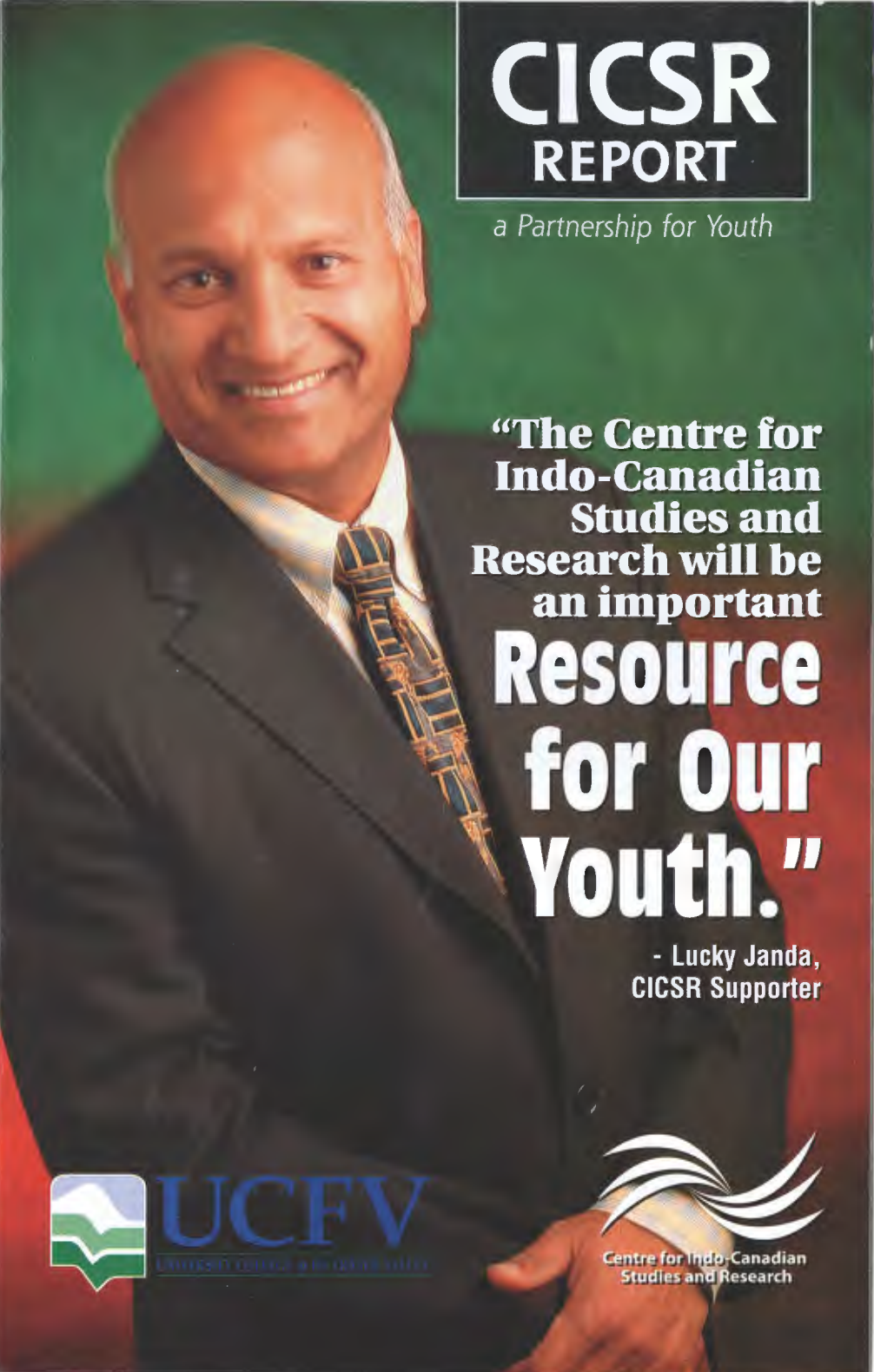


A portrait of Lucky Janda, a middle-aged man with a receding hairline, smiling. He is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a patterned tie. The background is a gradient of green and red.

