



EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
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June 21, 2019

Dear Your Worship Mayor Doug McCallum and Surrey City Council,

It is with great pleasure that I confirm Simon Fraser University's (SFU) support for the proposal to develop *Sundar* - a South Asian International Expo, in Surrey, B.C.

The South Asian community in Surrey has a long history of enriching the community south of the Fraser. The *Sundar* Expo would be a great opportunity to recognize such contributions, while fostering cross-cultural understanding. A South Asian International Expo will provide an opportunity for all community members including students, scholars, researchers, and artists to learn about the richness of South Asian cultures and celebrate the diaspora communities in the most diverse city in the province. The economic activity and cultural exchange fostered through such an Expo could elevate Surrey internationally as a convener of performing arts, a tourist destination, a cultural hub and recognition as being a city that celebrates its diversity. This expo has benefits not only for the local community, but also nationally for advancing Canada's efforts in cultural diplomacy in the world.

SFU is committed to being Canada's most engaged university and was the first Canadian university to develop an India Strategy. Our SFU Surrey Campus is a source of great pride for us and the community as a major contributor to the socio-economic growth and development in the region. We partner and celebrate Diwali every year with this vibrant community, along with their achievements and accomplishments.

SFU, along with other supporters, is excited to express support for the *Sundar* Expo proposal in Surrey and look forward to being involved in this important initiative that can foster unity in diversity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sobhana' with a horizontal line underneath.

Sobhana Jaya-Madhavan  
Associate Vice-President, External Relations  
Simon Fraser University