



Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce



PRESS RELEASE: ICCC Gala – June 10th 2006

The Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) held its annual gala at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Saturday, June 10th 2006. The annual gala has evolved, over 29 years of ICCC's illustrious existence, to represent the flagship event for ICCC; an occasion to meet, greet, and network with fellow ICCC members and to mingle with the political who's who and the business luminary.

More importantly, the gala is an annual celebration of success and contribution by prominent Indo-Canadians in various endeavors - business, enterprise, profession, philanthropy, technology, youth and lifetime achievement. Continuing this tradition for the 15th successive year, ICCC awarded its top honours to 11 prominent Indo-Canadians at its 2006 gala. (For a full list of the award recipients, please see the list in this supplement)

An audience of nearly a thousand joined in what was a celebration of Indo-Canadians to the Canadian mosaic. ICCC has always been fortunate to have several prominent dignitaries from business and political arena to attend its galas. This year the ICCC gala reached new heights with Right Honorable Prime Minister Steven Harper attending this event as ICCC's Chief Guest.

The main gala was preceded by a VIP reception to the sponsors, award recipients and invited guests. Prominent among the invited guests were MP Diane Finley, MP Deepak Obhrai, various M.P.'s, the High Commissioner of India to Canada, H.E. Shyamala Cowsik, Mayor Hazel McCallion, John Tory, Consul-Generals from UK, Israel, Nepal and Mr. Satish Mehta, Consul General of India. Others that joined were Michael Goldbloom, Publisher, The Toronto Star and David Asper.

ICCC's Corporate Sponsor RBC was represented by Jim Westlake, Group Head , Canadian Personal & Business Clients , RBC Financial Group, Jennifer Tory, Regional President, Greater Toronto Region, RBC Royal Bank and Gay Mitchell, Executive Vice President, RBC Financial Group. The

Industry sponsors Telus represented by Alice Lee, Omni represented by Madeliene Zinniak and Gowlings represented by Sean Bhagwandin were also in attendance.

Following the ceremonial march into the grand Constitution Hall of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, the Masters of Ceremony- Ravi Baijwal, CTV news anchor and Geetika of OMNI TV introduced the guests seated at the head table.

Speaking at the awards gala Prime Minister Harper recalled that this was the third opportunity for him to be present at an event sponsored by ICCC including his presence at an event hosted by the ICCC's Business Council in Ottawa. In his address that was listened to with rapt attention by the audience, Mr. Harper covered a wide range of themes - accreditation of foreign credentials, immigration, contribution of Indo-Canadians and the threat of terrorism to Canadian values.



PRESS RELEASE: ICCC Gala – June 10th 2006

On the contribution of Indo-Canadians, the Prime Minister mentioned that his government is working to make Canada a more attractive place for skilled immigrants conveying "Like all Canadians, immigrants just want the opportunity to work hard and get ahead - they're not looking for special favours, just a fair deal." He narrated the success stories of Manjit Minhas of Calgary and Rob Bakshi of Vancouver - both recipients of last year's ICCC awards. Crediting the Indo-Canadian community for enriching Canadian society, the Prime Minister emphasized his government's plan to spend \$300 million to help immigrants adjust to their new country and cut an immigrant arrival fee in half.

"This will leave new Canadians with more money in their pockets so they and their families can get ahead and begin building a new life," he said. The prime minister also pointed to the creation of a new "foreign credentials recognition agency" to help new Canadians get jobs in their fields of expertise.

The audience applauded when the Prime Minister discussed his government's attitude toward the specter of terrorism. Mr. Harper won their praise when he mentioned he would work to make sure atrocities such as the 1985 Air India bombing would never happen again. "Our government is proud to finally establish a full public inquiry into these murders," he said. "We'll do all we can to ensure these acts never happen again."

Prime Minister's address got a warm and resounding applause from the audience.

