

Nadir Patel

Public Service



Inducted: 2019
Years at GCI&VS:
1984-1989



Nadir was born in Preston, England in 1970 and immigrated to Cambridge in 1974. He attended Avenue Road Public School, Lincoln Avenue Public School and Galt Collegiate where he graduated in 1989 as an Ontario Scholar. While at GCI, Nadir was an active member of SHAC, the Voice of SCAB and was a member of the badminton team for 5 years.

Nadir completed a BA degree in Political Science at Wilfrid Laurier University from 1989 to 1993 while also working part time at Revenue Canada. After graduating in 1993, he accepted a fulltime position with Revenue Canada and moved to Ottawa. In 1995 he was accepted into the federal government's Management Trainee Program and returned to school to pursue an MBA in 2007. By 2009, he graduated from New York University's Stern School of Business, the London School of Economics and Political Science and the HEC Paris School of Management with an MBA from all three.

From 2009 to 2011 Nadir served as Canada's Consul General in Shanghai, China managing Canada's presence in Eastern China while promoting trade and investment between the two countries. He also held a series of high-level government positions including that of Chief of Staff to the national Security Advisor to the Prime Minister, Senior Policy Advisor to the Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet. From 2011 to 2014, Nadir served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Association of Professional Executives of the Federal Public Service while also serving

from 2013 to 2016 on the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre. Nadir also took on the role of Senior Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Financial Officer for Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development.

In October 2014, Nadir was appointed Canada's High Commissioner for the Republic of India with accreditation as Canada's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Nepal and Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bhutan. Nadir is now the second longest-serving High Commissioner of India and is the first of Indian descent. His day-to-day responsibilities include forging strong diplomatic and political relations with the Indian government, facilitating two-way trade and investment, providing assistance to Canadians through Consular support, supporting/advising Canadian businesses on market access issues, facilitating the movement of people through Canada's immigration program, advancing Canada's security interests abroad, and overall management of Embassy resources: human and financial. During his time as High Commissioner, the relationship between Canada and India has seen unprecedented growth in trade and investment. Tourism between the two countries has increased by 95% and the number of Indian students attending Canadian schools has quadrupled.

Nadir currently resides in New Delhi with his wife, Jennifer Graham and their two children, daughter Nylah and son Aydin.