**Dr. Chandana (Chandi) Jayawardena**

**Canada International Ambassador & Past President – Institute of Hospitality (HCIMA)**

**United Kingdom**

Dr. Chandana (Chandi) Jayawardena is a tourism educator, consultant, researcher, author and hotelier. He was educated/trained in UK, USA, France, Italy, Switzerland, Canada and Sri Lanka. Chandi held leadership positions in South Asia, the Middle East, Europe, South America, the Caribbean and North America.

Prior to commencing his international career in 1994, Chandi as the General Manager of Mount Lavinia Catering Services, led all catering at BMICH - National Convention Center of Sri Lanka, for 3 years. He has led hospitality for 4 Heads of State summits in South Asia, South America & the Caribbean. As an international hotelier (General Manager of 7 luxury hotels / resorts), he has served 34 heads of state /government, including Queen Elizabeth II, President Fidel Castro and Prime Minister John Major. Chandi has travelled to 94 countries, presented at conferences and seminars in 38 countries and lived in four continents. He was the only non-European elected as the President of the world’s largest professional body for managers in the hospitality, leisure and tourism industries - Institute of Hospitality, UK (HCIMA) during its 80-year history. As President of HCIMA, he visited members and chapters in 17 countries.

Dr. Chandi has been a university / college senior lecturer, professor, research fellow, academic director, academic chair, associate dean and vice president. For 5-years, Chandi provided academic leadership to the largest faculty of hospitality, tourism and culinary arts in Canada (George Brown College, Toronto). In this role he led a team of 260 professors serving 3,200 full-time students and 8,600 continuing education registrants in 3 schools. As a researcher and author, through 20 books / academic journal themed issues and over 100 articles, Chandi has influenced a generation of doctoral, masters and undergraduate hospitality and tourism management students around the world. As an international consultant, Chandi has led or served in teams for tourism and hospitality consulting projects for various organizational clients, including EU, USAID, Caribbean Tourism Organization, Amazon Corporation Treaty Organization, Government of Guyana, Tourism Development Authority and Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management of Sri Lanka, and Heads of Hospitality and Tourism, Ontario, Canada.