



CANADA-INDIA TRACK 1.5 DIALOGUE

Economic Resilience and Critical Minerals Supply Chains



ASIA PACIFIC
FOUNDATION
OF CANADA

FONDATION
ASIE PACIFIQUE
DU CANADA

ananta
aspen centre

AGENDA

November
24-25, 2025
New Delhi

DAY 1, NOVEMBER 24, 2025

19:00-22:00

Reception



HOSTED BY:

Christopher Cooter, High Commissioner for Canada in the Republic of India

DAY 2, NOVEMBER 25, 2025

VENUE: NILGIRI ROOM, THE OBEROI

(Dr Zakir Hussain Marg, Delhi Golf Club, Golf Links, New Delhi, Delhi 110003, India)

9:45-10:00

Assemble

10:00-10:30

Opening Remarks



Shri K Nagaraj Naidu, Additional Secretary, Americas Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India



Sara Wilshaw, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, International Trade and Chief Trade Commissioner of Canada



Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Government of Ontario

SESSION 1

10:30-11:30

India-Canada Co-operation in a Shifting World: Exploring Pragmatic Areas for Engagement, with a Focus on Economic Partnership and Resilience

SESSION FOCUS:

Identify short-to-medium term deliverables that advance India-Canada co-operation while managing geopolitical risk.

**DISCUSSANTS:****Ajay Bisaria**, Former Indian High Commissioner to Canada**Indrani Bagchi**, CEO, Ananta Centre**Nadir Patel**, Former High Commissioner for Canada in the Republic of India**Trevor Kennedy**, Vice President, Asia-Pacific, Business Council of Canada**SESSION CHAIR:****Vina Nadjibulla**, Vice-President, Research & Strategy, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada

11:30-11:45

Tea and Coffee

SESSION 2

11:45-13:00

Critical Minerals Trade & Investment: India-Canada Pathways for Processing, Refining and Value Capture**SESSION FOCUS:**

Concrete trade and investment instruments that unlock joint critical minerals projects: offtake-backed finance, targeted tariff treatment for processed content, rules of origin for refined products, investment guarantees, power/land/tax packages, and bilateral project-implementation vehicles.

**DISCUSSANTS:****Sachin Maheshwari**, Chief of Corporate Development, Lohum**Praveen Choudhary**, Founder, Nexon Geochem**Photinie Koutsavlis**, Vice President, Economic Affairs and Climate Change, Mining Association of Canada



Yash Kalash, Senior Fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation



SESSION CHAIR:

Rishabh Jain, Senior Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water

13:00-13:45

Lunch

SESSION 3

13:45-15:00

Strategic Geopolitics & Technology: India-Canada Co-operation on Critical Minerals: Risks, Research and Routes to Resilience

SESSION FOCUS:

Map geopolitical stressors and technology gaps that threaten supplies (export restrictions, single-market concentration, standards divergence), and identify joint R&D, financing, and governance mechanisms. Additionally, the session will focus on rare earths within the India-Canada critical minerals partnership, addressing geopolitical vulnerabilities, technology gaps, and pathways for resilient supply chains.



DISCUSSANTS:

Pramit Pal Chaudhuri, Practice Head, South Asia, Eurasia Group



Vikas Swarup, Former Indian High Commissioner to Canada



Anindita Sinh, Research Associate, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP)



Dr. Luisa Moreno, Director of the Critical Minerals and Industrial Resilience Institute



Nadira Hamid, CEO, Indo-Canadian Business Chamber



Jeff Biggs, Senior Director of International Affairs and Trade, Natural Resources Canada



SESSION CHAIR:

Jonathan Berkshire Miller, Senior Fellow, Macdonald-Laurier Institute

SESSION 4

15:00-16:15

Next Steps and Deliverables: India-Canada Roadmap

SESSION FOCUS:

Turn the dialogues' findings into a sequenced, accountable roadmap. Identify pilots, policy changes, financing packages and governance mechanisms that can be delivered and mutually beneficial.



DISCUSSANTS:

Karthik Bansal, Research Associate, CSEP



Saswati Dey, Director (Americas), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India



Kasi Rao, Managing Director, Fairfax Consulting Services India



Vina Nadjibulla, Vice-President, Research & Strategy, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada



SESSION CHAIR:

Ashok Malik, Partner, The Asia Group

16:15-16:30

Closing remarks



Christopher Cooter, High Commissioner for Canada in the Republic of India

PARTICIPANTS

INDIA



Indrani Bagchi

Chief Executive Officer,
Ananta Centre



Kartik Bansal

Research Associate, Centre for
Social and Economic Progress



**Ambassador Ajay
Bisaria**

Senior Advisor, India, OMERS;
Former High Commissioner of
India to Canada



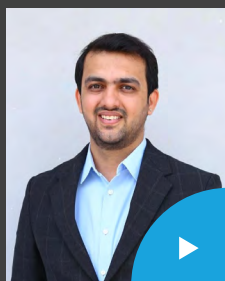
**Pramit Pal
Chaudhuri**

Practice Head, South Asia,
Eurasia Group



Saswati Dey

Director (Americas),
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India



Praveen Choudhary

Founder, Nexon Geochem



Rishabh Jain

Fellow, Council on Energy,
Environment and Water



Sachin Maheshwari

Chief of Corporate
Development, Lohum



Ashok Malik

Partner & Chair of India
Practice, The Asia Group



Shri K Nagaraj Naidu

Additional Secretary, Americas
Division, Ministry of External
Affairs, Government of India



