



## Message from the President



Dear Friends,

I am delighted to be able to provide you with this newsletter as a record of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's numerous achievements over the last year. Since its founding in 1968, the Shastri Institute has fostered education and cultural cooperation and collaboration between Canada and India, as a unique bi-national organization and consortium of over 90 universities and institutions of higher learning and research including most of the eminent and flagship institutions in both countries. Over the past year, we have continued this tradition by working with a wide variety of partners to facilitate linkages between India and Canada in many different ways, including organizing events, running programs, and providing support for researchers.

This newsletter details some of our undertakings over the past year and showcases our new and continuing partnerships. Our Engaging Canada and India series continues to foster dialogue in priority areas, with the recent "Engaging Canada: Emerging Priorities for Sustainable Partnerships" and "Networking for Quality Improvement" events continuing this process. Over the past year, the Shastri Institute has also focused on the future through the organization of Roundtables on

"Unlocking Potential: Future of Canada-India Partnership," "CEPA and Beyond: Canada-India Partnership in Agriculture and Food Processing," as well as a panel discussion on "Canada-India: Training the Next Generation of Innovators and Researchers."

I am also proud to highlight some of the recent achievements of our affiliated scholars in this newsletter, including research trips, publications, and new positions. Similarly, we have numerous updates from our Canadian and Indian member institutions on the events, educational programming and workshops that they have recently undertaken, as well as the milestones they have recently attained. At both the individual and institutional level, these updates are evidence of the concrete results made possible by Shastri's support and the crucial Canada-India linkages that Shastri is proud to foster.

Finally, Shastri continues to look toward the future with the announcement of the successful recipients of our various Shastri Grants and Awards. We are proud to welcome this new round of high-caliber researchers and students to Shastri's roster, and I wish these scholars and institutions all the best in their pursuits.

As always, I thank all of the Shastri Institute's members, alumni, affiliates, supporters, and staff for their support and dedication.

Prof. Shanthi Johnson

President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute

## SICI Events

### *Emerging Priorities for Sustainable Partnerships*

On June 1, 2013, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute organized a conference titled "Engaging Canada: Emerging Priorities for Sustainable Partnerships" at the India International Centre, New Delhi with support from MHRD, Government of India. The conference was organized with the objective of presenting collaborative research that had been completed, or was being undertaken, by Indian and Canadian universities/research institutions in four areas: Energy & Environment, Public Health, Food Security & Sustainable Development and Bi-lateral Trade & Investment. The Conference provided a platform for a new cadre of researchers from India and Canada to present their work and discuss

further academic and institutional collaborations between Indian and Canadian universities and research institutes.

"Effort to identify emerging opportunities and strategies to address challenges identified in priority sectors by both the Indian and Canadian governments" – **Prof. Ranbir Singh**, President of SICI

"SICI is instrumental in laying down the foundations of linkages in the academic and cultural field between India and Canada." – **Mr. Jim Nickel**, Deputy High Commissioner of Canada to India.



### *Emerging Priorities for Sustainable Partnerships*

“Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute is important in India-Canada educational cooperation.” – **Prof. Shanthi Johnson**, Vice President/President-Elect of SICI.

The Inaugural Session concluded with Dr. Ravi Shankar Rao, Member, Executive Council, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute proposing a vote of thanks.



In the plenary session Prof. Biju Paul Abraham, Member-at-Large, Executive Council, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, introduced Keynote Speaker Prof. Balbir Sahni, who spoke about ‘Canada-India Academic Linkages.’ Prof. Sahni mentioned the high level of institutional engagement between Canada and India and SICI’s unique bi-national structure and governance. Prof. Sahni emphasized that for successful partnerships, “effective, innovative and mutually rewarding academic

linkages do serve as the lynchpin and all stakeholders have a role to play.”

The first parallel session was on ‘Energy and Environment’ by Prof. A. S. Narang from Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi and had four presentations from India and Canada. The other parallel session on ‘Public Health’ was chaired by Prof. Indira Rama Rao, from Mysore University and also had four papers from Canadian and Indian researchers.

In both the parallel sessions, in total eight papers were presented by eminent Canadian and Indian researchers in their respective fields. In the afternoon there were again two parallel sessions, of which the first was on ‘Food Security and Sustainable Development’ while the second was on ‘Bi-lateral Trade and Investment.’ The papers presented were diverse in nature, covering many aspects like investment, trade in environmental goods, free trade agreements and CEPA.

The conference concluded with Valedictory Session in which Prof. Biju Paul Abraham and Prof. Ravi Shankar Rao, Executive Council Members of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute summed up the conference discussions. To conclude, Prof. Shanthi Johnson gave the Valedictory Note and Prof. Abraham proposed a Vote of Thanks.

