritage Museum

The Sikh Heritage Museum, located in the National Historic Site Gur Sikh Temple unveiled its fourth official exhibition, *The Spirit of Hola Mohallah* in June. *The Spirit of Hola Mohallah* features the photographs of Maninder Singh Sodhi of Ambala, Punjab. Maninder Singh Sodhi is a Mechanical Engineer graduate from REC Kurukshetra. He has inherited the fine art of photography from his father, Mr. B.C Sodhi, a President of India awardee in Photography. Maninder, a keen photographer, has been visiting the festival of Hola Mohallah for the last 13 years. This photo exhibition is the result of his passion to capture the Spirit of Hola Mohallah at its best. The second part of the exhibition features the pioneering family of Dalip Singh Gill, a pioneer who arrived in BC in the early 20th century. UFV President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Mark Evered also attended the opening and presented the Khalsa Diwan Society Committee members a plaque of appreciation for their continued partnership in community building. Minister Ed Fast, MLA Mike De Jong and Abbotsford Mayor Bruce Banman also spoke on the significance of the Sikh Heritage Museum and the contributions that Sikhs have made to the Canadian mosaic.

SEPT 2013

Fifth Exhibition Opening at the Sikh Heritage Museum

The Sikh Heritage Museum unveiled its fifth official exhibition on Sunday, September 8th. The exhibition, titled: *Ghadar: 100 Years Later*, commemorated the Ghadar Revolutionary Centennial. To commemorate the Ghadar movement, the Sikh Heritage Museum highlighted key Ghadarites and their stories in the first part of the exhibition with the second part displaying newspaper articles from the Vancouver Daily Province igniting fears and paranoia about “sedition” mongering and Indian revolutionaries. The first part of the exhibition also displayed some replicas of primary documents, including Ghadar pamphlets, articles, etc., as well as a powerful display of Shaheed Bhagat Singh. The theatre room of the Sikh Heritage Museum highlighted Abbotsford’s own Ghadari Baba Karam Singh Daulutpur, the female Ghadarite Mata Gulaab Kaur and Baba Bhagat Singh Bilga.

SEPT 2013

UFV Students Host Akhand Path

Students at the University of the Fraser Valley, many of whom are international students from India including those from the UFV Chandigarh BBA program hosted a three day akhand path at the Khalsa Diwan Society, Abbotsford Gurdwara. With the support of the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies, the students initiated dialogue with various different departments across UFV, inviting them to take part and attend the akhand path on September 22nd, 2013. The akhand path was very well attended, with Provost & Vice President, Academic, Dr. Eric Davis providing a very meaningful speech on the development of the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies at UFV in conjunction with the South Asian community in the Fraser Valley. Other speakers included: Bob Rich, Chief Constable of the Abbotsford Police Department, Martin Kelly of Student Life at UFV and Satwinder Kaur Bains, Director of the CICS. In hosting this akhand path, the students expressed their desire to acknowledge the diverse traditional values at the University of the Fraser Valley. They believed it was an outstanding opportunity for UFV to show appreciation for the Punjabi culture and its traditions.



External Community Committees:

Abbotsford Social Development Advisory Council
Canadians Abroad Advisory Committee
South Asian Early Childhood Committee
Fraser Valley Indo Canadian Business Association
I CARE Mental Health Advisory Committee
City of Abbotsford Diversity and Inclusion Committee
Shastri Indo Canadian Institute Fellowships Adjudication Committee
Sikh Heritage Museum Advisory Board
Arts and Heritage Advisory Committee-Abbotsford
Abbotsford Building Connections Committee
Canadian Cancer Society, BC and Yukon Division
Royal BC Museum, Victoria, BC
Komagata Maru Centennial Workshop Committee

Internal UFV Committees:

Indo Canadian Community Advisory Committee
South Asian Peer Network Association – Student Association
Racism and Anti-Racism Group
Teaching and Learning Advisory Group
Research Advisory Committee
Internationalization Committee
Arts Dept Heads
Arts Curriculum Advisory Committee
Sikh Heritage Advisory Group
Canada India Study Program Curriculum Committee
Can-EU Diaspora Group
Educators Without Borders
Punjab Research Forum



Senate Graduate Committee
 MA Citizenship and Migration
 MA Community Development
 BA Peace Studies Curriculum Working Group
 Undergraduate Education Committee



Partners in the community:

