

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** **Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi** in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry’s (**FICCI**) Global Education Summit on Nov 13 & 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.

Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman, University Grants Commission delivered the inaugural address. **H.E. Mr. Stewart Beck, High Commissioner of Canada to India** spoke to the gathering of more than 130 Canadian and Indian participants.

Congratulating the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), High Commissioner Stewart Beck said, "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."

The event focused on six themes relevant to the Government of Canada and Government of India, i.e. 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.

The program concluded with a reception and dinner hosted by Mr. Beck at Canada House. On that occasion Mr. Beck highlighted the ongoing cooperation between the two countries. HE Admiral Nirmal Verma, High Commissioner of India to Canada, emphasized the contribution that the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute has made in the promotion of Higher education, research and collaboration between India and Canada. 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 Governments of India and Canada, who believe in the Institutes' ideals and remained committed to the Shastri Institute's bi-national structure.

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute is a bi-national organization that promotes understanding between India and Canada through academic activities and exchanges. Our broad-based initiatives support the creation of bi-national links between academia, government, the business community and civil society organizations by funding research and hosting seminars, conferences and workshops. The Shastri Institute has the honour of being the only bi-national institution which has fifty four (54) premier academic Institutions as its members in India (including IITs, IIMs, Law schools, Central and State Universities) and thirty six (36) universities in Canada (including McGill, Queen's and York Universities). The Shastri Institute is funded by and partners closely with government bodies in both India and Canada.

Website: <http://www.sici.org/home/> or <http://www.sici.org.in>