

Courtesy : Voice Newspaper

## **SOUTH ASIAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OF B.C. (SABA) LAUNCHED** **Saturday MAY 02, 2009**

The kick-off party for the newly-founded South Asian Business Association of B.C. (SABA) attracted some 200 prominent business people in the South Asian community, as well as a number of dignitaries and guests. Surrey Councillors Tom Gill and Barinder Rasode addressed the association and congratulated the members for their commitment to seeing the organization come to life.

The non-profit society has been founded to promote, enhance and champion a vibrant and thriving business collective. “SABA was conceived to support and promote South Asian businesses, and we will achieve this through various endeavors, including networking meetings and seminars,” said Maghar Singh Dhaliwal, president of SABA. “There was excellent energy in the room from the business community at large,” said SABA spokesperson Balwinder Chahal. “Everyone was enthused and excited to work together as a collective. We are extending a warm welcome to all South Asian businesses to join our organization, as well as those businesses across the Lower Mainland who deal with South Asian businesses.”

Surrey Board of Trade’s CEO Anita Huberman said: “I think SABA will help bring South Asian businesses together in a much more cohesive, collaborative way. As far as the event goes, it was fabulous; a good introduction to the community. The organizers not only invited the Surrey’s South Asian community, but everyone across the Lower Mainland.” Gary Hollick, publisher of the Surrey Now newspaper, said: “I think SABA is prepared to work with other organizations in Surrey and beyond to form strong and viable partnerships.”



(Photo: SABA founding members: (front) Jagdeep Gill, Lakhvinder Gill, Maghar Singh Dhaliwal, Puneet Sandhar, Victor Lall, Rana Vig; (back) Ken Dhillon, Parminder Parhar, Shoaib Rauf, Amrit Deol, Dilbagh Mann, Jatinder Sandhar, Balwinder Chahal, Vishwanath Dhiri, Kulwinder Sidhu, Kuldip Gill.)