
Bio – Justice André Denis

Justice André Denis is a retired judge of the Superior Court of Quebec, where he had a distinguished career from 1991 to 2015. During this period and for a period of two years, he also served as an *ad hoc* judge at the Quebec Court of Appeal.

As a Superior Court Justice, he presided over Canada's first trial involving the *Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act*, which resulted in the conviction of Désiré Munyaneza for seven counts of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in and around Butare, Rwanda, where his family was based.

In December 2020, Justice Denis was hired by the Archdiocese of Montreal to work on two mandates regarding allegations of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable people.

- Under the first mandate, André Denis reviewed all relevant diocesan files to identify any indication of unacceptable abuse perpetrated against minors from those who were presently serving the diocese.
- Under the second mandate, André Denis conducted a statistical audit to identify the confirmed or well-founded instances of sexual abuse attributed to bishops, priests, permanent deacons, pastoral personnel, and staff working in parochial-related ministries. After reviewing the archived files of 6,809 people employed between 1940 and 2021, he confirmed 87 employees who were subjects of confirmed or well-founded allegations.

His work provided the Archdiocese of Montreal with information that helped it understand the scope of the problem before taking concrete steps in pursuit of truth, transparency, and transformation.