### *Unlocking Potential: Future of Canada-India Partnership Ottawa Roundtable*

A roundtable on: "Unlocking Potential: Future of Canada-India Partnership" was jointly organized by Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) and Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) with support from the Honourable Senator Dr. Asha Seth at Parliament Hill, Ottawa on Tuesday, November 19, 2013.



At the roundtable, Shastri Indo Canadian Institute was represented by President Dr. Shanthi Johnson and Dr. Rajesh Tyagi and ICCC was represented by President Naval Bajaj and Ambassador (Retd.) Kant K. Bhargava, Honorary Advisor ICCC. The opening session of the Roundtable was held at Hotel Westin, Ottawa, where representatives from the business community, academia and government came together to discuss four different themes pertaining to Canada India bilateral relations:

- Education, skill development and vocational training
- Innovation, science and technology, and sustainable development

- Roles of diaspora and bridge-builders, Canadian provinces and Indian states
- Investment

The roundtable participants included His Excellency Admiral Nirmal Varma, Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Don Stephenson, Chief Negotiator, CEPA, Ms. Denise Amyot, President and CEO, Association of Canadian Community Colleges, Mr. Sriram Iyer, President & CEO, ICICI Bank, Canada, Mr. Brian Lee Crowley, Managing Director, Mc Donald Laurier Institute, Mr. V.I. Lakshmanan, Chair, Canada India Foundation, Douglas Gould, Director, Asia Pacific Foundation and representatives from AUCC, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development various other organizations.



In his speech, Mr. Don Stephenson stressed the importance of the Canada-India trade relationship and the challenges it has faced in the signing of CEPA



### *Unlocking Potential: Future of Canada-India Partnership Ottawa Roundtable*

He highlighted the various agreements between Canada and India that were signed and also those that are in their final stages which includes the Social Security Agreement, Nuclear Co-operation Agreement, and agreements on Audio-Visual Co-production, Science and Technology Partnership Program, International Education Strategy, Investment Protection Agreement, Sector Practices established in key economic areas and expanded Trade Commissioner Services in India to promote Canadian businesses. His Excellency Admiral Nirmal Varma emphasized the importance of SMEs in the trade corridor between Canada and India, which should move on even in the absence of

of education, research, and commerce,” Senator Asha Seth stated over the dinner attended by delegates from across the country and Parliamentarians including Minister Bal Gosal and Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate Yonah Martin. Senator Seth congratulated the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce for their efforts in organizing the roundtable meeting.

In his speech, Mr. Naval Bajaj, ICCC President said, “at the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce, we believe that for unlocking the full potential of Canada-India partnerships, our discussions during the roundtable must factor in the need for evolving a cohesive and coordinated approach by the Governments of Canada and India by involving in this exercise industry, academia and governments at provincial and local levels.”

The event concluded with a speech by Dr. Shanthi Johnson, President of the Shastri-Indo Canadian Institute, in which the importance of academic and research exchanges were stressed as a measure to further unlock potential for Canada and India. In her speech, Dr. Johnson said, “Education is the most effective tool we have to bring social change and economic prosperity. Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute will continue to play a significant role in building and improving academic relationships between the two great nations, Canada and India.”



CEPA.

“Tonight, we will have an opportunity to discuss at length how Canada and India are working together to develop and strengthen key relations in the areas

*Knowledge Session on “Engaging Canada and India:  
Networking for Quality Improvement”*



The **Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute** organized a special Engaging Canada and India event, “Networking for Quality Improvement,” on November 12, 2013 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 pm at Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FICCI) Global Education Summit on November 13 and 14, 2013 in Delhi.

This event was a part of the Shastri Institute's initiative to enhance Canada-India Education cooperation within the framework of the Education Cooperation MoU signed by the governments of Canada and India and announced by Prime Ministers Harper and Singh on June 27, 2010.

The event focused on six themes relevant to the Government of Canada and Government of India: Food Security and Sustainable Development, Water Resource Management, Gender and Health, Bilateral Trade and Investment, Energy and Environment, and Higher Education. Concurrent panels featured eminent speakers from India and Canada, and scholars from 15 Canadian and 10 Indian institutions participated in the discussions at the roundtable. Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman, University Grants Commission, delivered the inaugural address.

