

Shehni Dossa

Shehni was sworn in as a judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia on March 31, 2000. She presides over cases in the criminal, family, and civil divisions. Prior to her appointment to the Bench, Shehni was the assistant deputy chair of the appeal division of the Immigration and Refugee Board. This was a governor-in-council appointment as a decision-maker on Canada's largest independent, quasi-judicial, administrative tribunal.

Shehni was born in Kenya and educated in Kenya, England, and Canada. She has a Bachelor's degree in business, a Masters degree in liberal studies from Simon Fraser University, and a law degree from the University of British Columbia. She practised civil and criminal litigation for 10 years before her appointment to the refugee division of the Immigration and Refugee Board in 1993.

Active in the Ismaili Community, Shehni is chairperson of the National Conciliation and Arbitration Board and is the former Vancouver convenor for the Agakhan Foundation–Partnership Walk for international development. Shehni served as a member of the Canadian Bar Association's Equality Committee and Alternate Dispute Resolution Advisory Panel, and as a director on the B.C. Council for Administrative Tribunals and the Burnaby Chamber of Commerce. She is a member on the Centre for Excellence in Immigration and Integration's Federal Partnership Council and an advisor to the Vancouver Asian Heritage Month Society.

Shehni has been active in professional development and training of decision-makers and has facilitated workshops on gender and cross-cultural issues. She has been a speaker and presenter at many conferences on issues involving equality and justice, immigration and human rights. Shehni completed the National Judicial Institute's Social Context Faculty and Course Development Program for judges in 2001.