Transitions in Policy, Resilience and Identity: New Challenges in Indo-Canadian Studies

The nation building process of Canada has been fraught with politics of exclusions, marginalization and discrimination since her emergence as a European settler colony. Identifying the disjunctions within her ‘multicultural mosaic’ as one of the major ramifications of the differential equations of power between her Euro-Canadian, diasporic and indigenous population, is perhaps the first step towards combating such situations of conflict and contradictions.

In the light of these contemporary realities, the conference will seek to address the relevance and effectiveness of Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations in the Canadian context, in its major themes and academic concerns. To what extent are these goals governing the social, political, economic and the ecological intricacies of the nation-building process of Canada in the recent times? Would they help propel the emergence of an idea of nationhood which is more inclusive in its stance? How are they, in turn, affecting her cross-cultural and trans-national relationships in the global context? In the light of these pertinent questions, the conference aims to adopt a dynamic and interdisciplinary approach towards interrogating the effectiveness of the UN mandated SDGs in Canada, with special reference to its impact on Indo-Canadian relations. More importantly, the conference would explore the crucial relationship between sustainability and the humanities, which would in turn facilitate a much-needed conversation on the intellectual and moral aspects of sustainable development in the Indo-Canadian context. The conference also hopes to contribute towards a better understanding of the role of cultural policy in achieving sustainability.

An exclusive academic session focusing on the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the Governments of Canada and India, aimed at commemorating the 50th anniversary of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, would also be presented on the opening day of the conference.

The conference will have panel discussions and sessions for students and young scholars from both the participating countries on a range of interdisciplinary issues that are now of critical concern both for higher educational institutions as well as Indian and Canadian societies. The abstracts may have direct bearing on one of the sub-themes mentioned below or may also address other related and relevant issues.

- Climate change
- Environment
- Education
- Governance
- Gender
Abstracts (500 words) are to be sent to canadacentreju@gmail.com by 14 January, 2019. Acceptance will be intimated by 20 January, 2019. Please note that the organisers would not be in a position to offer either local hospitality or travel costs.

From 2017, the Centre for Canadian Studies, Jadavpur University has introduced two student awards (till the MPhil level) for the best paper presented at a regular session at the Conference as follows:

1. “Victor Ramraj Memorial Prize” for the best paper in Canadian Diaspora Studies
2. “Renate Eigenbrod Memorial Prize” for the best paper in Indigenous Canadian Studies

Both the awards are sponsored by the Shastri Indo Canadian Institute, Canada and India.

A student may apply for only one of the above mentioned prizes and should indicate the same during abstract submission. Joint authors would not be eligible to participate.

In order to be considered for the prize and upon acceptance of the abstract, completed papers should be mailed by 30 January, 2019. The Prize(s) would be awarded only if the Screening Committee believes in the originality and academic excellence of the submission. The decision of the Screening Committee would be final.

**Conference Coordinators**

Professor Suchorita Chattopadhyay  
Coordinator, Centre for Canadian Studies  
Jadavpur University, Kolkata – 700 032

Dr. Debashree Dattaray  
Deputy Coordinator, Centre for Canadian Studies  
Jadavpur University  
Kolkata – 700 032