

SUMMARY REPORT



CANADA-INDIA TRACK II DIALOGUE

Strengthening the Strategic Partnership and Building Resilience Together



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This second Canada-India Track II Dialogue took place at a moment of cautious optimism in the bilateral relationship. Following the June 2025 meeting between Prime Ministers Mark Carney and Narendra Modi and the recent reinstatement of high commissioners, relations have shifted from crisis management to a pragmatic phase of step-by-step rebuilding.

Discussions throughout the day underscored the need to translate the political thaw into concrete, institutionalized co-operation focused on economic resilience, emerging technologies, and energy security.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- **Institutionalize the reset.** Establish predictable frameworks — regular ‘2+2’ or ‘3+3’ ministerial meetings, national security and law enforcement dialogues, and sectoral working groups — to give structure and depth to the relationship.
- **Anchor ties in economic resilience.** View one another not merely as markets but as strategic partners in secure supply chains and technology ecosystems.
- **Restart trade and investment negotiations.** Fast-track a joint economic impact study to inform renewed negotiations and investment, support public messaging on the value of such a deal, and identify early deliverables. Having eminent experts from both sides endorse and participate in the study would help raise public awareness and ensure targeted, credible messaging.
- **Deepen technology collaboration** through joint artificial intelligence (AI) research, semiconductor partnerships, and open-tech initiatives. The AI Action Summit in Delhi in February 2026 offers an important opportunity to engage at the highest level (Carney or his ministers could travel to India at that time).
- **Develop a Canada-India Energy and Critical Minerals Compact** to connect capital, technology, and clean-energy innovation and expertise. Build critical minerals and clean energy linkages; develop a bilateral green finance facility.
- **Invest in talent and knowledge networks** across universities, think-tanks, and the private sector. Expand research consortia, executive education, and reciprocal academic mobility programs to foster next-generation expertise.
- **Communicate the ‘why’ and ‘how’ of the partnership.** A coherent public diplomacy strategy is essential to maintain momentum amid domestic and diaspora politics. Strengthen public diplomacy and communications in both countries to explain to the domestic populations why deeper bilateral engagement serves national interests.

Opening Session

The opening session highlighted how much has changed since the group last met in Delhi in February 2025. Then, the goal was to make a convincing case for a reset; now, the conversation has turned to how to sustain the political momentum for a reset and build a more resilient partnership, particularly as both countries navigate strained relations with the United States and wrestle with wider global uncertainty.

Participants acknowledged that structural differences will persist but emphasized that the current goodwill must be harnessed through concrete institutional frameworks. Energy partnerships, critical minerals, artificial intelligence, cultural industries, and education were identified as immediate areas of promise, urging both sides to focus less on managing risk and more on seizing shared opportunities.

Participants cited the September 20, 2025, [meeting](#) between Canada's National Security and Intelligence Advisor, Nathalie G. Drouin, and India's National Security

Advisor, Ajit Doval, as a sign of tangible progress in addressing difficult issues, setting clearer expectations, and institutionalizing more regular exchanges. Similarly, the September 30, 2025, [meeting](#) between Canada's Foreign Minister, Anita Anand, and India's External Affairs Minister, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, was also seen as a positive step toward rebuilding trust and advancing dialogue.

Our opening session focused on the need for out-of-the-box ideas and practical initiatives that demonstrate the tangible value of the partnership to both publics. All participants recognized that the current moment offers an opportunity to clarify shared interests and adopt innovative approaches to rebuild a stronger, forward-looking partnership.



SESSION I

Canada-India Relations: Challenges and Opportunities in a Turbulent World

Chaired by Vina Nadjibulla, with Ajay Bisaria and Nadir Patel as the lead discussants, the first session assessed how Canada and India can consolidate the reset amid a volatile global environment.

Participants observed that although the 'reset' narrative is driven partly by external shocks — notably U.S. tariff realignments and intensifying great-power competition — sustaining it will require domestic political buy-in and bureaucratic consistency on both sides.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Re-activate ministerial dialogues across foreign affairs, defence, trade, and energy portfolios.
- Create a Canada-India Co-ordination Unit within Global Affairs Canada to align departmental initiatives.
- Pursue a modernized bilateral investment agreement to unlock two-way FDI (including Canadian pensions in India and Indian corporate R&D in Canada) as a readily achievable goal.
- Strengthen public diplomacy through a co-ordinated communications plan countering misinformation and emphasizing mutual benefit.
- Promote multi-party parliamentary exchanges to build literacy and deepen trust and co-operation. Develop MP-focused briefings tied to upcoming ministerial travel and the 2026 AI Summit, co-ordinated with business associations and universities.

