

**ICCHA**

Established in 2004

India Canada Cultural &  
Heritage Association  
Inc.



[www.indiaheritage.ca](http://www.indiaheritage.ca)



## **DINNER ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Ken Eapen & Mr. Narinder Kalkat (co-chairs)**

**Mrs. Jessie Pannu, Mr. Manu Batish, Dr. Sanjiv  
Dhingra, Dr. Rupinder Diocee, Mr. Arvind-Pal S.**

**Matharu, Dr. Gurinder Randhawa**

**Mr. Raj Sharma, Dr. Paramjit S. Tappia**

Complimentary Wine Sponsored By:

# De Nardi

Passion for food & wine



# **ICCHA Annual Gala Dinner 2025**

**Gala Dinner in Honor of the Distinguished  
Leadership, Distinguished Service  
and Student Awardees**

***October 12, 2025***

***Punjab Culture Centre***

***Winnipeg, Manitoba***



# India Canada Culture & Heritage Association

**ICCHA** is a non-profit organization with mandate to promote human rights, education, culture and heritage of people of Indian origin



# ICCHA Executive

**PRESIDENT: Jessie Pannu**

**VICE PRESIDENT: Mr. Manu Batish**

**SECRETARY: Dr. Paramjit S. Tappia**

**TREASURER: Mr. Ken Eapen**

**JOINT TREASURER: Mr. Narinder Kalkat**



# ICCHA Board of Directors

**Dr. Sanjiv Dhingra**

**Dr. Rupinder Dicocee**

**Mr. Jaideep Johar**

**Mr. Arvind Pal S. Matharu**

# ICCHA Board of Directors

**Dr. Gurinder Randhawa**

**Dr. Meenu Sharma**

**Mr. Raj Sharma**

# ICCHA Board of Trustees

**Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla (Chair)**

**Dr. Amarjit S. Arneja**

**Dr. Mohinder S. Dhillon**

**Dr. Vijayan Elimban**

**Dr. Digvir Jayas**

**Dr. Lalitha Raman-Wilms**



# ICCHA Awards For 2025

**Distinguished Leadership Award**

**Distinguished Service Awards**

**Student Awards**



## 2025 Distinguished Leadership Award Recipient

**Dr. Lalitha Raman-Wilms**  
**Dean, Faculty of**  
**Pharmaceutical**  
**Sciences, University**  
**of British Columbia**



# 2025 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Hon. Terry Duguid**  
**Member of Parliament**



# 2025 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Derek Dabee**  
**School Trustee &**  
**Community Leader**



# 2025 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Mitesh Trivedi**  
**Business, Entrepreneur**  
**& Community Leader**



# 2025 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Shipra Verma**  
**Chief Electoral Officer**  
**of Manitoba**



# Student Awards 2025



# *We Thank the Donors for their Continued Support of the Student Awards Program*

- Dr. Amarjit S. Arneja
- Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla
- Mr. Sandeep Dhalla
- Dr. Sonny Dhalla
- Mrs. Sudesh Dhalla
- Mrs. Jessie Pannu
- Mr. Kamta Roy Singh
- Kothari Family Foundation

# STUDENT AWARDEES

**Kothari Family Foundation Award**

**Sikta Chattopadhyaya** (*Presented by: Mr. Ken Eapen*)

**Dr. Sonny Dhalla Student Award**

**Maya Diocee** (*Presented by: Mr. Romel Dhalla*)

**Dr. Jagmit Arneja Student Award**

**Rhea Gupta** (*Presented by: Dr. Digvir Jayas*)



# STUDENT AWARDEES

**Kalwant Dhalla Student Award**

**Aahna Sharma** (*Presented by: Mrs. Sudesh Dhalla*)

**Sam & Madhu Dhalla Student Award**

**Suryansh Sharma** (*Presented by: Mr. Romel Dhalla*)

**Ranjit Dhalla Student Award**

**Talia Leitao** (*Presented by: Mrs. Ranjit Dhalla*)

# STUDENT AWARDEES

**Jessie Pannu Student Award**

**Avya Shrivastav** (*Presented by: Mrs. Jessie Pannu*)

**Kamta Roy Singh Student Award**

**Raneeta Thingam** (*Presented by: Kamta Roy Singh*)

**Kamta Roy Singh Student Award**

**Sneh Vyas** (*Presented by: Kamta Roy*)



# Previous Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients



# 2023 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. Digvir Jayas**  
**President & Vice-Chancellor**  
**University of Lethbridge**  
**Vice-President (Research &**  
**International) Emeritus**  
**University of Manitoba**



