

SAMACHAR

Volume XXXIV No. 1

JAN. 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wishing you All a Happy New Year.

It is an immense honour to serve as the president of ICA and also want to thank the ICA members for having a faith and confidence in me.

I want to thank the previous Executive & Advisory Council for their outstanding work. Hope you all had a great 2011 with all the exciting and successful programs - especially with Year of India in Canada.

On December 04, 2011's AGM we had a good turnout and participation and our new Executive Board was elected. I am very positive that the new Board will bring excitement, energy and innovation to ICA. During the year of 2012, we are planning to make it more vibrant as some of the programs are already in place. We are hoping to sign up new memberships, doing membership drive events and have new & fascinating cultural events.

- **Republic Day Celebrations** will be held on Saturday January 28th 2012 at the Balfour Collegiate Auditorium at 2pm. Please join us in celebrations on this very special occasion.
- **Hindi School classes** will begin on Saturday January 7th 2012
- **India Supper Night** is scheduled for Saturday September 29th, 2012 at the Saskatchewan Conexus Art Center

We will be keeping you all informed as we have more details for the programming.

I am happy to emphasize that, you have an energetic and committed Board and Advisory Council. We will continue to promote and show case the Indian Culture for years to come.

I also recommend the members to visit www.indiacanadasask.ca website often to get more regular updates about events and other news. We also created new immigrants information page under links section of the website.

Please join me in welcoming the 2012 Executive and Advisory Council.

Ranjith (Ran) Narayanasamy
President ICA

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Published by: INDIA CANADA ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 3373, Regina
Saskatchewan S4P 3H1





ICA OBJECTIVES

- To promote social, cultural, and educational understanding between members of the East Indian Community and other residents of Canada
- To promote and retain the language and cultural traditions of our community as they are essential components of multiculturalism.
- To act as a representative body of the East Indian Community and participate in all activities those are of interest to the community.
- To co-operate with like-minded agencies and organizations in every possible way towards realization of these objectives.

ICA CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2012

INDIA Republic Day	Saturday, January 28/2012
ICA Semi AGM	Sunday, April 15/ 2012
Mosaic	May 31, June 1, 2 /2012
Hindi School Graduation	Sunday, June 9/2012
India in the Park	Saturday, August 18/2012
Hindi School Begins	September, 2012
India Supper Night	Saturday, September 29/2012
Gandhi Jayanti	Sunday, October 07/2012
Diwali	Friday, November 16/2012
ICA AGM Meeting	December, 2012

visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca



Save a tree. Please don't print this e-mail unless it's really necessary.

Please note: As an ICA Board policy an electronic version is free to all.

2012 ICA EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Past President	Mrs. Rani Bilkhu	359-1641	ranibilkhu@sasktel.net
President	Mr. Ranjith Narayanasamy	351-2726	ranjithno1@gmail.com
Vice-President	Mr. Neeraj Saroj	789-9062	neerajsaroj@hotmail.com
Secretary	Mr. Ganesh Prasad		cgprasad@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mr. Manoj Goswami		manoj@sasktel.net
Public Relations	Ms. Kavita Ram	781-2381	kavitaram@sasktel.net
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	Mr. Rajiv Sarna		rajiv_sarna@yahoo.com
	Mrs. Meena Bhardwaj	565-0009	meenabhardwaj@hotmail.com
Youth Rep.	Mr. Arjun Khalburgi		askalburgi@gmail.com
	Ms. Priya Bilkhu	359-1641	ranibilkhu@sasktel.net
Advisory council			
Patron	Mrs. Indira Datta		dattaindra@hotmail.com
	Mrs. Renu Kapoor	585-0318	rkapoor@sasktel.net
	Mr. Sandeep Kalra		sandeepek@yahoo.com
	Dr. Purnima Murthy		dakshinamurthynd@yahoo.com



visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca

KNIGHT ARCHER INSURANCE

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Monday to Friday 8am - 8pm
Saturday 9am - 6pm



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Regina, SK S4N 0N7
569-2288

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visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca



ICA Hindi School



School year 2012-2013 has begun and we welcome everyone for an opportunity to learn Hindi and there is a pretty good reason for it. Hindi ranks fifth amongst the most widely spoken languages in the world in the SIL's (Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc.) list of the largest languages of the world with 182 million speakers in 20 countries, India being the primary country. (Ethnologue, 16th Edition, 2009)



Mission:

The school's mission is to promote and foster the Hindi language and culture in a multicultural Canada. We do this through teaching students to speak, read and write Hindi and to identify themselves with the culture through various cultural activities like songs, dance and speeches which are part of the various events and celebrations like Mosaic, Gandhi Jayanti, Republic day, Independence day etc.

visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca



Methods:

The school's curriculum is designed to expose students to various aspects of language learning not only through whiteboard method of teaching but also through educational games, stories, poems and speaking sessions. We strive to make it possible for the students to be able to use the language confidently.



