



CANDU Pride

In 2005, Nidhi Gaudani began her CANDU career when she joined COG, a year after immigrating to Canada. In doing so, she found a country and a company where diversity is a strength and people can reach their potential.

Like CANDU technology itself, Nidhi Gaudani's career with CANDU Owners Group (COG) is a Canadian success story strengthened by international connections.

Gaudani was born in India and immigrated to Canada in 2004. Like many new Canadians, Gaudani had difficulty landing professional roles upon her arrival, despite energy sector work experience and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from back home.

"I was just like most new immigrants to Canada. I had a difficult time trying to figure out where I fit into the Canadian economy," says Gaudani, now a COG program manager in Joint Projects & Services (JP&S). "But I was lucky in joining COG, to have great mentors like [the late] Barry Collingwood and Ed Bennett, who recognized what I could contribute and gave me the opportunity to support hundreds of deliverables and allowed me to learn about CANDU technology and the industry.

"I believe in destiny. It's rare in a new country that the first place you land is the place where you grow and figure out your [career] direction."

Now in her fifteenth year with COG, Gaudani credits her mentors and colleagues for encouraging her to pursue her interest in project management.

Supporting the global CANDU community

Gaudani feels a great sense of pride in supporting COG's members and furthering CANDU technology.

As part of COG's Supply Chain, Obsolescence and Procurement (SCOP) program, Gaudani facilitates collaboration among members to lower supply chain costs using bulk procurement practices. In this role, Gaudani has been able to help COG utilities obtain spare parts in time to avoid plant shutdowns or outage extensions.

Gaudani believes COG is unique, both for the professional opportunities it offers and the sense of unity amongst the CANDU community.

"With CANDU being a Canadian design, and as a Canadian myself, I've felt and have seen others take ownership and pride in contributing to its development,"

says Gaudani. "We are a small team [at COG] but we get to work with so many different partners across the CANDU industry."

Those partners reach across the utilities and supply community in Canada, and also in six other countries worldwide, who share a common interest in strengthening innovation and on-going improvement within the CANDU reactors they operate.

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Since 2019, Gaudani has served as the CANDU 6 Fleet Steering Committee facilitator and through that work has seen the contributions and collaboration amongst COG's international community. She also manages COG's CANDU quality assurance joint audit program (CANIAC) working with the CANDU supply chain.

Much like her adopted country, COG is strengthened by the contributions of a diverse community.

"They respect what COG does and recognize collaboration is important work. We have those days often and that's the best part of our work."



Gaudani supports collaboration amongst COG's international community in her role as CANDU 6 Fleet Steering Committee facilitator.

This story is one of an on-going series about COG employees; a diverse group in expertise, gender, age and nationality. Our team reflects the diversity and strengths of our Members and the COG community. Their skills help create the best in collaboration for nuclear innovation. Through COG, our Members and the nuclear community worldwide achieve results that contribute to the highest standard of safety, efficiency and environmental performance. Together we create Excellence Through Collaboration.