Participants agreed that both sides must move from symbolism to substance — anchoring the relationship in long-term shared strategic and economic interests rather than reactive alignment.

SESSION II

Innovation, Technology, and Trade: Enhancing Bilateral Collaboration in a Changing Global Landscape

Chaired by Dr. Rhonda Lenton, with Dr. Rajat Kathuria and Dr. Rohinton Medhora as lead discussants, this session examined trade and technology co-operation as the backbone of a resilient partnership.

Participants debated whether to revive negotiations through an Early Progress Trade Agreement (EPTA) or move directly toward a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Proponents of an EPTA argued it could generate visible momentum and early wins. Advocates for a CEPA contended that India's new FTAs with the U.K., EU, and Australia show readiness for deeper engagement. A third view emphasized pursuing both a trade agreement and a bilateral investment treaty, suggesting that liberalization of fund flows, stronger dispute resolution safeguards, and recognition of e-signatures could further enhance two-way investment and business confidence.

Recognizing India's red lines in trade liberalization, such as in agriculture and dairy, participants suggested exploring tariff reductions in certain high-value items such as cheese, wines, and tariff rate quota adjustments on lentils — as sought by countries such as [Australia](#) in recent trade agreements. Additionally, given India's focus on manufacturing, deeper engagement with countries such as Canada would be in its interest to enhance competitiveness in the sector through bilateral investments, technology collaboration, and partnerships.

There was consensus that a joint economic impact study should begin immediately to map realistic pathways for unlocking the untapped bilateral trade potential.

POLICY PROPOSALS FOR TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATION

Participants advanced 12 mutually reinforcing ideas for an innovation-driven partnership:

1. Indo-Canadian Tech Catalyst Grants Program – Grant funding for joint ventures in critical technologies, modelled on Australia's International Space Investment India Projects.
2. Indo-Canadian Bio-manufacturing Hub – A platform for co-development and joint clinical trials in mRNA vaccines, bioplastics, and agri-biotech, leveraging India's BioE3 policy and Canadian bioscience expertise.
3. 'Open Tech Maitri (Friendship)' Initiative – A principled alliance for open technologies and standards. For example, a Joint Open Tech Fund to sustain open-source projects (e.g. CUDA alternatives, Apache TVM); joint advocacy for open telecom and digital standard to co-ordinate dual-use tech oversight and pilot trusted digital-trade provisions (e.g. interoperable data standards, digital-public-infrastructure compatibility).
4. Project RECLAIM (Critical Minerals Recycling) – Urban-mining collaboration to recover critical minerals from e-waste and batteries, aligning with India's National Critical Minerals Mission and Canadian recycling technologies.

5. Indo-Canadian Academy for AI Research and Innovation – A bilateral research academy for Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI) design, semiconductor materials, and responsible AI, linking IITs and Canadian AI Institutes (Mila, Vector, Amii), including exploration of a foreign-university-campus model in India focused on AI and VLSI.
6. Canada-India Compound Semiconductor Fab Consortium (CSFC) – A joint venture linking Canada’s Photonics Fabrication Centre with Indian manufacturing for GaN and SiC semiconductors used in EVs and 5G/6G infrastructure.
7. ‘Pole-to-Pole’ Climate Research Alliance – Collaboration between Canadian Arctic and Indian Himalayan research institutes on glacier melt and water security.
8. Next-Generation Nuclear Partnership – Joint development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), adapting Canadian designs to India’s energy needs and plans for five Bharat SMRs by 2033.
9. Trade and Technology Council (TTC) – The EU-India TTC serves as a model for structured technology engagement, with both sides institutionalizing dialogue on digital policy, green technology, and trade. A similar India-Canada mechanism could help build trust and gradually enhance interoperability, working to improve policy coherence, align standards, and accelerate joint projects across innovation ecosystems.
10. Data governance and E-commerce — The main area where the WTO E-commerce Multilateral Agreement has encountered challenges is data governance, given its social, political, security, and human rights implications. India and Canada can collaborate on data governance and the development of trusted data pools, while exploring innovation within the WTO e-commerce framework.
11. The Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA) — Signed by Chile, Singapore, and New Zealand in 2020, with Canada seeking to join, DEPA represents a new-generation digital agreement built around trusted data frameworks that India could consider engaging with. Joint participation in DEPA could enable both countries to help shape it into a global standard for digital trade.
12. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) system — India has developed the UPI, an inclusive digital payments infrastructure that enables real-time, low-cost transactions. Building on its rollout in France, Singapore, and the UAE, India and Canada could collaborate through a fintech co-operation framework to explore integration with Canada’s open banking systems and enable trusted cross-border digital payments.