*Knowledge Session on “Engaging Canada and India:  
Networking for Quality Improvement”*

“This event provides a platform to scholars and experts from Canada and India to share knowledge on the themes that are important to both our countries.” – **H.E. Mr. Stewart Beck**

Prof. Shanthi Johnson, President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, highlighted the support and contributions of stakeholders, and liaising partners like the High Commission of Canada in India, and



The program concluded with a reception and dinner hosted by Mr. Beck at Canada House. During his address, Mr. Beck highlighted the ongoing cooperation between the two countries. His Excellency Admiral Nirmal Verma, High Commissioner of India to Canada, emphasized the contributions that the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute has made in the promotion of higher education, research and collaboration between India and Canada.

the Governments of India and Canada, who believe in the Institutes' ideals and remained committed to the Shastri Institute's bi-national structure.





### *Canada-India Partnership in Agriculture & Food Processing Regina Roundtable*

A roundtable on the theme ‘CEPA and Beyond: Canada-India Partnership in Agriculture and Food Processing’ was jointly organized by Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) in partnership with the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) with support from University of Regina and Ministry of the Economy, the Government of Saskatchewan, at the University of Regina on Friday, October 11, 2013.

At the roundtable Shastri Indo Canadian Institute was represented by Dr. Shanthi Johnson, President of SICI, Dr. Braj M. Sinha, a Former President of SICI and Professor at the University of Saskatchewan. ICCC was represented by its President Naval Bajaj and Ambassador (Retd.) Kant K. Bhargava, Honorary Advisor of ICCC. The Regina roundtable brought together a mix of 30 representatives from the business community, academia (both the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan), and government.



Honorable Bidhu Jha, Special Envoy for International Trade, Government of Manitoba, Mr. Robert Donald, Executive Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, Trade Policy, Government of Saskatchewan, and Ms. Jennifer Evancio, Senior Director, Trade Development, Agri-Value, Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) addressed the Plenary Session. A background note was made available to all roundtable participants on agriculture and food processing.

The two sub-groups had comprehensive discussions on:

- The role of governments, business and industry for building partnership in agriculture and food processing and for promoting food and nutrition security;





*Canada-India Partnership in Agriculture & Food Processing Regina Roundtable*

- Strengthening cooperation in agricultural research and biotechnology: interface between academia, industry, business and government;

The need for more effective and sustained actions in these two areas was highlighted by the participants.

The event, in important ways builds on the momentum gained by Engaging India events held in Halifax, Ottawa, Saskatoon, Calgary, Montreal and

the Engaging French Canada event held in Pondicherry. The next Engaging Canada events are scheduled to be held on November 12, 2013 at the Federation House, FICCI, New Delhi with the theme of "networking for quality improvement" and in Kolkata on Nov 15, 2013 in collaboration with the West Bengal Government and our member universities in West Bengal.

*Panel Discussion on ‘Canada-India:  
Training the Next Generation of Innovators and Researchers’*

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada to India, MITACS, and the National Institute of Immunology, organized a special Panel Discussion with His Excellency the Right Honorable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, on “Canada India: Training the Next Generation of Innovators and Researchers” on February 25, 2014 at the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi. The discussion highlighted issues relating to education, cooperation and mobility between Canada and India, and focused on the important next step of training new researchers and scholars as well as the creation of new modes of collaboration in an increasingly interconnected world.

University of British Columbia President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Stephen Toope moderated the discussion. Other panelists for the discussion were:

1. Dr. Pradipta Banerji, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee
2. Mr. Paul Davidson, President, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada
3. Mr. Sachin Goel, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur; MITACS Award Winner, 2012
4. Dr. Arvind Gupta, Chief Executive Officer and Scientific Advisor, MITACS

5. Dr. Gilles Patry, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canada Foundation for Innovation

6. Dr. Renu Swarup, Advisor, Department of Biotechnology and Managing Director, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council

In his opening remarks, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, said, “Canada shares many of the same priorities as India, which makes it easier to collaborate locally and globally. Of particular interest to me and to our countries is learning from the next generation of researcher, many of you here. In fact you will continue to do research in ways quite different from the previous generation and making international connections with each other is part of that. It is through this type of exchange that we will continue our move from grain to brain—not losing the knowledge or talents across borders, but circulating our innovations and creativity freely.” For the complete speech, please refer to the Governor General of Canada’s official website, [here](#).

While giving the Vote of Thanks, Prof. Shanthi Johnston, President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute highlighted the importance of the discussions and laid due focus on the ‘way forward’ in this direction.

## Scholars Update

### *Dr. Arun Kumar Padhy (Faculty Mobility Programme)*

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute has sent Dr. Arun Kumar Padhy to Canada under the Faculty Mobility Programme, which is funded by MHRD. In his final report, Dr. Padhy mentioned SICI's contribution to his research and the role of FSM in carrying out research on his topic:

“As far as the trip outcome is concerned I am quite satisfied with my achievement as some of these molecules have shown promising preliminary features as required for a dye to be used in DSSC. Thus, this trip becomes an eye opener for me as far as my research is concerned and also I have learned various techniques such as how to measuring the magnetic behavior of a material and use Scanning Electron Microscope, SQUID for many more instrumental techniques that I was not exposed to.”



