

SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES INSTITUTE 2018-2019

BIENNIAL REPORT



CONTENTS

BIENNIAL REPORT 2018-2019



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR 2

THE TEAM 3

MISSION AND VISION 3

RESEARCH 4-7

ENGAGEMENT 8-11

STUDENT SUCCESS 12-15

FUNDING 16-19

PUBLICATIONS 20-21

RESEARCH CHAIR 22-23

FACULTY AND ADVISORY FOCUS 24-25

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Our work is defined by our commitment to the ongoing discovery of South Asian Canadians' long and rich diasporic history in Canada and our desire to engage in contemporary issues. We are excited about new initiatives we are undertaking and we celebrate the accumulated effect of 16 years of work to represent and record our collective histories. We always welcome your feedback and appreciate your support of our work along these years. The South Asian Studies Institute's biennial report provides a glimpse into our diverse work and engagement with our stakeholders in the last two years. This report provides specific highlights to our past two years of work. For detailed updates of the work of the SASI, please read our newsletter page by visiting www.blogs.ufv.ca/sasi.



Dr. SATWINDER KAUR BAINS

THE TEAM



Dr. GARRY FEHR
Associate Vice-President

Research, Engagement and Graduate Studies

Dr. Garry Fehr has been a faculty member at UFV in the Department of Geography and the Environment since 2007. He was selected to be Director of the Agriculture Centre of Excellence for three years, and then appointed AVP Research, Engagement and Graduate Studies in September 2018. Dr. Fehr's background outside of the academy has strongly influenced his approach to teaching and learning, as well his efforts engaging local governments, non-governmental organizations and industry to provide research and internship opportunities for students.



SHARANJIT KAUR SANDHRA
Coordinator

South Asian Studies Institute

Sharanjit Kaur Sandhra is the Coordinator at the South Asian Studies Institute, co-curator of exhibits at the Sikh Heritage Museum, located in the National Historic Site Gur Sikh Temple in Abbotsford, BC and a sessional faculty in the Departments of History and Social, Cultural, Media Studies at UFV. She is a PhD Candidate in the Department of History at UBC and is interested in looking at the affective experiences of museum visitors through a critical race theory lens.

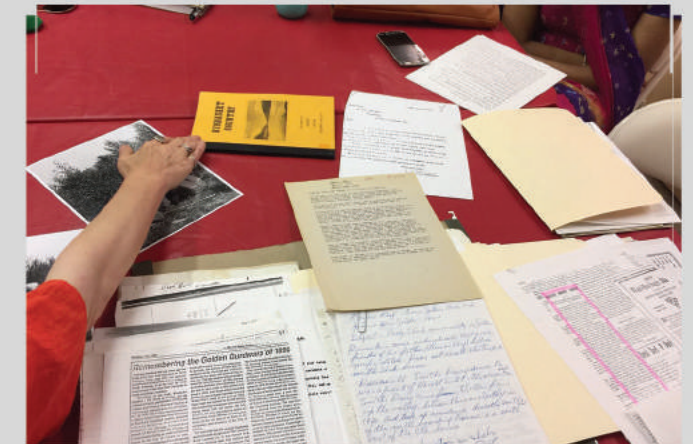
MISSION



The South Asian Studies Institute (The Institute/SASI) at the University of the Fraser Valley brings together scholars and students, members of the community and scholars from diverse disciplines to create a nexus point for programs and activities that supports our vision.

VISION: STRATEGIC PLAN

The SASI initiates, directs and implements the development, strengthening and maintenance of research, South Asian Canadian Studies Program and engagement linkages in collaboration with faculty, students and community. We build knowledge by undertaking research and engagement on the historical and contemporary Canadian South Asian Diaspora. The SASI vision takes direction from UFV's strategic plan to be a leader of social, cultural, economic and environmentally responsible development in the Fraser Valley.





RESEARCH

SASI 2nd Annual Symposium

The SASI hosted its second annual symposium on November 30, 2018. This year's theme was "Interpretations and Expressions: The Evolution of South Asian Canadian Experiences." Building on the 2017 symposium which invited scholars to reflect on their ideas of the understanding and representation of South Asia in Canada, the 2018 symposium opened a broader conversation about how we address South Asia and South Asian Canadians' evolving experiences across different disciplines, sectors, and modes of expression.



The keynote address featured Dr. Renisa Mawani who discussed her newest publication *Across Oceans of Law* in which she drew on what she terms "oceans as method" – a mode of thinking and writing that re-positions land and sea – to examine the historical and conceptual stakes of situating histories of Indian migration in maritime worlds. The symposium included a vibrant arts and culture round table titled "Forward, Backwards, Sideways: Critical Turns in South Asian Canadian Art and Culture". The round table was moderated by Mo Dhaliwal and featured artists: Farheen Haq, Sandeep Johal and Zool Suleman.