Participants also backed co-funded IP acceleration and startup exchange programs to move prototypes to procurement in both markets. Additionally, participants agreed these proposals demonstrate the scale of potential co-operation — spanning deep tech, health biotech, clean energy, cyber security and climate science — but stressed that implementation will require predictable engagement and policy coherence, not ad-hoc announcements.

Some participants also emphasized the importance of distinguishing between subnational, bilateral, plurilateral, and multilateral frameworks, as the bilateral track represents only one part of the relationship. For example, at the subnational level, collaboration can take place between Canadian provinces and Indian states across sectoral, academic, and other areas. At the multilateral level, the G20 offers valuable opportunities for co-operation on innovation and data governance, while the DEPA provides a platform for further engagement on digital trade and data standards.

SESSION III

Critical Minerals and Energy Security: Building Resilience Together

Chaired by Nadira Hamid, with Dr. Karthik Nachiappan and Dr. Pooja Ramamurthi as lead discussants, this session addressed the opportunities and constraints in bilateral co-operation across energy and critical minerals.

Participants acknowledged India's diversification efforts and Canada's potential as a responsible supplier, while recognizing commercial and infrastructure limitations.

ENERGY AND HYDROCARBON REALITIES

- India's LNG infrastructure remains underutilized (LNG share of national energy mix is now at 7%), limiting scope for Canadian LNG exports in the short term. Participants suggested analytical work with NITI Aayog and the Rhodium Group to map realistic LNG and refined-product pathways. Additionally, Canada currently lacks the necessary LNG export infrastructure to serve India and needs to invest in trade-enabling infrastructure.
- Oil trade is largely private-sector-led; logistics and U.S. refining dependencies complicate direct flows.
- As one participant remarked, "As long as the world needs oil and gas, it should be Canadian — but geography and infrastructure say otherwise."

CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE (CCUS)

CCUS in India is nascent; geological data are limited. Participants saw scope for Canadian technical support to help India assess the feasibility of large-scale CCUS investment, undertake geological mapping, and pursue carbon-market design exchanges drawing on Canadian experience.

COKING COAL AND CLEAN-ENERGY TRANSITIONS

Major growth in coking-coal trade appears unlikely as India moves to reduce dependence in response to domestic clean-energy targets. However, co-operation could expand through provincial-state exchanges on EV policy and renewables.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

India's ambition to achieve 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047 creates scope for collaboration on uranium supply and technical training. Participants noted that forthcoming liberalization of India's Atomic Energy Act could open space for Canadian uranium, technology co-operation, and safety/regulatory training. While India has imported uranium from Canada in the past, participants recommended renewing the supply agreement signed for 2015–20 to ensure long-term access and provide Canadian partners with the opportunity to contribute to knowledge exchange and capacity building, particularly in small modular reactors (SMRs), where projects underway in Ontario offer synergies with India's nuclear expansion plans.

CRITICAL MINERALS CO-OPERATION: THE NEED TO LAUNCH A CANADA-INDIA CRITICAL MINERALS DIALOGUE AND JOINT ENERGY FORUM

Participants acknowledged India's numerous critical minerals partners but identified a strategic niche for Canada rooted in its ESG leadership and governance standards. Discussion centred on three questions: Why should India pick Canada? What unique value can Canada bring? How can trust be rebuilt to enable investment?

