



Council of India Societies  
of Edmonton

# INDIA DAY 2021

Digital Magazine



Health, Peace and Prosperity



# COUNCIL OF INDIA SOCIETIES OF EDMONTON A PROFILE



Established in 1976, the Council of India Societies of Edmonton (CISE) is an umbrella not-for-profit organization to represent Indo-Canadians in the Edmonton and surrounding areas to accommodate the needs of the individuals as well as social and cultural organizations through a variety of programs. The CISE premise, popularly called the "India Center", is situated in the heart of Millwoods Industrial Park and is principally used for social and community gathering; dance, music and language classes; program rehearsals; member organizations meeting; seminars and workshop, and many more activities on a routine basis. The CISE organizes the celebration of Republic Day of India (India Day), Canada Day, Heritage Day and (Indian) Independence Day. The CISE maintains a good liaison with other ethnic and multicultural associations. It regularly participates in events organized by other cultural groups, and in turn invites them to be involved in the CISE proceedings as well.

## Objectives of CISE

- ❖ To develop and to encourage co-operation and goodwill among its members.
- ❖ Promote social, cultural, and other interests of Albertans of Indian origin
- ❖ Foster appreciation and a sense of duty and responsibility towards the multi-cultural society of Canada.
- ❖ Promote development of Indo-Canadian culture, art, music, traditions and heritage.
- ❖ Facilitate cooperation and friendship among people of Indian origin and Canadians in social, cultural, professional and business endeavors.
- ❖ Participate in humanitarian, charitable, social and other activities for the well-being of people of Indian origin and others.
- ❖ Promote goodwill and understanding amongst all Canadians and people of Indian origin.
- ❖ Participate and act as a general representative and “spokesperson” in the local, provincial and national bodies for persons of East Indian ancestry on issues of interest or concern.





# COUNCIL OF INDIA SOCIETIES OF EDMONTON

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Website: [ciseedmonton.com](http://ciseedmonton.com)

## Executives 2020-2021

### President

Mrinal Mandal

### VP – 1 (Admin.)

Dhirubhai Ladwa

### VP – 2 (Program)

Gunjan Sharma

### General Secretary

Bindu Kannan

### Joint Secretary

Ashok Sharma

### Treasurer

Ramesh Airi

### Assistant Treasurer

Amar Bhasin

### Past President

Chander Seikhar

### Auditors

Dhaval Patel

Madan Prasad

January 26, 2021

On behalf of the Council of India Societies of Edmonton and its affiliated associations, I extend my warmest greeting to each and every one of you, who are here to join us to celebrate the 72nd Indian Republic Day.

January 26, 1950 was the day when India's Constitution was proclaimed, and India became a truly sovereign country. This special occasion commemorates India's epic struggle to regain independence and also to remember thousands of Martyrs, who sacrificed their lives for the freedom that all of us enjoy today.

The CISE celebrates the Indian Republic Day each year, with a participation of 1000+ audience, by showcasing India's rich cultural heritage, honoring 300+ students for the academic excellence and other distinctive achievements. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a face-to-face celebration could not be organized this year. However, we continued with our tradition of recognizing excellence of Indo-Canadian students. The recipients of this year's awards can be found in the later pages of this magazine. I congratulate all the award recipients. They are the future leaders of our community and our country.

Keeping in mind the prevalent COVID-19 pandemic, HEALTH, PEACE AND PROSPERITY has been selected as the theme for this year's magazine. A few articles on this topic has been included in the magazine.

My heartfelt thanks to all the delegates and members of all affiliated associations. A special thanks to all volunteers who were instrumental in making all the CISE events a huge success. Financial support for all the council's events comes from many organizations and sponsors. We thank them all.

Have a memorable and enjoyable Republic day.

Jai Hind.

Mrinal Mandal

President

Council of India Societies of Edmonton





PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

### Statement from the Prime Minister of Canada

It is with great pleasure that I join Indian communities here in Canada and worldwide, in celebration of India Republic Day 2021.