CICSR REPORT

a Partnership for Youth

**"The Centre for
Indo-Canadian
Studies and
Research will be
an important
Resource
for Our
Youth."**

**- Lucky Janda,
CICSR Supporter**



UCFV
UNIVERSITY OF CANADA-FRANCO-VANCOUVER

The logo for the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research. It features a stylized white wave or ribbon design above the text.

**Centre for Indo-Canadian
Studies and Research**

UCFV students pledge financial support to new Centre

In a move described as "literally unheard of in Canada," UCFV's Student Union Society has pledged \$50,000 toward the establishment of the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research at the university.



The UCFV Student Union Society took the lead with a donation of \$50,000 to the campaign that will establish the new Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research at the UCFV. From left, UCFV Board chair Bob Nickom, UCFV president Skip Bassford, Student Union Society president Gurpreet Mahil and UCFV Foundation chair Marian Dyck.

"This kind of leadership sets an example which is unprecedented at UCFV and, I believe, demonstrates that this is the right project at the right time for students at UCFV and for our communities," says UCFV president Dr. Skip Bassford. "This is literally unheard of in Canada, that students are so supportive of an idea that they pledge their own money."

For more information visit www.ucfv.ca/icrc



Community shows its support for new Indo-Canadian Centre at UCFV at Gala event

The creation of the first-ever Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research in North America took a huge step forward, thanks to the tremendous support demonstrated at a fundraising gala in Abbotsford last year.

Some 400 guests at the "New Horizons" gala donated more than \$110,000 during the elegant event, which was sponsored primarily by RBC Financial and KPMG. Guests also learned more about what the new Centre will do through several presentations, including a special video production donated by CBC television. The evening, MC'd by actress Veena Sood, also featured fine Indian cuisine, music, and dance.



"From the beginning of this project the community has said they strongly support this idea," said UCFV President Skip Bassford. "What we witnessed at the Gala was people and organizations from the Lower Mainland and throughout the Fraser Valley demonstrating their commitment to make this dream a reality."

Two raffles during the evening raised \$6,390. Top prizes included a trip for two to India on Air Canada and a stunning diamond bracelet by Lanka Jewels of Mission.

The gala marked the first six months of fundraising efforts to establish the CICSR.



For being
an instrument
of change
in the
community.

Congratulations!

KPMG is a supporter of post-secondary education across Canada. As a trusted advisory to the business community in British Columbia, across Canada and throughout South Asia, KPMG is proud to provide financial support to Indo-Canadian studies and research at the University College of the Fraser Valley.

www.kpmg.ca

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KPMG

UCFV Facts

- UCFV began as Fraser Valley College in 1974/75. It became a university-college in 1991, with its first bachelor's degree graduates in 1994.
- During the 2004/05 academic year, UCFV welcomed more than 10,000 students to its campuses.
- In the 2004/05 academic year, there were 1,934 graduates from UCFV programs.
- UCFV employed 659 instructional faculty in 2004/05, including 289 full-time and 370 part-time instructors.
- UCFV has main campuses in Abbotsford and Chilliwack, a smaller campus in Mission, and centres in Hope and Agassiz.



- UCFV offers a comprehensive range of programs, from trades certificates to full Bachelor's degrees, Canada's first Master's in Criminal Justice, and continuing studies courses.

- Key programs/areas include: Criminal Justice, History, Geography, Fashion Design, Business Administration, Agriculture, Kinesiology, Social Work, Early Childhood Education/Child and Youth Care, Computer Information Systems and Trades.

For more information visit
www.ucfv.ca/icrc

Province commits \$1.25 million to UCFV's Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development

The University College of the Fraser Valley's Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research recently received a \$1.25-million commitment from the provincial government for its B.C. Regional Innovation Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development.

"Much of what we want to accomplish in the Centre focuses on fostering stronger economic ties between Canada and India, and this Chair will certainly help us accomplish that," said Dr. Skip Bassford, UCFV president. "It is clear that this Chair will benefit the ongoing social and economic development, not only of the Indo-Canadian community, but also of the community at large."

