



# INDIA-CANADA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

BOX 7194, SASKATOON, SASK.  
S7K 4J2

"Civilization is the encouragement of differences. Civilization thus becomes a synonym of democracy. Force, violence, pressure, or compulsion with a view to conformity is therefore both uncivilized and undemocratic."

M. K. Gandhi

## Board of Directors

### President:

Meena Amblee  
Phone: 955-9009  
E-mail: ambleemeena@hotmail.com

### Vice President:

Anu Kashyap  
Phone: 651-1026  
E-mail: kashyapanu@hotmail.com

### General Secretary:

Anshu Sharma  
Phone: 374-8689  
E-mail: anshu\_deep@hotmail.com

### Treasurer:

Bhupendra Patel  
Phone: 249-1361  
E-mail: bhp\_kru@yahoo.com

### Social Secretary:

Smita Garg  
Phone: 384-2208  
E-mail: smitagarg@shaw.ca

### Members at Large:

Harpreet Grover  
Phone: 955-0069  
E-mail: harpreetgrover20@hotmail.com

Nishi Prasad  
Phone: 244-7734  
E-mail: nishi\_31@hotmail.com

Anurag Saxena  
Phone: 374-7865  
E-mail: mdas@shaw.ca

Ravi Shrivastava  
Phone: 664-6083  
E-mail: ravish9@hotmail.com

Pawan Singh  
Phone: 477-5083  
E-mail: pawankumarsingh@hotmail.com

### Past President:

Sushama Shrikhande  
Phone: 934-0703  
E-mail: sshrikhande1@shaw.ca

## President's Message

As we reluctantly get ready to bid adieu to summer we can look back with satisfaction at the month gone by. Folkfest was a resounding success from all accounts. The community came together once again and worked as one to make this *mega-event* enjoyable for everyone that visited our Pavilion. The Board would like to thank each and every one of you for your valuable and unstinted support. We are particularly happy with the India Student's Association who worked shoulder to shoulder with ICCA and are continuing to do so.

Our four Pavilion ambassadors Rakesh, Anjali, Neha and Krupal were true ambassadors of India. Their knowledge of customs and traditions and their warm welcome to everyone who visited our Pavilion impressed all our visitors. You can read about their impressions of Folkfest elsewhere in the newsletter. (Page 5)

September is a busy month. We have a couple of major events lined up for you. Please participate in these events. Your encouragement will help us serve you better.

Meena Amblee

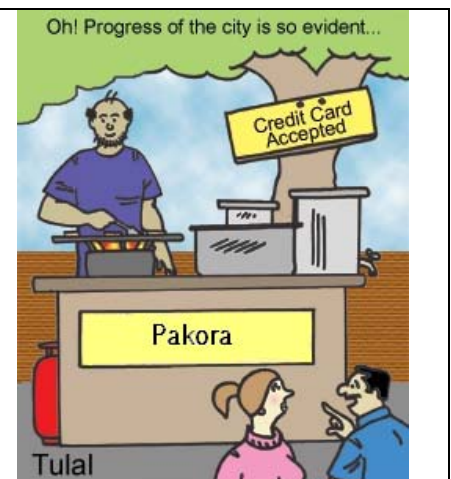
## Editor's Note

The fall season has started as we recollect the past summer. Folkfest was one of a few highlights of my summer. I particularly liked what our entertainers did with the *Bollywood* theme; they produced some wonderful shows. This issue has contributions that reflect upon the 2003 India Pavilion, and we'll inform of the events to come.

Kedar Shrikhande

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### *Social Secretary's Report*

Dear friends,

With great pleasure I take this opportunity to share with you a few of the social activities organised by the ICCA in last few months. The kids are back to school for a new academic session which says that we have left behind another exciting, eventful summer. We had a successful Folkfest 2003 on the 14th, 15th & 16th of August. This year we shared the Soccer Centre with the Australia/New Zealand and the Chinese Pavilions. The theme of our pavilion was "India through the Lens of Bollywood". With the co-operation of the ISA (U of S) we had put up a wonderful programme – "Bollywood through the Decades". Through songs we tried to show the various changes which have taken place in Indian movies from the 1940s to the present; it was well appreciated by one and all. The dance programme "Kollattam" and "Ghore Jaise Chaal" presented by the tiny tots brought back the childhood memories of everyone present there. "Morni Baga Ma" gave us a glimpse of the deep rooted culture of India. The song and the dance "Chalka Re" touched the heart of every teenage girl. The "Koli" dance showed the lifestyle of the fishermen on the western coast of India. "Kohi Kahe" and "Bhangra" made the audience tap their feet and urged them to get up and dance. The entertainment programme put up by the ICCA was liked by everyone. We had the Volunteers' Appreciation on the 4 September at the Soccer Centre. It was well attended.

