

**Draft #3: Media Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
May 26, 2004**

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**Renowned Global Thought Leader to Visit Thunder Bay**

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**Thunder Bay, ON:** Acclaimed as “One of the World’s Foremost Thought Leaders”, Dr. Debashis Chatterjee will be speaking at a luncheon on the topic “The Leadership Connection: Awakening to Relationships”.

Leader, trainer, author, consultant and academician, Dr. Chatterjee is renowned around the world for his pioneering work in leadership development and transformational learning. His book, *Leading Consciously*, established the classical wisdom traditions of the world at the centre stage of leadership practice. It has been selected as one of the top 5 leadership books in the world by Management General. In acknowledgement of this achievement, Harvard Business School recently named Dr. Chatterjee as one of the 15 “thought leaders” of the world.

A Fulbright scholar at Harvard University and MIT, Dr. Chatterjee’s professional career has been a rich blend of experience as a practicing manager as well as a trainer, consultant and academician.

Dr. Chatterjee has lectured and taught at MIT, Harvard Graduate School of Business, University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis, and Tufts University. He has taken his message to Canada, the U.S., France, Singapore, Australia, Denmark, U.K., South Africa and India and conducts sessions for several Fortune 500 companies. As well, Dr. Chatterjee facilitates leadership and self-mastery programs for executives, physicians, scientists, political leaders, and health and social services workers internationally.

Debashis Chatterjee is presently the Program Director for The Centre for Leadership and Human Values, Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, which is India’s premier national business school. The Institute is affiliated with a number of business schools in Canada, the U.S., Europe and Australia. The Canadian issue of his latest book entitled *Light the Fire in Your Heart* has been stimulating conversation since its release in 2003.

Dr. Chatterjee’s visit to Thunder Bay marks the launch of a two-week Canadian tour which includes visits to Burlington, Ottawa and Iqaluit, Nunavat. During his visit, Dr. Chatterjee is expected to address over 1000 people at various events being organized in these communities.

“We are absolutely thrilled that Dr. Chatterjee has accepted our invitation to visit Northwestern Ontario”, said Gwen DuBois-Wing, Executive Director of the Northwestern Ontario District Health Council. “We know that our region faces challenges in attracting and retaining leaders. Dr. Chatterjee’s message will address the challenge of releasing the internal leadership capacity that already exists in individuals...and will emphasize that leaders are everywhere,” added DuBois-Wing. “Dr. Chatterjee blends western corporate practices with ancient eastern wisdom and his work brings a global context of leadership philosophy”.

Tom Walters, Executive Director, Lakehead Regional Family Centre added, “World class leaders and role models seldom get the chance to visit rural and Northern areas like Northwestern Ontario. Most often all they get to experience is big city leaders with big city issues. This is an incredible opportunity for us to talk about the resourcefulness and unique leadership challenges in Northwestern Ontario”.

Dr. Chatterjee’s visit to Northwestern Ontario will be launched with a luncheon “The Leadership Connection: Awakening to Relationships” at the Travelodge Hotel Airline at 12 noon on Wednesday, June 2, 2004, followed by a two-day retreat for individuals interested in leadership, at Quetico Centre.

Co-sponsoring Dr. Chatterjee’s visit to Northwestern Ontario is the Northwestern Ontario District Health Council, Lakehead Regional Family Centre, Wardrop, The Canadian Centre for Leadership and Human Values, and St. Joseph’s Care Group.

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