*Dr. Arun Kumar Padhy delivering a talk at the Dept. of Chemistry, University of Waterloo*

“It is really an important platform which provides the essential cultural as well academic excellence for any faculty member. Through this not only the faculty will be exposed to the advanced research facility of Canada, but also it will enhance the possible collaborations.

As witnessed in my case, I am really thankful for SICI as the amount of work that I have carried out in one month period probably I could not have able to do the same in six months over here. The freedom that has been provided by SICI for executing research for the movement is really praiseworthy.



*With Prof. Tong during lunch*



*...continued: Dr. Arun Kumar Padhy (Faculty Mobility Programme)*

As I am writing the work that I have carried out I have given an overview of that. This, I will declare that it will be leading to a patent or a good publication and I am acknowledging the help rendered by SICI in this regard and will definitely mention the same in future if it will lead to some publishable thing.”

As I have availed the SICI faculty mobility program now I feel I become a member of this family and thus, I will propagate the message among all the faculty members who are going to come across and will mobilize to strengthen their academic part by

availing the excellent provision being provided by SICI.”



*Dr. Arun Kumar Padhy working in the laboratory*

*Dr. Adita Bhattacharjea (Canadian Studies Faculty Research Fellowship)*

One of our Canadian Studies Faculty Research Fellowship awardee, Dr. Aditya Bhattacharjea, had his article published in an online Journal, *Trade, Law and Development* which is worth mention here. The title of the article is "Trade, Development and Competition Law: India and Canada Compared." The abstract is as follows:

“This article compares the competition/antitrust laws of India and Canada, with special reference to issues concerning international trade, foreign investment, and economic development.

It highlights similarities in the structure of corporate ownership and the changing nature of state intervention in the two countries. It then outlines the historical evolution of their competition laws, revealing several similarities and differences.

The article concludes with a case study of a Canadian export cartel, which is exempted from Canadian competition law but has harmful effects on development priorities in India and poses a challenge for the extra-territorial application of India's Competition Act.” Read the full article [here](#).



We want to congratulate our BYID intern, Mr. Etienne Pineault, who has been appointed as

### *Mr. Etienne Pineault (Bringing Youth into Development Intern)*

Coordinator for international mobility for the Faculty of Medicine at the Université de Montréal.

Etienne thanked SICI and appreciated BYID project in following words: “Thank you for this internship, it was for sure one of the reason why I got the job. I am very proud and I would like to thank both of you and let you know that all the work you did really helped in my case.”

## **Member Activities**

### *Kwantlen Polytechnic University*



During the summer of 2014, KPU students will have the amazing opportunity to learn about issues related to global health and apply this knowledge in villages in the Bhanga area of Punjab. The students

will begin exploring these issues in KPU classroom in June and then travel to India during July 2014. The students will be led by Dr. Balbir Gurm, KPU Nursing Faculty. There are several social justice issues that students may choose to explore including female infanticide, youth unemployment, drug & alcohol addiction, perinatal nutrition, domestic violence, sanitation and other issues identified by our Indian partner. Furthermore, the students will work to implement awareness programs with local health professionals, NGOs, and village panchats (councils) to seek to address these issues. More details can be found online [here](#).

## *Ryerson University*

MUMBAI, Friday, February 28, 2014 — His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, officially opened the first Canadian-led accelerator in India today, a joint venture between the Bombay Stock Exchange Institute Ltd., (BIL), Ryerson University of Toronto, Canada, Ryerson Futures Inc. (RFI), and Simon Fraser University.



The new India-based incubator, the BIL-Ryerson DMZ India, will assist entrepreneurs to fast-track their startups and connect with mentors, customers and investors. It is located at the Bombay Stock Exchange Institute and is built upon Ryerson's model for its successful Digital Media Zone incubator in Toronto. The collaboration between BIL, Ryerson and RFI lays the groundwork to help young entrepreneurs expand into both the Indian and Canadian markets and also touches on a broad spectrum of areas in the domain of entrepreneurship

development and professional development education.

“The very first Ryerson international fellowships for brilliant young entrepreneurs were announced here in India in 2011,” said Sheldon Levy, president of Ryerson University. “We are honoured to welcome the Governor General of Canada to the BIL-Ryerson DMZ India, and proud to grow our partnership with India and our colleagues from Simon Fraser University in the service of the global economy.”

