

For Immediate Release:



**The Mosaic Institute Launches its “South Asian- Canadian
Global Citizenship Project”**

Toronto, Ontario
June 17, 2010

The Mosaic Institute today announced the inauguration of its “**South Asian-Canadian Global Citizenship Project**” and the appointment of Herveen Singh as its Program Manager.

The **South Asian-Canadian Global Citizenship Project** is made possible by the generous support of Canada’s Department of Citizenship & Immigration and by the RBC Foundation. This two year project is focused on the promotion, integration and civic participation of Canadian youth of South Asian descent ages 15 to 24. Through a variety of methods, including school-based modules, inter-community dialogues, guest speakers and workshops, youth will be encouraged to define what it means to be a South Asian Canadian, to resolve inter-personal and inter-community conflicts constructively, and to become more engaged global citizens. By engaging in a variety of community service projects, youth will be encouraged to make tangible contributions to global peace and development.

The goals and objectives of this program include:

- Address the marginalization of Canadian youth and young adults of South Asian descent from Canadian life, and promote their enhanced integration into Canada;
- Reinforce in youth and young adults of South Asian descent a deep understanding of Canadian values ---such as respect for human dignity, the equality of men and women, ordered liberty and democracy - and how they are promoted around the world;
- Address sub-regional rivalries and create dialogue and collaboration between South Asian communities in conflict;
- Encourage young South Asian –Canadians to take an active role in shaping Canada’s role in South Asia and the world.

In addition to her responsibilities as Program Manager for the **South Asian-Canadian Global Citizenship Project**, Herveen Singh is a Research Associate and Director of the “Leading for Equity” project at the Centre for Leadership and Diversity at the University of Toronto. Herveen has extensive experience as an equity specialist and consultant in the field of educational administration and leadership. She was the past co-chair of the Shades of Brown conference at York University, an Equity Consultant at Centennial College, and speaks and writes widely concerning leadership in diverse contexts. Herveen is also a PhD candidate at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, where she will be defending her thesis in August 2010.

Said the Mosaic Institute's Executive Director, John Monahan:

"We are absolutely delighted to be announcing this timely and important initiative, and to have Herveen Singh at its helm. We are looking forward to working with an extensive network of community-based organizations and individuals to maximize the program's full potential, and to encouraging a whole generation of Canadian youth from the GTA to explore the mutually-reinforcing relationship between their Canadian citizenship and the values of global citizenship. And with funding partners such as Multiculturalism Canada and the RBC Foundation behind us, we are confident the program will meet its goals."

About the Mosaic Institute

- The Mosaic Institute is an action-oriented think tank that harnesses the connections, knowledge and resources of Canada's ethnocultural communities to advance Canadian solutions and promote peace and development in conflict-ridden or under-developed parts of our world.
- Based in Toronto, one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world, the Mosaic Institute believes that the knowledge, resources and global connections of passionate Canadians from all corners of the globe have the potential to change our world. These "citizen experts" are uniquely positioned to enhance Canada's global commitment to the advancement of peace and development.
- We welcome interested participants and partners to this project or any of our other projects currently underway.

For further information please contact:

www.mosaicinstitute.ca

John Monahan

Executive Director

jm@mosaicinstitute.ca

416 644 6000 ext. 620

Herveen Singh

Program Manager

hs@mosaicinstitute.ca

416 644 6000 ext. 610

- 30 -

The "**South Asian-Canadian Global Citizenship Project**" has been funded by - financé par:



Citizenship and
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et
Immigration Canada

Canada



RBC Foundation