

Munir Sheikh
Executive Fellow

Munir Sheikh is an Executive Fellow at The School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary. He recently served as a co-Commissioner of Ontario's Social Assistance Review and was a Distinguished Fellow at Queens University and Carleton University.

Before taking these appointments, he served as the Chief Statistician of Canada. He was appointed to that position on June 16, 2008 by the Prime Minister. He resigned from this position on July 21, 2010. As Chief Statistician, he was instrumental in developing the Agency's first ever Corporate Business Plan, establishing a wide-ranging program to maintain the pre-eminence of Statistics Canada in the international community of statistical organizations.

Before this appointment, Mr. Sheikh was Deputy Minister of Labour.

Mr. Sheikh has broad and varied experience in government, having held many senior level positions. Prior to Labour, Mr. Sheikh was Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet, Expenditure Review at the Privy Council Office. In this capacity, he was responsible for developing the expenditure review proposals that were approved by Cabinet and included in the 2005 Budget. These proposals included the establishment of Service Canada.

He was also Associate Deputy Minister, first at Health Canada and then at Finance Canada. Prior to that he was Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Tax Policy at Finance Canada, where he was responsible for managing the Canadian tax system. It was under his guidance that the Government of Canada unveiled the \$100 billion tax reduction package in the Economic Statement and Budget Update of 2000. This was the largest ever federal tax reduction. The package also included the indexation of Canada's personal income tax, which put a stop to an automatically rising tax burden.

As Director of research at Finance, he played a key role in the reform of the Canada Pension Plan to put it on a sound footing.

Mr. Sheikh holds a Doctorate in Economics from the University of Western Ontario and a Masters in Economics from McMaster University. He has published extensively in academic journals in the areas of international economics, macroeconomics and public finance. His work has been widely quoted and reproduced in textbooks and included in books of collected readings. He also taught at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa for many years.