SASI 2nd Annual Symposium Audio Available Online

An audio podcast, based on the 2nd Annual Symposium SASI symposium hosted in November, 2018 can be accessed online. The 2nd Annual Symposium, titled: "Interpretations and Expressions: The Evolution of South Asian Canadian Experiences" looked at 'South Asia' as a region in part as a complex enigma when it becomes attached to Canadian diaspora experiences. The research symposium reflected particularly on scholarly work that critically examined the ways in which specific disciplines reflect, investigate, teach and research South Asia and evolving South Asian Canadian Diaspora experiences and narratives.



To listen to audio files, scan the QR code.



SCAN ME

2018

January 31st

SASI Hosts Consul General of India, Vancouver.

March 5th

RBCM adds new South Asian content to logging display.

March 12th

SASI receives recognition and grant success.

March 12th

SASI Director holds Faculty Development at St. Bede's College, Shimla, India.

ROYAL BC MUSEUM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SASI UNVEILS NEW EXHIBIT: HAQ & HISTORY

Since 2014, the South Asian Studies Institute has partnered with the Royal BC Museum to record, narrate and include in a historical record the stories of Punjabi settlers in the Province of British Columbia. To date, the SASI and the RBCM have collected interviews and archives of approximately 300 Punjabi families across the entire Province. The Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project partnership has been highlighted in local media. Based on the many years of work and research, the SASI announced that the RBCM unveiled its latest Pocket Gallery exhibit, just in time to commemorate Sikh Heritage Month in April 2019.



"WE ARE SO HAPPY TO BE A PART OF A HISTORIC MOMENT FOR PUNJABI CANADIANS WHO GET TO SEE THEIR STORIES SHOWCASED WITHIN OUR PROVINCIAL MUSEUM. THIS EVOCATIVE AND PROUD PAST IS PRESENTED WITH SUCH CARE AND COMPASSION ON SO MANY LEVELS, THAT WE HAVE NO DOUBT THE EXHIBIT WILL CREATE A LASTING IMPRESSION ON ANYONE THAT COMES IN CONTACT WITH IT."

JACK LOHMAN, CEO OF THE ROYAL BC MUSEUM.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESS RELEASE AND OTHER DETAILS:



SCAN ME

2018

March 19th

SASI and Sikh Heritage Museum Host BC Museums Association Workshop.

March 24th

SASI and Sikh Heritage Museum Host Talk 'Sikh Legacy in Pakistan' by Amardeep Singh.

March 27th

DJ Sandhu Retires from UFV.

March 29th

SASI Team Participate In First Canucks South Asian Hockey Night.

April 19th

Andy Sidhu Installed as UFV's Third Chancellor.

April 30th

Dr. Asma Qadri Visits SASI from the University of Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan.

May 1st

Dr. Joanne MacLean becomes UFV's next President and Vice Chancellor.

May 28th

Dr. Renu Modi Speaks on "Gendered Perspectives on the Indian Diaspora in East Africa".

SASI Co-Edits (Royal BC Museum) 'Curious' Online Magazine

The South Asian Studies Institute's Coordinator (Sharanjit Kaur Sandhra) has edited a collection of articles for the Royal BC Museum's online magazine Curious. Curious connects the public with curators and staff of the Royal BC Museum. The magazine's goal is to discover unique perspectives and hear the incredible stories of such community.

This issue of the magazine looks at the contributing communities across the Province who have been a part of the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project (PCLP). Many partners have contributed articles on the significance of the partnership and the work of the PCLP to connect stories of early Punjabi settlers in the Province of British Columbia and Canada.



CURIQUS

Since 2014, the SASI in partnership with the Royal BC Museum, and in consultation with the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project Advisory Committee have engaged with British Columbia's Punjabi communities, organizations and individuals to create the PCLP. The PCLP is preserving, exploring and sharing the contributions Punjabi communities have made to the history of BC and Canada.

To access all of the articles, scan the QR code.



SCAN ME

SASI 3rd Symposium and Commemoration of 550th Gurburab

The SASI hosted two days of conversation and dialogue on November 28th and 29th, 2019. The first event on November 28th, titled "Commemorating 550th Gurburab of Guru Nanak Dev ji," was a community discussion on the life and impact of the philosophy of Sri Guru Nanak Dev ji on humanity as many commemorate his 550th birth year. Led by Dr. Harjeet Singh Grewal from the Department of Classics and Religion at the University of Calgary and SASI Director Dr. Satwinder Kaur Bains, the open dialogue sought to spark contemporary thoughts on the unique spiritual, social and political platforms of Guru Nanak's philosophy. On November 29th, the SASI hosted its 3rd Annual Symposium on "South Asian and Gender" featuring a keynote address from Dr. Nikky-Guninder Kaur Singh who is the head of the Department of religious studies at Colby College, and holds the Crawford Family Professor Chair. Her interests focus on Asian religions, feminist issues, and sacred art and poetry. The one day symposium and dialogue featured presentations and papers from SASI Faculty Associates, Dr. Nicola Mooney, Dr. Prabhjot Parmar, Dr. Satwinder Kaur Bains and Sharanjit Kaur Sandhra, SASI Community Advisory Committee Member, Anita Lal, along with UFV Sessional Faculty Dr. Kamal Arora, SFU Faculty Dr. Sharon Koehn and KPU Faculty Dr. Asma Sayed. The symposium ended on a high note with UFV student presentations from Gureena Kaur Saran (History) and Kemone Moodley (English) presenting excellent papers.