# 2022 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. David Chartrand**  
**President Manitoba**  
**Metis Federation**



## 2019 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. Bob Silver**

**President & Co - owner  
Western Glove Works  
Ltd, Co- owner Winnipeg  
Free Press, Brandon  
Sun, Canstar weekly**



# 2018 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**The Honorable Vim Kochhar**  
**Former Senator**  
**Government of Canada**



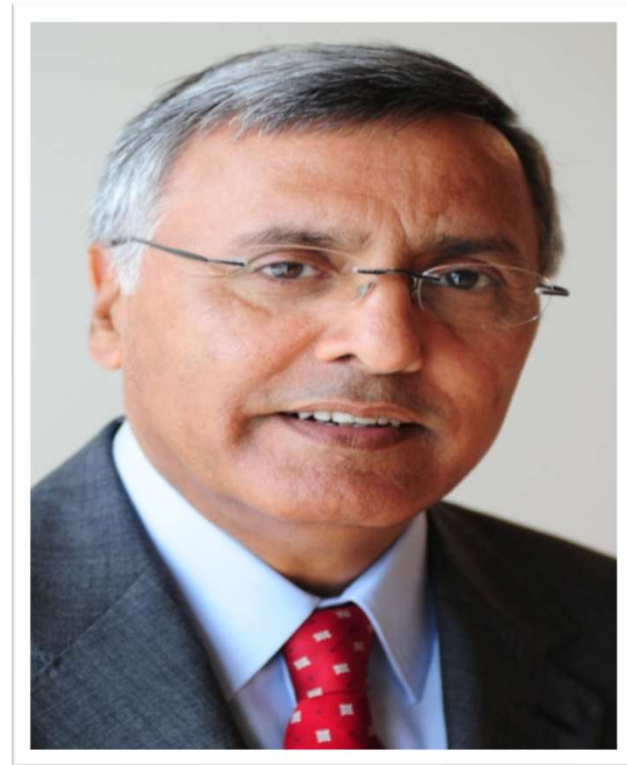
## 2017 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**The Honorable Baljit S.  
Chadha, President and  
Founder Balcorp Limited**



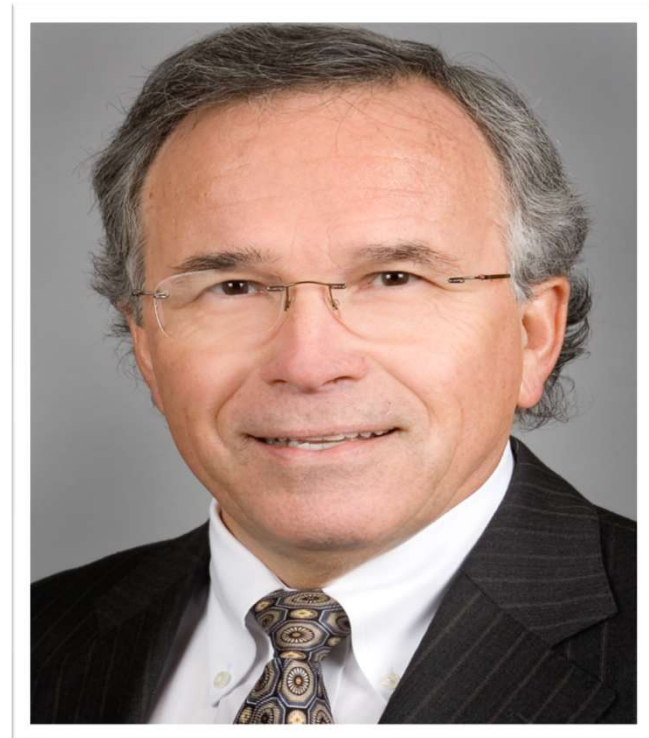
## 2016 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**The Honorable Ujjal Dosanjh  
Former Premier of  
British Columbia**