Abbotsford Community Services
 Mission Community Services
 Fraser Valley Child Development Centre
 South Asian Early Childhood Community Committee – United Way of the Fraser Valley
 City of Abbotsford
 Providence Health Care – Centre for Aging
 Khalsa Diwan Society, Abbotsford
 UBC Centre for South Asian Studies
 Developing Indigenous Resources India
 The Reach Gallery and Museum
 OMNI TV
 Abbotsford News
 Abbotsford Times
 Punjabi Patrika
 Fraser Valley Indo-Canadian Business Association



Research, forums, projects and consultation studies on various social, cultural and historical issues

OCT 2012

Response to Milwaukee Gurdwara Shootings

The Centre for Indo Canadian Studies hosted a forum in response to the tragic Gurdwara shootings in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Faculty and staff presented on a variety of short papers relating to the topic: We are all Sikhs: Blind spots in racial landscapes of “mistaken identities.” The reflection was attended by faculty, staff and students and resulted in some insightful discussions. These papers can be viewed on the CICS website <http://www.ufv.ca/cics/cics-research/remembering-wisconsin-papers/>.



MAY 2013

CICS Hosts Forum on Canadian Model of Community Colleges

Dr. B.S Ghuman and Dr. Dhian Kaur of Panjab University, Chandigarh visited UFV as a part of the Panjab University's endeavour to gain knowledge on the building of community colleges. The Government of India has proposed to set up 200 new community colleges in the next academic session. The Indian State of Punjab has to set up 4 community colleges, out of which 2 will be set up in the field of polytechnics and the other 2 as general degree colleges. The first workshop held in Punjab, titled "Canadian Model of Community Colleges: Lessons for Higher Education Policy in India," initiated the discussions and were held in partnership between Panjab University and the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies, with the CICS sending an intern to Panjab University to help organize the workshop. Upon Dr. Ghuman and Dr. Dhian Kaur's arrival to UFV, the CICS hosted its own forum and discussion, and invited representatives from various different UFV departments and student support groups to speak on the benefits their respective departments have for students as well as to UFV.



APR 2013

UFV Hosts 'Dalit and Politics'

Dr. Prabhjot Parmar, faculty in the Department of English and an Associate of the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies brought together social activists, historians, scholars, community members and students to discuss Dalit Poetics and Politics: a conference of academics, creative writers and activists. The one-day conference was made possible through the sponsorship of the UFV College of Arts and the UFV Research & Graduate Studies. The keynote speaker was Arun Mukherjee of York University. The panelists as well as other speakers included: Dr. Nandi Bhatia of Western University, Dr. Rajneesh Dhawan of UFV, Dr. Prabhjot Parmar of UFV, Dr. Garry Fehr of UFV, Professor Sadhu Binning, Ajmer Rode, Paramjeet Kainth, Jai Birdi and Gurpreet Singh.





OCT 2013

CICS Hosts Ghadar Centennial Conference

On October 17th, 2013, the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies at the University of the Fraser Valley organized and hosted Ghadar Centennial Conference 1913 *Interpreting Ghadar: Echoes of Voices Past*. The academic conference featured 12 presenters in 3 panels each with a unique perspective on the impacts and significance of the Ghadarites of the early 20th century. The conference program in the morning included the welcome address by Satwinder Kaur Bains, Director of the CICS, an Honourary Chair Address by Dr. Adrienne Chan, Associate Vice-President Research, Engagement and Graduate Studies as well as the President's address by Dr. Mark Evered, Vice-Chancellor UFV. The Consulate General of India, Vancouver, BC, Shri Ravi Shankar Aisola also addressed the audience. The morning keynote address was provided by Dr. Hugh Johnston, whose emotional address set the tone and pace for the conference proceedings. The conference was very well attended and there were opportunities for some very engaging and robust conversations. The closing reception began with a welcome address by Dr. Jacqueline Nolte, Dean, College of Arts and ended with some very entertaining and powerful poetry readings. The University of the Fraser Valley will be publishing an e-book called *Ghadar: 100 Years Later* based on the papers presented.



NOV 2013

CICS Releases Research Database

The CICS released a new database for researchers and scholars looking to gain insight into the South migration history based on print media. This database highlights the work the CICS has done to digitize the articles from the Vancouver Daily News Province from the years 1906-1915. We are grateful to Dr. Norman Buchignani, Doreen M. Indra and Ram Srivastiva, authors of *A Continuous Journey* for donating their archival documents to us. The CICS hired research assistant, Donna Gomes, a Library Information Technology student to take on the task of creating this database. The database is accessible online via www.ufv.ca/cics.



