



**Indo-Canadian  
Collections  
@ SFU Library**

---

## **Indo-Canadian Collections @ SFU Library**

SFU Library's Indo-Canadian Collections celebrate the lives of Indo-Canadian pioneers and their contributions to Canada. Rich and diverse, the Indo-Canadian collections have been built through generous gifts from the following donors.

### **Kohaly Photographic Archives / interviews of pioneers 1900-1950**

Donated by Mrs. Rajinder Kaur Kohaly

This recent donation contains approximately 300 photographs and genealogical information about the Indo-Canadian pioneers. Also included are about a dozen taped interviews. The collection was a project of Mr. Inderjit Singh Kohaly, the late husband of Mrs. Kohaly. He travelled all over British Columbia to meet with the pioneers who had migrated to B.C. before 1950. The collection will be held as part of SFU Library's Special Collections and Rare Books.

### **Indo-Canadian Oral History (Digital) Collection, part 1**

Donated by Dr. Hari Sharma, Professor Emeritus, SFU Department of Sociology/Anthropology

Dr. Sharma and his graduate students, Mr. Sadhu Singh Binning and Mr. Sukhwant Singh Hundal conducted interviews of immigrants who came from Punjab between 1912 and 1938. The interviews, which are in Punjabi, were conducted between 1984 and 1987. They provide a rich history of the experiences of the early pioneers in B.C. The interviews are available as mp3 files at the Multicultural Canada website by browsing the Indo-Canadian Oral History Collection.

## **Indo-Canadian Oral History (Digital) Collection, part 2**

Donated by Dr. Gurcharn Singh Basran and Dr. B. Singh Bolaria, Professor Emeriti, University of Saskatchewan, Department of Sociology.

Dr. Basran and Dr. Bolaria interviewed 32 Sikh immigrants who came to Canada before 1956. Interviews discuss the reasons for immigration to Canada, living and work experiences, family relations, and adjustment in the new country. Interviews are mainly in Punjabi, with a few in English and Hindi. Their book *The Sikhs in Canada: Migration, Race, Class, and Gender*, (New Delhi; Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2003), provides a rich analysis of Canada's immigration policies and the factors affecting the lives of pioneers. The interviews are available as mp3 files at the Multicultural Canada website by browsing the Indo-Canadian Oral History Collection.

## **Canadian Farm Workers Union Papers**

Donated by Mr. Charan Singh Gill

This collection contains the working papers of the Canadian Farm Workers Union, which consisted of many Indo-Canadian farm workers in B.C. This will prove to be a rich source of information for Canadian labour history. The papers are part of SFU Library's Special Collections and Rare Books.

## **Kuldip Gill Collection**

Donated by Mr. Jim McIntosh

This collection includes her literary papers, and her research on the South Asian community, women and health issues, her extensive community work as well as her Fiji research.

## **Website Links**

### **SFU Library's Special Collections and Rare Books**

<http://www.lib.sfu.ca/special-collections>

### **Indo-Canadian Collections**

<http://www.multiculturalcanada.ca>

<http://www.komagatamarujourney.ca>

<http://www.lib.sfu.ca/special-collections/canadian-farmworkers-union>

**Please contact us to learn more about giving to and supporting  
the SFU Library**

Virginia Hong  
Associate Director, Advancement  
Library Services

Tel: 778.782.9341

Email: [vshong@sfu.ca](mailto:vshong@sfu.ca)