Participants advanced a proposal to launch a Canada-India Critical Minerals Dialogue and a Joint Energy Forum to further bilateral collaboration. This dialogue would create a structured framework for long-term supply contracts, joint exploration, and value-added projects, with India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) leading discussions. Given the multi-layered nature of critical mineral supply chains — from exploration to processing and recycling — strong co-ordination across ministries and state governments is essential. The partnership should identify priority minerals based on strategic importance and import dependence, combining Canada's mining expertise and investment with India's focus on refining, processing, and recycling. Co-operation in R&D, technology development, and workforce training will be key to building capacity, while Canada must differentiate itself amid India's parallel engagements with the U.S., EU, Australia, Japan, and China.

In addition, India's participation at PDAC 2026 — the world's premier mineral exploration and mining convention, taking place from March 1–4 in Toronto, Canada — would be a helpful step forward. Recent initiatives, such as a Joint Declaration of Intent to advance critical minerals research between CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology in Bhubaneswar, India, and the University of Saskatchewan, also provide pathways for co-operation. Private-sector collaboration will also be crucial. Canadian resource company Teck Resources has significant commercial ties to India as a major exporter of steelmaking coal and copper and has explored a strategic investment by India's JSW Steel into its coal business, though this initiative was affected by diplomatic tensions.



Furthermore, both countries could pilot renewable energy partnerships, including joint ventures in hydrogen, hydropower technology, solar storage and offshore wind, and co-develop carbon capture pilot projects in India. To scale green investment, they could establish a bilateral Green Infrastructure Finance Facility, leveraging Canadian pension funds and asset managers and Indian developers to co-finance renewable energy, EV infrastructure, and hydrogen hubs.

KEY INSIGHTS

- Canada's experience in responsible mining and ESG frameworks can help India's outward-looking companies shape sustainable investment practices.
- Canada's record in African mining ventures offers lessons for Indian firms expanding abroad.
- Both countries need to co-develop processing capacity and joint R&D in clean technologies to move up the value chain.
- Co-operation on standards, recycling, and carbon markets could position both as innovators in low-cost clean-tech solutions for the Global South.

- Position Canada as the standards partner — ESG, responsible-mining frameworks, and third-country (e.g. Africa) project disciplines — rather than just another ore supplier.
- One point of commonality is the goal of expanding renewable energy access to rural and Indigenous communities. With India's strong base of grassroots entrepreneurship to expand energy access, both countries can explore ways to collaborate, drawing on each other's experiences and best practices.
- Canada can offer targeted incentives for Indian startups and mining companies to invest in its mining sector. Many emerging Indian mining firms are startups, and by engaging them in developing mining infrastructure in Canada, both countries can strengthen supply chain resilience and enhance their ability to withstand geopolitical disruptions.

Participants urged a clear-eyed approach to address constraints: carbon capture is unlikely to scale soon, and Indian investors remain cautious given recent political



tensions. De-risking tools — gap funding, Export Development Canada insurance, fast-track permits, clear investment rules — were recommended to build trust.

Ultimately, both sides agreed that Canada's value lies in its standards, expertise, and partnership ethos, in addition to its resources. To be a partner of choice, Canada must offer predictability and long-term commitment.

SESSION IV

Reset to Re-engagement: Charting the Path Forward

Chaired by Vincent Rigby, with Dr. Yogesh Joshi, David McKinnon, and Shachi Kurl as lead discussants, the final session synthesized insights and outlined next steps for sustained re-engagement.

Participants warned that the relationship remains susceptible to external and internal pressures — U.S. policy shifts, judicial proceedings, and diaspora politics — and stressed the need for institutional buffers.

PERCEPTIONS AND PUBLIC OPINION IN CANADA-INDIA RELATIONS

Perceptions remain a major challenge on both sides of the Canada-India relationship. In Canada, questions persist about why and how to re-engage with India, with differing views on sensitive issues such as Khalistan and foreign interference. Over the past seven to nine months, the relationship has experienced significant ups and downs — largely shaped by external and circumstantial factors — prompting reflection on how to depoliticize engagement and address security concerns, while also building resilience amid recurring disruptions. Many participants noted that mutual awareness about Canada and India is limited. Strengthening understanding, particularly among younger Canadians and Indians, through education, internships, and exchange programs could help build more informed and sustainable ties.

