

CONFERENCE PROGRAM
CANADIAN SOUTH ASIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE
Gender, Identity, Sexuality, and Activism
April 06, 2019 | Saturday



Simon Fraser University, Vancouver Campus
515 West Hastings, Harbour Centre, Room 7000
Ancestral & Unceded Territory of the Musqueam, Squamish & Tsleil-Waututh Nations

REGISTRATION with light BREAKFAST: 8:00 am – 9:00 am

OPENING & KEYNOTE SPEECH: 9:00 am – 9:50 am

Welcome Remarks

Habiba Zaman and Sanzida Habib

Keynote Speech by Harsha Walia

“Beyond Mangoes and Coconuts: Thinking Critically about South Asian Representations, Responsibilities, and Relations”



SESSION I: 10:00 am – 11:10 am

Identity, Cultural Hybridity and Belonging

Session Chair: Charles Greenberg, Capilano University

Aneesha Grewal “The Secrets of the Surrey Girl and the Surrey Jack: Settler-Hybrid Identities and the Creation of Stereotypes of South Asian Youths in Surrey, B.C.”

Akhil Dattani “My Identity, My Music”

Maisha Haque “Born ‘Brown’ Raised ‘White’”

Rina Pradhan “Balancing between the Cultures of Their Origin and Adopted Country: Perspectives from Nepali Youths from British Columbia”



SESSION II: 11:20 am – 12:30 pm

Gendered Violence, Representation and Resistance

Session Chair: Sarika Bose, University of British Columbia

Harpreet Kaur Mander “Surrey Jacks: A Violent Protest Masculinity”

Veronica Sudesh “Trails of Murder, Tears of Grief: Understanding Violent Crimes against Second Generation Coconuts”

Alysha Amrita Bains “Dominant Narratives and Sites of Creative Resistance: Reimagining Multicultural Canada through South Asian Youth Communities”

12:30 pm – 1:15 pm: LUNCH



SESSION III: 1:15 pm – 2:25 pm

Sexuality, Subjectivity and Community Resistance

Session Chair: Habiba Zaman, Simon Fraser University

Bidushi Rahman “Decolonizing Desire: Polysexuality in South Asia”

Taqdir Bhandal “The Coloniality of Menstruation and Diasporic Subjects”

Sana Janja “Personal, Professional and Political: The Creative Life of a Second Generation South Asian Woman”

Leena Hasan “How did I Get Here? Reflections of an Introverted Activist”



SESSION IV: 2:35 pm – 3:45 pm

Poverty, Social Justice and Inclusion

Session Chair: Neena Randhawa, Chimo Community Services, Richmond

Ishmam Bhuiyan “Poverty Activism in Vancouver: Replacing Charity and Equality with Justice and Equity”

Sonali Johal “The Need for a ‘Whole’ Education: Encouraging Our Students to Embrace Diversity in the Classroom”

Rajdeep Dhadwal “Understanding and Mitigating Climate Change: Confluences of Traditional Punjabi and Indigenous Perceptions of the Land”

Avanti Haque “Building Relationships between Racialized Communities: Achieving Social Justice in Canada”

REFRESHMENT BREAK: 3:45 pm – 4:00 pm



PANEL PRESENTATION: 4:00 pm – 4:55 pm

Autoethnographic Reflections of Feminist South Asian Youth

Organizer/Moderator: Rebecca Scott Yoshizawa, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Panelists: Amrit Dhillon and Navi Rai

4:55 pm – 5:00 pm: CLOSING

Conference Sponsors:

David Lam Centre, SFU; Dr. Hari Sharma Foundation; Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies (GSWS), SFU

Special Acknowledgement:

Roberta Neilson, GSWS Manager; Mazhar Haque, Videographer



