



INDIA CANADA FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

...forging close ties among Canadians with an interest in India

announces its lecture event

Engaging Rural Communities to improve Child Health in India

by Dr. Mira Johri

on Sunday, 29 April 2018, 3:00 – 5:00 PM



Synopsis: India's aspirations for development require healthy human resources but population health continues to lag, especially in rural areas marked by poverty. Despite improvements, India's under-5 mortality rate (48 deaths per 1,000 live births) remains high, health knowledge is low, poor health behaviours are common, and only 62% of children are fully immunized. Mobile phone ownership is now widespread and offers new opportunities to engage with communities and to promote community partnership in health and health services. We are piloting an interactive, voice-based, mobile platform (Tika Vaani, or "vaccine voice") in rural Hardoi district, Uttar Pradesh, India to improve child health in areas including immunization, nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene. The intervention combines entertaining educational and training capsules broadcast via mobile phone and community mobilisation activities. This presentation will provide the first glimpse of how communities are receiving the intervention.

About the Speaker: Mira Johri, PhD MPH is Professor in the Department of Health Management, Evaluation and Policy at the University of Montreal, and Principal Scientist at the University of Montreal Hospital Research Centre (CRCHUM). Dr. Johri's research focuses on global child health. Mira studied economics, ethics and political philosophy at McGill University, and public health at Yale University. She has served as Consultant in the Department of Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health at the World Health Organization, Geneva, and currently serves as Independent Expert to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Her research has appeared in high-impact journals such as the Lancet, BMC Medicine, and the Bulletin of the World Health Organization. Mira is particularly interested in community-based research and in the potential of community engagement approaches to improve health and development outcomes. Her current work focuses on equitable access to childhood vaccines globally and in India.

Location: Rockcliffe Park Community Centre Hall, 380 Springfield Road, Ottawa

About India Canada Friendship Circle

India Canada Friendship Circle (ICFC), a non-profit Canadian organization, operating in Ottawa since 2004 and conducting lectures by prominent speakers, encourages dialogue on India in a non-religious, non-partisan and harmonious environment. The words "friendship" and "circle" in its name, convey an explicit desire to forge and maintain close ties among Canadians with an interest in India.

ICFC's mission is to promote an intercultural relationship between India and Canada in the areas of philosophy, history, literature, the arts and sciences through prominent speakers.

For further details and online registration, please visit our website: <http://icfc.us>