

About the Publisher: Suki Pagalia

Founder, CEO, Publisher, AAJ Media Group

Suki Pangalia was born in Bengal, India and arrived in Canada in 1977, with his mother and six other siblings. He was raised by his late mother, Surinder Pangalia, who is his inspiration and a guiding force for his life's ambition. His vision and aim has always been supporting, loving and caring for humanity by providing unconditional support, advocacy and service to others to create social change. He continues to support and advocate for families in need and his inspiration comes from the community he serves.

Suki is the Founder, CEO and Publisher of the AAJ Media Group established in 1997, now consisting of *AAJ Magazine*, *AAJ Television* and *AAJ Radio*. Currently, *AAJ Television* has four programs airing on Shaw multicultural channels. Suki has always been known as a community leader and cultural ambassador who strives to develop platforms for people to engage, start a dialogue and create positive social outcomes.

He is the Founder and Executive Director of Rangeela Dance School and Academy of Indian Arts and Dance which were established in 1994 and had locations across North America. His aim was to teach and inspire the South Asian community through the arts, culture, dance, language and heritage. Rangeela had over 20,000 students and cultivated the talents of children and families and produced many accomplished artists and dancers. His students went on to open their own dance schools to promote South Asian culture to future generations. Rangeela won many awards and stood first internationally 7 to 10 years in a row. Suki was also a creator of a Multicultural Mascot named Rangy Baba.

Suki has a degree in child and youth counseling and has worked for the Delta School Board and Children's Foundation as a youth counselor. He was also a staff counselor and drug and alcohol counselor of a transition home at Mountainside Community Services. Suki was an Aboriginal counselor with the Surrey School Board and is currently serving as a volunteer with Journey Child Protection Services.

Suki is a retired commissioned officer of the Canadian Armed Forces (CIC) with Captain qualifications. He is certified as a Range Safety Officer, Orienteering Instructor and Training Officer. He was the Platoon Commander of Echo Company at the Vernon Army Cadet Camp. He is currently a Board Member of the White Rock Multicultural Society and has been a long-standing member of the Child and Youth Association of British Columbia. Suki served as Vice-Chair of the 3300 British Columbia Regiment Cadet Corp. which he assisted in establishing. He was member of the

Lions Club, National Indo-Canadian Council (NICC), Oasis, Mosaic and India Club.

Suki was awarded the Distinguished Medal of Honour by the Minister of National Defence, Canada in 2019. He was also awarded the Medal of Honour for community work by Maritime Forces Pacific in 2018, the Stand to Action Award by SEEDS, and the Best Editor Award by Harjinder Thind of RedFM. He has professional partnerships with the Consulate General of India (Vancouver), BC Children's Hospital, Museum of Surrey, Surrey Board of Trade, Gujarati Society of Vancouver, Art Vancouver and BC India Network.