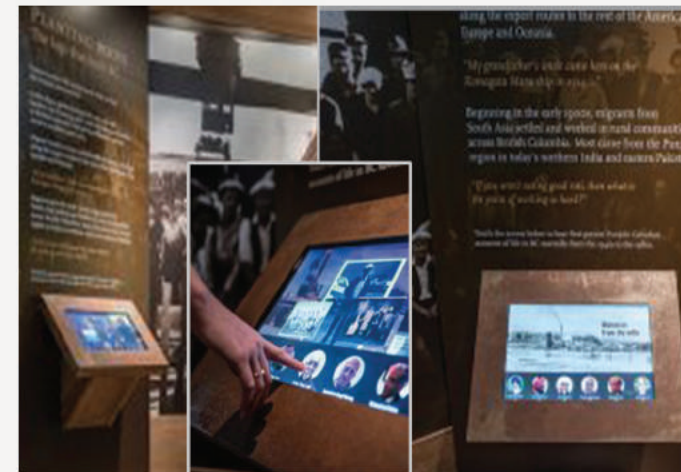
SCAN ME



ENGAGEMENT

A New Perspective for a Decades-Old Display: The SASI and RBCM Partnership Making Strides

The Royal BC Museum has drawn upon interviews with Punjabi Canadian loggers and millworkers, enhancing the logging display in the “Becoming BC Gallery” with their recollections about immigration, work and life in BC. Although Indigenous peoples and settlers to BC from around the world contributed to the creation and success of BC’s logging industry, this diversity is not clearly depicted in the text panels or imagery in the logging display, a permanent feature that was created in the 1970s. The multi-media station is one result of a long-term partnership between the Royal BC Museum and the SASI, in consultation with the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project Advisory Committee. These organizations engaged with British Columbia’s Punjabi communities, organizations and individuals to create a Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project (PCLP) to preserve, explore and share the contributions that Canadians of Punjabi descent have made to the history of BC and Canada. The insertion of the multi-media station, featuring images and interviews of Punjabi Canadian workers, is simply the first step in a long-planned incremental “refresh” of the museum’s core galleries.



Dr. Asma Qadri Visits SASI from the University of Punjab, Pakistan

The SASI was delighted to host Dr. Asma Qadri on April 30, 2018. Dr. Qadri teaches in the Punjabi Department of the Oriental College of the University of Punjab in Lahore, Pakistan. Dr. Qadri earned her doctorate for her thesis on 59 genres of Punjabi Classic poetry, ‘Punjabi Classici Shairi Da Sinf Vairva’. The work printed in three volumes in 2013 was well-received by Punjabi readers and researchers in Pakistan and abroad.



Dr. Qadri’s current research work focuses on Punjabi classical poetry. Her research on Baba Farid’s works is going to be published by the end of 2018. The informal meet and greet was an opportunity for conversations about collaborative work and opportunities between the two Institutions.

2018

June 6th

Magnanimous Dr. Malwinder S. Dhani awarded honorary degree from the University of the Fraser Valley.

June 8th

Vice-Chancellor Dr. B.S. Ghuman, of Punjabi University Patiala Visits the SASI.

June 10th

“Desis in the Diaspora” Opens at the Sikh Heritage Museum.

August 1st

Building Bridges Community Golf Day Fundraiser for the SASI.

'WE ARE HOCKEY' HITS THE ICE: EXHIBIT OPENS AT THE SIKH HERITAGE MUSEUM

On March 29th, 2019, the SASI hosted the opening reception for the 'We Are Hockey' exhibit. This exhibit is a vibrant, historically rich, counter narrative of Canada's beloved sport: hockey. Centered on the experiences of peoples of colour, this exhibit challenges singularly racial perspectives on the meaning of Hockey as Canada's national sport while negotiating the often ambivalent, yet very relevant interrogations of race, ethnicity and the privilege and power of settler communities.

The exhibit hall was filled with hockey fans and museum goers of all diversities and ages, adding to the atmosphere of the exhibit and really emphasizing the desire to learn from the theme of 'We Are Hockey.'



The keynote speeches by Randip Janda and Harnarayan Singh (commentators on Hockey Night in Canada: Punjabi Edition) discussed the lack of recognition for South Asian hockey history. Randip Janda noted: "It's an unspoken history, an unrecognized history, and that is something that we as a community have been trying to tell, but there's never been a vessel, now there is one." Harnarayan Singh connected hockey to his own personal faith and saying that being able "to see hockey and Gurdwara married together today is just so special and so heartwarming."

