Centre for Canadian Studies The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara

Prepared By:

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About the Centre for Canadian Studies

- Centre for Canadian Studies dates back in the early 1980s when the UGC made its first serious attempt to involve Canadian Studies in academia. It was established with the support of Professor J. Birje-Patil, Former Head, Department of English at The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, along with other eminent academicians and scholars of India.
- The Centre has a library that consists of a rich collection of books on various subjects related to Indo-Canadian Studies. In addition, it has been organizing several academic events such as expert talks, workshops, conferences, and seminars.
- It can be noted that the Centre has garnered support from The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi for many years in fostering the research in the bi-national research activities.
- In addition, the Centre also published a reputed journal on Canadian studies for several years, and research papers of reputed scholars in India and Canada had been published for decades.

Vision and Mission

VISION

• Keeping NEP 2020 in mind, the centre will strive to become a prominent research hub in the multidisciplinary fields of Indo-Canadian Studies and thereby cultivate a collaborative environment among faculties and institutes across the two countries. It will focus on creating a bi-national structure of research to enhance mutually benefiting discourses.

MISSION

 The Centre aims to foster bi-national collaborative research in the fields related to Indo-Canadian literature and culture. Some of the thrust areas are as follows: Diaspora Studies: A Bi-National Link, Intersectional Studies of Gendered Diaspora in Canada, Indigenous Literature and Culture, Education Policies in India and Canada, and Scopes of Further Collaborations among Indo-Canadian Institutions.

Event 01: A webinar on "Periodizing Indigenous History in Canada"

- Centre for Canadian Studies, Faculty of Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, organized a webinar on "Periodizing Indigenous History in Canada" on Friday, 08 October 2021.
- Prof. Peter Kulchyski, Department of Native Studies, University of Manitoba, Canada delivered his talk on "Periodizing Indigenous History in Canada." During his talk, he highlighted the entire historical perspective of indigenous cultures in Canada. It was quite evident in the talk that he clearly associated the Canadian spectrum of identity with Indigenous identity.
- The event was graced by Prof. Adhya B. Saxena, Dean, Faculty of Arts, and Prof. Hitesh Raviya, Head, Department of English. It was coordinated by Dr. Rajesh Bharvad who has been a recipient of Shastri Mobility Program for the year 2020-21 (A fellowship of one month of research work at Western University, Canada).
- The webinar was attended by approximately 56 participants which included students, scholars, and academicians in India.









Event 02: A Webinar on "Partition Stories from Canada"

- Centre for Canadian Studies, Faculty of Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, and The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi organized a webinar on "Partition Stories from Canada" on Wednesday, 20 October 2021.
- Prof. Nandi Bhatia, Department of English and Writing Studies, University of Western Ontario, Canada, delivered her talk on "Partition Stories from Canada." During her talk, she narrated the trauma experiences that resulted due to the partition in India, and at the same time she, pointed out this historical linkage with contemporary diasporic experiences while discussing contemporary Indo-Canadian diasporic writers.
- The event was graced by Dr. Prachi Kaul, Director, The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi, Prof. Adhya B. Saxena, Dean, Faculty of Arts, and Prof. Hitesh Raviya, Head, Department of English. It was coordinated by Dr. Rajesh Bharvad who has been a recipient of Shastri Mobility Program for the year 2020-21 (A fellowship of one month of research work at University of Western Ontario, Canada).
- The webinar was attended by approximately 100 participants which included students, scholars, and academicians in India.







Event 03: 2022 Globalink Research Internship

2022 Globalink Research Internship offered by MITACS, Canada

As part of this initiative, two students of the Department of English have been awarded this research internship. The details of the internship is as follows:

Names of the Students: 1. Rati Patel

2. Tanvi Morwani

As part of this internship, the students will spend 12 weeks in Canada with Professor Shafique Virani (shafique.virani@utoronto.ca) on the project titled "Gujarati Literature" at University of Toronto, Toronto. This is a fully funded fellowship wherein all the expenses (Flight and visa reimbursement, Accommodation stipend, Weekly living stipend, Medical insurance, Host university student fees) will be borne by the Government of Canada.

The students prepared their application and participated in the competition under the guidance of Dr. Rajesh Bharvad. MITACS holds such competitions wherein students from all the countries participate.

Conclusion

- Centre for Canadian Studies will continue to foster academic activities such as webinars, workshops, seminars, and other possible collaborative activities. It will also seek for opportunities to develop tie-ups with Canadian universities and other centers with shared interests.
- Initial support in the form of funds from the university is required to initiate academic activities. However, an attempt to garner support from other academic bodies such as UGC and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi will be made in future.

THANK YOU