

ICCC 26th Annual Awards Roll Of Honour

Top Achievers In Various Fields Recognized By Premier Indo-Canadian Business Organization

trustee of the Royal Ontario Museum, having served as a director on the board of trustees and chairman of the pension committee. He served as president and director of the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association. He has a keen interest wine-making, having served for five years as the Cellerier for the Toronto Sous Commanderie of the Confrerie des Chevaliers du Tastevin.

As a proud Indo-Canadian, Mr. Tiwari has built a diverse, high-performing and engaged team in Canada.

Humanitarian:

Haresh (Mike) Mehta

When Haresh immigrated to Canada more than four decades ago, little did he know that his life would span out in service of humanity. He has an awesome acumen for entrepreneurship, abiding



passion for community development, visionary zeal for philanthropy and dedication to foster Canada India ties.

His entrepreneurial journey started in the early 1970s since then, he has launched several successful businesses. His community development work is an adroit mix of public life and philanthropy. He has been active in the Liberal Party of Canada and Sanatan Mandir Cultural Centre. His purpose is to foster better understanding between the Indo-Canadian community and the mainstream.

Haresh's community-based work in India includes a family trust established in 1986 in Dungar village in Gujarat to assist impoverished people with cataracts and eye disorders. Over

5,000 cataract surgeries have been performed and over 15,000 patients have been examined. A walk-in medical clinic served over 10,000 patients with free medicine. Many families in the village receive annual grocery supplies and students receive scholarship.

He built a high school under his father's name in Dungar in 2011, which provides educational facilities to 800 students annually. He donated four water filtration plants to four schools ensuring clean drinking water to over 1,700 schoolchildren. He also donated 40 computers and started computer lab for high school students.

Haresh is CEO and President of Eximcan Canada and FEP search Group International. His businesses provide employment to over 350 people in Canada, USA and India. He holds a Bachelor's in Marketing from St. Joseph University, Philadelphia, USA.

Lifetime/Outstanding Achievement:

Sadhna Joshi

Dr. Sadhna Joshi completed her B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D. and D.Sc. from the Université Paris Diderot, France. She joined Allelix Biopharmaceuticals, Mississauga, in 1983 as a Senior Research Scientist and Principle Investigator on AIDS and Immune Regulation. In 1988, she joined University of Toronto as Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular Genetics.



For treatment, she is developing gene therapy whereby patients' own hematopoietic

stem cells will be genetically modified to secrete antiviral proteins. Four of the proteins engineered in her laboratory were shown to neutralize/inactivate HIV and inhibit HIV infection. This gene therapy approach is of interest as, if it works, a single gene delivery procedure could provide a life-time treatment for HIV-infected individuals.

The same antiviral proteins are secreted from strains of Lactobacillus that can colonize the vagina and gastrointestinal tract to develop microflora defence for preventing HIV transmission. As Lactobacillus is used to make yogurt, the engineered strains could be propagated and delivered orally. This could represent the most affordable, accessible, safe and easy-to-use preventive measure to block HIV transmission.

In addition to her devotion to research and serving as mentor to her students, she is recognized for her efforts in promoting Indian culture and literature as well for her exemplary and remarkable contributions to the ideals of Indo-Canadian community.

In 2018, Dr. Joshi received Achievement and Recognition Award from Indian Canadian Organization in Toronto. Previously, she received ICCC Professional Female of the Year 2013 Award in Toronto and Bharat Gaurav Award (Pride of India Award) in 2013 in New Delhi.

Member of the Year:

Chirag Shah

Chirag Shah, a young technocrat who has rapidly scaled peaks of technological achievements by constantly striving to serve clients beyond their expectations.

With an eye for cost-effective solutions, Chirag's company, SUBHTECH SOLUTIONS INC., focuses on adopting innovative approaches to clients' needs. Whether it is integration, implementation, customization in Enterprise Resource Planning, Customer Relationship Management, Cloud and mobile solutions, prioritises innovation.

In addition to his IT venture, Chirag is also actively involved in advising high net worth individuals and businesses in Canada and India

through his service VAYAM MANTU ADVISORS INC. The firm focuses on providing clients with customised solutions and integrated strategies in spheres of outsourcing, facilitating and managing trusted network of service providers. The firm has built an awesome reputation of providing knowledge driven advice that lead to the clients reaping a bonanza of rewards.

A firm believer in giving back to the Canadian society, and to the Indo-Canadian



community. He strives to work towards positive transformation of not-for-profit organisations such as the ICCC & CIF.

Chirag has raised funds for Milton District Hospital Foundation, Vaishno Devi temple - Oakville and other charities.

He is actively involved with Gujarat Public Affairs Council of Canada, Milton Gujarati Parivaar, and Canada India Association. His passion is to assist businesses operate optimally by adopting and adapting suitable technological solutions. He has worked with Microsoft, IBM, Deloitte, Omnicom, Fountain Tire, Canadian General Tower, Clearly, among others.

President Award:

Roseann O'Reilly Runte

Roseann O'Reilly Runte received a Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and began a career of teaching, research and leading universities.

She was Principal or President of five institutions. She is currently President and CEO of the Canada Foundation for Innovation which



provides infrastructure for research in the universities, colleges and hospitals across Canada. The Foundation has invested approximately 2.7 million in projects involving and benefitting India in areas including agriculture and food security, water, health, computing grids, nuclear energy, and communications.

Roseann's served as President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, Canada-U.S. Fulbright Foundation, Canadian Federation for the Humanities, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Virginia Advanced Carrier and Shipbuilding Integration Center, Virginia National Defense Industrial Authority, Club of Rome, LifeNet, UN Sub Committee on Education etc. She is author of poetry, articles, book chapters and reviews.

She has received Order of Canada, Order of Crown of Belgium, French Order of Merit and Academic Palms, Distinguished Civilian Service Medal from the U.S. Army.

She is fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and Commander of Merit in Order of Malta. She has been awarded the Women of Distinction Award, a Humanitarian Award, Peace and Dialogue Award, Servant Leadership, Distinguished Public Service, Women of Courage, Confidence and Character, Sportsperson of the Year, Trailblazer and a number of honorary degrees.

Dr. Runte had the privilege along with others to establish the Canada India Center of Excellence at Carleton University under Mr. Harry Sharma. Their work has built bridges of understanding and sharing of knowledge between Canada and India.



2018 award winners with Members of the ICCC Board.