Dr. Joanne Maclean, UFV President and Vice-Chancellor provided a welcome address from UFV. Mike De Jong (MLA), Jati Sidhu (MP), Henry Braun (Mayor of Abbotsford), and Perm Jawanda (VP, Partner Retail, Rogers) also each provided positive words of support and added weight to the significance of the exhibit.

We are grateful to Dr. Courtney Szto, whose PhD research has helped shape the exhibit. Without her thought provoking and much needed research, the exhibit would not have come to fruition.

The support from the sponsors: Rogers, Cross-Connect Media, and the community sponsors: Vancouver Canucks, Apna Hockey, SFU Communications, was phenomenal and helped bring this incredible story to life.



SCAN ME

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESS RELEASE AND OTHER DETAILS:

2018

August 24th
Inaugural Building Bridges Community Golf Day a Great Success.

August 29th
Punjab University, Chandigarh Student Completes Summer Internship at the SASI.

October 4th
SASI Hosts Winners of the 2018 Dhahan Prize in Punjabi Literature.

October 17th
UFV Alumni Association Hosts Inaugural Chandigarh Student Social.

October 2018
BC Regional Innovation Chair's "Lucerne Talk".

November 5
Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project Receives Provincial Recognition.

November 8th
President and Chancellor Visits UFV India.

November 20
Dr. Jon Thomas Presents at "Research Encounters" series.

SASI Receives Local and Province-Wide Recognition for its Work at the Sikh Heritage Museum

Since 2011, the South Asian Studies Institute has a ten year partnership with the Sikh Heritage Museum and National Historic Site Gur Sikh Temple. The SASI, in partnership with the Khalsa Diwan Society, Abbotsford and the Reach Gallery Museum, Abbotsford have curated and installed exhibits highlighting Sikh migration, history, art and culture.



The SASI was recognized by Heritage BC with the Outstanding Award in the Education and Awareness Category for its exhibit on "(Dis)Enfranchisement: 1907-1947 The Forty-Year Struggle for the Vote". SASI Director Satwinder Kaur Bains and Coordinator Sharanjit Kaur Sandhra accepted the award at the annual Heritage BC conference taking place on May 10, 2019. In addition to the award, SASI also achieved the following:

- An article based on the SASI curated exhibit (Dis) Enfranchisement was featured in the BC Historical Federation magazine looking at the South Asian struggle for the right to Franchise.
- The same exhibit "(Dis-Enfranchisement)" was also featured in the Canada History online magazine as it was shortlisted for the Governor General History Public Award for Excellence in Community Programming
- Tourism Abbotsford has also placed a prominent feature on the National Historic Site and Gur Sikh Temple as part of their Abbotsford promotions of things to do and see in town. To see images from the feature, please visit:



SCAN ME

To view Tourism Abbotsford coverage, scan QR code.

Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project Provincial Recognition

BCMA RoundUp Magazine Coverage

The 2018 edition of the BC *RoundUp* Magazine, a BC Museums Association magazine featured a cover page story based on the work of the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project. The magazine highlighted how the joint SASI/RBCM partnership allowed for the interview collection of Punjabi settlers in seven regions across the province. In total, the B.C. | Canada 150 grant allowed the SASI to interview 93 people in municipalities as diverse as Abbotsford, Golden, Kelowna, Prince George, Surrey, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island. The goal of including so many regions was to develop an inclusive opportunity for regionally diverse Punjabi communities to (re)write and (re)construct histories and collections together.



Honourable Mention at the BC Museums Association Conference

In addition to the feature in the *RoundUp* magazine, the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project also received an Honourable Mention for "Impact and Engagement" from the BC Museums Association. The announcement was made during the annual BCMA conference which took place in October, 2018.

SASI RESEARCH ASSISTANT AWARDED UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD AND FEATURED IN RESEARCH BLOG

Shan Dhaliwal, a SASI Marketing Research Assistant in Fall 2019 and UFV BBA student assisted with the successful 'We Are Hockey' exhibit which was displayed at the Sikh Heritage Museum. The 'We Are Hockey' museum exhibit highlighted historic and persistent racially unequal representation within public discourse in the game of ice hockey. In particular, the historic players' timeline increases access to a personal and collective evocative hockey history by showcasing the experiences of peoples of colour in the sport. The exhibit concept was based on Dr. Courtney Szto's dissertation titled "Changing on the Fly: Situating multiculturalism, citizenship, and hockey through the voices of South Asian Canadians."

Guest Post: We Are Hockey — An inclusive re-telling of Canadian hockey history

courtneyszt0 / July 16, 2019

Guest post by Shan Dhaliwal.

Shan is a student at the [University of the Fraser Valley \(UFV\)](#) completing his Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in Marketing. He is also attending the [British Columbia Institute of Technology \(BCIT\)](#) for graphic design.