Speaking about the development, Ambarish Datta, CEO of BIL, said “India will be one of the youngest nations in the world by 2020 and this changing demographic condition will mean that we need to gear up to provide employment to a large number of youth. We believe that creating skilled entrepreneurs will be the most effective means of engaging youth and providing gainful employment not only to the youth who pursue the path of entrepreneurship, but also to hundreds of youth they will in turn employ. We are confident that this incubator setup by BIL and Ryerson will help great ideas to be nurtured from their very source and built into the organizations of the future that will not only provide employment for our youth but also build products and solutions that put India on the global map of innovation.”



The BIL-Ryerson DMZ India is built on a unique model developed at Ryerson University that has attracted international attention. The Digital Media Zone at Ryerson University (DMZ) is one of Canada's largest incubators and multidisciplinary co-working spaces for young entrepreneurs. Infused with the energy and resources of downtown Toronto, this hub of digital media innovation, collaboration and commercialization is home to both startups and industry solution-providers. The DMZ leads the way in experiential learning and business success by creating a unique ecosystem of education and entrepreneurship. Emerging leaders fast-track their product launches and grow their companies in this supportive community by connecting with mentors, customers and each other. Since opening in April 2010, the DMZ has stimulated Canada's digital economy by incubating and accelerating 126 startups and fostering nearly 1,000 jobs.

For more information, visit [www.ryerson.ca/dmz](http://www.ryerson.ca/dmz).

For more on zone startups, see [www.zonestartups.com](http://www.zonestartups.com) and for information on the

Bombay Stock Exchange Institute, visit [www.bsebti.com](http://www.bsebti.com).

Ryerson Futures Inc. is a for-profit entity wholly owned by Ryerson University to assist early stage

technology companies as they grow and scale their businesses. RFI has raised a venture fund and provides seed financing, business services and customer connections to select startups in exchange for an equity stake. RFI also works with corporate clients to assemble teams of innovators to research, prototype, or pilot solutions to industry problems. Ryerson Futures is helping drive Canada's innovation economy at home, and around the world. For more information, visit [www.ryersonfutures.ca](http://www.ryersonfutures.ca).

Ryerson University is Canada's leader in innovative, career-oriented education and a university clearly on the move. With a mission to serve societal need, and a long-standing commitment to engaging its community, Ryerson offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate programs. Distinctly urban, culturally diverse and inclusive, the university is home to more than 38,000 students, including 2,300 master's and PhD students, nearly 2,700 faculty and staff, and more than 155,000 alumni worldwide. Research at Ryerson is on a trajectory of success and growth: externally funded research has doubled in the past four years. The G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education is Canada's leading provider of university-based adult education. For more information, visit [www.ryerson.ca](http://www.ryerson.ca).

### *Jadaypur University*



Centre for Canadian Studies, Jadaypur University, in association with the Arshinagar Project, Ebong Amra, and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, organized “The Memory Trail,” with Tomson Highway (Cree playwright, Performer, Canada) from February 5-9, 2014.

On February 5, Tomson Highway, Cree Playwright, addressed the Department of Comparative

Literature, Jadaypur University, Kolkata, at Buddhadeya Bose Sabhagriha. In his seminal talk, Tomson Highway spoke about the formation of a Cree performance culture within the Urban Space of Toronto, Canada. He situated the cultural movement in the context of the various negotiations of Aboriginal People in Canada. This session was an interactive session in which Tomson demonstrated his skill as a composer and an educator. A Story Weaving session was organised at Space (an intimate space) where Tomson Highway interacted with students, senior academicians and artists. This was followed by a potlatch where we shared food in the true spirit of sharing. No Aboriginal gathering is complete without food.

On February 6, a master class on performance was organized with Tomson Highway, students and theatre practitioners in Kolkata. The workshop was conducted by Tomson Highway, Arka and



...continued: *Jadavpur University*

Dheeman. It was also one of those rare moments when participants could learn Cree songs. Later, the mood of the songs, movements and gestures was reflected on. Rahim Patua narrated the Santhal creation story through his scroll paintings. Kaustubh Chakraborty and Manaj Saha reflected the thought process on canvas.

From February 7-9, Tomson, along with other participants, moved to Ebong Amra, a theatre village in Satkahunia, Burwan and conducted a theatre workshop with the group. This was a

process-driven workshop in which the basic idea was to initiate a cross-pollination of forms. The primary text was *Kshudita Pashan* by Rabindranath Tagore. The text was revisited from the perspective of canvas, reading marginal narratives embedded in the ur-text. Mr. Kallol Bhattacharya and theatre activists of Ebong Amra coordinated this workshop. Memory Trail has succeeded in bringing creative minds together. This process-oriented journey will explore future possibilities of cultural exchanges between India and Canada, as well as other artistic collaborations.