Now that the provincial government has committed \$1.25 million of support for the Chair through the independently administered Leading Edge Endowment Fund (LEEF), UCFV is looking to the community and the corporate sector to help make the Regional Innovation Chair a reality. Under the terms of the program, an additional \$1.25 million must be raised to match LEEF's funding before UCFV can gain access to the LEEF funds.



Premier Gordon Campbell announces a \$1.25 million Leading Edge Endowment Fund grant for a Regional Innovation Chair on Canada-India Business and Economic Development at UCFV.

Premier Gordon Campbell said that a research chair focusing on Canada-India business links is a good match for the Fraser Valley. "This area has a strong, entrepreneurial, business-oriented community with a South Asian background," said Premier Campbell. "We know that this new research chair will contribute to the future of B.C."

Parm Bains, head of the endowment committee for the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research, emphasized that the new research chair will strengthen Canada's ties with an emerging economic giant.

"India has the second-fastest growing economy in the world, and by 2020, it will be one of the five biggest economies worldwide," he said. "The research chair housed in this Indo-Canadian centre at UCFV will help build strong relationships and deepen our understanding of the ties between our two countries."



MEHFIL

is proud to support the establishment of a Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research at UCFV.

One Community One Magazine

One Community One Magazine

Educating Our Youth

When Parm Bains, chair of UCFV's campaign for the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research, contacted Lucky Janda for a donation, Janda didn't hesitate to agree. "This was an opportunity to contribute to a great cause," says Janda, a venture capitalist who is involved in businesses around the world. "I asked him how much they wanted and he said \$50,000. I said fine and wrote the cheque. I see it as an investment in the future; education is our future and the community's future and that's what this Centre is all about."

The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research at the University College of the Fraser Valley will offer students a chance to study in India through a university exchange program and will also foster economic ties between Canada and India.

"I think it's a great step forward for the Indo-Canadian community," says Janda. "Whether they're looking to do business in India or looking to get education in India or exposure to Indian culture, this Centre will better prepare individuals to be successful in their endeavors. I don't think anybody else is doing anything like this."

Janda, who immigrated to B.C. from Punjab as a teenager, sees the Centre's proposed university exchange program as an ideal way to give young Indo-Canadians a chance to explore their cultural roots while working towards a degree. "I would love my children to go to university in India for a year, especially if the credits they earn there will count towards their

degrees here."

Janda hopes more people will take the time to learn how the Centre will contribute to the Indo-Canadian community's economic growth. "I think that as people learn what this Centre will bring to the community, they will recognize that it has the potential to really help many people get to the next level, not only in terms of higher education but in business.

"You don't have to have a degree in business to see that Indo-Canadians are in a unique position to benefit from the fact that India is poised to be one of the world's top five economies within 15 years. After all, our roots are in India. The resources that the Centre will offer will give people in our community an extra edge."

Janda says he can think of few causes more worthy of the community's support. "We should contribute as much as we possibly can," he says. "It's money well spent."



At the University College of the Fraser Valley (UCFV) we are committed to establishing a Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research. Why? In the Fraser Valley we have the highest proportion of Indo-Canadian people of any metropolitan area in Canada. This initiative is supported by the community and by UCFV because it makes sense.

The official campaign to establish the CICSIR at UCFV began in the fall of 2003, and continues to this day.

UCFV's Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research will:

- become a hub of information for people who want to do business with India and who want to understand the relationships and opportunities between our two countries. It will enhance the economic contribution of the Indo-Canadian community in B.C.

- be a place for a wide range of learning activities and resource materials. The Centre will become a national information repository, and a site for value-

(continued)

For more information visit
www.ucfv.ca/circ



Cpt. (retired) Dave Kandal,
Chair, Abbotsford
Airport Authority,
& **Ruby Kandal**
Homemaker

"We've always emphasized to our children and our grandchildren of the need of higher education. Education is not a burden it's something you should desire. We're very proud to have an initiative like this Centre in our local community."

"Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained."

James A. Garfield



Mona Uppal

Retired Teacher

"The Centre will provide opportunity to all students to enhance their knowledge and understanding which will lead to cooperation, harmony, peace and stronger ties between India and Canada, and the people of the local community."

"It is very exciting to see that people from all walks of life are involved in this project. It was a real privilege to meet UCFV president Dr. Bassford. I was amazed at his enthusiasm,

commitment and tremendous effort to make it a successful project.