Shan works at the [South Asian Studies Institute at UFV](#) as a Marketing Research Assistant where he marketed, planned and designed the 'We Are Hockey' exhibit. He also had the opportunity of writing a research paper called 'We Are Hockey: An Analysis of Social Media Comments and Responses,' for which he was awarded UFV's 'Undergraduate Research Excellence Award.'



The "We Are Hockey" exhibit was curated and opened by the [South Asian Studies Institute \(SASI\)](#) at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) in March 2019. The exhibit expresses a deep and resonant Canadian story not just from the perspective of the exhibit content, but from the setting of the exhibit as well. The exhibit is located at Gur Sikh Temple National Historic Site's [Sikh Heritage Museum](#) in Abbotsford, British Columbia. The space's positive spirit is built into the foundation and walls of the building, adding to the total effect and ambience of We Are Hockey's bright, eye-catching

As a part of his work, Shan provided a guest blog post on Dr. Szto's page titled "Hockey in Society: Exploring Critical Social Issues in Hockey." Shan shared his experience in assisting in the exhibit communication work, saying "My experience as a Marketing Research Assistant for the SASI was like no other. SASI brought the story of diversity in the game of ice hockey to life and with the many perspectives from the SASI curatorial team, it was executed in a way that appeals to all age groups.



My position provided me with a huge learning experience not just through the work, but with the content I was reading and designing. For example, I had no idea that Robin Bawa even existed, but I learned that his presence in hockey was a huge milestone for South Asian fans all around the world."

Shan also was awarded the Undergraduate Research Excellence Award in 2019 for a research paper he wrote based on the exhibit titled, "We Are Hockey: A Social Media Analysis," which interrogated some of the inherent social media comments connecting hockey to themes such as white fragility and white privilege and where individuals felt the need to defend themselves against questions of (under)representation and had a difficult time acknowledging their power and privilege in society.

TO READ THE COMPLETE BLOG POST:



SCAN ME

STUDENT SUCCESS

2018-2019

BIENNIAL REPORT 2018-2019

13

November 30th

SASI Second Annual Symposium.

December 17th

Another Successful Instructional Skills Workshop in UFV India.

January 4th

Installation of the "We Are Hockey" Exhibit at the Sikh Heritage Museum.

March 11th

SASI Co-hosts Inaugural UFV 'Valley Fest'.

STUDENT INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS



Ajaypal Kaur

Pursuing her M. Phil. from the Department of Economics at Punjabi University, Patiala in Punjab, India Ajaypal Kaur, looked at a comparative study of agrarian policies of India and Canada. The objectives of her study were to study the different types of income stabilizing policies, subsidies in Canada and to what extent these policies are useful for farmers in the country. In addition, Ajaypal also looked at the regulated agricultural markets of Canada and for whom they are more beneficial - farmers or consumers? This was a self-funded internship.

STUDENT INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS

Jitender Singh

Jitender Singh is a Masters of Social Work student at Panjab University, Chandigarh, India. He worked as a student intern from June to July 2018 at the SASI. The internship was a University studies project in which he was doing a cross cultural analysis of parenting support for children's education by South Asian parents in Abbotsford. His project was titled: "Restructuring Education through collaborative culture: A research survey of how parents engage and involve themselves in reading support for their children". This was a self-funded internship.



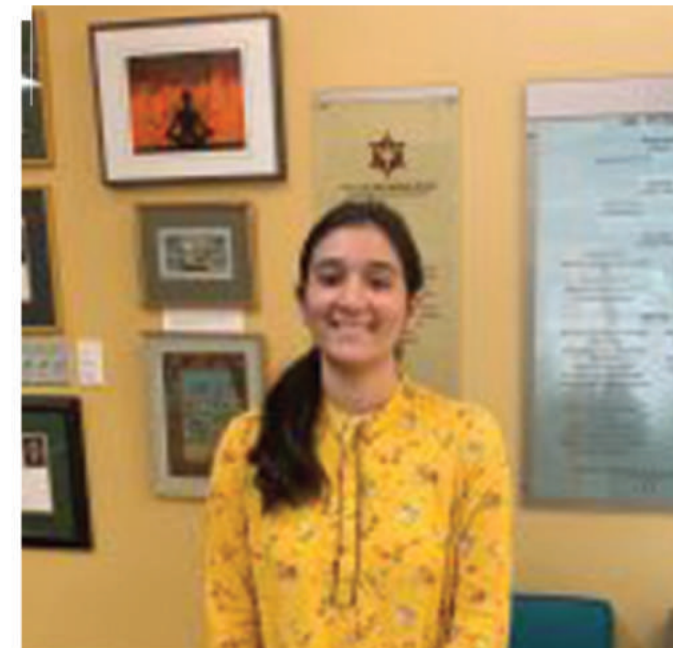
Kuldeep Singh

Pursuing his PhD in the Department of Public Administration at Punjabi University Patiala in Punjab, India, Kuldeep Singh looked at best practices in policing for combating drug abuse. This was a comparative study of Punjab (India) and British Columbia(Canada). This was a self-funded internship.



