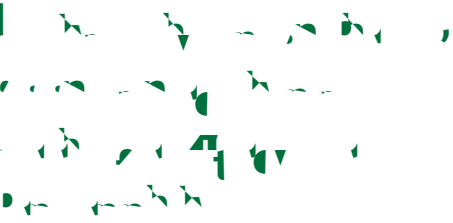




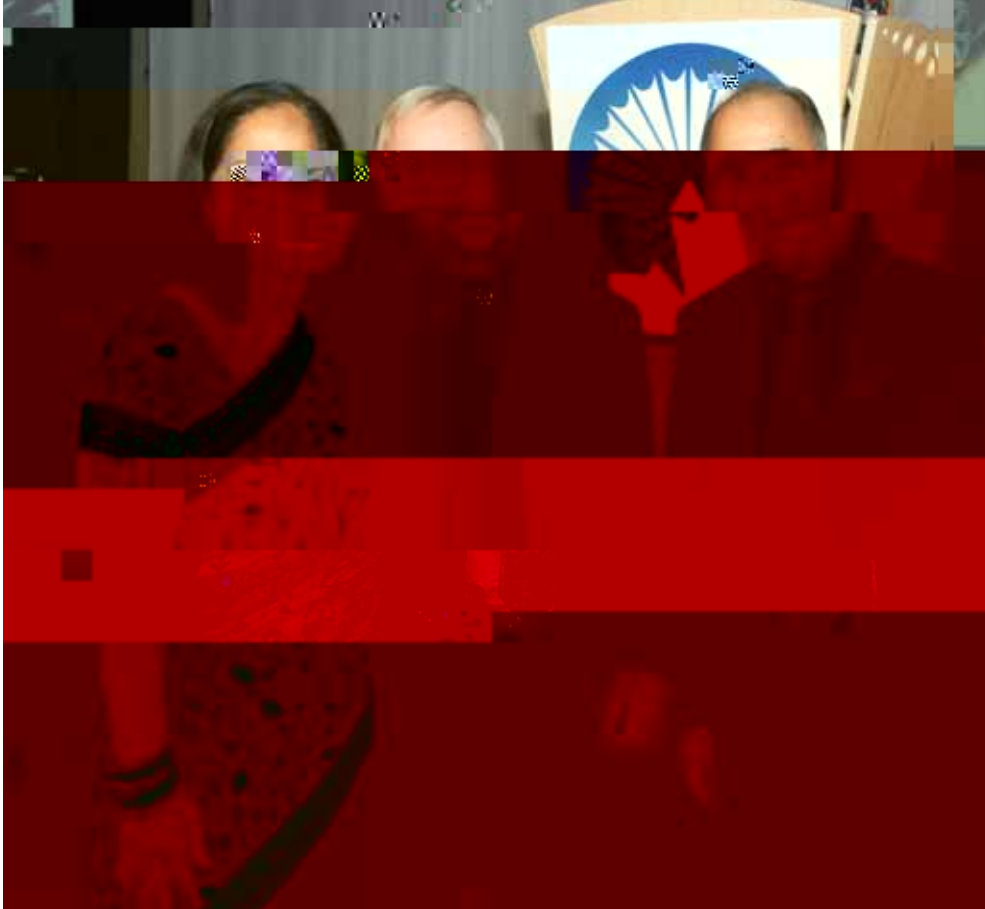
**A**t the Heritage BC annual awards banquet and ceremony on June 4, 2010, in Victoria, BC, the restoration of the historic heritage Sikh temple in Abbotsford was granted the award for outstanding achievement. The recipients were the Khalsa Diwan Society, Raiwall Developments Ltd., and Jonathan Yardn YaT8-7(h)os

President of Khalsa Diwan Society; Kabal Hundal, President of Khalsa Diwan Society; Gurdev Brar, recording secretary of Khalsa Diwan Society; Balbir Raiwall, Raiwall Developments; and Jonathan Yardley, Jonathan Yardley Architect Inc.

- Reach Museum celebration of  
Heritage Gurdwara Centennial 2011 . . . . . 1
- BC Heritage award given to  
Khalsa Diwan Society . . . . . 1
- Khalsa Diwan Society (KDS), Abbotsford  
plans Heritage Gurdwara centennial . . . . . 2
- Visiting scholars to CICS for Fall 2010 . . . . . 2
- Ehsaas film festival . . . . . 2
- Play.at The Reach . . . . .



