

## **Michael Bossin – Biography**

**Michael Bossin** has been practicing law since his call to the bar in 1980. He has represented immigrants and refugees since then – first in Toronto and for the past 26 years or so in Ottawa, where he is a staff lawyer at Community Legal Services of Ottawa.

For many years, Michael taught the Immigration and Refugee Law course at the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Common Law (with Chantal Tie) and then co-taught a seminar (with Chantal and Nicholas Hersh) on the refugee sponsorship program for several years.

On a part-time basis, Michael is a vice-chair of two Ontario tribunals, the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board (HPARB) and the Health Services Appeal and Review Board (HSARB).

Since its inception in the mid-nineties, Michael has been a member of the organizing committee for the annual Ottawa Immigration Law Conference. He is a member of the Canadian Council for Refugees' Legal Affairs Committee and is the past chair and president of Amnesty International Canada (English-speaking branch).

In 2010, Michael was the recipient of Legal Aid Ontario's Sidney B. Linden award, given annually to honour individuals "who have demonstrated a commitment to helping low-income people, and who have given their time and expertise to ensuring access to justice in Ontario".

Michael has appeared a number of times before the Supreme Court of Canada, representing interveners in cases related to immigration, security and human rights.

His topic at this year's conference is Sponsorship Appeals before the Immigration Appeal Board, the aspect of immigration law he hates the most!