Pratistha Singh

A BBA undergraduate student in Economics from SD College in Chandigarh, India, Pratistha Singh received funding from the UFV "Christy Clark Scholarship." As part of the scholarship she spent the summer researching the Bank of Canada and its management of currencies. Pratistha gained an understanding on how other countries manage their currencies and how the Canadian government in particular, manages its funds in order to best serve the residents of the country.



2019

March 29th

'We Are Hockey' Hits the Ice : Exhibit Opens at the Sikh Heritage Museum.

April 3rd

Royal BC Museum in Partnership with the SASI Unveils New Exhibit: Haq & History.

April 8th

Supported Learning Groups (SLG) Developed in UFV Chandigarh.

April 9th

SASI 2nd Annual Symposium Audio Available Online.

April 9th

SASI is awarded Shastri Indo Canadian Institute and Hari Sharma Foundation grants.

April 14th

Provincial Stop Sign of Interest Unveiled at Gur Sikh Temple.

April 23rd

SASI Co-Edits (Royal BC Museum) 'Curious' Online Magazine.

April 2019

Chair and Research Assistant Present at ISPIM Conference.

GRANT SUCCESSES

The SASI was awarded two grants early in 2018 in relation to its work with the Sikh Heritage Museum, National Historic Site, Gur Sikh Temple. The first was the BC Arts Council "Professional Project Assistance: Museums and Visual Arts Organizations" for the Sikh Heritage Museum exhibit titled "Desis in the Diaspora".

The second award, from the Canadian Museums Association, was the Dr. Shirley L. Thomson Young Curators Award and which provided an opportunity for high quality, enhanced learning experiences in relation to the SASI curated exhibit "Desis in the Diaspora" which launched in the Spring 2018. The exhibit featured the work of Jagdeep Singh Raina, a Canadian artist whose work brings forth archives into a contemporary focus.

Call for Artists (Young Contemporaries) for Desis in the Diaspora 2018 Exhibition

PUNJABI LEGACY PROJECT
Linking BC's Punjabi Canadians

Project Organizers:
Jasvir Mac Donald is Head of Learning at the Royal BC Museum, overseeing all public and school programming activities. In developing programs, she works to engage and ensure a balance between existing popular programs and innovative initiatives.
Tina F. Chung is Curator of History at the Royal BC Museum. She was named the Exemplary Curator by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
Sufwinder Bains is the Director of the South Asian Studies Institute at the University of the Fraser Valley and Associate Professor in Social Cultural Media Studies, College of Arts. Her current research interests include South Asian Diaspora studies, Sikhism and the politics of identity, cultural historiography, religion, settlement and integration, race, racism and ethnicity, and security rights and cultural politics.
Shereen Kaur Sandhu is the Coordinator at the South Asian Studies Institute and Curator at the Sikh Heritage Museum in Abbotsford. She is currently a PhD student in the Department of History at UBC.

Public Community Workshop in Cedar Glen Temple in Mission BC. Photo credit: SASI Museum

In addition to the grant successes, the SASI was featured in the 2018 edition of the RoundUp Magazine, a BC Museums Association magazine. The story highlighted the work of the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project (PCLP) and its second phase of work titled 'The History Across the Regions Project' which created an extensive record of oral testimony from Punjabi communities across the Province of British Columbia. The work of the PCLP was listed as a 'Change Maker' and "Making Difference" according to the magazine.



FUNDING

2019

May 10th
SASI Receives Local and Province-Wide Recognition for its Work at the Sikh Heritage Museum.

May 23rd
SASI Research Assistant Awarded Undergraduate Research Excellence Award and Featured in Research Blog.

May 28th
SASI Hosts Forum: 'Hockey, Racism and Memory-Making'.

June 28th
SASI Hosts Punjabi University Patiala Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ghuman.

Inaugural Building Bridges Community Golf Day a Great Success

The inaugural "Building Bridges Community Golf Day" began on Friday, August 24th, 2018 to raise funds for the South Asian Research Fellowship program at the SASI. The idea for the golf tournament was formulated and carried out with great enthusiasm by tournament founders and leaders, Dr. Malwinder Singh Dhami and Dr. Amarjit Singh Bajwa who are both members of the SASI Community Advisory Committee.

Master of Ceremonies Randip Janda who is an experienced broadcaster, journalist and content creator/publisher of sports broadcasting, held the crowd's attention with great ease. Many recognized Randip as host of Hockey Night in Canada: Punjabi Edition. Most recently Randip has joined SportsNet 650 Radio as an on air host.

Dilvur Dub delivered the keynote address on his recently completed Master's degree research in Criminal Justice at UFV. His research focused on youth gangs and youth gang prevention programs in the Fraser Valley and the Lower Mainland. Dilvur's keynote address was timely as the first Research Fellow at the SASI will engage in a scoping review on community safety to assess the current trends and Canadian research related to gang violence and illicit drug criminal activity. The Golf Day was a great success, and made even better with a generous announcement was made by UFV Vice-Chancellor and President, Dr. Joanne MacLean, whereby UFV will match all donations 1:1.