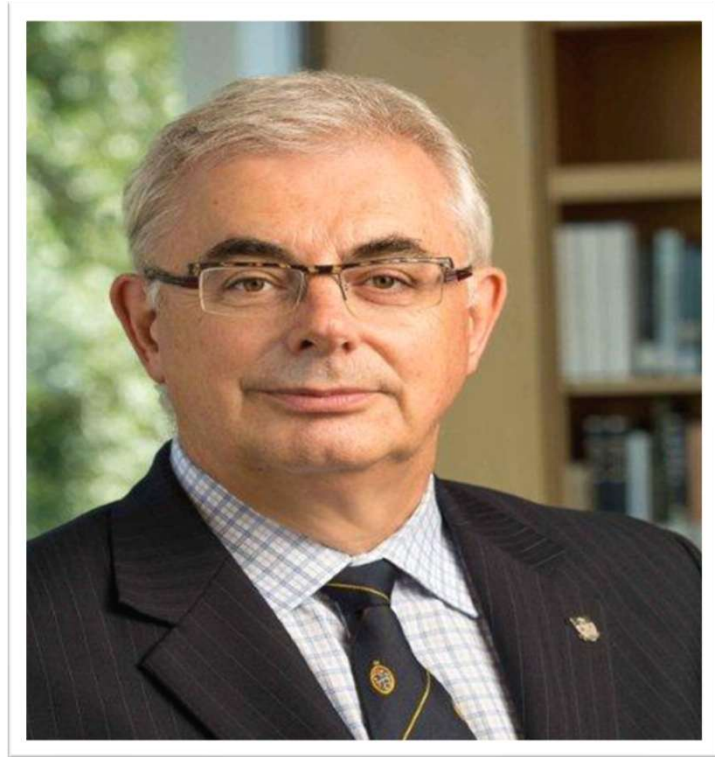
# 2015 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**The Honorable Gary Filmon  
PC, OC, OM, LLD  
Former Premier of Manitoba**



# 2014 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. David Barnard  
President & Vice-Chancellor  
University of Manitoba**



# 2013 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Sam Katz**  
**Former Mayor**  
**City of Winnipeg**



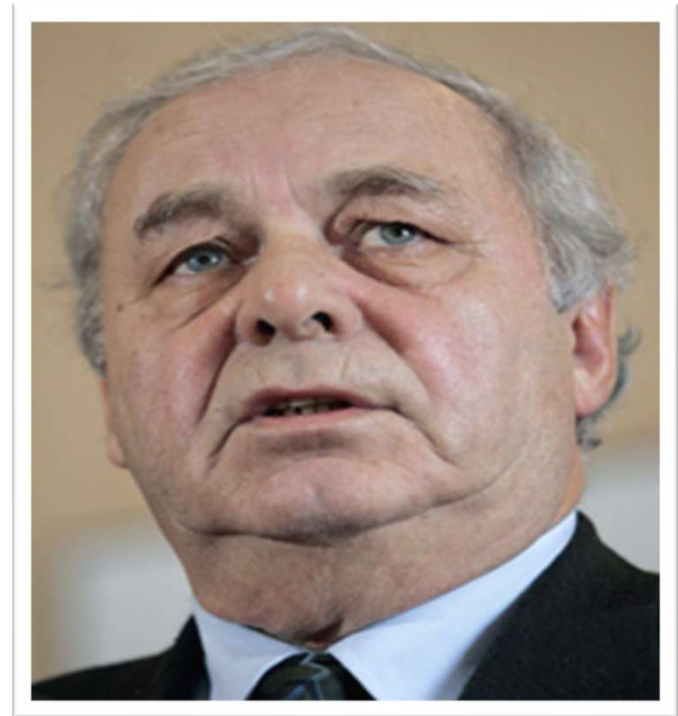
## 2012 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. Sarbjit (Sabi) Marwah  
Vice-Chairman & Chief  
Operating Officer,  
Scotiabank**



# 2011 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Rt. Hon. Edward Schreyer  
Former Governor  
General of Canada**