Ajit Khanna, the President of ICCC, led the round of speakers at the gala. In his welcome address, Ajit noted the presence of the Prime Minister, the High Commissioner and the various MP's, MPP's and other dignitaries and highlighted ICCC's accomplishments during the year in the areas of advocacy including Foreign Credential Recognition, Canada-India trade and business development, networking events, trade delegations and the contributions of various ICCC committees. He ended his speech acknowledging the contribution of ICCC Executive and Board and described the team spirit that made it all possible. He encouraged the audience to volunteer and contribute to the ICCC and guaranteed them an enriching experience.

In her speech, H.E. Shyamala Cowsik, High Commissioner of India to Canada, displayed her proficiency in facts and figures pertaining to India and underscored the business potential open to Indo-Canadian enterprises.

The evening's agenda moved to the highlight of the evening, which was the award presentation ceremony. A video clip of the ICCC award recipients' profiles, accomplishments, followed the speeches. Prime Minister Harper presented the awards to the 11 award winners and plaques to the award sponsors.

The gala continued with the dinner - a veritable feast of Indian delicacies. Dr. Shiva and his Rashtravani choral group provided a delightful musical end to the gala. The group's rendition of popular folk music brought down the house to a round of spontaneous dancing.

ICCC 2006 gala will be remembered as a precedent-setting evening combining noteworthy guest list, engaging speeches, an evening of celebrating the best of the personal achievement, opportunities of networking, great Indian food, wonderful music and above all, a grand recognition of the Indo-Canadian community.

In addition to extensive high-profile coverage in Canadian media the following web-links will take you to some International/Indian media coverage of the 29th Annual Gala.

http://www.hindustantimes.com/news/5967_1718034,001600060001.htm

<http://www.dnaindia.com/report.asp?NewsID=1034947>



PRESS RELEASE: ICCC Gala – June 10th 2006

<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?id=1197>

<http://www.thehindu.com/2006/06/12/stories/2006061208321500.htm>

<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2006/06/10/1624976-cp.html>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1637493.cms>

“The PM's website www.pm.gc.ca has his speech delivered at the Gala on June 10, 2006.”

List of Award Reciepients:

Prof. A. K. Biswas, Vancouver - Professional Male
Dr. Mitali De, Waterloo - Professional Female

Mr. Gyan Chand Jain, Toronto - Male Entrepreneur
Ms. Rashmi Rekha, Ottawa - Female Entrepreneur

Mr. Ben Sennik, Toronto - Life /Outstanding Achievement

Mr. Ravi Sood, Toronto - Young Achiever Award

Mr. Rahul Singh, Toronto - Humanitarian Award

Dr. Sankar Das Gupta, Toronto - Technology Achievement

Mr. Nadir Mohamed, Toronto - Corporate Executive of the Year

Mr. Rajesh Subramaniam, Mississauga - President's Award

ICCC's Y.P. Committee - Member of the Year



Right Honorable Prime Minister Steven Harper with the award recipients



Dancing to the tunes of Dr. Shiva and his Rashtravani



New Members

On behalf of the ICCC membership we welcome the following new members:

Life Member

Ahuja Atul

Corporate

Air India
Canaccord Capital
Corp.
Apotex Inc.
Jaipur
Development
Corp.
Jet Airways
The Indian
Express
W2P Technologies
Inc.

Individual

Ahmad Tanweer
Alphonsus Emil
Anindya Mittra
Aranha Merv

Banerjee
Debashish
Boparai Rantej S.
Carrasco Stephen
Chamarthi Ganesh
De Mitali Dr.
Desai Krupaben R.
Gupta Rajeev
Jadavji Azeem
Jain Gyan Chand
Jans Murray
Jerath Sunil
Joshi Rajesh
Kaku Nirav
Kalra Ambi
Kaushik Atul
Kumar Ravi
Malupillai
Natarajan
Mohamed Nadir

Nayak Ragu
Patel Rajesh
Rahul Singh
Randhawa Hargy
Rekha Rashmi
Seedhar Raman
Sheth Samir
Sood Ravi
Subramaniam
Padmanabhan
Bala
Tekriwal Rajni

Individual - B.C.

Biswas S.K. Dr.