Public opinion data, released in a [partner survey report](#) by the Angus Reid Institute and APF Canada, highlight both challenges and opportunities. While 56 per cent of Canadians once held a favourable view of India (2020), this fell to 26 per cent in December 2024 and currently stands at around 29 per cent, even though half of Canadians support resuming normal ties. At the same time, 68 per cent of Canadians say they know little about India, suggesting substantial room for strategic

communication about why the bilateral relationship is important for Canada's economic and national interests. Moreover, media coverage in Canada and India often has a lopsided focus on security incidents, immigration tensions, and student visa issues, overshadowing the broader strategic and economic relevance of bilateral ties.

Our recent polling indicates a significant gap between the ongoing political reset and Canadians' perceptions of India, even though a majority of Canadians surveyed support restoring diplomatic ties with the country. Therefore, there is considerable scope for a more engaged communications strategy, enhanced public diplomacy, and deeper engagement across various sectors of society in both countries. The way forward lies in clear, consistent communication, youth engagement, and reframing the narrative to emphasize shared democratic values, economic opportunity, strategic relevance, and long-term partnership potential.

REBUILDING TRUST AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Participants highlighted that the relationship's recovery remains fragile, with a need for predictable policy frameworks and a clear roadmap for rebuilding trust. The Nijjar trial will likely remain politically sensitive — its outcome will be judicially decided, but communications around it should also be managed through appropriate diplomatic channels. In addition, leveraging multilateral platforms such as the G7 and G20 for dialogue could help sustain engagement.

Public understanding of key historical events also remains limited. Despite the 1985 Air India tragedy being the worst single instance of mass killing of Canadian citizens, [nine in ten Canadians](#) say they have little (61%) or no (28%) knowledge of it, and 58 per cent

of those under 35 have never heard of it. Increasing awareness of such shared history can foster empathy and context for co-operation.

At the same time, education links face new challenges, including revenue losses in the Canadian education sector due to changing immigration policies, as many Indian students are choosing other destinations for study. Restoring predictability and rebuilding trust in the education partnership will be key to strengthening people-to-people ties and sustaining long-term goodwill.

Going forward, Canada should broaden its engagement beyond north India by prioritizing visits to India's southern and other high-growth regions, which serve as key economic engines. A strategic plan for ministerial and institutional visits, supported by sustained communication and targeted messaging, can help reshape public perceptions and reinforce the long-term potential of the Canada-India partnership.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Formalize '2+2' / '3+3' ministerial formats, NSA dialogues, and greater law enforcement collaboration.
- Embed civil society and expert networks to ensure continuity beyond political cycles.
- Develop a whole-of-government communications plan co-ordinated through PMO and PCO ahead of fall ministerial visits and the AI Action Summit.
- Invite Canada into India's Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) information-sharing framework; expand Canadian dark-vessel-detection support in the Indian Ocean; improve maritime domain awareness and increase Canadian participation in multilateral exercises such as Talisman Sabre.



- Pilot a reciprocal 'trusted academic traveller' scheme to cut visa processing delays for researchers, faculty, and students.
- Use multilateral fora (G7, G20, CPTPP) to align Canada-India co-operation with Japan and Australia on shared Indo-Pacific priorities.
- With most Canadian academic programs on India focusing on religious studies and the humanities, there is a need to build a more comprehensive understanding of modern India, and expand teaching and research into fields such as business, technology, and science.

Short-Term (0-3 months) — Deliver policy recommendations to ministers; align messaging across government and stakeholders; announce early-win initiatives such as around nuclear energy, the AI Academy MoU, youth internships in India, and academic chair announcements.

Medium-Term (3-6 months) — Formalize dialogue mechanisms; launch maritime-security working groups; release the joint economic-impact study and scoping note for an investment agreement; and use the 2026 AI Impact Summit in New Delhi as a flagship for joint innovation.

Closing Reflections

Participants left with a shared understanding that rebuilding trust and building resilience are mutually reinforcing goals. The path forward lies in institutionalizing this momentum through steady engagement, joint innovation, and clear communication — turning a political reset into a durable strategic partnership.