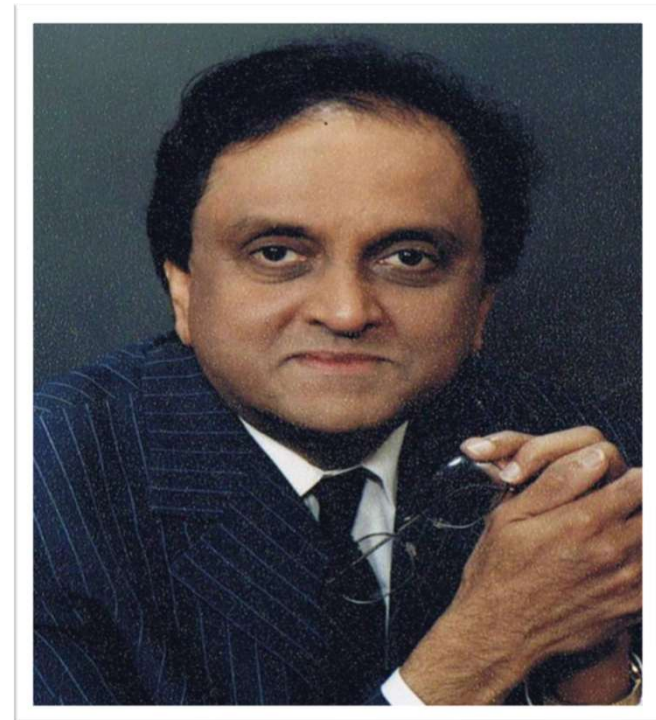
## 2010 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. Gail Asper  
President, Canwest Foundation  
& The Asper Foundation**



## 2009 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Shan Chandrasekar  
President & CEO,  
ATN International**



# 2008 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Gary Doer  
Former Premier  
Province of Manitoba**



## 2007 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. Lloyd Axworthy**  
**Former President, University**  
**of Winnipeg**



## 2006 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla  
Distinguished Professor  
University of Manitoba**



## 2005 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient

**Dr. Eموke Szathmary**  
**Former President**  
**University of Manitoba**



**2004 Life Time Achievement Award Recipient**

**Her Excellency Shashi Tripathi  
Former Indian High  
Commissioner to Canada**



# Previous Distinguished Leadership and Service Award Recipients



# 2024 Distinguished Leadership Award Recipient

**Dr. Ganga  
Dakshinamurti  
Senior Scholar  
University of  
Manitoba**



# 2024 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Ms. Teresa Cotroneo**  
**Executive Director**  
**Folklorama**



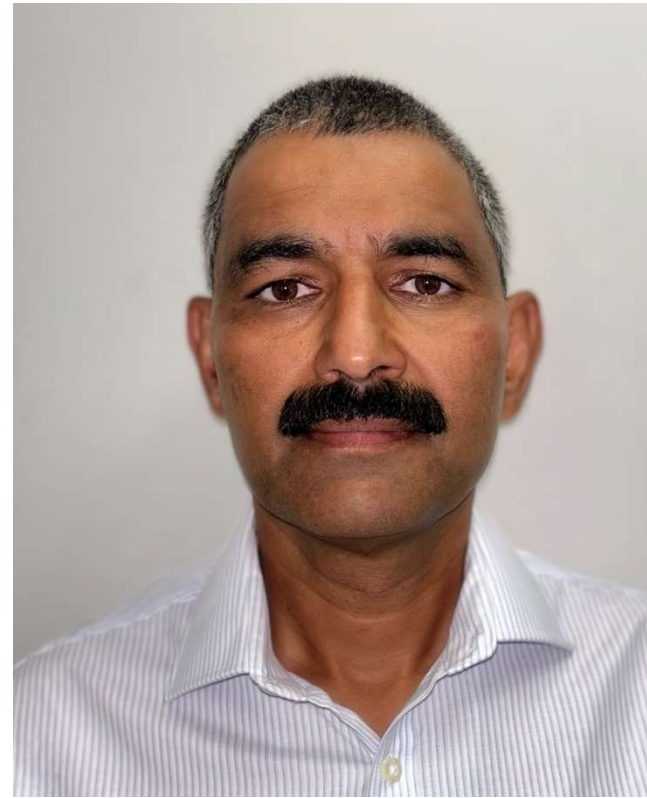
# 2024 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Mrs. Gurharjit K. Sandhu**  
**Resource and Guidance**  
**Counsellor with the Seven**  
**Oaks School Division**



