

The Honourable Danielle Côté Justice of the Court of Quebec

Born in Baie Comeau, Que., on Dec. 18, 1955, The Honourable Danielle Côté is the daughter of Stanislas Côté and Germaine Hudon.

Admitted to the Bar in 1978, she practised law at the firm Desmarais, Scott, Pariseau, Côté, later specialising in labour law and corporate law. In 1983, she was appointed Deputy Attorney General to practise criminal law in Sherbrooke, Que. From 1989 to 1994, she was a criminal prosecution lawyer at the Federal Department of Justice in Montreal.

As a lawyer, Justice Côté gave several lectures to the Attorney General's substitutes and to the municipal judges on the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. From 1991-92, she was a guest speaker at the Canada-U.S. Conference on proceeds of crime, held in Washington. In 1994, she participated in a Canada-Slovakia Conference in Slovakia. She has also been a guest speaker and a member of the Faculty of the Federation of Legal Professions of Canada on recent amendments to wiretaps. In 1996-97, she helped with regional conferences for the judges of the Court of Quebec in the context of continuing education, concerning sentencing amendments and proceeds of crime, as well as a conference for municipal judges concerning new sentencing amendments.

Justice Côté was a facilitator at the Canadian Association of Provincial Court Judges on hypothetical sentences, a speaker for municipal judges on the conduct of the trial, a speaker on legal aid for the law on the regulation of certain drugs and their precursors, and a speaker for the Canadian Association of Provincial Court Judges on sentencing.

During these years, she was also a lecturer at the Faculty of Law of the Université de Sherbrooke, the vocational training school of the Barreau du Québec in Montreal and Sherbrooke, as well as the Department of Legal Sciences at the Université du Québec at Montreal. She was a representative of the Court of Quebec on the Tripartite Committee on civil procedure reform.

Justice Côté was appointed a Judge of the Court of Quebec, for the civil, criminal and Penal Chambers in November 1994. She held the position of Deputy Chief Justice in the criminal and Penal Chamber from June 16, 2011, until June 15, 2018.