This important day commemorates the adoption of the Indian constitution in 1950. Over the decades, Canada and India have had a strong bilateral relationship and close ties built upon our shared commitment to democracy. I encourage Canadians of all backgrounds to take this wonderful opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Indian culture and to recognize the immense contributions that Canadians of Indian heritage have made and continue to make to our diverse and inclusive society.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented a unique set of challenges for having large gatherings or planning celebrations and events such as this one. While our celebrations may be virtual or smaller in attendance than in previous years, they still hold the same meaning and significance.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable India Republic Day!

Ottawa  
2021



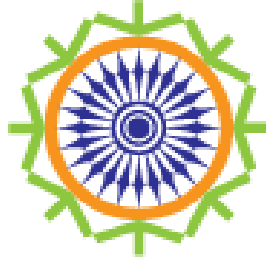
# MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone to this special India Day 2021.

Even in these challenging times, it is important that we hold tight to the culture and traditions that enrich our communities. Though we are physically distant, these ties unite us and help us to better understand one another. Alberta's diversity continues to be one of its greatest strengths, and is an essential part of the remarkable resilience that will move us forward toward recovery.

Indo-Canadians are a vibrant part of our province and country, contributing to our prosperity and helping to build a strong and free society. While this year's India Day may look a bit different than it has in the past, I hope it will continue to be a welcome opportunity to celebrate heritage and the very best of the Indo-Canadian community.

Thank you to the Council of India Societies of Edmonton for making this event possible, and best wishes to everyone for a healthy, happy, and hopeful 2021.



Dear Friends,

On behalf of Rachel Notley and the NDP Official Opposition, I would like to wish the Council of India Societies of Edmonton all the very best on India's Republic Day.

I know this year has been challenging for many Albertans and I would like to recognize the hard work of the committee, members, staff and volunteers with the Council of India Societies of Edmonton for providing Indo-Canadians and all Albertans with the opportunity to celebrate India's transition to an independent republic in 1950.

One of Alberta's greatest strengths is its diversity; my home community of Mill Woods is a wonderful example of our province's ability to have people from a multitude of backgrounds living and working together, in peace and happiness. Albertans have a history of coming together to get things done, thanks to our shared value of devotion to our communities.

Our province is made so much stronger by the many contributions of the over 150,000 Indo-Canadians who live, study and work in our province. The NDP Official Opposition recognizes that supporting events which celebrate cultural diversity helps to promote mutual understanding and is key to a strong society. The contributions made by Indo-Canadians to our society, economy, culture and arts can be seen daily and are celebrated through the excellent work of organizations like the Council of India Societies of Edmonton.

I'm excited for the opportunity to celebrate in person again when we are safe to do so. Once again, thank you for sharing your beautiful culture with all Albertans.

Sincerely,

Christina Gray, MLA  
Edmonton-Mill Woods



# Happy Republic Day

**Wishes to Every One**



**Sitting: Bindu Kannan, Mrinal Mandal, Gunjan Sharma**

**Standing: Chander Mittal, Rama Airi, Dhirubhai Ladwa, Amar Bhasin**

**(Board member Ashok Sharma is missing in the photo)**

## 2019-2020

## CISE Executive Committee



# COUNCIL OF INDIA SOCIETIES OF EDMONTON



## CISE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS & RESPECTIVE PRESIDENTS

<p>Chandresh Sonraj Alberta Gujarati Association 587-987-9042</p>	<p>Puneet Manchanda Alberta Hindi Parishad 780-432-3674</p>	<p>Ashok Sharma Asian Youth Club 780-430-1716</p>
<p>Chander Mittal Bhartiya Cultural Society of AB (780) 288-5263</p>	<p>Tom Eapen Canadian Kerala Cultural Assoc. 780-232-3025</p>	<p>Manas Shome Edmonton Bengali Association ebaedm@gmail.com</p>
<p>Sheetal Naik Edmonton Kannada Association kcaexecutive@gmail.com</p>	<p>Rajiv Ranjan Edmonton Senior Sports Assoc. 780-722-7015</p>	<p>Bhargav Patel Garvi Gujrat Assoc. of Canada 587-778-2027</p>
<p>Renu Narang Hindu Society of Alberta 780-239-2582</p>	<p>Priyanka Maripuri Indian Students Assoc. (UofA) maripuri@ualberta.ca</p>	<p>Kapil Sharma Manoranjan Club 780-469-2677</p>
<p>Boota Singh Lalli Nizamdipur Community Development Foundation 780-434-0727</p>	<p>Rajiv Ranjan Shantiniketan Soc. for Seniors 780-722-7015</p>	<p>Varsha Makarla Telugu Cultural Assoc. of EDM 587-987-8746</p>