## 2024 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Mr. Dalip Shekhawat**  
**Adventurer, Mountaineer,**  
**Ultra-runner & Special**  
**Education Teacher**



# 2023 Distinguished Leadership Award Recipient

**Jay Grewal**  
**President & CEO**  
**Manitoba Hydro**



# 2023 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Raj Maan**  
**Owner, President & CEO**  
**Raj Maan Financial**



# 2023 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Taran Malik**  
**Ret'd. Teacher & Scholar**



# 2023 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Jaideep Johar**  
**Senior Advisor**  
**Transport Canada, Prairie**  
**and Northern Region**



# 2022 Distinguished Leadership Award Recipient

**Jessie Pannu, Financial  
Advisor & Planner**



# 2022 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Dr. Jagmit Arneja**  
**Obstetrician & Gynecologist**



# 2022 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Cllr. Markus Chambers**  
**St. Norbert – Seine River Ward**  
**Deputy Mayor City of Winnipeg**



# 2022 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Dr. Paramjit S. Tappia**  
**Clinical Research Scientist**  
**Asper Clinical Research Institute**  
**St. Boniface Hospital**



# 2022 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Gyani Kewal Singh Chohan**  
**Community Leader &**  
**Social Activist**



# 2019 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Prem Bhalla**

**Past President of Folklorama,  
Past President of Hindu  
Society of Manitoba,  
Volunteer Extraordinaire**



# 2019 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Yog Gupta**  
**Businessman, Co - owner**  
**India Today**



# 2019 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Kamta Roy Singh**  
**Owner of Tim Hortons,**  
**President KRS**  
**Enterprises**



# 2018 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Ms. Adrienne Batra**  
**Editor-in-Chief of Toronto Sun**



# 2018 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Dr. Ganpat S.Lodha**  
**Retd. GeoScientist**



# 2018 Distinguished Leadership Award Recipient

**Dr. Amarjit S. Arneja**  
**Physician, Rehabilitation**  
**Medicine**



# 2017 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Dr. C.R. Bector**  
**Professor Emeritus**  
**University of Manitoba**



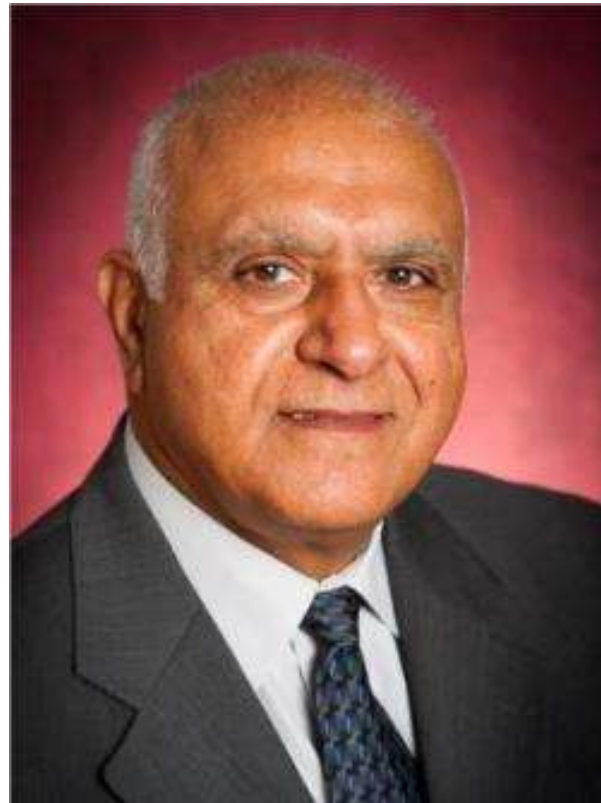
## 2017 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Mr. Anupam Kothari**  
**President, Kothari**  
**Developments**