Class structure:

We have two groups of students, the senior group and the junior group. This facilitates easy learning for the students according to their age. Lessons are planned separately for the two groups.

visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca

In Memoriam

Dr. C. P.V. (Vasu) Nair

With heavy hearts, we say goodbye to a very kind, gentle, and generous friend of the India Canada Association: Dr. Vasu Nair died at the age of 73 on December 24, 2011 at Regina General Hospital.

A dedicated and proud member of the East Indian community, Dr. Nair was a supporter of ICA projects from the very beginning, even serving as a Patron in 2006. No matter what job he agreed to do, Vasu did it sincerely.

Vasu was a renowned neurologist, caring physician, and respected colleague. Dr. G. Sridhar described Vasu – his colleague and family friend – as a “gentle soul and exceptionally talented clinician.”

Regina is going to miss such a highly respected and a sincere individual.

Vasu is survived by his wife Sailaja of 46 years, daughters Deepa (Syam Nair) and Roopa (Axel Innis), and his adoring grandchildren Liam and Benjamin.

On behalf of the ICA and our whole community, I wish to express our deepest condolences to Sailaja and her family during this difficult time. Vasu will not be forgotten.

Renu Kapoor
Advisory Committee, ICA
& personal friend



INDIA CANADA ASSOCIATION (ICA)

Celebrates ...

India's Republic Day

Date: Saturday, January 28, 2012

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Balfour Collegiate Auditorium
1245 College Avenue, Regina, SK.
Enjoy Cultural Program, Greetings and Snacks
Everyone is Welcome to attend this event!



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Mr. Neeraj Saroj @ 789-9062
Mr. Ranjith Narayanasamy @ 351-2726
Ms. Kavita Ram @ 591-2522
OR
Email: ica_regina@hotmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON:

It gives me great pleasure to be a contributing member of ICA this year. The Indo –Canada Association provides a platform for people of Indian origin to showcase and celebrate their culture in Saskatchewan, Canada. The Year of India in 2011 was an inspiration for all Indians. It is my privilege to be a patron for the ICA in 2012. I sincerely hope that we all will show similar enthusiasm for the events and activities of this year .

As we celebrate 100 years of our national anthem in India , the Republic day celebrations this year should take on special meaning. So let us bundle up in woolies , brave the cold weather and share the warmth of being Indo Canadians on January 26th,2012 .Come one and all to the Republic Day gathering hosted by ICA.

Mrs. Indira Datta, Patron ICA

visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca

Past President's Message

Hello All,

I hope you all had a great relaxing summer and ready for the Christmas season with lots of eating and visiting. It seems we are coming to the end of this very busy year as ICA is filled with all sorts of activities especially with the **Year of India celebration**.

India In The Park was a huge celebration on August 20th along with Main stage show at Conexus Arts centre with Kuchipudi Dance group from India and Delhi 2 Dublin from Vancouver followed with award winning Fireworks. Deputy High Commissioner Mrs. Narinder Chauhan was in attendance from Ottawa for two days in Regina.

Gandhi Jayanthi was well attended on Sunday October 2nd with councilor John Findura bringing greeting from the city of Regina also in attendance was councilor Louis Brown and Hon. Ralph Goodale and Minister Laura Ross bringing greetings from the government of Saskatchewan. We are extremely grateful to Dr. Ashok Verma for graciously donating cash prizes to our children in an essay competition on Mahatma Gandhiji. The kids did a great job, congratulations to the winners and all the kids that that took part in the competition overlooked by Krishan Kapila and Beulah Fernando.

30th India Supper Night took place on September 24, 2011 this year all funds went to the **Regina and District community Living "Campus for All"**. It was a fun filled evening with Honorable **Dr. Gordon Barnhart** Lt. Governor of Saskatchewan in attendance along with our special guest **Bal Arneson**, Spice Goddess on food network and many other local dignitaries. Local dance groups were also featured and lots of exciting auction and raffles prizes. Final donation to the charity this year was a record of \$30,500.00 the entire supper night committee headed by **Renu Kapoor** should be extremely proud of themselves for a fantastic record breaking event to be remembered.

Our last event in celebrations of the **Year of India** was on **October 25, 2011** at the Conexus Art Center featuring the **ILA Arun** which **included** Bollywood and folk dances with forty performers it has surely been a pleasure to be a part of this very special event in show casing our country and its many attributes to the world.

The **City of Regina** has announced twin city program with a chosen city in India. We are very excitedly looking forward to find out more details on this partnership and the city chosen.

I congratulate the incoming board and look forward to another year filled with excitement. Last but not least I would like to extend my gratitude to my entire board members, the Advisory council, Patron and volunteers in all the support that they have given me through this busy year and not forgetting all the ICA members.

Rani Bilkhu

For all info visit the ICA website: www.indiacanadasask.ca



India Canada Association of Saskatchewan Inc.
I.C.A.



