

# WHAT CAN YOU DO?



**WOOD BUFFALO  
ELDER ABUSE NETWORK**

## ***CALL THE RCMP IF THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE RISK TO SOMEONE'S SAFETY***

- Learn about elder abuse
- Recognize the signs
- Be patient, listen carefully
- Don't judge or jump to conclusions
- Encourage them to seek help
- Don't confront the abuser
- Ask them what you can do to help. Respect their decision, even if you don't agree
- Know about local services who can help
- Check back in with the older adult if you can

## ***RESOURCES:***

***FOR HELP OR QUESTIONS ABOUT ELDER ABUSE IN THE RMWB:***

For Emergency Assistance

 Call 911

RCMP Complaint Line

 780-788-4040

Waypoints Crisis Line (24 hrs)

Collect Calls Accepted

 780-743-1190

St. Aidan's Society

(Business Hours)

 780-743-4370  
Ext. 2



# ***ELDER ABUSE***

It Happens. We're Here.

GENERAL PUBLIC

MAY 2018



## ***POSSIBLE INDICATORS OF ABUSE:***

- Limiting a senior's access to their finances
- Standard of living not in accordance with income
- Unpaid Bills
- Changes in behavior such as fear, anxiety, sudden depression, withdrawal, and cowering
- Decline in general health including confusion, agitation or loss of mobility
- Family member or caregiver speaking for the older person
- Physical signs of isolation and lack of social contact
- Unexplained injuries such as bruises, burns, bites or missing hair
- Untreated medical problems or irregular medical appointments
- Inappropriate or dirty clothing, lack of food, poor hygiene, lack of needed glasses or hearing aids, or dependent adult being left alone for extended periods of time
- Sudden onset of incontinence; Dehydration
- Unusual or suspicious activity in bank accounts
- Missing property
- Force or trickery used to sign documents
- Pain, bruising or bleeding in the genital to chest area; Sexually transmitted diseases
- Threats to harm or actual harm to pets

## ***WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?***

A single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm and distress to an older person.

## ***TYPES OF ABUSE:***

- Financial
- Emotional/Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Neglect



***WE ALL HAVE A ROLE IN PREVENTING  
AND ADDRESSING ELDER ABUSE***