Individual -

Manitoba

Dhalla Romel

Member News

Tata Consultancy Services on Board with Operation Eyesight

Akhilesh Tripathi, Regional Director for Tata Consultancy Services Canada (TCS), has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Operation Eyesight, a leading Canadian-based organization fighting blindness in the developing world. "Mr. Tripathi brings a wealth of business expertise to our organization and we are very pleased that he has agreed to share his insight with us," says James Killam, Chair of the Operation Eyesight Board. "Having lived, worked and traveled in a number of different countries, Mr. Tripathi will contribute a truly global perspective to our development activity and help us work with people and organizations around the world to prevent and treat avoidable blindness."

Etihad Airways Etihad Airways is a recent member to ICCC and attended their first Gala night on June 10, 2006. They were very impressed and wanted to extend their congratulations to the organization for the professional, high caliber and entertaining evening. They did find that most did not know who they were and wanted to inform members that Etihad Airways is the National Airline of the United Arab Emirates. They too offer a first class product and now fly direct from Toronto to Abu Dhabi and beyond to India three times a week, each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For more information please contact Corporate Account Manager, Laura Oakes-Pavusa at 416 221 4744 X 2230 or refer to the website at www.etihadairways.com



An Eye on India

India's rapid pace of growth is being highlighted through extensive media coverage, including the cover of *The Economist* along with major coverage in *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines. Here are some points of interest on India's fastest growing sectors:

- Commerce and Industry Minister of India, Kamal Nath, suggested that India has investment opportunities of approximately \$500Bn in the next 5 years, of which infrastructure alone represents 50%. The expectation is that foreign investors will play a significant role in taking advantage of manufacturing opportunities, which are suggested to total \$130Bn.
- Interest in India's real estate market is at a high with multiple major investments into commercial real estate developments. Many Israeli companies have shown particular interest in Indian real estate, with a growing list of possible investors including Alony Hetz Property and Investments Ltd., Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd., Gazit-Globe Ltd., and Ocif Investments and Development Ltd.
- India is becoming a larger force in the world of global manufacturing and has emerged as a major player in the manufacturing and export of goods such as auto parts:
 - Exports of auto components from India have grown at a compounded annual growth rate of 33% in the last 3 years, due to a huge increase in the outsourcing of auto parts by car manufacturers such as General Motors, Toyota, Ford, Honda, Hyundai, Volkswagen, Suzuki and Mercedes. Auto parts exports from India are expected to reach US\$ 25Bn by 2015
- A recent report highlights that until recently, Indian students were competing for opportunities to get foreign internships. Now the trend appears to have reversed as international students fight for limited positions at Indian companies. Companies such as Infosys, ICICI Bank, Mahindra & Mahindra and Tisco, have started offering internships to foreign students at some of the top business schools in the U.S., such as Harvard and Wharton. Infosys reports that they receive 10,000 applications for some 125 positions.

Other Upcoming Events of Interest

IN TORONTO:

Miss India-Canada 2006 to be crowned July 15

Canada-India Beauty Quest Inc. in association with MOVADO is organizing the 16th Annual MISS INDIA-CANADA Pageant on Saturday, July 15, 2006 at the Double Tree International Plaza hotel in Toronto. The Miss India-Canada event has become a well-known event not only in Canada, but also in the USA and India. For sponsorship and ticket inquiries, please contact: **(416) 744-0239**, or visit www.MissIndiaCanada.com.

Bombay Dreams - Canadian Premiere! August 16 – 20, 2006 at the Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts. Special Limited Time Offer for ICCC Members: **15% discount**. Offer valid June 26 to July 9 only. Purchase Tickets now! Visit www.ticketmaster.ca or call 416-872-2262. Your Discount Code is: ICCC



IN INDIA:

International Jewellery, Watch & Clock Show – September 16-19, 2006 Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India

Organized by the India Trade Promotion Organization, Government of India, Ministry of Commerce, this show will display all types of precious and semi-precious jewellery including gems, stones and pearls from leading players in the international industry. This event is a perfect platform to promote the latest trends in fashion jewellery. More information on the event is available at: www.indiatrdefair.com and by contacting Ms. Naseem Ishaque, General Manager, at fax no. 91-11-23371869 or Mr. I.D. Agarwal, Senior Manager, at phone no. 91-11-23371815 and email: ida@itpo-online.com.

