



Indiaspora Delegation to Canada

October 14 – 16, 2018

Bios



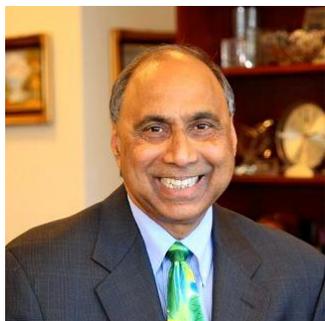
Navneet Chugh, Managing Partner, Chugh LLP

Navneet is the Managing Partner of a full service law firm and a CPA Firm with 500 employees in 15 offices in USA, India, & South America. He was the first president of the North American South Asian Bar Association (2003), a co-founder of The Indus Entrepreneurs Southern California (1997), Founder President of the South Asian Bar Association of Southern California (1995), the Indian Professionals Toastmasters Club (1986), the International Indian Bar Association, and Chairman of the Board of Premier Media, Inc., a publishing company based in Los Angeles, California. He previously was a Trustee and Board Member of the American India Foundation (AIF), chaired by former President Bill Clinton. He is also on the board of Asia Society of Southern California, Habib American Bank, Ignify – an IT Consulting Firm, and Pratham Southern California. He is a graduate of USC & Harvard.



Arjun Divecha, Partner and Chairman, GMO, and Head of Emerging Markets Equity Team

Arjun is the head of GMO's Emerging Markets Equity team and a member of the GMO Board of Directors. Prior to joining GMO in 1993, he spent 12 years at BARRA directing software development, marketing, client service and emerging markets research and development. Mr. Divecha holds a Bachelor of Technology in Aeronautical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and an M.B.A. in Finance from Cornell University.



Frank Islam, Founder, The FI Investment Group

Frank is a successful entrepreneur, philanthropist, civic leader and thought leader with a special commitment to civic, educational and artistic causes. He currently heads the FI Invest Group a firm that he established after he sold his information technology firm, the QSS Group in 2007. Frank serves on number boards and advisory councils including the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees, the U.S. Institute of Peace, the Woodrow Wilson Center, and the Brookings Institution. He also serves on various boards and councils at more than half-dozen universities including Johns Hopkins, University, American

University, and George Mason University. He has written two well regarded books on the American condition, *Working the Pivot Points: To Make America Work Again* (2013) and *Renewing the American Dream: A Citizen's Guide for Restoring Our Competitive Advantage* (2010).



Debbie Driesman, VP, Frank Islam and Debbie Driesman Foundation

Debbie has lived in the Washington, DC area for the past three decades, having grown up in Ontario, Canada. She worked as a computer engineer in NASA's communication division at Goddard Space Flight Center until she retired in 1999 to oversee the construction of a home. She and her husband, Frank Islam, have since built another new home in Potomac, MD. Debbie has been involved in the Potomac Area Newcomers Group since 2002. Debbie is the Vice President of the Frank Islam and Debbie Driesman Foundation. Debbie is on the Board of Directors of the National Symphony Orchestra. She and Frank are members of the Kennedy Center International Committee on the Arts.



Sanjeev Joshipura, Executive Director, Indiaspora

Sanjeev serves as Indiaspora's Executive Director since January 2018, and served as Director since July 2016. Prior to that, he was active in the US-India corridor for several years in a public policy and business capacity, via his own consulting firm. A naturalized American citizen, he was born and raised in India and migrated to North America in 2000. In the corporate realm, Sanjeev has worked at Fortune 500 multinational organizations in different industries, in the areas of strategy, finance and project management. Since 2008, he has been actively engaged in public policy, American politics and government relations. He has managed a US Senate election campaign, worked as a staff member on Capitol Hill advising congressmen

and senators on economics and international affairs, and been the Executive Director of an international industry association with large member companies around the world. Sanjeev has a Bachelors in Computer Engineer from Pune University, India, an MBA from the University of Toronto, Canada, and a Certificate in Financial Risk Management from the Illinois Institute of Technology, USA.



Sukesh Kumar, Partner, KPMG in Canada

Sukesh is an audit partner with KPMG and has over 18 years of experience. As the National Leader of KPMG's India Practice in Canada, he is actively involved in the Canada-India Business Corridor. His key area of focus is to assist in trade and investment opportunities between Canada and India. He is actively engaged in policy dialogue on promoting trade between Canada and India. Sukesh is also actively engaged with Federal and Provincial Trade Commissioners in India to discuss trade and investment opportunities and visits India on a regular basis throughout the year.