# 2017 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Mr. Suren Mehta**  
**Businessman**



**2017 Bhai Kahan Singh Nabha Foundation Award  
Recipient**

**Mrs. Mandeep (Roshi) Chadha  
Member Board of Governors,  
McGill University, Governing  
body of Canadian Red Cross**



## 2016 Distinguished Leadership Award Recipient

**Dr. Mohinder Singh Dhillon**  
Serving as an advisory  
board for the Canadian  
Museum for Human Rights  
and The University of  
Winnipeg's Global College



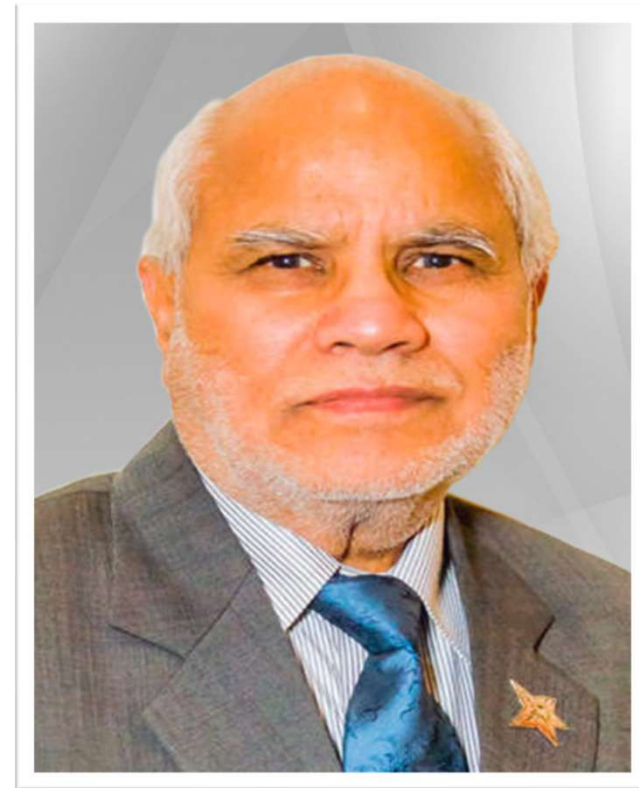
## 2016 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Dr. Dhali Dhaliwal**  
**Past President and CEO of**  
**CancerCare Manitoba**



