

Resume - Mary M Gusella

Mary Gusella retired as Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission in 2006 following a distinguished career in the Public Service of Canada. She is currently Chair of the Board of the Commissioner for Complaints for Telecommunications Services, a unique industry-funded, stakeholder-led organization with independent authority to resolve consumer complaints, and a director of the Ontario Human Rights Legal Support Centre. In the recent past, Mary has served as the Interim Chair of the Broadcasting Accessibility Fund to establish the permanent stakeholder Board and has led projects on democratic development to advance ethical conduct of leaders and public servants in Tanzania.

Mary is one of a very few public servants whose experience includes serving as a Deputy Minister, Head of Agency, CEO of a Crown Corporation and Chair of a bi-national organization. In her 36 years in the Public Service of Canada, Mary served in many senior level positions including that of Deputy Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship, Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, President of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Chair and President of Enterprise Cape Breton, Commissioner of the Public Service Commission, Head of The Leadership Network, and as the Canadian Chair of the International Joint Commission of Canada and the United States. During her career, Mary was a member of the team that set up the Canada Oil and Gas Lands Directorate to administer oil and gas land holdings and rights on Canada Lands.

In 2005, Mary was awarded the Prime Minister's Outstanding Achievement Award, the Public Service's highest award, for her "Outstanding contribution to the Public Service of Canada". She received the Queen's Jubilee Medal and has been inducted into the Honour Society of the University of Ottawa Law School.

Ms. Gusella holds a JD from the University of Ottawa and a bachelor's degree from the University of Toronto. She is a member of the Bar of Ontario and holds a certificate from the Canadian Securities Institute. She has also completed courses in Negotiation and Mediation in the Professional Instruction for Lawyers Program at Harvard Law School. She has served on the Board of Trustees of the National Film Board of Canada and on the Board of Directors of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada and as its President in 1999-2000. Mary currently chairs the Governance Committee of the CCTS and holds a certificate from the Institute of Corporate Directors/Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto in Governance Essentials for Directors of Not-For-Profit Organizations.

As a volunteer in the community Mary has performed many roles over the years and currently serves on a Task Force with LiveWorkPlay with a view to achieving greater inclusion and employment opportunities for persons with intellectual disabilities.