This report was drafted by APF Canada's Vina Nadjbulla and Erin Williams, with inputs from Suvolaxmi Dutta Choudhury and Tanya Dawar.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

1. Visit of Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand to India – October 12-13, 2025
2. 47th ASEAN Summit – October 27-28, 2025 | Malaysia
3. G20 Summit – November 22-23, 2025 | Africa
4. APF Canada Events – November 2025 | New Delhi
5. AI Summit – February 19-20, 2026 | New Delhi

An aerial night view of a city skyline. A tall, modern skyscraper is the central focus, with a construction crane visible at its peak. The building's windows are illuminated, showing a grid of lights. To the left, another tall building is visible, also with a crane. The foreground shows a dense urban area with lower-rise buildings and streetlights. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall scene is lit with the warm glow of city lights.

ANNEX

Agenda

*A joint initiative of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
and the Council for Defense and Strategic Research*

DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2025

VENUE: CANADIAN ROOM, FAIRMONT CHÂTEAU LAURIER
(1 RIDEAU ST, OTTAWA, ON K1N 8S7)

OPENING REMARKS

9:00 A.M. –
9:30 A.M.



Dinesh Patnaik, High Commissioner of India to Canada



Weldon Epp, Assistant Deputy Minister, Indo-Pacific, Global Affairs Canada



Jeff Nankivell, President and CEO, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada

SESSION 1

9:30 A.M. –
10:30 A.M.

Canada-India Relations: Challenges and Opportunities in a Turbulent World

Canada-India relations are beginning to recover after an extended period of diplomatic strain. A new opening for constructive engagement has emerged, underscored by the recent bilateral meeting between the two prime ministers on the margins of the 2025 G7 Leaders' Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta. This development takes place amid far-reaching shifts in geopolitics, geo-economics, and Indo-Pacific regional dynamics.

Against this backdrop, key questions arise: What areas of strategic convergence can Canada and India pursue? And how might bilateral relations be advanced in an era defined by geopolitical uncertainty and economic turbulence?



SESSION CHAIR

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



DISCUSSANTS

Ajay Bisaria, Former Indian High Commissioner to Canada



Nadir Patel, Former Canadian High Commissioner to India

COFFEE BREAK	10:30 A.M. – 10:45 A.M.	SESSION 2 10:45 A.M. – 11:45 A.M. Innovation, Technology, and Trade: Enhancing Bilateral Collaboration in a Changing Global Landscape Although negotiations toward a bilateral free trade agreement were paused during a period of diplomatic strain, there is renewed momentum to strengthen trade, technology, and economic ties. Both Canada and India are seeking to navigate the challenges posed by U.S. tariffs while pursuing opportunities for greater trade diversification. Moreover, artificial intelligence (AI), semiconductors, and other digital technologies are transforming the world in unprecedented ways. As countries navigate the challenges and opportunities presented by these critical and emerging technologies, the potential for forging stronger partnerships is enormous. To chart the path forward, it is essential to address key questions: How can deeper, mutually beneficial partnerships be fostered — including at the subnational level? What are the prospects for reducing barriers to trade in sectors such as agriculture, clean energy, and digital commerce? What opportunities lie in areas such as AI, aerospace, and digital trade? How might Canada and India jointly enhance mechanisms for co-operation in trade, technology, and supply chain resilience?  SESSION CHAIR: Rhonda Lenton, President, York University  DISCUSSANTS: Rajat Kathuria, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University  Rohinton Medhora, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation; Professor of Practice, McGill University	
LUNCH	11:45 A.M. – 12:45 P.M.	FIRESIDE CHAT Understanding Trump 2.0 and Its Impact on India–U.S. Relations	



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



Happymon Jacob, Founder, Council for Strategic and Defense Research

SESSION 3

12:45 P.M. –
1:45 P.M.

Critical Minerals and Energy Security: Building Resilience Together

As India's energy needs continue to rise, Canada is well-positioned to play a pivotal role in supporting the energy security of the world's most populous and fastest-growing major economy. This session will explore opportunities to unlock the potential of bilateral trade, investment, and collaboration across critical minerals, clean energy, and conventional energy. Key questions include: How can Canada and India advance their shared energy security goals, and what are the prospects for deeper co-operation in traditional energy, nuclear energy, renewables, and critical minerals?