NOV 2013

CICS Launches its First Published Book “A Soldier Remembers”

The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies was pleased to host the official launch of its first published book *A Soldier Remembers*, based on the memoirs of Lieutenant Colonel Pritam Singh Jauhal. The book was co-authored by Pritam Singh Jauhal, the veteran at the centre of the story, and Sharanjit Kaur Sandhra, coordinator of the CICS at UFV. Pritam Singh, a decorated World War II veteran, first came into the public eye in Canada on Remembrance Day in 1993, when he was denied entrance to the Surrey Newton Legion Branch because he was wearing a turban. In the 1970s Canadian society was struggling with issues of race and racism based on a general ignorance among its citizenry about other cultures. The discrimination Pritam Singh faced reached its climax during the Remembrance Day ceremonies of 1993 when he was denied entrance to the Surrey Newton Legion Branch because he was wearing a turban. True to his convictions and his Sikh faith, Pritam Singh waged a long and difficult struggle for Sikh veterans to be allowed to wear this key article of their faith in the Legion. This is a story of Pritam Singh’s struggle with the Legion in 1993, but it is also much more than that. This book chronicles the struggles and accomplishments of an immigrant Sikh-Canadian, and the lifelong service he has given to his community.



Student Research

MARCH 2012

Student Research Awards

UFV’s student research day was held where students from a number of UFV departments presented their research projects as posters and micro lectures. Matthew Stoutjesdyk and Jason Kowal presented a poster Low-tech, *High Performance: Moving Families Forward One Microgarden at a Time* that summarized the work of the project in the slums of Chandigarh undertaken by Satwinder Bains of the CICS and Garry Fehr of Geography. This poster won the first place among all of the posters submitted from students in the College of Arts. This award is the College of Arts Dean’s Award.

CICS student researchers Ms. Saman Brar and Ms. Alvina Kumar also presented a micro lecture highlighting their research work on the 100 year Indo-Canadian History Research project and The Fiji Project: Questions of home, belonging and return respectively.

MAY 2013

CICS Student Shea Wind Receives Undergraduate Research Excellence Award

Shea Wind, a Research Assistant for the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies in the Fall 2012 received the Undergraduate Research Excellence Award during the annual awards ceremony hosted by the office of Research and Industry Liaison. The ceremony took place on May 27th at the Ramada Inn and Conference Centre. The recipients were nominated from different departments ranging from Communications to the Sciences. Shea’s work, which he also presented at the annual Undergraduate Poster Day in March, looked at digitizing primary sources from the Vancouver Daily Province in the years 1906-1915. These articles looked at the South Asian migration in this time period. Shea’s project was titled “White Canada Forever: A Look



Through the Eyes of the Vancouver Daily Province 1906-1915.” In addition to accepting his award, Shea alongside his wife Jess (another recipient of the award) provided the keynote address. Their speech was well received by the audience, full of humour and wit, while at the same time acknowledging the research and work of their fellow award recipients.



MAY 2013

Panjab University, Chandigarh Student Research on Violence Against Women

Parveer Ghuman, a student visiting from Panjab University had been engaged in a project under the supervision of CICS Director, Satwinder Kaur Bains. Parveer, a Bachelor of Arts student from Panjab University, is also pursuing his L.L.B with a major in Economics. The title of the report called “Canadian government, justice and community response to domestic violence” recommends improving the policy and framework in India. The paper reviews the global statistics on domestic violence along with the specific trends in Canada and India. The focus of this report is the Canadian policy and the British Columbian Violence Against Women in Relationships policy 2010.

JULY 2013

CICS Director Supervises MA Student from Panjab University, Chandigarh

Lovepreet Vehniwal worked under the guidance and supervision of CICS Director, Satwinder Kaur Bains. Lovepreet was an MA student in the field of Social Work who was preparing for his defense. Lovepreet’s topic was on health related problems of senior Punjabi immigrants and other problems faced by them inside the house and outside in the society.

AUG 2013-SEPT 2013

The CICS hired UFV Library and Information Technology student Donna Gomes as a research student over the summer and fall of 2013 to start working with historical primary documents. During the summer she created subject and key word headings and abstracts for two hundred and fifty newspaper articles from 1906 to 1915 donated to the CICS by Dr. Norman Buchignani and designed an online database to make them widely accessible. The newspaper articles offer insight into the many hurdles the first South Asian immigrants to B.C. faced and the discriminatory immigration laws that placed an embargo on further immigration. The database is now accessible through the CICS and UFV Library websites and is available to students and the public for research purposes. The link to view the CICS Research databases can be accessed at:

<http://www.ufv.ca/cics/cics-research/cics-research-databases/>.