## 2016 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

**Mr. Sushil Sharma**  
**Editor-In-Chief of**  
**the Indo-Canadian**  
**Telegram**  
**newspaper**



# 2015 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

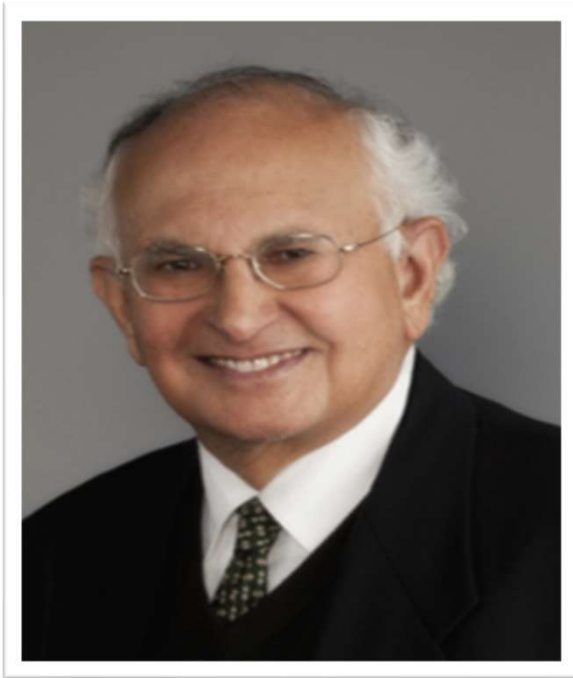


**Dr. Digvir Jayas**  
**Vice President U of M**



**Mr. Norton Kothari**  
**President Kothari Group**

## 2014 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

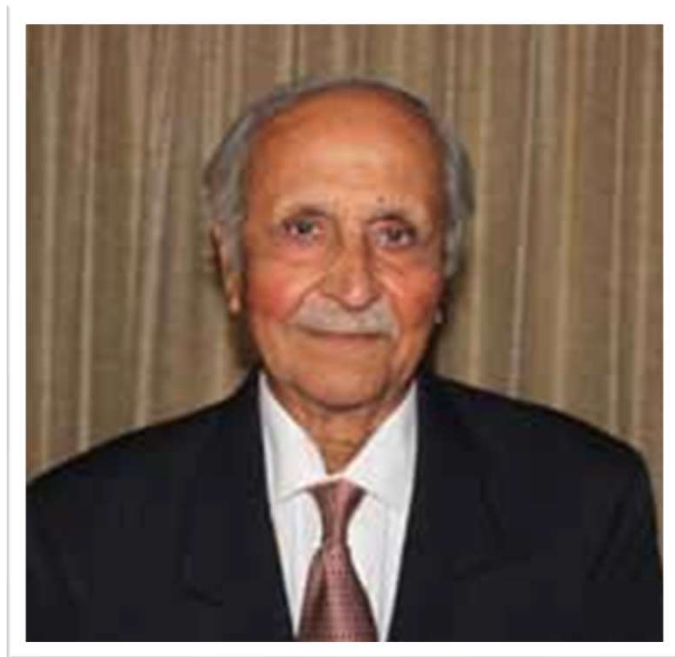


**Dr. Pravinsagar Mehta, MD**



**Mr. Joginder S. Shamsheer**

## 2013 Distinguished Service Award Recipient



**Mr. Haas D. Pandya, Q.C**

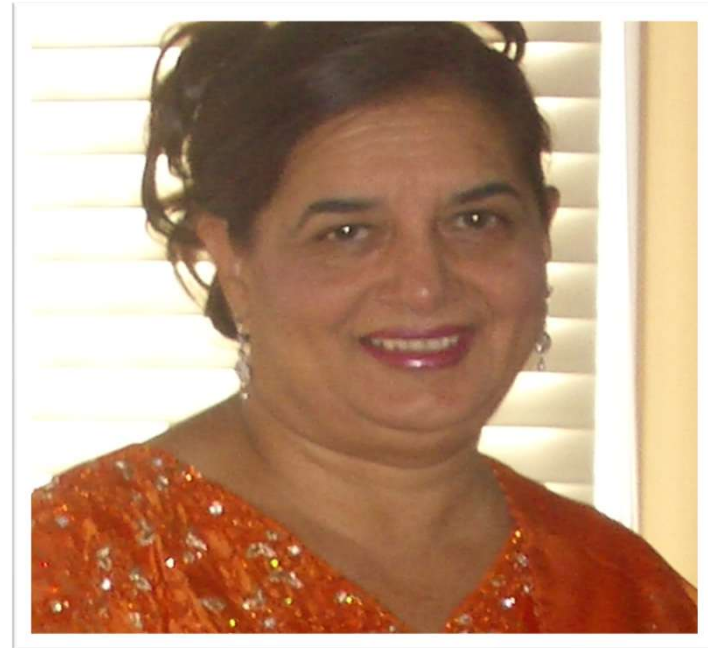


**Mr. Ken Eapen**

## 2012 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

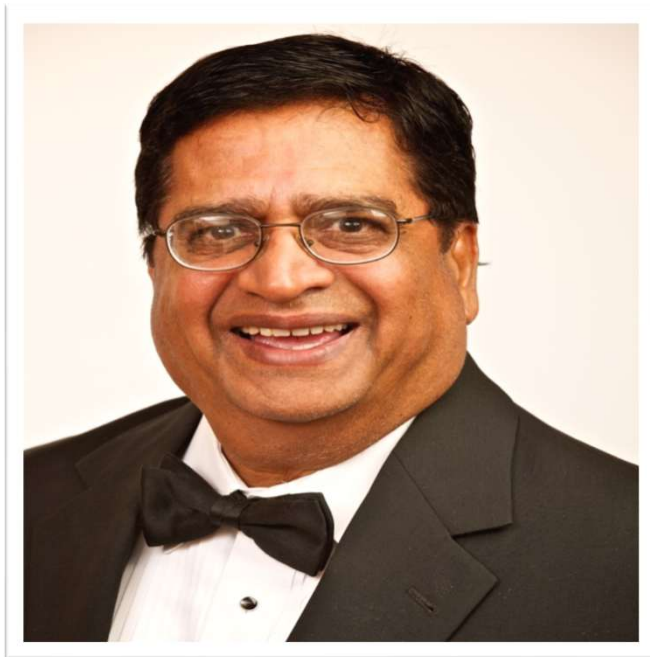