SESSION CHAIR:

Nadira Hamid, CEO, Indo Canadian Business Chamber



DISCUSSANTS

Karthik Nachiappan, Research Fellow, National University of Singapore; Senior Fellow, APF Canada



Pooja Ramamurthi, Fellow, Centre for Economic and Social Progress

HEALTH BREAK

1:45 P.M. –
2:00 P.M.

SESSION 4

2:00 P.M. –
3:00 P.M.

Reset to Re-engagement: Charting the Path to a Stronger Strategic Partnership

While a bilateral reset is underway, Canada and India must take concrete steps to develop a clear roadmap for full re-engagement. This session will identify such steps and offer actionable, policy-oriented recommendations to ensure momentum is sustained in resuming bilateral ties across key strategic sectors.



SESSION CHAIR

Vincent Rigby, Former national security and intelligence advisor to the prime minister of Canada; Slater Family Professor of Practice, McGill University



DISCUSSANTS

Yogesh Joshi, Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida



David McKinnon, Former Canadian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and Ambassador to Maldives; Senior Fellow, APF Canada



Shachi Kurl, President, Angus Reid Institute

CLOSING REFLECTIONS

3:00 P.M. –
3:30 P.M.

Participants

CANADA



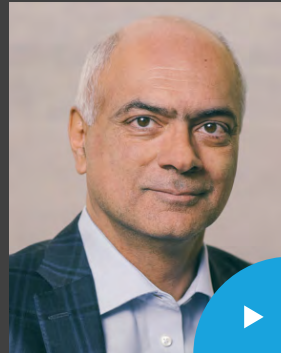
Dr. Karthik Nachiappan

Research Fellow, National University of Singapore;
Senior Fellow, APF Canada



Dr. Rhonda Lenton

President, York University



Dr. Rohinton Medhora

Distinguished Fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation; Professor of Practice, McGill University



David McKinnon

Former Canadian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and Ambassador to Maldives; Senior Fellow, APF Canada



Jonathan Berkshire Miller

Senior Fellow, Macdonald-Laurier Institute



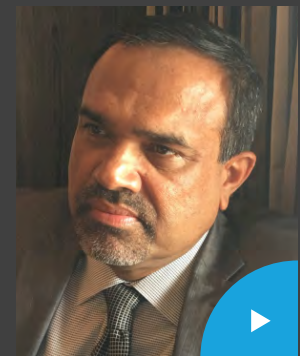
Kasi Rao

Managing Director, Fairfax Consulting Services India Ltd



Nadir Patel

Former Canadian High Commissioner to India



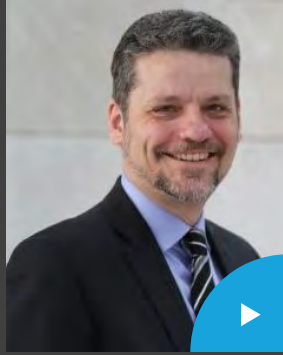
Dr. T.V. Paul

Professor, McGill University; Distinguished Fellow, APF Canada



Shachi Kurl

President, Angus Reid
Institute



Dr. Victor Gomez

Assistant Vice President &
Head (International), Global
Government Affairs and
Public Policy at Sun Life



Vincent Rigby

Former national security and
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Victor T. Thomas

President and CEO, Canada-
India Business Council



Vina Nadjibulla

Vice-President Research &
Strategy, APF Canada

INDIA



Dr. Mansi Kumari

Assistant Professor, Amity University



Nadira Hamid

CEO, Indo Canadian Business Chamber



Ajay Bisaria

Former Indian High Commissioner to Canada



Happyymon Jacob

Founder, Council for Strategic and Defense Research;



Pooja Ramamurthi

Fellow, Centre for Economic and Social Progress



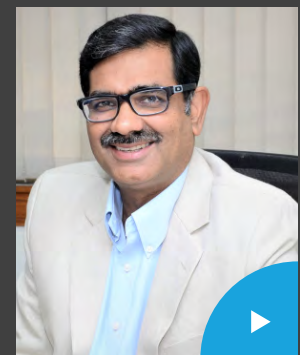
Pranay Kotasthane

Chairperson, High-Tech Geopolitics Programme, Takshashila Institution



Dr. Yogesh Joshi

Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida



Rajat Kathuria

Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University



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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.

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