*National Law University, Dwarka (New Delhi)*

National Law University, Dwarka organized a special convocation on 24th February 2014. It was a

proud moment. Honourable Minister of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khurshid, was the Chief Guest





*...continued: National Law University, Dwarka (New Delhi)*

at the Special Convocation of National Law University, Delhi held at Vigyan Bhawan on 24th February 2014.

On this occasion, the University conferred the Honorary Degrees of Doctorate of Laws (LL.D Honoris Causa) on His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada. The occasion was also graced by other distinguished guests, including Honourable Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed Active Chief Justice of Delhi High Court and Chancellor of NLU Delhi), Excellency Mr. Stewart Beck (High Commissioner for Canada to India), Admiral Nirmal Verma (High Commissioner of India to Canada), Justice S. Ravindra Bhat (Judge, Delhi High Court) and Prof. Shanthi Johnson (President, SICI).

In his acceptance speech, His Excellency referred to the students present as the future of the country and its system, and reminded them of their responsibility in society to serve beyond the needs of specific clients. He said, "Students, in addition to knowing law, possess a sense of justice, whether the particular law you are working with is just or not. And if you find it to be unjust or not, ask yourself what you will do about it." He further urged the students to "remain in constant pursuit of justice,

because without justice, law is mere empty words." He cautioned that failure to do so "would only see the legal system lose trust of those it serves."

Delivering the Convocation Address, Shri. Salman Khurshid applauded the achievements of His Excellency David Johnston. He urged the gathering to remember an important lesson that the life of His Excellency David Johnston had taught: "never give in to handicap in the pursuit of excellence." He congratulated the National Law University, Delhi for gaining a reputation of a centre of excellence in such a short time, and its ability to impart to its students a sense of justice, core analytical skills and profound capacity to communicate. He reminded the gathering that "law is order, and good law is good order. It is therefore the duty of everyone to develop good law and bring all under its protection."

The National Law University, Delhi, under the leadership of Prof. Ranbir Singh, Vice-Chancellor, has established itself in the top rung of law schools in India within a short span of five years. In his address, Professor Singh urged the students to emulate the hard work, dedication and humility of His Excellency David Johnston in all spheres of life, calling his deep commitment to law, legal education and public service truly extraordinary.

### *Berhampur University*

**Seminar on “Challenges to Internal Security: An Indo-Canadian Perspective”** – A seminar on “Challenges to Internal Security: An Indo-Canadian Perspective” was organised by the Centre in collaboration with Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI), New Delhi on 12.03.2014.

At the seminar, the distinguished speakers dwelt on major challenges to internal security both in India and Canada, constructs of internal security in plural societies, studies of multiculturalism in Canada, group relations in India and direction of future research.



The main domains of discussion were terrorism, cyber security, communal and ethnic violence etc. In this day-long seminar attended by 100-plus participants, the general consensus was to look beyond the existing backdrop and furnish hints and possibilities of a new socio-economic and political order in which violence as a mode of communication and transaction would not survive.



**National seminar on “Indigenous People and their Rights”** – A two-day national seminar on “Indigenous People and their Rights” was inaugurated on the campus of Berhampur University on January 10-11, 2014. It was organised by the Centre under the sponsorship of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi. Participating in the seminar the learned speakers discussed the history of indigenous people and how they have been marginalised over time. The general opinion was that the socio-cultural tradition of indigenous people had to be protected while taking up developmental projects. At the outset, chief guest Prof. Biju Paul Abraham, Vice-President/President-Elect of SICI and Professor of IIM, Calcutta spoke at length on the seminal contribution of SICI in enlarging on Indo-Canadian relations in all its aspects. In her speech as guest of honour, Dr. Prachi Kaul outlined the activities and

*...continued: Berhampur University*

**CS Centre's Lecture Series Programme** – As part of Centre's Lecture series programme, Dr. K.C. Bal, a diligent student of literary scholarship, delivered a talk on “Canadian Imagination: An Aesthetics of Eternal Frontier” on 12.07.2013, and Fr. Charles Borges, S.J., Associate Professor in History, Maryland, USA spoke on “Indo- Canadian Links” on 24.07.2013.





