

Nadir Patel

Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Finance and Operations and Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

Nadir Patel serves as the Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Finance and Operations and Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. He has just returned from an appointment as Canada's Consul General in Shanghai, promoting trade and investment between Canada and China, leading Canada's participation in Expo 2010, and managing the incoming visits of countless high-level government and business delegations including the Prime Minister and Governor General.

Prior to that, Nadir held a series of high-level government positions, including Chief of Staff to the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister, where he helped write Canada's first national security policy. He also served as Senior Policy Advisor to the Clerk of the Privy Council, where he helped launch the Commission of Inquiry into the bombing of Air India Flight 182. He subsequently became Canada's Chief Air Negotiator, travelling to 35 countries over three years and negotiating an unprecedented 43 inter-governmental Canadian airspace pacts, including a groundbreaking open-skies agreement with all 27 countries of the European Union.

Nadir began his career as an auditor at the Kitchener-Waterloo offices of Revenue Canada, and subsequently served in progressively senior positions in the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency's offices in Montreal and Ottawa, including Senior Departmental Assistant to the Minister of National Revenue, Director of Ministerial Services, and Corporate Secretary to the Agency's Board of Management.

Nadir has previously served as Vice President, Treasurer and a Board Member of the Association of Professional Executives of the Federal Public Service, the association which represents Canada's 7,000 public service executives. He has also served as a Director on the National Capital Region's Board of Directors for the Institute of Public Administration of Canada, and as Interim Chair of the Ottawa Business Council of the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce. While in China, he served as Honorary President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, and co-founded the Chamber's Network of Young Canadian Professionals in Shanghai.

Nadir was appointed by India Abroad to its inaugural (2008) list of the Top 40 most influential Canadians of Indian descent. On January 1, 2011, Nadir was profiled by the Globe and Mail as one of 45 Canadians Changing the World. He has been selected as one of 100 Alumni of Achievement during Wilfrid Laurier University's 100th year anniversary celebration in 2011. He has been a guest lecturer at Dalhousie University's School of Public Administration, at New York University's Shanghai campus at East China Normal University, and at Donghua University's School of International Affairs.

Nadir has a Bachelor of Arts (BA) from Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Canada, and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from New York University's Stern School of Business, the London School of Economics and Political Science, and the HEC Paris School of Management.