"Members of the Indo-Canadian community are to be commended for their spirit, enthusiasm, monetary contributions and sincere efforts to make it a success. I would encourage all to donate to this project whatever they can."



Rajinder Lally

Lally Farms

When Rajinder Lally first came to Canada more than 30 years ago, the 24-year-old was looking for a brighter future than he might have had back in India. Upon arriving he found work in a sawmill in Merritt, B.C., doing manual labour.

It was difficult work, he says, but he wanted to go into business for himself and was prepared to do anything to make that a reality. Lally worked for two years and saved up enough to buy a small farm in the Fraser Valley. Another two years later, he bought more land and was able to leave his job at the mill. Today he owns 250 acres of farmland, employs 400 workers during the busy season and is one of B.C.'s largest producers of blueberries.

"Canada is a land of great opportunity," he says, adding that he probably couldn't have achieved the same level of success back in India. "But we have to make sure we don't lose ties to our heritage."

That's one reason why he made a donation towards the Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research at the UCFV.

"Indo-Canadians have played a significant role in this province and will continue to do so for a long time to come. That should be recognized and that is what having this Centre will do."

For Indo-Canadian youth it means they can learn about their history and culture, he says, adding that it will also give students and faculty a chance to explore potential academic and business opportunities with India.

"This is an important project for everyone," says Lally. "This Centre will help lay the foundation for the success of many people."



able social, cultural, and economic research.

- provide business research to help in development of Canada-India business.

- help in development of courses and a program in Indo-Canadian studies. UCFV has already introduced Indo-Canadian Studies courses in history, literature, sociology, and Punjabi. Currently in development are courses in philosophy as well as further history and literature courses.

- provide an understanding of the entire pan-Indian community. Awareness of the diversity in India will be reflected in the Centre.

- provide a home for scholars and scholarship that will benefit the entire Canadian community.

- enable UCFV to establish strong links with other research institutions in Canada and in India.

Continuing the Campaign for the CICSR:
Find out more about Canada's only Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research—including how you can help—by calling 604-854-4566, or check the website: www.ucfv.ca/cicrc



Tony Singh President, Fruiticana

"With the announcement of plans to open a Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies and Research, the University College of the Fraser Valley has taken an initiative that is unique in North America and has shown its commitment to the Indo-Canadian community. That means a great deal to our community and to Canada as a nation. For our youth a Centre like this will offer the best of both worlds — a university that will provide a solid foundation on which to build for their future and a centre that will help them retain ties to their heritage."



Douglas MacAdams, Q.C.

Barrister

"Education is a key to a quality life for individual Canadians and for Canada as a country."

Indo-Canadians are an increasingly important component of our Canadian mosaic. All Canadians will benefit by enabling and encouraging additional contributions by Indo-Canadians to the Canadian economy and to Canadian cultural and social life."

Having this centre means that our Indo-Canadian friends and neighbours will have a high profile recognition of their contribution to the larger community. It also means that all Canadians will have a tool for enabling and encouraging additional contributions by Indo-Canadians to Canada."



Avtar and Balbir Mahil, MSB Farm Blueberry

Avtar and Balbir Mahil came to Canada in the early 1970s and found work in a local mill. "We worked very hard for a long time and had an idea of running our own business some day," says Avtar.

That day came in 1986 when the pair purchased a dairy farm in the Fraser Valley.

"We decided it would be better to convert it into a blueberry farm," he says. "It took a lot of work and 12 years to turn it into a success."

In 1996 the pair were able to leave their jobs to focus on their business, which now consists of 60 acres of farmland.

Today, the two are thankful for the opportunities they've had in Canada and want to do their part to ensure future generations have even better

opportunities.

"Somebody helped us and it's up to us now to encourage our youth to further themselves, to elevate their thinking," says Balbir, who has two daughters and one son. "A university is a great place for that."

"We want our children to stay connected to our heritage. Our children, themselves want to know about their roots," says Avtar, the father of two boys.

"We respect the people that are helping put this together and when they asked for our support we didn't hesitate," says Balbir. "It's something that is important to us, our children and the community. It's going to help people here and in India. Everyone in the community should get involved and give whatever they can."