## ALBERTA HINDI ASSOCIATION (PARISHAD)

(Established 1985)  
HINDI SCHOOL  
UNIT # 104, 3907-98 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 6M3,  
Phone/Fax: 780-432-3674



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### **IMPORTANCE OF PEACE AND HARMONY IN PRESENT TIMES**

Rajiv Ranjan Chaturvedi

Peace and harmony are two essential elements and foundation of a strongly bonded civilized society and nation. The citizens of the country feel happy, safe and satisfied when the environment around them is at peace and there is no stress of any kind. They contribute to the prosperity of the country, which helps the nation achieve success and glory in every field.

The world is seeing terrorism, prejudice, hate and fanaticism growing at a fast speed. Cultural clashes are another serious problem of the society. Recent developments in the year 2020, world has witnessed racial tension in USA due to discrimination and treatment of African community by the police and administration which has given birth to the slogan "Black Lives Matters". This has become a movement and taken the world by storm and most recently the leader of the most powerful democratic country of the world with his whimsical remarks against the voter's election results also ignited tensions among the supporters of two major political parties and has insulted and defamed the sacred institution of democracy. These unwanted actions create unpleasantness, tension and communal riots among the communities - are obstructions in bringing peace and, harmony and prosperity to the nation.

The other parts of the world are also facing the same problem due to colour, ethnicity and boundary disputes and the greed of expansion (by forced occupation of lands of undeveloped weak countries). Imperialist, fascism and authoritarian regimes demoralize and torture its subjects by forcing them to live by their fist rules which bring fear, non confidence and revolt among the citizens. When the democratic rights of people to freedom of expression is crushed, it gives birth to disobedience and revolt which turns into violence.

The violence is caused by egoistic political views and corrupt authoritarian leaderships, fanatic religious and socio – cultural opinions. Violence due to combination of terrorism, discrimination, starvation, unstable/corrupt politics and authoritarian regimes have ruined nations financially, culturally and politically. This disturbed environment has disrupted peace and claimed millions of lives from Africa to Asia to Middle East and Europe to south America. And due to this upheaval conflicts millions have been uprooted from their lands fearing for their lives and future. Refugees are pouring over in different parts of the world in various unknown lands (away from their own people and dark future), where they are welcomed on compassionate grounds with open arms. Through peace and harmony as his weapons Mahatma Gandhi with his commitment to non-violence gained India freedom from British Empire. Gandhi faced hurdles and obstacles throughout his life from his own fellow countrymen and outside forces, but nothing could slow his strong will of following the path of Mahatma Buddha. He remained unmoved from his will and policy of not using path of violence but to stand against 'Non-Violence' and showed the world that regimes can be destroyed and won with peaceful means.

In my vision Canada and India together with the same minded other peaceful and democratic nations can play major roles and should make undying efforts and contribution in bringing peace and harmony to the world. Working together nations and people should find the way to solve the conflicts and problems and begin to think as **Buddha** had visualised himself "At the end of the day, I am at peace because my intentions are good and my heart is pure".

**Mahatma Gandhi's** also followed the path of peace and harmony saying: *"You must be the change you wish to see in the world". "The future depends on What steps you take today"*  
*If we want to see real peace in this world, we should start educating children.*  
*"Happiness is when what you think, what you say and what you do are in harmony"*

**As Martin Luther King jr.** followed Gandhi's principles and philosophy said: *"True peace is not merely the absence of tension: it is the presence of justice". If we are to have peace on earth --- our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective."*

**Albert Einstein** got impressed with Gandhi's leadership and principles in achieving freedom for India through peaceful dialogues and non-violence: He said *"Peace can not be kept by force: it can be achieved by understanding"*.