That's not all! We have a few more events to look forward to:

- ❖ On 20th September renowned Odissi Indian dancer Sonal Mansingh is putting up a performance at the Persephone Theatre. For tickets contact Meena Amblee at 955-9009. (See Ad on page 4)
- ❖ On 27th September is the Nargis Dutt Cancer Foundation Fundraising Dinner at Saskatoon Inn. (See page 4)
- ❖ On 28th September is the Semi Annual General Meeting at the Laxmi Naryan Temple at 3:00 PM
- ❖ On 2nd October is the Gandhi Jayanti celebration.

Hope to see you all there!  
Nishi Prasad



**Shava Shava!**

### *Folkfest Volunteer Awards*

Congratulations to following individuals who received awards and special recognition at the Appreciation Programme on September 4:

#### **Food:**

*Awards:* Kiran Kalia and Mrs. Kantha Sethi  
*Special recognition for* Bhasker Pandit, Mr. and Mrs. Roychoudhury and Shelly Dubey

#### **Entertainment:**

*Awards:* Shanthi Yogeeswaran and Kaveri Bittira  
*Special Recognition:* Pat Propochuk and Roya Mahmut of Oriental Dance Arts

#### **Display:**

*Awards:* Winston Gokavi



**Bollywood Display**

### *Semi-Annual General Meeting*

The Semi-Annual General Meeting (SAGM) will be held on **Sunday, September 28** at **3:00 PM** at the **Sri Laxmi Narayan Temple** (107 La Ronge Road). Amendments to the by-laws and Folkfest finances will be discussed. The SAGM agenda and by-laws have been included with this newsletter.

*The Indian Students' Association  
Presents...*

# PARICHAY

**Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2003**

**6:30 PM**

**Holy Cross High School  
(Taylor St. and McEown Ave.)**

**Tickets: \$6 Adults  
\$4 Students and Children  
Children under 5 free**

*Includes: Free Supper, Dances, Skits  
and Orchestra*

**Contact: Samir Mushrif (373-3285)  
Isha Dash (933-0683)  
or ICCA Board Member**

## *Nargis Dutt Cancer Foundation Fundraiser*

You are all requested to support a banquet for the Nargis Dutt Cancer Foundation which will be held at the **Saskatoon Inn at 6.30 PM on September 27, 2003**. Tickets for the banquet are: Adults, \$50.00 (tax deductible receipt for 25.00); Corporate Tables of 8, \$500.00 (tax deductible receipt for 300.00); Friends of the Foundation, donations of \$1000.00 (full tax receipt); And Patrons of the Foundation, donations of \$1500.00 (full tax receipt). Donations for a Silent Auction and also Sponsorships for any part of the Fundraiser and cash donations in any amount are also welcome. This function is being held in association with ICCA and the Hindu Society of Saskatchewan. All cheques should be payable to ICCA. **For tickets please contact Meena Amblee (955-9009), Anu Kashyap (651-1026), Smita Garg (384-2208), Leela Sharma (242-6979) or Veena Avinashi (242-3444).**

The Nargis Dutt Cancer Foundation was established in 1981 and its mandate is to improve medical care in the Indian Subcontinent and provide those cancer

patients who cannot afford treatment - free care and treatment. It is through funds raised through this Foundation that the first ever mobile hospitals were launched in Mumbai and Jaipur for slum dwellers and villages around these areas. The money raised through any of the fund raisers goes into buying equipment which is then used for those people in India who are suffering from Cancer but cannot afford medical attention. Sunil Dutt himself will preside at the function as he has been involved with the Foundation since its inception. He has been committed to carry on the work and dreams of his beloved wife - Nargis Dutt who felt sensitive to cancer patients who had no access to treatment. Please join the Saskatoon Chapter in its first attempt to support this worthy cause in any way you can. Thanking you for your patronage in advance.