In celebration of the upcoming centennial of the building of the national historic site Sikh temple on South Fraser Way, the Khalsa Diwan Society (KDS) is planning a year of activities in collaboration with the CICS and other community partners. 2011 will elicit a celebratory mood for the community at large. Some of the events the KDS Stnqh8fnf2(f)10( )0( )10(K )TJO -1.1k



CICS Director Satwinder Bains, UFV President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Mark Evered with Honorable Mr. Harinder Takhar, Ontario Minister of Government Services

## Canada India Foundation (CIF) Annual Award and Gala Dinner

CICS was a bronze level sponsor of the Canada India Foundation (CIF) annual award and gala dinner, which took place on May 15, 2010 at the Westin Bayshore. Members of the CICS joined UFV President and Vice-Chancellor Mark Evered and his wife Maureen in attending the gala event. Since its inception in 2007, the Canada India Foundation (CIF) has taken a leadership role in fostering support for stronger bilateral relations between Canada and India, greater engagement of the Indo-Canadian community in Canadian politics and

public policy and increasing awareness of the changing face of India. CIF works to foster support for stronger bilateral relations between Canada and India. Through active participation in public policy and engagement with parliamentarians, CIF positions the need for a strategic partnership between Canada and India as critical to Canada's future. CIF also works towards raising the profile of the Indo-Canadian community in Canada and abroad. To learn more about the CIF, visit [www.canadaindia.org](http://www.canadaindia.org).

## Disporizing Punjab, Disorienting Bhangra

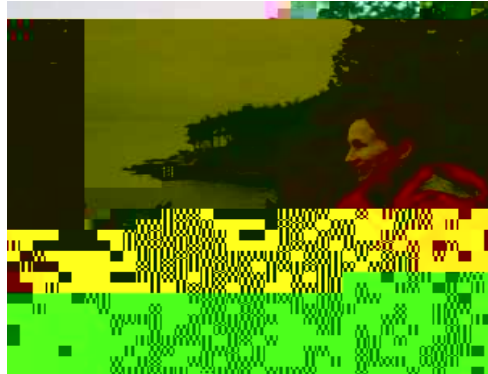
The Diasporizing Punjab, Disorienting Bhangra conference was presented by the University of the Fraser Valley and the University of British Columbia in collaboration with the Vancouver International Bhangra Celebration, May 5-8, 2010. Two evenings of public paper presentations, themed Diasporizing Punjab, occurred on May 5 and 6 at UFV.

CICS Director Satwinder Bains, Verne Dusenbery (Hamline University), and Margaret Walton-Roberts (Wilfrid Laurier University) presented papers, as did Inderpal Grewal (Yale University), Doris Jakobsh (University of Waterloo), and Michael Nijhawan (York University). Further public paper presentations, themed Disorienting Bhangra, were held at the University of British Columbia on May 7 and 8, where speakers included Rajinder Dudrah (University of Manchester), Harjant Gill (American University), Nicola Mooney (University of the Fraser Valley), Anjali Gera Roy (Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur), and Gibb Schreffler (University of California at Santa Barbara). As well, three graduate students, Manjot Bains (York University), Naveen Ginn (York University), and Ashveer Pal Singh (University of California at Berkeley), also presented.

UFV also hosted an undergraduate student roundtable during the day of workshops, where a group of UFV students discussed various hot topics facing Punjabi youth. Guests also took in a tour of the national historic site Khalsa Diwan Society Sikh temple, where they enjoyed a sumptuously prepared langar (meal) hosted by the executive committee.



## Dr. Susan Fisher, department of English



### 1. Tell us a little about yourself, your educational background, etc.

I was born and brought up in Vancouver, and while I've lived in eastern Canada and worked in Britain and Japan, I've spent most of my life here. I was educated at UBC, where I did both my graduate and undergraduate work. My interest in South Asia does have some origin in personal history. One of my great-grandfathers served in the Indian army, and his years in the Khyber Pass were part of family legend. As well, my grandfather worked for several years in Karachi, and I still remember the exotic gifts — embroidered shawls, a necklace of tiny ivory elephants, velvet slippers with upturned toes — that he brought us back from his travels.

### 2. What attracted you to research specifically on India, or to choose to teach a course on Indian literature?

When I was in graduate school, one of my areas of specialization was representations of the orient in English and French literature. My major focus was Japan, but I did do some research in the general area of postcolonial studies. As a

consequence, when I was a sessional lecturer in the UBC English department, I was asked to teach an upper-level course in postcolonial literature. The course description was very general, so I decided that I would focus on South Asian literature. I had always wanted to teach Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*, and I had long been a fan of R.K. Narayan; this seemed like the perfect opportunity to deepen my knowledge of these authors. I really enjoyed teaching the course, and it stimulated me to learn more about South Asian literature. Then, when I came to UFV in 2000, I realized that we weren't offering any courses in South Asian literature, so I decided to try to bring it into our curriculum. First, I taught a section of English 170 focused on South Asian literature. Then, with the support the dean, I developed several new courses focused on South Asian topics, including a course on Indian film.

### 3. What is your affiliation with the CICS?

I worked on the committee to establish the certificate in Indo-Canadian studies, and I've helped with a few of the events. I find the Centre one of the liveliest places on campus — there are always interesting events and visitors.

### 4. Is there any current research you are working on related to South Asia? Any other future course plans?

At the moment, I'm not working on any research related to South Asia. I've just finished a book on Canadian children's literature about the Great War, which is pretty far removed from South Asia. But I do hope to teach South Asian literature again.



1. **What are you studying at UFV?  
What are some of your future goals/  
aspirations?**

I am doing my Bachelor of Arts degree in English