राजीव रंजन चतुर्वेदी  
एडमण्टन, केनेडा

## शान्ति नहीं बाहर मिलती

शान्ति नहीं बाहर मिलती  
यह तो है अन्दर की बात।

घोर निराशा के घेरे में  
जिसे ढूँढता तू इस जग में,  
भूल गया तू अपनी राह  
वह तो है तेरे ही पास।  
शान्ति नहीं बाहर मिलती  
यह तो है अन्दर की बात॥

साधु पीर का वेश बनाकर  
औरों का जीवन सुधारकर,  
अब भी तृषित है तेरी चाह  
क्या यह तुझे नहीं है ज्ञात।  
शान्ति नहीं बाहर मिलती  
यह तो है अन्दर की बात॥

बदल कर भिन्न-भिन्न परिधान  
तू क्या समझे वह नादान,  
आँख मिचौली जिससे खेले  
वह करता सबका कल्याण।  
शान्ति नहीं बाहर मिलती  
यह तो है अन्दर की बात॥

धर्म कर्म में शोहरत पाई  
सुख सम्पदा भी तूने पाई,  
साथ नहीं ले जाएगा कुछ  
अब भी तेरा मन अशान्त।  
शान्ति नहीं बाहर मिलती  
यह तो है अन्दर की बात॥

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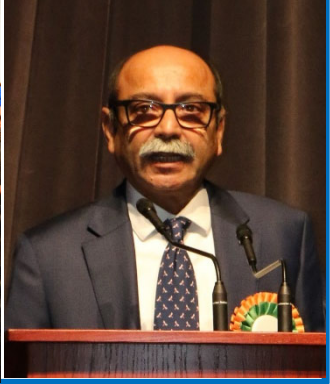
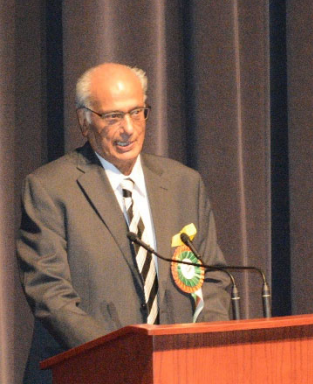
# INDIA DAY 2020



# INDIA DAY 2020



# INDIA DAY 2020



# Indian Independence Day 2020



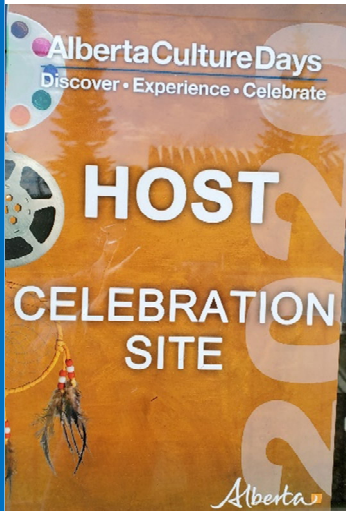
# Indian Independence Day 2020



# Canada Day



# Alberta Culture Day 2020



# Alberta Culture Day 2020



# CISE Event Photos 2020-21



## Indian Republic Day, Jan 26, 2021



## Indian Republic Day, Jan 26, 2021





# **COUNCIL OF INDIA SOCIETIES OF EDMONTON**

## **INDIA DAY 2021 – AWARD RECIPIENTS**

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### **ELEMENTARY ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