## SICI Grant Recipients

### Successful Applicants for Collaborative Research Grants, 2013-2015

<b>Project Director</b>	<b>Project Partner from India/Canada</b>	<b>Title of the Project Granted</b>
<b>Dr. Subrata Hait, Indian Institute of Technology Patna, INDIA</b>	Dr. Brajesh Kumar Dubey, University of Guelph, CANADA	<i>Development of Gravity, Removal of Arsenic and Iron Contamination of Groundwater in Patna District, Bihar, India</i>
<b>Dr. Bilkis Vissandjée, University of Montreal, CANADA</b>	Dr. Kamal Cheema, The Prince Aly Khan Hospital, Mumbai, INDIA	<i>Nursing Education and Research: Paving Collaborative Ways for Excellent Quality of Care</i>
<b>Dr. Daniel Aaron Drache, York University, Toronto, CANADA</b>	Dr. Tabrez Ahmed Neyazi, Jamia Millia Islamia	<i>Media Framing in India's 2014 Election Campaigns: Mass Circulation Indigenous English Language Press, and the Parties, Issues and Candidates</i>
<b>Dr. Renu Saxena, AIIMS, New Delhi, INDIA</b>	Dr. Versha Banerji University of Manitoba, CANADA	<i>A Comparison of the Clinical And Molecular Features of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL) in Indian and Canadian Populations</i>

### Successful Applicants for SSIP, 2013-2014

<b>Name of Awardee</b>	<b>Affiliate University in Canada / Subject</b>	<b>Topic of Research</b>
<b>Parveen Zainab Fatima</b>	University of Victoria / Bio- Medical Engineering	<i>Protein Interactions using Optical Spectroscopy and Bio Instrumentation</i>
<b>Pavan Kumar Mandali</b>	Université de Montreal / Chemistry	<i>Self - Assembly of Palladium (II) Nanoparticles and their use in Green Chemical Reactions</i>
<b>Priti Tripathi</b>	York University / French (Translation Studies)	<i>Traduire au féminin: littérature migrante des auteures Marie Celie Agnant et Abla Farhoud</i>

## Successful Awardees for SFMG 2013-2014

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Affiliate Institution in India</b>	<b>Project Title</b>
<b>Dr. Ajoy Basak, University of Ottawa, Canada</b>	Dr. Amit Basak, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India	<i>Proteolytic Enzymes, Protein Chemistry and Study of Proteomics in Human Health and Disease with Focus on Dementia, Tumor Genesis and Infections</i>
<b>Dr. Brajesh Dubey, University of Guelph, Canada</b>	Dr. Jay Misra, Amrita University (Amrita Vishwa Vidhyapeetham)	<i>Water, Sanitation and Integrated Waste Management Issues</i>
<b>Dr. Kalyani Premkumar, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</b>	Dr. Agnes Mathiew, Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences, India	<i>Use of Simulation for Instruction and Evaluation – Foundations for Establishing a Simulation Center</i>
<b>Dr. Prabhjot Parmar, University of Fraser Valley, Canada</b>	Prof. Makarand R. Paranjapa, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India	<i>Saepoys, Scribes, and Sahibs: Cultural Representations of Indian Soldiers in the Great War</i>
<b>Dr. Rama Singh, McMaster University, Canada</b>	Dr. Pushpa Motiyani and Dr. R.K. Kale, Gujarat Vidyapith/Central University of Gujarat, India	<i>Women, Education and Development: Community Engagement and Integrated Livelihood Training</i>
<b>Dr. Sean J. McGrath, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada</b>	Dr. Saitya Brata Das, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India	<i>The End of Christianity: From German Idealism to Secularization</i>

### Successful Awardees for SPSG 2013-2014

<b>Name and Institution of Lead Applicant</b>	<b>Name and Institution of Co-Applicant</b>	<b>Proposed Topic</b>
<b>Dr. Anjali Gera Roy, IIT Kharagpur</b>	Dr. Nandi Bhatia, University of Western Ontario	<i>Remembering the Komagata Maru: Historicizing Indian Migration to Canada</i>
<b>Dr. Madhab G. Badami, McGill University</b>	Dr. Karen Coelho, Madras Institute of Development Studies	<i>Understanding Decision Processes to Enable Socially Just and Environmentally Sustainable Urban Policy Making in India</i>
<b>Dr. Poonam Singh and Dr. Deborah Henderson, Kwantlen Polytechnic University</b>	Dr. Navtej Singh, Guru Nanek Dev University	<i>Plant Breeding for Organic Farming Systems: a Collaborative Approach to Sustainability</i>
<b>Dr. Richard Grunberg, Ryerson University</b>	Dr. Chris Higgins, Annapurna International School of Film and Media	<i>Collaborative Global Media Production and Learning, Creating Societal Understanding and Transformation</i>
<b>Dr. Thomas J. Sork, University of British Columbia</b>	Dr. Vasudha Kamat, SNDT Women's University	<i>Global Education Leadership Collaboration</i>
<b>Dr. Ajay Agarwal, Queen's University</b>	Dr. Kiran Shinde, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University	<i>Evisoning Pune's Future Growth in Socially and Environmentally Responsible Ways</i>