Internationalization Projects

NOV 2012

UFV Vice-Chancellor and President Dr. Mark Evered Visits UFV Chandigarh

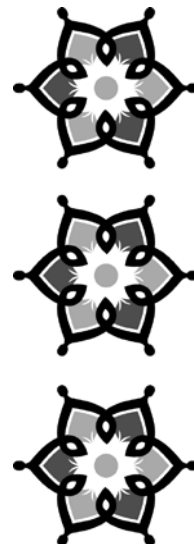
The University of the Fraser Valley strengthened its ties to India with an 11-day visit by UFV president Mark Evered and colleagues. Evered was joined on his trip, which ran from Nov 4 to 15, by Jackie Hogan, UFV Chief Financial Officer, and Satwinder Bains, University Advisor on Canada–India relations and Director of the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies. With a significant amount of the population of the Fraser Valley region having ties to India, UFV’s administration recognizes the importance of building ties to the Indian community, both within Canada and in India. Since 2005, UFV has been offering its Bachelor of Business Administration degree to a cohort of students in Chandigarh, in India’s Punjab state, in partnership with Sanatan Dharma College Chandigarh (SDCC), an affiliate of Panjab University. UFV also has partnerships with several other

Indian post-secondary institutions. These partnerships facilitate student and faculty exchanges, student internships, and visiting scholar initiatives.

NOV 2012

UFV Strengthen Ties with Panjab University, Chandigarh

One of the first items on the agenda for Dr. Mark Evered during his trip to India was to visit Panjab University in Chandigarh. Mark brought greetings from UFV to the new Vice-Chancellor of Panjab University, Dr. Arun Grover. Dr. Evered was joined by Jackie Hogan UFV Chief Financial Officer, Satwinder Bains, Director of the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies, Dr. B.S Ghuman Dean of Arts at Panjab University and Mr. R L Kapoor, Advisor to the Vice Chancellor. The meeting also allowed discussion on joint research and student engagement opportunities between the two Universities and to reaffirm UFV's commitment to build on successes of the past. UFV has had vibrant and extensive research collaboration with Panjab University since 2004.



NOV 2012

Dr. Evered Hosts the President's Dinner at the Taj Hotel in Chandigarh

Dr. Evered hosted a dinner for UFV/ India University partners, UFV India faculty and staff, SD College dignitaries, AUCC Students for Development students and the Canadian Consul General Mr. Scot Slessor. Enjoying the night breezes of the Chandigarh poolside, guests were happy to mingle, enjoy an amazing array of food and bask in the recognition of their contributions to making UFV India partnerships so successful. Dr. Evered spoke of the significant partnerships that have developed over the years and the good will extended by so many individuals, organizations and groups surrounding our presence in the North of India.



NOV 2012

UFV India Awards Ceremony

UFV India held its annual award ceremony at SD College with special guests of honour Mr. Scot Slessor, Consul General of Canada in Chandigarh, Mr Bal Gosal, Minister of Sport, Canada, Dr Arun Grover, Vice Chancellor of Panjab University. The event was graciously and ably emceed by George Peary and Sylvia Peary – affectionately called 'Team Peary' by UFV students. Dr. Evered gave out scholarships and awards to deserving students including the Dean's List awardees and academic scholarships. Parents and students attended the night, followed by dinner, live music and relaxation.

DEC 2012

UFV Chandigarh Launches Microsoft IT Academy

The Honourable Michael de Jong– Canadian Minister of Finance and Government House Leader, concluded his five-day Punjab walk\tour at the UFV Chandigarh campus by opening the brand new IT lab that will be used to deliver Microsoft IT Academy courses. This lab was built from scratch in 7 days. The Minister was joined by Consul General of Canada at Chandigarh Scott Slessor and SDCC Society President Mr. Upkar Sharma. Mike De Jong's support could not have been possible without Team Peary (UFV School of Business instructor George Peary and his wife Sylvie) who have just successfully completed their FALL 2012 teaching session in Chandigarh. Many thanks to all for their support to get this together in a record-breaking time. Gurneet Anand, Associate Director of UFV India expressed his joy, exclaiming that 'we are very excited to deliver more and more programs next year.'