#### **GRADE 3**

ADITI RAMANARAYAN  
NISHANT CHOUDHURY

JANAVI JANARTHANAM

MANNAT CHOUDHARY

#### **GRADE 4**

DISHA SOLANKI  
PARTH BHANA  
SOMESHWAR NARAYANAN

DHANYA PATEL  
RISHABH DAS

OVIYA KARIAMAL  
REENA JAIGANESH

#### **GRADE 5**

AMIT REDDY  
DEV SELVAM  
HAJIRA PENUKONDA  
LAVINA SATI  
YASH DARVEKAR

ARCHIT VERMA  
DYUTITH TANUGULA  
ISHAAN UPADHYAY  
OLIVIA ABHILASH

CAMELIA BHATTACHARYA  
PRISHA GOPALAKRISHNAN  
JAIMIN PRAJAPATI  
SOHONA MAITI

#### **GRADE 6**

ANNANYA MISHRA  
HASITA BATHINA

ANVI KESHRI  
PRAJITHA JANARTHANAM

BANAJ BHASIN  
SHWETHA PRADEEP

### **JUNIOR HIGH ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

#### **GRADE 7**

ADITHYA SUDHARSHAN  
DHWANI SHAH  
JAYNE THAKUR  
NIKITA KILLI  
SHREYA PRADEEP

AMAY KUMAR  
HARI MALLAMPALLI  
KAVYA KARIAMAL  
PIYA PATEL  
SHREYA SUDHARSHAN

DHRUTI RAMANARAYAN  
HIMANSHU SURUKANTI  
MAHIKA SHARMA  
SHANA SELVAM



# **COUNCIL OF INDIA SOCIETIES OF EDMONTON**

## **INDIA DAY 2021 – AWARD RECIPIENTS**

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### **GRADE 8**

ADHEESH PATNAIK  
AVANI RATURI  
HARINI SELVARAJAN  
OM UPADHYAY  
ZIA KURUVILLA MARIA

AHAD FARUQUI  
AVINASH SURESH  
JANVI RAULJI  
SHIRIN BHAT

AKILEASH SARAVANAN  
AVYUKTA JENA  
JAYADARSHAN KAMALANATHAN  
SRISHTI BANERJEE

### **GRADE 9**

ACHYUTHA SURUKANTI  
ANUSHKA JADHAV  
GAURANG BHANA  
NAVEENGOUDA DESAIGOUDAR  
PUSTI SHAH  
TANUSHRI KOORAPATY

ALBERT KALAYIL  
AYUSH BHARGAVA  
GOPIKA KUMAR  
POOJA BARRI  
SAI MALLAMPALLI  
TIRTH SHAH

ANANDGOUDA DESAIGOUDAR  
BHAVYA SHAH  
LISA KURUVILLA  
PRIYANSHI PANCHAL  
SUZAN RAJ MARIA  
VEDANSHI SOLANKI

## **SENIOR HIGH ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

### **GRADE 10**

ABINASH SARAVANAN  
ARNAV GUPTA  
SHARONE ABHILASH

AKSHRA PURUSHOTHAMAN  
HARDI PATEL

ANSH ZODE  
NEELABH DAS CHOUDHURY

### **GRADE 11**

AAYUSH BANERJEE  
ASWITHA SARAVANAKUMAR  
GRESHEL WADHAWAN  
NIKITA PANT  
SHVETHA JAYARAMAN  
VISHWA PATEL

APOORVA MISHRA  
DEVAANSHU KUNDU  
JANAN PANCHAL  
RAAHKUL SURESH  
SOWMYA CHALLA  
YATHARTH GUPTA

ARCHITA SABHANI  
DHVANI PATEL  
MARIA KARUVILATH  
RESHMA CHADALAVADA  
THARUNI NANDYALA



# **COUNCIL OF INDIA SOCIETIES OF EDMONTON**

## **INDIA DAY 2021 – AWARD RECIPIENTS**

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### **GRADE 12**

ABISHEK REGHURAM  
JOSHUA JOY  
MANSI MORE  
SHREYA RAVI

ARYASREE HARIGOVINDAN  
JUDIA GEJO  
PRANAV MADALA

AVIGNA JENA  
KAVYAA KAMAL  
SHAIV PANDYA

### **DISTINCTIVE ACHIEVEMENT**

ADITHI RAMANAN  
KAVYAA KAMAL

ARCHITA SABHANI  
PRANAV MADALA

JOSHUA JOY

### **CISE CITIZENSHIP AWARD**

PRAMIT SHENDE

### **CISE SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD**

MRS USHA GUPTA

DR. RAJESHWAR SINGH

# **Council of India Societies of Edmonton**

**9504 37 Avenue, Edmonton, T6E 5K3**

- **Main Hall & Basement available for Public Usage**
- **Ideal for Meeting, Seminar, Private Events**
- **Nominal Usage Fee (on cost-recovery basis)**



**For More Information:**

**Call: 780-436-5367**

**Email: [cise@cisedmonton.com](mailto:cise@cisedmonton.com)**