



India's High Commissioner to Canada, Her Excellency Shyamala Cowsik, visited UCFV recently with India's Consul General in Vancouver, Dr. George Joseph. They were hosted by Dr. Wayne Welsh, UCFV's Academic Vice President, and UCFV Board Chair Rob Nicklom.

CICSR “exactly what the doctor ordered”

Canada could be doing more to improve trade relations with India, and the work of UCFV's Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research will help, said India's High Commissioner, Her Excellency **Shyamala Cowsik**.

The High Commissioner (the Indian Ambassador to Canada) was the keynote speaker at a luncheon event recently organized by the Canada-India Business Council (B.C. Chapter) in Vancouver. She observed how Canadian business had been remarkably slow in taking advantage of the Indian market and said that Canada should think of that market as a way of diversifying its foreign trade relations. The High Commissioner applauded UCFV's recent initiatives and the creation of the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research. In her view, this is a very timely and important initiative.

“It is exactly what the doctor ordered,” she added. The

proposed work of the Centre's Regional Innovation Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development responds to a real need to address some of the immediate obstacles to greater collaboration between Canadian and Indian businesses. India, she said, “has grown some global, competitive, and totally indigenous companies which would be excellent partners for Canadian businesses.”

Noting that the record of Canada-India trade exchanges is “pathetic,” the High Commissioner added that “there is nowhere to go but up.”

High Commissioner of India visits UCFV, praises CICSR

During her recent visit to UCFV, Her Excellency, the High Commissioner of India, **Shyamala Cowsik**, expressed her strong support to the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies

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High Commissioner visit, continued



The High Commissioner and UCFV Academic VP Wayne Welsh.

and Research. She said that the creation of the Centre at this time in the history of Canada–India relations is “serendipitous.”

The High Commissioner was accompanied by the General Consul of India in Vancouver, Dr. George Joseph. She met with members of the UCFV community to discuss how her office can best support the work of CICS R. She applauded UCFV’s leadership and expressed her appreciation of the support that the community has offered in moving forward with the creation of the new Centre and its research program.

UCFV says goodbye to the Consul General of India to Vancouver

The Consul General of India for Vancouver, **Dr. George Joseph**, has been very supportive of the CICS R and has frequently offered his assistance in organizing events and facilitating various official visits to or from India. Unfortunately for UCFV, he will soon be leaving Vancouver for a new diplomatic post, as Ambassador of India to Qatar. He will be beginning his new posting in early September.

Dr. Wayne Welsh, Vice-President Academic, UCFV Board Chair **Rob Nicklom**, and CICS R Campaign Chair **Parm Bains** took the opportunity offered by Dr.



Dr. George Joseph,
Consul General of India
for Vancouver.

Joseph’s recent visit to UCFV’s Abbotsford campus to thank the Consul General on behalf of the CICS R and UCFV and to recognize his outstanding contribution to the Indo-Canadian community of our province and to UCFV’s various initiatives.

Your support is needed now more than ever!

In April 2005, the BC provincial government announced that UCFV is eligible for a \$1.25 million grant to establish a Regional Innovation Chair on Canada–India Business and Economic Development. The Chair would be of huge economic and cultural benefit to our community as well as communities across Canada and in India. However...

To receive the \$1.25 million grant, the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research must raise matching funds by February 2006.

For more information, please contact:
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