



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



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.