



MOSAIC

**Human Rights Award: Sashi Assanand**

Shashi Assanand has selflessly contributed over the past three decades to assist immigrant and refugees.

Shashi Assanand expressed her thanks for the Human Rights Award. Her association with MOSAIC started in Canada in 1976. She has been active in the immigrant and refugee community for the past three decades working in various capacities.



Shashi Assanand founded *Vancouver Lower Mainland Multicultural Family Services Society (VLMMFSS)*, a non-profit organization, 19 years ago. Over the years there has been progress and change. There is further work to do but immigrant women's issues have been recognized and there is an awareness of the needs of the immigrant community.

Her vision when she started the organization was for minority women to have access to legal services. That has largely been achieved, so the vision has changed and is now that every woman, and her children, who are in a domestic violence situation are empowered to make a mark in multicultural Canada and for themselves.

Shashi thanked Ninu Kang for the nomination and expressed her pleasure in receiving this award from an organization like MOSAIC.