Manju Luthria, Senior Economist, Social Protection Labor and Jobs Global Practice, World Bank

Manju is an international development economist and a recognized thought-leader in the area of international migration. She works closely with governments of migrant sending and receiving countries as well as with the private sector and migrants themselves to help overcome the policy and institutional barriers which stand in the way of maximizing the win-win potential of migration. Her areas of expertise range from the design of circular guest worker programs, international labor market intermediation programs, mechanisms to enhance the portability of skills and social benefits, initiatives to reduce migrant vulnerability in the process of moving, and programs to promote better integration of migrants. She has authored numerous articles, book chapters and blogs on the role of migration in development, leads the community of practice, and has worked with over fifty countries on a broad range of development issues in the course of her work at the World Bank ranging from trade, growth, debt sustainability, intellectual property rights, technological growth and private sector development.



Ajay Mago, Managing Partner, Edwards Maxson Mago & Macaulay, LLP

Ajay is Managing Partner at Edwards Maxson Mago & Macaulay, LLP. Ajay is a nationally recognized lawyer, trusted boardroom advisor, and passionate advocate for individual, corporate and institutional clients across numerous industries. His legal work has been recognized in The Washington Post, India Business Law Journal, Law360, Inside Counsel, Legal 500 U.S.– Leading Lawyers for M&A: Middle-Market, among other publications. Ajay is committed to the community and engages in significant pro bono work. He has handled pro bono matters involving international and domestic microfinance, civil rights issues, immigration rights and countless other issues.



Dennis Mehta, Chairman, India Israel Technology Group

Dennis is a lifelong entrepreneur with a background in engineering, private equity and venture capital world. His areas of interest include disruptive technologies in areas like water, security, IoT, and hi-tech sector. He is Chairman of Israel - India Technology Group, which focuses on connecting Israeli technology with Indian markets fueled by US capital and American regulatory compliance. Dennis founded Professional Software Technologies (PST) over 30 years ago and led the business to a successful acquisition. He has served in executive roles at other companies including Bucks Ventures, PKG Ventures, CoolR Group, Plenum Fund, Unity Group, DeepView, etc. He also serves on the board of directors for various profit and non-profit entities. Dennis received the Technology and Innovation

Award for tri-lateral initiatives. Previously he also received Marketing Excellence Award from DuPont Corporation and Special Achievement plus Presidential awards from Esko-Danaher. He is a founding Charter Member at The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE), and supports various charities in the US and India.



Dolly Oberoi, Founder, C2 Technologies

Dolly Oberoi is the Co-Founder & Chairman of the Board of [C² Technologies](#), an online education, training, strategic human capital management and information technology firm, established in 1989. As a pioneer in online education, thought-leader, innovator, and an entrepreneur, Ms. Oberoi has dedicated her company's mission to improve human performance. She has served the industry with distinction in the areas of online education, training and human capital management completing more than 8,000 projects for 120 plus clients, employing

500 employees in more than 28 locations globally, and winning over 150 industry awards including OPM's Benchmark partner of the year and two-time recipient of Department of Transportation's Business of the year. She mentors startups and has an accelerator and an incubator. She is also the recipient of several international awards, including GovCon's prestigious Entrepreneur of the Year; Pride of India; E&Y's Entrepreneur of the Year finalist, Women Who Mean Business; and the prestigious Spencer Logan award. She holds a Master's degree from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.



Mihir Parikh, Partner, Nishith Desai Associates,

Mihir is Strategic Thought Leader at Nishith Desai Associates—a research-based, international law firm. He heads the firm's initiative of setting up NDA PACER (Palo Alto Center for Emergent Research) situated in Silicon Valley and leads its Strategic Consulting practice. He also leads Research at Imaginarium, a five-acre Blue Sky Thinking and Research campus near Mumbai, India. Additionally, he is an adjunct faculty in the Management of Technology and Innovation department at New York University and teaches in graduate programs. With expertise in the impact of emerging technologies,

innovation management, and decision-making, he helps companies understand strategic implications of technologies and the use of the law as a strategic asset. Being an active researcher, he has published over 35 refereed papers in leading journals and in the proceedings of national and international conferences.



[Mansi Patel](#), Communications Manager, Indiaspora

Mansi comes to Indiaspora with a background in communications, policy, and public service. She previously worked at a bipartisan government relations firm, where she served as a Legislative Assistant working on education, tech and health issues. Prior to that, she served Congresswoman Frederica Wilson on Capitol Hill as part of her communications team. Prior to that, she was a public school teacher in South Florida. Born in Chicago and raised in Stuart, Florida, Mansi graduated with a BA from Northwestern University.