CICSR:

What it means to me.

It is because of the importance of maintaining India's heritage and culture that I realize just how important it is to support the Centre for Indo Canadian Studies and Research (CICSR). As a third year history student, I realize the many advantages and opportunities this Centre can provide to both the Indo-Canadian community, and the larger community as a whole. The creation of the Centre will play a key role in promoting Sikh history in British Columbia and the role that Sikhs have played in Canada's history. Not only will the Centre provide an insight into the history, but it will also play an important role in bringing contemporary issues into focus. Furthermore, I look forward to seeing how the Centre will integrate and promote positive youth involvement. Indeed, the Centre will not only reach the population of South Asians in B.C, but also the larger population. The Centre, while working together with the larger community, will encourage all people to become aware of the South Asian community, its culture, and its many intricacies. It is because of these, among many other reasons, that the Centre needs the support of both the Indo-Canadian community, and the larger B.C community.

Sharanjit Kaur Poonian is studying at UCFV towards a BA. She is a third year History major and English extended minor. She also works as a researcher for the CICSR at the UCFV.

"For its next swipe at market share, Honda reinvents the pickup truck."

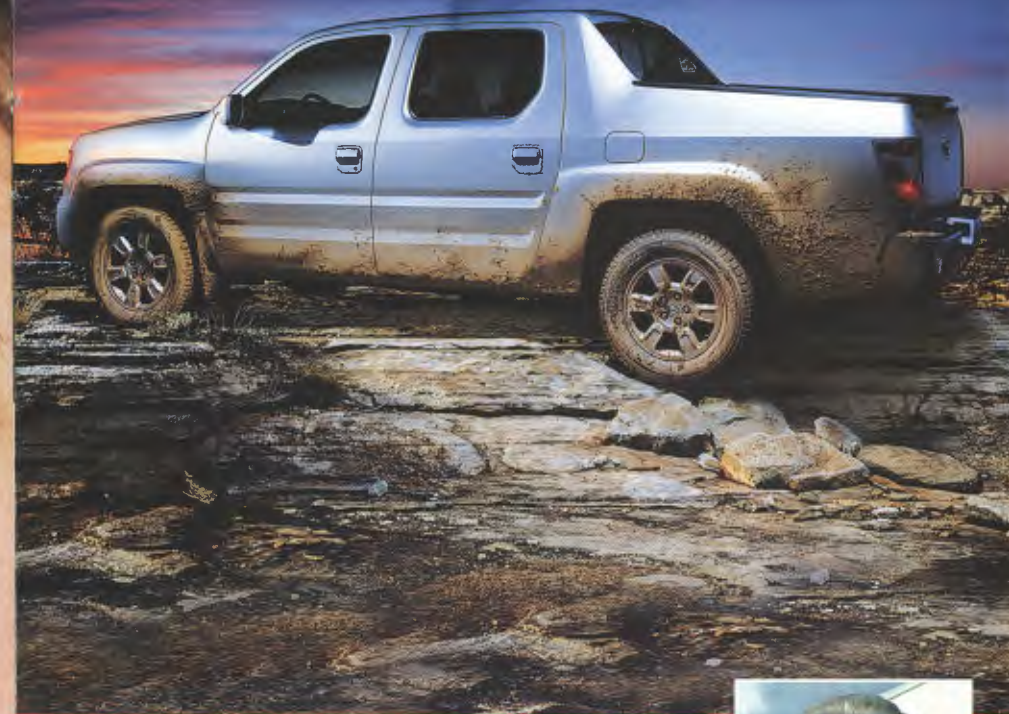
Car and Driver – March 2005

"It's a winner"

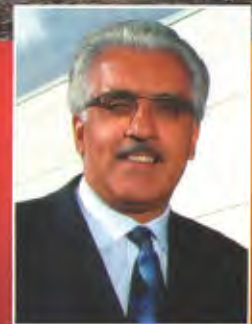
Tony Swan – Car and Driver

"...it's no stretch to say it has the best ride and handling of any pickup, ever."

Los Angeles Times - February 2005



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Nasir Kamrudin
General Manager

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