Veena Avinashi

## *Visit of Indian High Commissioner*

Her Excellency Mrs. Shashi Tripathi will be visiting Saskatoon on October 5-6, 2003 at the invitation of University of Saskatchewan Shastri Committee.

Following is the schedule of Her Excellency's visit:

**Sunday, October 5, 2003:** 12:00-12:30 Visit to Gurudwara; 12:30-1:30 Visit to Shri Lakshami Naryaan Temple; 3:30-5:00 Vidyabharati Hindi School Function at 107 La Ronge Road.

**Monday, October 6, 2003:** 2:30-4:00 Lecture on **Indian Foreign Policy in a Uni-Polar World** in Room No. 214, Arts Building, University of Saskatchewan Campus.

Members of Indo-Canadian community of Saskatoon are cordially invited to attend the above events to meet with the India High Commissioner.

For further information please contact Dr. Braj M Sinha, Chair, University of Saskatchewan Shastri Committee: Phone: 966-6772; e-mail:

[sinhab@duke.usask.ca](mailto:sinhab@duke.usask.ca)

## *Radio Station Fundraiser*

The annual fundraiser for CFR 90.5 FM is from September 20th to October 4th. Please support the Sangeetmala programme by pledging in your support. Donations can be made by calling the hosts at the radio station during the programme or Meena Amblee at 955-9009. ICCA has been able to bring you Sangeetmala through CFR and it is our responsibility to support the radio station.



# INDIA-CANADA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

in association with

Natya Dance Theatre of Chicago

present the internationally renowned Odissi dancer

# Sonal Mansingh



Photo credit: Avinash Pasricha, New Delhi

**Persephone Theatre  
2802 Rusholme Road**

**Saturday September 20, 2003  
7:00 pm**

**TICKETS:**

**ICCA members: \$18, \$28, \$48**

**Non-members: \$20, \$30, \$50**

**Available at:**

**McNally Robinson Booksellers (3130 8<sup>th</sup> St. E.)**

**Mohawk Gas Station (205 Central Avenue, Sutherland)**

**Meena Amblee (955-9009), Anu Kashyap (651-1026), Smita Garg (384-2208)**

*The following are the accounts from the India Pavilion Ambassadors of Folkfest:*

### ***Youth Ambassadors Report***

Namaste!

Hope you all had an excellent summer and an awesome time at Folkfest 2003. Folkfest was one of the best experiences for the both of us. This wonderful experience was comprised of not only the India Pavilion but other pavilions as well. August 14-16 were hectic and passed away like a whirl of wind but at the same time left permanent sweet memories that we will cherish forever. A typical day as a youth ambassador would start with Neha showing up early and Krupal coming in running with his excuses and apologies for being late. After that, the two of us would stand at the entrance for a couple hours and welcome guests. It was the best time of Folkfest when we would lower our heads and greet the people with a smile and a Namaste! It created a feeling of pride for our culture. At about 6 p.m. we would go start wandering around the display area meeting people and asking them what they thought of our pavilion. Of course they thought it was awesome. The Mandap with the beautiful Christmas lights and the colorful umbrellas was a thing to look at. There was the Kumon center set up there and we were wondering what it was doing in our display area? We played a number arranging game here. Surprisingly Neha took 20 seconds more than Krupal. In the background there was Hindi music playing so we went to the entertainment section and socialized with the audience. We saw little kids dancing to the beats of "Ghode Jaisi Chaal". They were the most adorable things ever. After that we went and sat at the passport stamping table. We ended up fighting over whose stamp was better looking. Krupal had the peacock stamp and Neha had the Namaste one. To come to a decision we asked a few of our guests and they certainly didn't help. Diplomatic people eh? In the meantime we heard cheers from the entertainment section and the "koi kahe kehta rahe" song was being played on full throttle. Prakhar and Varun were really getting the crowd moving and did an awesome job. Time just fled by and it was time for the show of the night. It was time for *Odyssey – Bollywood Through Time*. This was an awesome experience for the both of us and the others involved. All the people looking at us really got our adrenaline pumping. The performance was an honest reflection of all the hard

work everyone had put in. During the two months of hard work till the D-Day, many friendships were made, hearts were broken and lives were changed. And by the end of it all we were all one big happy family! This item brought all the youth in the community together and instilled in us a feeling of unity and pride.