[Priya Rajan](#), Director, Early Stage Practice, Silicon Valley Bank

Priya is currently the Director of Early Stage Practice at Silicon Valley Bank, exclusively focused on the innovation sector, and engages with founders as they start their journey to build a company. As a part of Early Stage team, Priya leads community engagement initiatives including D&I entrepreneurship groups and Universities across the globe, and mentors entrepreneurs as they dream, build, and inspire to disrupt the status quo. Prior to this, she also played lead operational roles for 8+ years in establishing a global footprint for SVB (China, Israel, India, UK, Honk Kong, etc.). Prior to joining SVB, she held financial management roles for 10+ years at various institutions including Charles Schwab. She has an MBA from Cornell University and a California CPA. She also serves on the board of [Big Brothers Big Sisters](#), an organization truly close to her heart.



[MR Rangaswami](#), Founder, Indiaspora

MR is a software executive, investor, entrepreneur, corporate eco-strategy expert, community builder and philanthropist. Recognized as a software business expert, he participated in the rapid expansion of the Silicon Valley software industry during his tenure as an executive at both large and small software companies. In 1997, he co-founded Sand Hill Group one of the earliest “angel” investment firms and was featured on the front page of the Wall Street Journal. He produced the prestigious Enterprise and Software conferences that were held in Silicon Valley. He was also listed on the Forbes “Midas” list of investors. M.R. is the publisher of SandHill.com a leading website for entrepreneurs, VCs and CIOs. In 2007, M.R. embarked on a new venture as the founder of the Corporate Eco Forum, an invitation-only membership organization for Global 500 companies that demonstrate a serious commitment to environment as a business strategy issue. In 2012 M.R. founded Indiaspora to unite Indian Americans and to transform their success into meaningful impact in India and on the global stage.



Kasi Rao, CEO, Canada-India Business Council

Kasi is the President and CEO of the Canada-India Business Council. He also was the Vice-President and Director for the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, Toronto Office (2013-2017). Kasi Rao is a consultant & advisor based in Toronto providing guidance on India related strategies. In this capacity he advises corporations, universities, think tanks, not-for-profit organizations, and, different levels of government. He is the Senior Advisor (India) to the law firm Bennett Jones. He was a member of the Government of Saskatchewan's Asia Advisory Council. In 2005, he led a collaborative initiative relating to the automotive sector, as the founding Executive Director of the Beacon Project at the University of Ontario, Institute of Technology. Immediately prior, he worked for three-and-half years as the Director, Office of the President and CEO at BMO Financial Group. At the University of Toronto, where he worked for seven years, he served in a twin-pronged role: Director of the Office of the President and Director of Government Relations. He also worked for the Province of Ontario in various capacities over a period of five years. He was recognized as "Member of the Year 2012" by the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce and a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.



Ravi Saligram, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Director of the Board of Ritchie Bros.

Ravi was appointed CEO of Ritchie Bros. in July 2014 and since then has been transforming the company by evolving the world's largest onsite heavy equipment auctioneer into a relationship-based, technology-enabled and data-driven multi-channel asset management and disposition platform. In 2017, Saligram led the acquisition of online leader, IronPlanet, making Ritchie Bros. one of the top 50 B2B ecommerce players in the world with over \$3 billion in online gross transaction value. Prior to joining Ritchie Bros., Saligram was CEO of OfficeMax Inc., where he strategically repositioned the company from a commodity office products retailer to an omni-channel workplace services and solutions company. During his tenure, he led the historic merger between Fortune 500 companies OfficeMax and Office Depot in 2013, unlocking over half a billion dollars in synergies. Under his leadership, Ritchie Bros. was recognized as one of British Columbia's Top Employers in 2018.



Vikram Singh, Senior Advisor, Center for American Progress

Vikram is a senior fellow for National Security at American Progress. He was vice president for National Security and International Policy from 2014 to 2017. Singh supports the National Security team on defense policy, diplomacy, and Asia policy. From 2009 to 2014 Singh held senior positions at the U.S. Departments of Defense and State, including as the deputy assistant secretary of defense for South and Southeast Asia and as deputy special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. He is the author or co-author of numerous reports and articles and a regular commentator on radio and television. He is a recipient of several public service awards, including the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Civilian Service and the Department of State's Superior Honor Award. Singh holds degrees from the University of California Berkeley, and Columbia University.



Alan Yeung, Canada Center Head, Persistent Systems

Alan is a Delivery Partner at Persistent Systems Limited responsible for the development of organic IP and new developments that complement IBM's Collaborative Lifecycle Management (CLM) applications. CLM consist of the following software lifecycle application: Team Concert, Quality Manager, DOORs Next Gen. & Rhapsody. In addition, he is also responsible for defining and putting into place the process of delivering Persistent owned Intellectual Property offerings. Alan has been involved with the development, design, and production of software for over 25 years. Prior to this role Alan

was the development lead for IBM's CLM reporting tools, Rational System Architect Realtime Edition and worked on Rational System Architect, Rose Real-time and Corel Draw.