NOV 2013

UFV President Visits UFV India

UFV president Mark Evered, along with vice provost and associate VP academic Peter Geller and Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies director Satwinder Bains, visited India to meet with students, faculty, and administration connected to UFV's Bachelor of Business Administration program in Chandigarh, including Team Peary (George and Sylvia), who are teaching business courses there. Their itinerary included attending an awards night for the Chandigarh students, visiting classes, signing an MOU with Himachal Pradesh University, and working on further details of a faculty development program being offered in partnership Panjab University. India is developing a community college system to meet the growing demand for access to education, and to increase the employability of its population through applied skills development. Without a tradition of structured and regulated trades and vocational skills training, India is looking for models to adapt to the Indian context. Indian federal and state governments, as well as public and private institutions, are seeking rapid growth in academic, technical, and vocational education. UFV is working with Panjab University to develop instructor education programs to transform practitioners into trainers. Instructor education has been a critical factor in the success of labour market-driven training in BC, according to Geller. "With instructor education programs in place, the Indian effort to develop a system will have a much higher potential for success," says Geller. "Community colleges or similar systems require applied curricula that are relevant to industry needs. They also need instructors who are familiar with the latest equipment, methods, and practices in their industry, and have the teaching abilities to transfer these skills and knowledge to their students and clients."



UFV-wide initiatives that support the vision of the Centre

JAN 2012

Greeting the Light-UFV South Asian Literary Colloquium

The Centre, together with the English department and the UFV Research Office, sponsored the Greeting the Light colloquium. At this event UFV'S new hires in South Asian and Diaspora literatures, Prabhjot Parmar and Rajnish Dhawan, spoke about their research interests and the projects they are currently involved in. Poet and scholar Chris Levenson recited his poetry and spoke of how he became interested in South Asian literature. UFV English instructor Trevor Carolan talked about *The Lotus Singers: Contemporary Stories from South Asia*, a new book that he edited and had recently been released. The audience enjoyed an hour of South Asian literature in its many forms.

JAN 2012

Readings, Voices and Interpretations with Anosh Irani

CICS invited UFV's Writer-in-Residence Anosh Irani for a book reading event on January 26 which was held in collaboration with the English department. Anosh read from his book the 'Dahanu Road' and also talked about his experiences being a writer. He also gave advice to all the students to want to take up writing in the future.

MARCH 2012

Ehsaas Readers and Writers Festival

The Centre invited four acclaimed authors which included UFV's writer in residence Anosh Irani, Fauzia Rafique, Surjeet Kalsey and Paul Sunga to participate in the festival and to read from their works. Author Anosh Irani read from his novel *The Song of Kahunsha*, followed by readings by Surjeet Kalsey from her new

book of poems *Colours of my Heart*, Paul Sunga read from his upcoming book *The Age of Wealth* and Fauzia Rafique read from her book *Skeena*. All the authors were well received and members of the audience got a chance to meet the authors, buy signed books and participate in the discussion.

MARCH 2012

SAPNA hosts Chai Time

SAPNA (the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies, student group: South Asian Peer Network Association) hosted a chai time discussion topic: 'Spirituality in Modern Age' which was led by UFV Writer in Residence Anosh Irani. Anosh discussed the works of ancient Muslim poets like Kabir, Hafiz and Rumi. He read out their poems and asked participants what they thought about the messages and what his interpretation was. It was a very interesting discussion as everyone had their own views as to what the poems mean and should be interpreted and how today's youth understands the depth and meaning of spirituality discussed by these poets.

MARCH 2012

International Women's Day Celebrated at CICS

The CICS in collaboration with Abbotsford community services, International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, SAPNA and Mission Community Services celebrated International Women's Day on March 8. Various local organizations set up organizational booths for networking and gave out information about their services. This was followed by the main event where women told their real life stories which were both heart wrenching and empowering at the same time. CICS Director Satwinder Bains announced the launch of a new local organization: The Fraser Valley Coalition for Women whose main purpose would be to create synergy amongst individuals and groups who can find ways to cooperate and join forces to fight for the common cause of the betterment of lives of all women. The event saw a huge turn out and the Coalition has started its work and effort to affect change. The aim of the FVCW is to create a pact or understanding among individuals and organizations, through which they cooperate in joint action for the betterment of the lives of all women in the Fraser Valley.

APRIL 2012

Susan Fisher, Senior Associate of the CICS receives scholarly award

Susan Fisher, UFV faculty member and senior associate of the CICS won the 2012 Canada prize for a scholarly work in the humanities category. This was awarded by the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and was one of the four awards- two for scholarly works in the humanities and two for scholarly works in the social sciences, with English and French prizes in each category. The prizes, each of which is valued at \$2,500, were presented at a special ceremony at Montreal's Musée des beaux-arts. Susan won for her work *Boys and Girls in No Man's Land: English-Canadian Children and the First World War*, published by University of Toronto Press. *Boys and Girls in No Man's Land* examines how the First World War entered the lives and imaginations of Canadian children.