2nd Annual Building Bridges Golf Day a Success

The SASI in partnership with UFV's Advancement team and tournament founders Dr. Malwinder Dhami and Dr. Amarjit Bajwa are pleased to announce that the second annual Building Bridges Golf Day was a great success. The day's golf participants as well as sponsors for the day each supported SASI's Research Fellowship Endowment, funding scholarly research aimed at investigating questions and addressing issues that matter in the Fraser Valley and beyond. This research in particular responds to and has relevance for local, provincial, and national communities.

The SASI is grateful to the presenting sponsor Westberry Farms and gold sponsor Canex Building Supplies Ltd. for their support.

The dinner reception following the day of golf featured a welcome address from UFV President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Joanne MacLean and keynote address from Deputy Chief Brett Crosby-Jones of the Abbotsford Police Department. The evening's emcee, Randip Janda of Sportsnet 650 and Hockey Night in Canada Punjabi kept the audience laughing and engaged.



At the dinner reception, the SASI was pleased to present copies of the South Asian Research Fellowship Report titled "Developing Strategies on Violence Prevention and Community Safety." This first report is phase I as part of the larger research project which will look into issues of community safety as it relates to the ongoing gang violence in the Fraser Valley.

The 2nd Annual Golf Day raised approximately \$22,000 with Dr. Joanne MacLean making a surprise announcement of matching fund support from UFV, bringing the grand estimated total to \$44,000.

SHASTRI INSTITUTE AND HARI SHARMA GRANTS RECEIVED

In 2019, the SASI received the Shastri Programme Development Grant through which the SASI Director and Vice-Chancellor of Panjabi University, Dr. B.S Ghuman worked to develop two workshops (Canada and India) for stakeholders including policy makers both Canada and India, academic administrators, civil society, researchers, managers of higher education, students, media, to prepare a policy brief for the Canadian and Indian policy makers on foreign higher education in India.

In 2019, the SASI received \$10,000 from the Hari Sharma Foundation to continue its interview collections of South Asian settlers across the Province. With the Hari Sharma Foundation grant for research and publication, the SASI was able to continue research and publication by collecting a further 30 interviews from early South Asian settlers from across British Columbia. The added importance will be of accessibility and access to the stories online (see website image below – visit the site at www.southasiancanadianheritage.ca), which will allow the elders' stories to be shared with the community and passed down as a family legacy for their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

South Asian Settler Stories

The South Asian Studies Institute at UFV received the Dr. Hari Sharma Foundation grant in 2019. The foundation advances South Asian studies by promoting education in Canada, particularly as it relates to labour. It supports the development of cultural activity within the South-Asian community in Canada, and facilitates socially beneficial activities that disseminate knowledge regarding South Asia.

Through the funding support, the SASI collected 25 settler interviews from those of South Asian descent across the Lower Mainland.

This page highlights each of those 25 stories of settlement, migration and history in this Province. It is a resource tool for anyone wishing to engage in research about South Asian settlement in British Columbia.

We are grateful to the Hari Sharma Foundation for their support and funding.



2019

SCAN FOR MORE PICTURES ON OUR FLIKR PAGE



TO VIEW A VIDEO ABOUT THE SASI FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER SCAN THE QR CODE



July 23rd
Dr. Tahseen Choudhury Presents "South Asians in Britain".

August 23rd
2nd Annual Building Bridges Golf Day a Success.

August 26th
Successful completion SASI 2019 Summer Internships.

September 3rd
South Asian Fellowship publication released.

September 10th
SASI Hosts Lecture on Guru Nanak by Dr.H.S. Virk.

September 10th
Mo Dhaliwal Featured in UFV Alumni Magazine Skookum.

September 17th
UFV International Student & Alumni Welcome Reception.

September 28th
SASI Supporter of 'Women Who Named the Unnamed' Event at Surrey City Hall.

PUBLICATIONS



SCAN ME

The Battle for the South Asian Right to the Vote

The South Asian Studies Institute contributed an article in the BC Historical Federation Magazine based on its 2017 curated exhibit on the South Asian franchise in B.C. The article examines in detail, the complex history of the South Asian right to the franchise and the many steps it took (a forty year struggle) to gain that right to the vote. The article includes archival data and images to support the argument.

We Are Hockey

The SASI published 'We Are Hockey' catalogue based on its 2019 curated exhibit at the Sikh Heritage Museum, National Historic Site and Gur Sikh Temple. The catalogue features all the elements from the exhibit, including the historical timeline, biography panels as well as the feature on Hockey Night in Canada Punjabi commentators. In addition, the catalogue includes contributed articles from Dr. Courtney Szto, whose PhD dissertation informed the exhibit as well as some commentators of Hockey Night in Canada Punjabi, and much more.