### Successful Awardees for SSTSG 2013-2014

<b>Applicant's Name / Affiliation</b>	<b>Applicant's Visiting Institution</b>	<b>Topic of Presentation / Training</b>
<b>Srinivasa Murthy Badaraju, IIT Madras</b>	Ryerson University	<i>Series of lectures to be given on Energy, Nano Materials, and Phase Transformations</i>
<b>Chandranshu Sinha, Amity Business School, Noida</b>	St. Thomas University	<i>Story and Narrative Noticing in the Indo- Canadian Context: Sensing Diverse 'Marginalized' Voices in the Context of Lay-offs</i>
<b>Prabhjot Parmar, University of Fraser Valley, Canada</b>	Jawaharlal Nehru University	<i>Sepoys, Scribes, and Sahibs</i>
<b>Lalchhanhima Ralte, Presbyterian Synod Hospital, India</b>	University of Manitoba	<i>Dignity Therapy Training Workshop</i>



## ...continued: Successful Awardees for SSTSG 2013-2014

Applicant's Name / Affiliation	Applicant's Visiting Institution	Topic of Presentation / Training
<b>Hosahalli Ramaswamy,</b> McGill University, Canada	Kuyempu University, Shumoga	<i>Curriculum Revision Workshop on Post-Graduate Degrees</i>
<b>Pragya Tiwari,</b> National Institute of Urban Affairs	University of British Columbia	<i>The Burden of Brain Disease, Wellness of Society, and Quality of Healthcare System in India</i>
<b>Vasanthan Rajagopalan,</b> The Oxford College of Physiotherapy, Bangalore	McGill University	<i>Educational and Research Collaboration Opportunity Assessment</i>
<b>Zarine Khan,</b> Jawaharlal Nehru University	International Studies Association Annual Convention, Toronto	<i>National Ties Beyond State: Irredentism and Possible Resolution, Towards Making Borders Irrelevant, 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, ISA, Toronto</i>
<b>Archisman Mohapatra,</b> The INCLENE Trust	McGill University	<i>3 Weeks Deputation from INCLEN to McGill University</i>
<b>Muthusamy Tamil Selvan,</b> Jawharlal Nehru University	University of Northern BC	<i>Semi automated Cartographic Techniques for the Analysis of Geomorphometric Parameters in High Altitude Glacierised Terrain using SRTM DEM Data</i>
<b>Malar Kodi,</b> Jamilia Millia Islamia	University of Northern BC	<i>Optimisation of Transmission Line Designing in Mountain Region using Advanced Cartographic Techniques and LiDAR Utilization</i>
<b>Varghese Vekkal John,</b> Central University of Punjab	York University	<i>Violence again Women, Fissured Public Sphere and Limits of Reflexive Consensus in India</i>
<b>Sonika Verma,</b> The INCLENE Trust	McGill University	<i>Food and Nutrition Environment Assessment</i>
<b>T.C.A. Madhav Raghavan,</b> Indian Statistical Institute	CIREQ Montreal Matching Conference	<i>Fair Assessment with Capacity Constraints at the CIREQ Montreal Matching Conference 2014</i>

## Call for Applications

### Québec Tuition Fee Exemptions for Indian Students 2014-15

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute is pleased to announce the Québec Tuition Fee Exemptions for Indian Students, enabling students to study in Québec universities on Québec domestic fees. The deadline for applications is May 15, 2014.

To learn more about this opportunity, please visit this link:

<http://www.sici.org.in/index.php?page=quebec-tuition-fee-exemption-for-indian-students>

## Upcoming Events

### CMC Meeting and National Conference 2014

Event Date(s): May 9 and 10, 2014

Event Location: Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

Event Details:

There will be an Educational Conference on 'Engaging Canada and India in Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Multilevel Trends and Sustainable Partnerships' in conjunction with the Shastri Institute's CMC meeting.

The Shastri Institute would like to thank all its members for the support and collaboration with both offices in the adjudications and affiliations of scholarly exchanges between Canada and India. The Institute is grateful to the members for their commitment and contribution.



#### SICI NEWS

A Newsletter from the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute.

For Enquiries, Comments / Suggestions please contact:

Reshma Rana Verma

Programme Officer (In-Charge, Canadian Studies Library )

Ph.: 011-23746417, 23742677 Extn. 16

Website: [canadianaffairs@sici.org.in](mailto:canadianaffairs@sici.org.in) | [www.sici.org](http://www.sici.org) | [www.sici.org.in](http://www.sici.org.in)