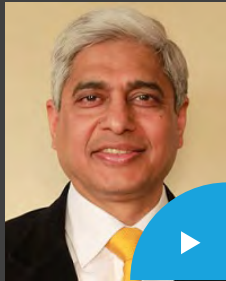
Anindita Sinh

Research Associate, Centre for
Social and Economic Progress



**Anjani Sri Mourya
Sunkavalli**

Founder & MD, ALTMIN



Vikas Swarup

Former Indian High
Commissioner to Canada



Jeff Biggs

Senior Director of International
Affairs and Trade, Natural
Resources Canada



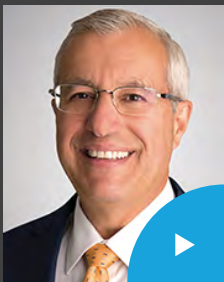
Christopher Cooter

High Commissioner for
Canada in the Republic of India



Jeff David

Consul-General of Canada in
Mumbai



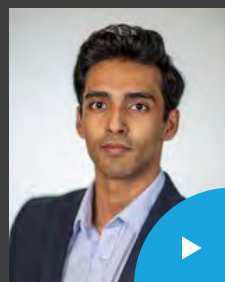
Hon. Victor Fedeli

Minister of Economic
Development, Job Creation
and Trade, Government of
Ontario



Nadira Hamid

CEO, Indo-Canadian Business
Chamber



S. Yash Kalash

Senior Fellow, Centre for
International Governance
Innovation



Trevor Kennedy

Vice President, Asia-Pacific,
Business Council of Canada



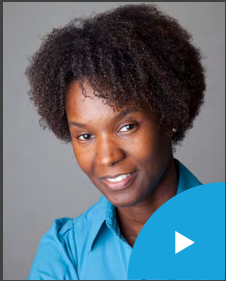
Photinie Koutsavlis

Vice President, Economic
Affairs and Climate Change,
Mining Association of Canada
(MAC)



**Jonathan Berkshire
Miller**

Senior Fellow, Macdonald-
Laurier Institute



Dr. Luisa Moreno

Managing Director and
Founder, Tahuti Global Inc.



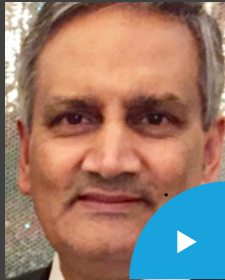
Vina Nadjibulla

Vice President, Research
and Strategy, Asia Pacific
Foundation of Canada



Nadir Patel

Former High Commissioner
for Canada in the Republic of
India



Kasi Rao

Managing Director, Fairfax
Consulting Services India Ltd



Sara Wilshaw

Senior Assistant Deputy
Minister, International
Trade and Chief Trade
Commissioner of Canada



The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APF Canada) is an independent, not-for-profit organization focused on Canada's relations with Asia. Our mission is to be Canada's catalyst for engagement with Asia and Asia's bridge to Canada.

APF Canada is dedicated to strengthening ties between Canada and Asia through its research, education, and convening activities, such as the Canada-in-Asia Conference series, our Women's Business Missions to Asia, and the APEC-Canada Growing Business Partnership project fostering sustainable inclusive growth and poverty reduction. APF Canada also works with business, government, and academic stakeholders to provide Asia Competency training for Canadian organizations and students.

Our research provides high-quality, relevant, and timely information, insights, and perspectives on Canada-Asia relations for Canadians and stakeholders across the Asia Pacific. Our research work also includes regular Insights, Dispatches, Reports & Policy Briefs, Strategic Reflections, Case Studies, Explainers, and a weekly Asia Watch tracking the latest news on Asia that matters to Canada.

[Visit Us](#)

Ananta Aspen Centre is a non-partisan, non-profit organization, that focuses on value-based leadership development and open dialogue on important issues facing Indian society, to help foster its transformation. The organization has no political affiliation and serves to provide a platform and forum that engages civil society, business, governments and other stakeholders on issues of importance to India's development and national security through ethical leadership and constructive dialogues.

The Centre is registered under the Indian Trust Act 1882 and, also, under 12A and 80G of the Income Tax Act. It is headquartered in Delhi.

The Ananta Aspen Centre activities focus around 3 core pillars – Leadership & Education, International Relations and Public Policy. The Trust is committed to building a society that is willing to listen, understand and most importantly, dialogue. To this objective, it convenes various programs for exchange of ideas, broadening perspectives and enhancing capacities to create sustainable solutions on a wide variety of issues.

The Ananta Aspen Centre addresses issues of significance through seminars, conferences, round tables, public sessions, young leader Fellowships and policy programs. It also brings out publications and study reports.

Our Mission,

Build a better India by exploring new opportunities and addressing the developmental challenges and roadblocks.

Foster effective and impactful collaboration between government, business, academia and other key stakeholders to envision a stronger India.

Bring the brightest minds from diverse fields, combining their knowledge and expertise towards developing a robust and policy paradigm.

[Visit Us](#)