APRIL 2012

CICS Collaborates with the Abbotsford Heat for Hockey Game Celebrating Vaisakhi

For the first time this year the CICS collaborated with The Abbotsford Heat for a hockey game to celebrate the festival of Vaisakhi on April 4th. Thousands of people turned up, mostly wearing traditional Indian clothes with a view to share in the Vaisakhi celebrations in our community. CICS had set up an information booth and they also had volunteers applying henna on game attendees. Punjabi dancing Bhangra group also mesmerized the audiences with their energetic performance. The game was tagged as Punjabi Night Abbotsford. The Heat management would like to host such a night every year to show their love for community and to build community partnerships.



OCT 2012

Sri Sri Natya Yoga Workshop at CICS

Yoga instructor Babeeta Chhabra engaged in a delightful yoga workshop at the CICS called Sri Sri Natya, which offered a beautiful combination of Dance, Music, Yogasanas and Meditation. The workshop was attended by faculty and staff and proved to be very lively and engaging, regardless of whether you were a new comer to yoga, or a professional.

NOV 2012

'It's a Girl' Screening at UFV

The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies presented the showing of the documentary called 'It's a Girl.' This powerful documentary sheds light on issues of female gendercide in South Asia and East Asia-although female infanticide does occur in other cultures outside of these two as well. The CICS worked alongside GirlKind Foundation (www.girlkind.org) to bring this screening to UFV. Proceeds of the ticket sales went towards the foundation. The turnout was amazing-with over 95 attendees. Dr. Rosetta Khalideen, Dean of Professional Studies at UFV provided the introduction, while the Q&A and discussion afterword was moderated by Dr. Nicola Mooney, a Senior Associate of the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies and a faculty member in the Social, Cultural and Media Studies Department.



MARCH 2013

'Zhindagee' Book Reading at UFV

On March 9th, author Mahinder Kaur Doman presented the poetry and writings from her book *Zhindagee: Selected stories from our first daughter*, which looks at the stories and narratives of female South Asian pioneers. The book recounts stories of the first Indian daughters born in Canada, including the Fraser Valley, Paldi and Lake Cowichan. The stories of these women are so rarely heard that it was certainly a treat for those attendees who listened. UFV President and Vice-Chancellor Mark Evered also attended the event and was presented with a copy of the book by Mahinder. For more details on the book, please visit www.zhindagee.ca or email Mahinder at myableheart@gmail.com.

APRIL 2013

CICS Hosts Lecture of Male Perpetrators of Female Violence

The Centre for Indo Canadian Studies hosted a lecture titled "This is a Man's Problem: Strategies for Working with South Asian Male Perpetrators of Intimate Partner Violence." The lecture was based on a report done by Gary Thandi (MSW) who was on hand to present the findings and engage in some very meaningful dialogues and discussions. Gary's research presented the perspective of 17 front-line practitioners who, together, have more than 200 years of direct experience working with South Asian male perpetrators of intimate partner violence or their families. The research participants make it clear that men born in Canada – second generation South Asian men – while different from their fathers are often raised with many of the same cultural patterns of behavior and belief. The lecture was well attended by community social service providers, UFV students, faculty and staff.

OCT 2013

CICS and GirlKind Foundation Celebrate "Every Girl Matters Day"

"On December 19th, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 66/170 to declare 11 October as the International Day of the Girl Child, to recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world." –United Nations. In honour of this declaration made by the United Nations, Deesh Sekhon, founder of the GirlKind Foundation (www.girlkind.org) collaborated with the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies in order to host "Every Girl Matters Day" at the University of the Fraser Valley on October 11, 2013. The morning allowed for networking opportunities amongst students and community members as well as a special proclamation made on behalf of the B.C Government. The honourable Minister Mike De Jong and MLA Mike Gibson were on hand to read out the proclamation officially declaring October 11th as "Every Girl Matters Day."