International Congress and Exposition on Trade in Services - 4 to 6 October 2006 at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi. The Congress is being organised by Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) and supported by the Ministry of Commerce of the Government of India. Further details could be obtained from the website at www.servinexpo.com. You may also like to contact the Consul General's office at comsec@cgitoronto.com.

Broadcast India 2006 – October 26-28, 2006 - World Trade Centre, Mumbai, India

Saicom Trade Fairs & Exhibitors Pvt. Ltd. is organizing The 16th Broadcast India 2006 Exhibition. The Exhibition will be preceded by a two-day Symposium from October 24 to 25, 2006 at the Y.B. Chavan center, in Mumbai, India. Broadcast India 2006 Exhibition & Symposium covers all aspects of Television, Radio, Video, Audio, Film, Music, Lights, Cable, Satellite, Multimedia, Transmission, Computer graphics, Animation, Broadband, Internet and all the leading innovations from the infotainment industry. More information on Broadcast India 2006 is available at <http://www.broadcastindiashow.com/>.

“Indian Paper 2006” – November 10-13, 2006

Vapi Industries Association Ground, VAPI, Gujarat, India
Sai Expocon India Pvt. Ltd. is organizing “Indian Paper 2006,” the 2nd International Trade Fair and Conference on the paper industry. This conference will allow exhibitors to share their ideas, develop business partnerships and network with others in the industry from different parts of the world, as well as share their knowledge and experience on the industry's emerging. More details on the event is available on the website: www.saiexpocon.com

EXPO XX1 – November 29-December 2, 2006

IIICTW'06 will take place in the new world-class exhibition venue, in Greater Noida, New Delhi. Expomedia Events, working in partnership with Cybermedia, has a track record of organising trade fairs in the world's most exciting emerging markets as well as assisting its partners and exhibitors in gaining, or maintaining a strong position within these new and lucrative markets. For details visit www.expomediagroup.com or email Karim.Halwagi@eme-uk.com

For more details on these and other events being held in India please visit our web site or the web site of our partner organizations in India (CII and FICCI):
<http://www.ciionline.org/> or <http://www.ficci.com/>.



Job Vacancies

Schulich School of Business Student Projects:

Students from The Schulich School of Business are available to work on year-long business projects commencing May 2006 in the fields of Marketing, Finance, Economics or Strategy. Students are also available for individual work on four-month projects. Interested companies may contact The Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto at 416-736-2100.

To post job vacancies in this eBulletin please contact the Chamber at iccc@iccc.org

Get Involved

There are many ways to get involved in ICCC:

- **Committee Membership** – Please refer to the ICCC website (iccc.org) for details on the various committees like Trade, SME, IT and Y.P
- **Advertising** – Members interested in advertising at competitive rates in this eBulletin should contact the Chamber at 416-224-0090
- **Volunteering** – Members interested in volunteering as Event Coordinators can check our website for upcoming events

This newsletter is another way for ICCC members to stay in touch with each other and with the broader community. It should be engaging and relevant to each of you, so tell us what you'd like to read about! Feel free to send in articles of interest or other suggestions about what you'd like to see in the next issue. Comments can be directed to the Chamber at iccc@iccc.org



Official Corporate Sponsor



Barristers & Solicitors | Patent & Trade Mark Agents



Export Development Canada | Exportation et développement Canada

I n d u s t r y S p o n s o r s

Magazine & eBulletin Sponsors

Satyam Computers Inc.

Sears Canada Inc.

DISCLAIMER:

This email (including any attachments) is intended for the sole use of the intended recipient/s and may contain material that is CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVATE COMPANY INFORMATION. Any review or reliance by others or copying or distribution or forwarding of any or all of the contents in this message is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by email and delete all copies; your cooperation in this regard is appreciated..