**Mr. Kamal Mehra,  
Entrepreneur**



**Mrs. Nimmi Ramgotra,  
Community Service**

# 2011 Distinguished Service Award Recipient



**Dr. Daya Gupta, M.D.**



**Dr. Sonny Dhalla, M.D.**

## 2010 Distinguished Service Award Recipient



**Mr. Bidhu Jha,  
Former MLA, Radisson**



**Dr. Amarjit Arneja, M.D.**

## 2009 Distinguished Service Award Recipient



**Jaya Chandrasekar,  
Vice President - ATN**

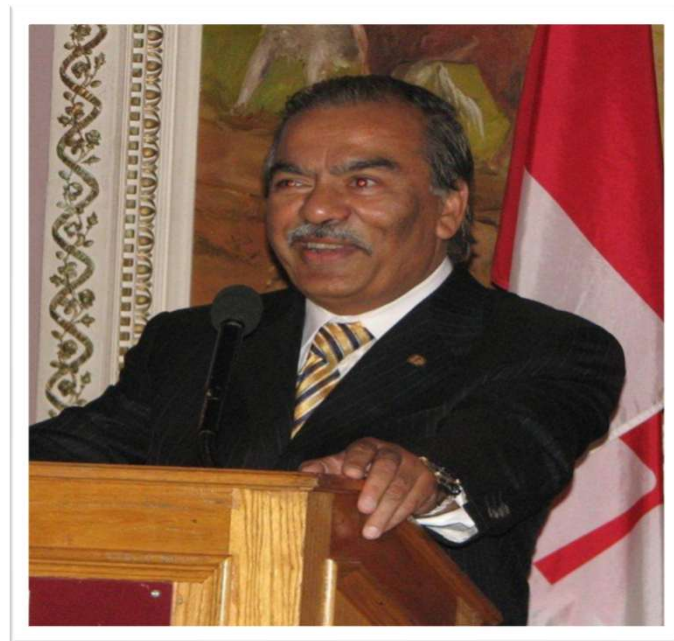


**Dr. Chander Gupta, M.D.**

## 2008 Distinguished Service Award Recipient

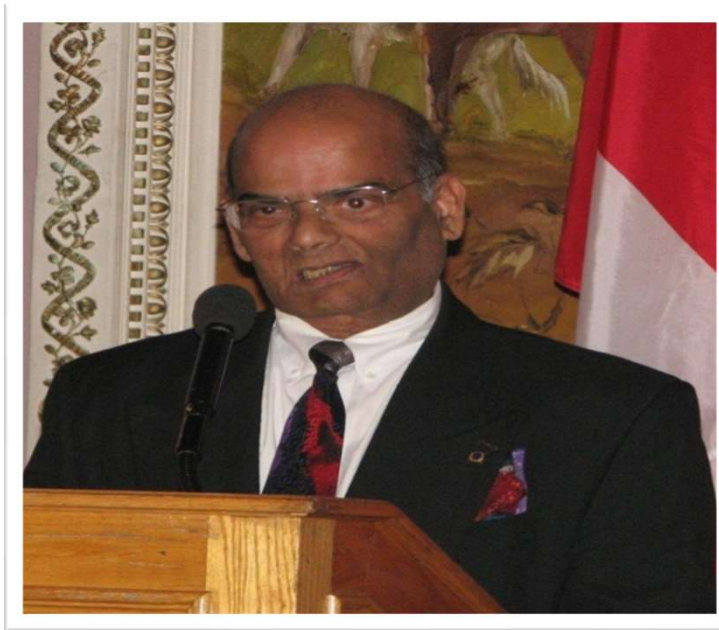


**Mr. P.L. Sharma, Businessman**



**Dr. Sunil V. Patel, M.D.**

## 2008 Distinguished Service Award Recipient



**Dr. Madhav N. Sinha, Engineer**