SCAN ME



SCAN ME

The Punjabi Canadian legacy project: possibilities and limitations of institutional heritagisation from below

This article examines the Punjabi Canadian Legacy Project (PCLP), a partnership project between the Royal British Columbia Museum and the South Asian Studies Institute at the University of the Fraser Valley, as a case study of heritage from below. The project is based on community action research and practices, joining forces of memory, research, and community institutions, organisations, and groups. Considering 'heritagisation' as a process of heritage building, and drawing on their experience as practitioners on this project, the authors argue for the need to consider the vast diversities within and among communities, and the need to work on 'heritagisation' through ongoing dialogic engagement.

South Asian Research Fellowship Report

The South Asian Studies Institute published its first South Asian Research Fellowship Report from the 2019 South Asian Research Fellowship Project. The aim of this report is to provide agencies, individuals and groups concerned with community safety with a deeper understanding of the issues as they undertake innovative and targeted approaches to prevent gang related violence. The work (consultation) undertaken in this report provides a focused approach to understanding violence prevention strategies aimed at South Asian Canadian youth that have been implemented in the Abbotsford region.



SCAN ME



2019

October 22

UFVAA x BCAAC x UFV
SASI x The Reach Gallery
Presents: Exploring
Diversity.

November 5th

'Hungry Bengal' Lecture
by Dr. Adrienne Fast.

November 24th

SASI Director and
Advisory Committee
Member Honoured at
Drishti Awards 2019.

November 28th-29th

SASI Symposium and
Commemoration of 550th
Gurpurab.

RESEARCH CHAIR

Dr. Jon Thomas, the BC Regional Innovation Chair in Canada-India Partnership Development at UFV, has been working with a number of students since 2018 on a range of projects including:

In April 2019, Jon's Computer Information Systems student research collaborator, Jordan Evans, presented a co-authored paper, "Exploring Innovation in the Fraser Valley", at the ISPIM Connects Ottawa Conference. Dr. Thomas also presented his own research, "Endowing university spin-offs pre-formation: Entrepreneurial capabilities for scientist-entrepreneurs", at this international peer-reviewed academic conference.

Dr. Thomas also published two recent journal articles: the first article (2019) in the International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business examines the impact of regional innovation ecosystems on the commercialization activities of star scientists. The second article (2019) in the Journal of Cleaner Production analyzes market-entry strategies for electric vehicle start-ups in the automotive industry through a case study of Tesla Motors. Dr. Thomas has also presented his research on star-scientist-entrepreneurs at the 2019 Technology Transfer Society Annual Conference at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy at the University of Toronto in September 2019.

Chair Highlights

- Exploring Innovation in the Fraser Valley
- The Growth of AI/ Automation across the world
- Examining the Indian Aviation Industry
- Canadian University Intellectual Property Policies
- Student Entrepreneurship supports in Canadian Universities
- Automation in the berry industry in Canada
- A case-study of the Abbotsford Aerospace cluster
- Indigenous entrepreneurship in Canada
- Social entrepreneurship in Canada
- Market Entry into the Indian Market
- Literature Review on Family-owned businesses in Canada and India



2019

December 5th

Fall 2019 SASI Student and Intern Success.

December 10th

New Year, New Projects – Haq and History Comes to UFV and 'We Are Hockey' to close in 2020.

December 15th

South Asian Fellowship Research Begins.

SPOTLIGHT ON FACULTY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Malwinder Singh Dhama and Dr. Amarjit Singh Bajwa

Dr. Dhama has been a SASI Community Advisory Committee member since the beginning when the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies was founded in 2006. He has been an integral part of UFV and engaged in many philanthropic outreach programs in support of UFV students. Dr. Dhama is a dentist in Abbotsford, having had a business for many years. Dr. Bajwa has been a member of the SASI Advisory Committee since 2018, is an Orthopedic Surgeon and an avid golfer.

Dr. Dhama and Dr. Bajwa serve as co-chairs for the “Building Bridges Community Golf Day,” which supports the SASI’s Research Fellowship Endowment. The endowment funds scholarly research aimed at answering questions and tackling issues that matter in the Fraser Valley and beyond. This research in particular responds to and has relevance for local, provincial, and national communities.

The SASI is grateful for the dedication, work and leadership by Dr. Dhama and Dr. Bajwa as they have been integral to the fundraising successes in the 2018-2019 years.



Dr. Adrienne Fast

Dr. Fast is the newest Research Associate at the SASI. Her academic work focuses on art and visual culture production during the late-colonial period in South Asia, particularly in Bengal. Her PhD thesis examined the challenges and opportunities associated with performing the social role of the modern, professional artist during this period, with a close study on the city of Calcutta where new kinds of art worlds were forming and transforming during the decades from roughly the 1910s to the 1940s. Dr. Fast is the Curator of Art and Visual Culture at the Reach Gallery Museum Abbotsford.



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