Visiting Scholars and Dignitaries:

NOV 2011-Late Entry

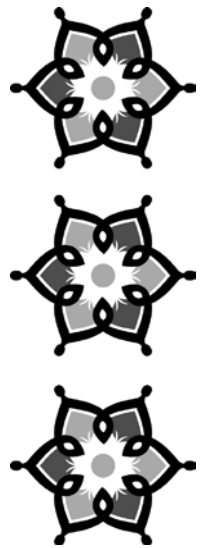
Film-maker and author, Ali Kazimi visits Abbotsford

Ali Kazimi is a writer and an award-winning documentary film maker based in Toronto. Some of his documentaries include *Rex vs. Singh*, *Runaway Grooms*, *Continuous Journey*, *Documenting Dissent*, *Some Kind of Arrangement* and *Passage from India*. Kazimi is a film professor at York University, Toronto and he was recently at the Reach Gallery Museum in Abbotsford to launch his book *Undesirables: White Canada and The Komagata Maru*. This book is based on the Komagata Maru tragedy where a boat filled with 376 Indians was forcefully turned back by Canadian authorities after harbouring at the Vancouver port for two months. Ali's presentation about his book was both fascinating and captivating. The book contains rare archival photographs and visual materials, some never seen before. This book is a gift to the South Asian community and sheds insight into one of the darkest chapters of Canadian history. Ali was also kind enough to present a gift copy of this special book to all the guests who attended the lunch.

NOV 2011-Late Entry

Pandit Manu Kumar Seen and Ustad Akram Khan present an 'Evening of Classical Music'

CICS partnered with Virasat Foundation to bring two acclaimed Indian classical music virtuosos to UFV. Pandit Manu Kumar Seen (sitar player) and Ustad Akram Khan (tabla player) performed and demonstrated their skill and art form to an appreciative audience. These artists mesmerized the audiences with their performance and explained the importance and value of the ragas they were playing. They also described how





their instruments (sitar and tabla) work. Concerts like these encourage artists and keep the tradition of Indian classical music alive in the West.

JAN 2012

Dr Ghuman from Panjab University, Chandigarh visits CICS

Dr Dhian Kaur Ghuman from Panjab University, Geography Faculty in Chandigarh visited the Centre in January along with Phd Scholar Anandvir Saini to build project design for a demonstration food project for colony dwellers (low income, daily wage earners) in Chandigarh, Punjab, India. The project was a joint University project between PU and UFV funded by Shastri Indo Canadian Institute. One of the projects goals was to enlist the support of agri-based organizations and local business organizations in India and Canada to help sustain the project in the years to come.



FEB 2012

Dr. Uttam Panda visits CICS

Dr. Panda from Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur, India visited CICS in February to present a lecture on Role Conflict, Stress and Their Coping Strategies: An Indian Perspective. This interesting lecture focused on how the manifold roles of dual career couples create conflict situations in their family life on one hand and economic independence, liberty and development of a new identity on the other. His research compared three different cities in India-metro, urban and rural. The talk was very informative and shed light on the lives of modern families living in both urban and rural settings in India.



JULY 2012

Consulate General Scot Slessor Visits CICS

Canadian Consul General of India, Chandigarh, Mr. Scot Slessor visited the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies in July. Mr. Slessor spoke to invited UFV faculty, staff and community members on the roles of the office in Chandigarh, as well as the business opportunities available in Chandigarh for young entrepreneurs. Mr. Slessor also discussed the contributions made by the Chair on Canada India Business and Economic Development and the continuing partnership between Chandigarh, the Chair, as well as the UFV Campus in Chandigarh. The presentation was then followed by dinner which was hosted by UFV's President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Mark Evered.



NOV 2012

UFV Chandigarh Students Visit Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Students from the UFV Chandigarh Campus had the opportunity to visit Prime Minister Stephen Harper and delight him and his entourage with their lively Bhangra performances during the Prime Minister's trip to Northern India.



NOV 2012

International Trade Minister Ed Fast visits UFV India in Chandigarh, India

International Trade Minister Ed Fast met with students and faculty of the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) India in Chandigarh, India. Included in the photo are Mark Evered, UFV President and Vice-Chancellor; Paul Davidson, President of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada; and George Peary, a former mayor of Abbotsford, British Columbia, and a current faculty member at UFV India. UFV, based in Abbotsford, partners with Goswami Ganesh Dutta Sanatan Dharma College, an affiliate of Panjab University, to offer a Canadian Bachelor of Business Administration four-year degree program to Indian students at UFV India. Minister Fast highlighted the benefits of a Canadian education. The students will be going to study in Canada as part of an option to transfer to UFV in Canada. Also pictured (centre, blue shirt) is Gurneet Singh Anand, who was the first student to benefit from the exchange program to transfer to Canada.