December 2011

We want to take this opportunity to extend a very sincere thank you for making the "Year of India in Canada" (YOI) a tremendous success.

Here and across Canada, the "Year of India" series included everything from artistic performances to writers' festivals and film screenings. In Regina, we have held at least one event every month since April, nine of which were direct from India. Over the course of this initiative, thousands of people experienced Indian culture in exciting and memorable ways.

We are honoured by the popularity of Indian culture, history, and entertainment in Regina and Saskatchewan, and by the support and participation of people like you who make the effort of ICA so worthwhile.

Looking forward to more exciting projects in 2012.

Sincerely, the Saskatchewan YOI Committee:

**Renu Kapoor (Chair), Neelu Sachdev, Anjana Kaushal, Rani Bilkhu, Kavita Ram,
and Neeraj Saroj**

visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca

November 15, 2011

Thanks to your generous support, our Annual Supper Night fundraiser on September 24th, 2011 was another huge success. We surpassed our original goal of \$15,000 and were ultimately able to submit a donation **\$30,500** to Regina & District Association for Community Living's "Campus for All" program. Please find enclosed your tax receipt.

As you know, ICA is a Regina based non-profit organization founded in 1975. Over the years, ICA has been honoured to generate over \$400,000 for a range of local and international causes, including tsunami relief, Red Cross, Regina Food Bank, Hospitals of Regina Foundation, Diabetes Association, Cancer Society, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Gift of Sight, UNICEF, Canadian Mental Health Association- Sask Division, Regina Public Library, United Way of Regina, Boys & Girls Club of Regina, Z99's Radiothon, and Ehrlo Community Services.

Your ongoing support makes all of this possible. Thanks again for your recent contribution, and we look forward to counting on you in the future.

Sincerely,

Renu Kapoor, S.V.M.
Chairperson
India Supper Night 2011

PS: Be sure to save the date for next year's Supper Night –Saturday September 29, 2012!

visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca

JOIN ICA ON THE WEB

In April of this year, ICA went "live" with our very first website. This is a dynamic place for ICA members and the broader community to get up-to-date information on events, programs, and relevant news.

Check the homepage often for frequently updated announcements, and watch the special "Year of India in Canada" content which rotates regularly in the sidebar on the homepage.

Since its launch, the ICA website has attracted a thousand visitors and nearly 3000 page views. Over 50% of that traffic has come from search engines (like Google), and the most popular page on our website is the events calendar. There was a noticeable spike in visits near the dates of our "Year of India" events. While most of our site visitors are in Canada, we are excited to see 57 visitors came from India, 30 from the US, and handfuls from Denmark, UK, UAE, Philippines, Australia, and even Nigeria!

What's more, we are now able to showcase energetic and colourful photographs from various ICA events on the new ICA Flickr page. Also recently launched is the ICA channel on YouTube where video clips will be housed and tagged for all of you to share with your friends and networks.

If you have ideas about the ICA website, or would like to be involved with our web strategy, we would love to hear from you through the "Contact us" page.

Links you should bookmark:

ICA website: www.indiacanadasask.ca

Contact us: <http://www.indiacanadasask.ca/content/contact-us>

ICA on Flickr page: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/indiacanadasask/>

ICA on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/ICAsask>

See you online!



PS: Check out photos from Year of India events online:

<http://flickr.com/photos/indiacanadasask>

and stay on top of ICA news at <http://indiacanadasask.ca>



MOSAIC 2012

REGINA'S CULTURAL FESTIVAL
MAY 31, JUNE 1, 2 /2012

CALL FOR
VOLUNTEERS/PERFORMERS

Can you dance? Can you sing? Come and showcase your talents at the Mosaic India Pavillion 2012!!!!

CONTACT: Ranjith Narayanaswamy
Ranjithno1@gmail.com

or

Priya Bilhku at ranibilkh@sasktel.net

visit: www.indiacanadasask.ca

2012 India Canada Association (ICA) Membership Form

NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____
Family Name First name Family Name First Name

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ PROVINCE: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____
Home Business

EMAIL: _____

NAME(S) OF CHILDREN: _____ AGE: _____ SEX: _____

_____ AGE: _____ SEX: _____

FAMILY HOBBIES AND INTERESTES: _____

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ASSOCIATION: _____

CHILDREN'S INTERESTS: _____

FEE : - FAMILY (\$20) – SINGLE (\$10) – STUDENT AND SENIOR (RETIRED) (\$5)
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR SENIOR RETIRED SINGLE/COUPLE: \$ 50.00
Family membership for 5 years (\$ 90)

NOTE: Please mail the completed Application Form to;
ICA, P.O. Box 3373, Regina, SK S4P 3H1
Or give it to an ICA executive member.
Or E-mail ICA at ica_regina@hotmail.com.

REMINDER: ICA publishes 4 issues a year. If you would like to get this samachar by email
Please provide us with your [email address](#).

Remember, membership has benefits!

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

