



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Office of Public Guardian & Trustee

Toll-Free: 1-800-366-0335

www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Advocacy Centre for the Elderly (ACE)

1-855-598-2656

www.Advocacycentreelderly.org

Waterloo Regional Police Services

Senior Support Team

519-579-4607

Seniors at Risk Guelph Wellington

519-821-8089

Working together we
will create safer and
better communities.

info@eapc.ca

www.eapc.ca



eapc

elder abuse
prevention council



FINANCIAL WELLBEING

Practical tips to prevent financial elder abuse

Financial elder abuse is the most common form of elder abuse. Protect yourself and your finances by following these financial well-being guidelines.

BANKING

- Never give your bank card, credit card or PIN to anyone.
- Keep your banking info and Social Insurance Number private.
- Use direct deposit for all cheques that you receive, i.e. pension cheques (OAS, CPP etc.). Auto deposits to your bank account are safe.
- Have bills automatically paid from your bank account such as your telephone or utilities bills.

LENDING MONEY

- Be careful lending money and if you do, have a written agreement.
- Do not lend money without a formal payback schedule.
- Do not let someone guilt-trip you into doing something you are not comfortable with.

SIGNING DOCUMENTS

- Read all legal documents carefully, including the fine print.
- Only sign documents you understand. This includes co-signing a loan.
- Do not sign any documents if you feel pressured to sign.
- Seek independent advice from someone you trust before signing any documents.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

- Make sure you have a Power of Attorney drafted by a lawyer.
- Update Will and Power of Attorney documents annually or as relationships change.
- Write into your Continuing Power of Attorney for Property instructions regarding when it is to come into effect.
- Only grant an attorney (Continuing Power of Attorney for Property and/or a Power of Attorney for Personal Care) to a person(s) that you know, trust, and whom you know will respect your wishes.
- Be informed about financial affairs.

AT HOME

- Keep your home secure and do not leave valuables or large amounts of cash lying around.
- Never tell anyone about valuables in your home.
- Do not accept door-to-door solicitation.
- Ensure that property/materials which are borrowed are returned.

ONLINE & BY PHONE

- If you do not recognize an email address, do not open the email or its attachments.
- Protect your internet site sign-on and passwords.
- Never provide financial information over the phone or by email, unless you know the person.
- The Canada Revenue Agency will never call and ask you to make a payment by credit card. If you receive such a call, HANG UP immediately.