We also got a chance to tour other pavilions around the city with our fellow Youth Ambassadors. It was a wonderful opportunity to experience new worlds and understand other cultures. Our first journey was to the Norwegian Pavilion where we were treated royally. Next off were the pavilions at the Exhibition grounds. There we visited the Hispanic, Scottish, Ukrainian, and the Philipppians pavilion. We tasted an assortment of dishes from all the pavilions, and we also got to partake in a traditional Filipino stick dance. This was fairly difficult for the two of us because Krupal was dressed in a doti and Neha in a sari. So aside from trying to hold up our outfits, we tried not to get caught between two bamboo sticks. We also got the chance to visit the Greek pavilion where again called up on stage to do a typical Greek dance...we had a blast!

Overall, Folkfest was a success in our eyes. We got the experience other cultures and we also got to share our cultures with many people. Thank you so much for giving us this amazing opportunity.

Sincerely,

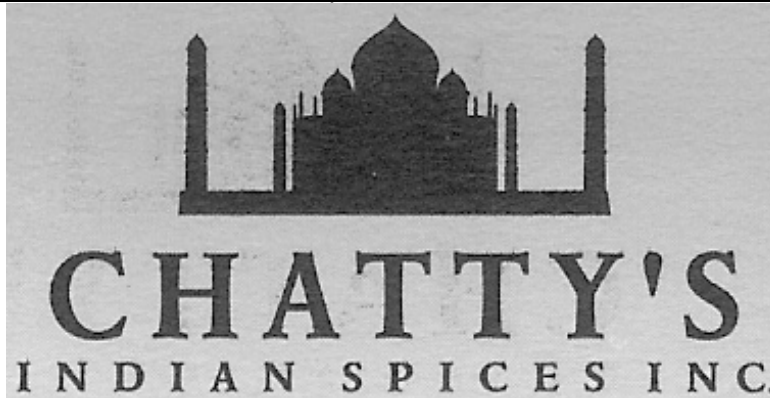
Krupal and Neha

### ***Adult Ambassadors Report***

As your adult ambassadors of the India Pavilion, Anjali Sethi and I would like to thank the organizers and the ICCA board for the superb work. We also thank them for giving us the privilege to serve the community in a fun filled way. It provided us the opportunity to meet many fine individuals.

At the Pre-Folkfest Gala on July 27 all the ambassadors received the Ambassador Certificated and Medallions from mayor Madden. In addition we were treated to sumptuous dinner and terrific entertainment all evening from several pavilions. During Folkfest we welcomed everyone to our pavilion, including President's Tour that included the mayor, several elected officials, and the major sponsors of the Saskatoon Folkfest. We heard many positive comments about our pavilion. All that attended enjoyed the displays, entertainment and the food.

Rakesh Kaushik



*Chatty's Indian Spices offer a unique blend of authentic gourmet East Indian spices in a 40 gram eye catching package with an easy to prepare recipe.*

*Winner of: "Best New Food Product in Western Canada" in 1998; "Genesis New Food" Award in 2000; and "Canadian Association of Specialty Food" Award in 2001 for Mango-Mustard Chutney*

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**Arati Chattopadhyay, President**

**2 Kootenay Drive, Saskatoon SK, S7K 1J1**

**Phone: 244-8633; Fax: 664-7031; e-mail: [chattopp@duke.usask.ca](mailto:chattopp@duke.usask.ca)**

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# ***"SPICES & MORE"***

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**AND RECEIVE**

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**PURCHASES!**

## ***Sayonara***

Relocation is in my blood. Having served in the Indian Army, my biological clock is set to a three-year relocation cycle. Rightly so, history repeats itself and a three years stay in Saskatoon has triggered my clock

Relocation has its own "price" and "prize", and this time perhaps, the price is more. Yes, I am going to Regina to join federal government, leaving the cherished memories of my community behind.

It has been a privilege to be on the ICCA board. I have really enjoyed working with this team, albeit for a short time. I used to think that coming closer is half success and working together is full, now I believe it.

Folkfest has just concluded with the volunteers' appreciation night and a few more events are on the go. I must salute to our volunteers for their enthusiasm. Remember, individually we cannot achieve much but jointly we can do wonders. I therefore call upon you to join the ICCA and be a part of our winning team.

Before I bid good bye, I must say - "HAMSE ICCA KHUD HAI, ICCA SE HUM NAHI".

Wish you good luck and continued successes.

Ravi Shrivastava