OCT 2012

Reading by Author Shauna Singh Baldwin

Renowned Indo-Canadian author now living in the United States, Shauna Singh Baldwin returned to the University of the Fraser Valley for the third time in five years to read from her latest work. The reading took place in the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies to a packed room of some sixty delighted fans. Shauna Singh Baldwin's special relationship with UFV began when her novel *What the Body Remembers* was selected as the book of choice for UFV Reads, a university-wide book club in 2007. She also visited UFV in 2010. Baldwin returned as a guest of UFV's Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies as she launched the first book tour for her new novel, *The Selector of Souls*. Baldwin's latest novel has been referred to as a deeply imagined, enthralling work, where two fascinating, strong-willed women deal with the relentless logic forced upon them for survival: Damini, a Hindu midwife, and Anu, who flees an abusive marriage for the sanctuary of the Catholic Church.



NOV 2012

Honourable Minister Yap Visits CICS

Honourable John Yap, Minister of Advanced Education, Innovation and Technology and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism visited the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies while on his tour of UFV. He met with students who were studying at the Centre and was impressed with their commitment to their studies at UFV. They expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the quality of education and instruction at UFV, the excellent instructors and the small classrooms.

JAN 2013

Visiting Professor from Punjab University, Chandigarh

The Centre for Indo Canadian Studies was pleased to host Dr. Krishna Mohan, a Professor of Geography in Panjab University, Chandigarh. Professor Mohan was joined by Ravinder Singh, a Phd student in the Department of Geography also at Panjab University, Chandigarh. Both Professor Mohan and Ravinder enjoyed a two-week stay in which they attended Dr. Garry Fehr's classes, Satwinder Bains's classes, and also took part in community and advisory meetings. Dr. Mohan gave a public lecture on Monday, January 28th titled "Regional Development in India: Challenges." The talk was well attended by faculty and staff as well as students in the Geography department. Dr. Mohan's presentation looked at India as a country of diversities. However, existing disparities across the regions many a times threaten the unity and integrity of the nation. There are physical, economic, and social disparities in the country. Dr. Mohan is author of the book titled: *Addressing Regional Backwardness: An Analysis of Area Development Programmes in India*.

OCT 2013

Author Jaspreet Singh Reading

Acclaimed author Jaspreet Singh visited the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies on October 10th, 2013 and read from his latest novel *Helium*. The novel, though a work of fiction encompasses around the very real, tragic and horrific government organized anti-Sikh pogroms which erupted in 1984 in Delhi, India following the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her two Sikh bodyguards. Given that the 29th anniversary of the tragedy will be coming up on November 1st, Jaspreet Singh's reading was timely and powerful. *Seventeen Tomatoes*, Jaspreet Singh's debut story collection, won the 2004 Quebec First Book Prize. *Chef*, his first novel

about the damaged landscapes of Kashmir, was a 2010 Observer 'Book of the Year' and won the Canadian Georges Bugnet Prize for Fiction. The reading at the Centre was very well attended, many of whom included two English classes from UFV as well as faculty, staff and community members.



DEC 2013

Minister of Advanced Education Visits CICS

Honourable Amrik Virk, the Minister of Advanced Education for the Province of British Columbia visited the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies during an all-day tour of the Agriculture Centre of Excellence currently under construction in the Chilliwack, UFV campus. "We are planting the seeds of success for students who want to reap an exciting and rewarding career in our province's vibrant agriculture sector," said Advanced Education Minister Amrik Virk, who participated in a hard-hat tour of the new facilities. "The new Agriculture Centre of Excellence facilities at UFV are an example of how our flexible and nimble post-secondary education system is adapting to ensure we produce students who can support a strong agricultural sector in B.C." The meeting at the CICS included UFV President Dr. Mark Evered, Simon Gibson, MLA for Abbotsford-Mission and local philanthropist and member of the Indo Canadian Community Advisory Committee, Dr. Malwinder Dhani. The conversations were meaningful as Amrik reflected on the successes and achievements of the Indo-Canadian community in Canada. The Minister expressed his continuing support for higher education for all students that is culturally relevant and appropriate.

CICS Associates



Senior Associates of the Centre

CICS Associates continue to contribute to help build the research agenda and international collaborations of the Centre.

SENIOR FACULTY ASSOCIATES

Satwinder Bains, India-Canada Studies program

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Adrienne Chan, Associate Vice President, Research, Engagement and Graduate Studies

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Garry Fehr, Geography department

B.S. Ghuman, Dept of Public Administration, Panjab University

Dhian Kaur, Dept of Geography, Panjab University

Ding Lu, Economics department



David Milobar, History department
Krishna Mohan, Dept of Geograpy, Panjab University
Nicola Mooney, Anthropology, Social Cultural & Media Studies department
Prabhjot Parmar, English department
Amandeep Sandhu, BC Regional Innovation Chair in Canada-India Business and Economic Development



For more information on the associates, please visit our website: www.ufv.ca/cics

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