

Seniors Safety & Security Badge



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
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Royal Canadian
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale
du Canada





Seniors Safety and Security Badge

- Promote safety and security for seniors
- Promote activities that youth and seniors can do together
- Create respect and bonds between youth and seniors





QUIZ – True or False

- Older people are slow, boring and helpless
- All older people retire at age 65
- Older people are grouchy and do not like children
- Seniors are too old to contribute to society





Topics

- Elder abuse
- Fraud
- Gambling
- Prescription medication
- Alcohol





Elder Abuse

- Elder abuse is an action by a person in a position of trust that causes harm to an older person.
- Elder abuse can happen to any senior.
- Many people affected by elder abuse are reluctant to talk about it.





Types of Abuse

- Physical abuse – hitting or handling roughly
- Emotional abuse – threats, insults, intimidation, humiliation
- Financial - tricking, threatening, or persuading someone out of their money, property or possessions.
- Neglect - withholding care, food and/or emotional support. Neglect may be intentional or unintentional.



Who Are The Abusers?

- The abuser is usually somebody who knows the older person such as:
 - Family members
 - Friends
 - Neighbours
 - Someone who cares for the senior





Seniors and Fraud

- Seniors may fall victim to “scam artists” who are strangers to the senior asking for money or other goods.
- Older people may lose money because they believe and trust the “scam artists”
- An important message to remember and pass on to others is “*if it sounds too good to be true it usually is*”





Seniors and Fraud

Scam artists may:

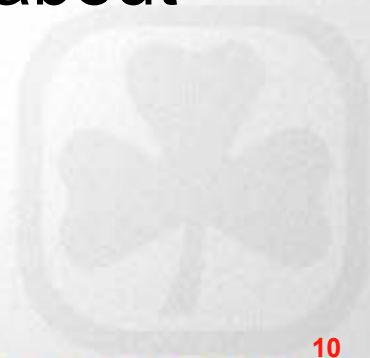
- Knock on the door and pretend they are collecting money for a charity or try to trick them into buying something they don't need
- Phone and try to get them to send money or give them their credit card number over the phone
- Approach them in a public place





Seniors and Gambling

- Seniors may spend money on gambling and related activities.
- To keep gambling fun seniors can:
 - Limit the amount of money being spent
 - Gamble with other people
 - Let family and friends know about gambling activities





Seniors and Medication Use

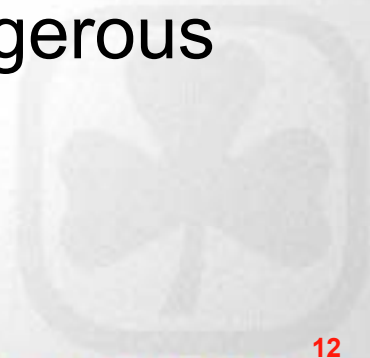
- Seniors may have health problems that doctors prescribe medication for. Medication needs to be taken exactly the way the doctor has ordered.
- The medications may have side-effects which make them feel sick. They must tell the doctor immediately if this happens.





Seniors and Alcohol Use

- Alcohol often affects a senior more, due to aging of the brain and body
- An older person should not drink alcohol if they are on certain medications as this can be dangerous
- As a person gets older driving a car can become more difficult. Drinking alcohol and driving is very dangerous and against the law.





Victims of Abuse

- Who can become victims of abuse?
 - Men or Woman
 - Healthy or Frail
 - “Younger” senior or “Older” senior






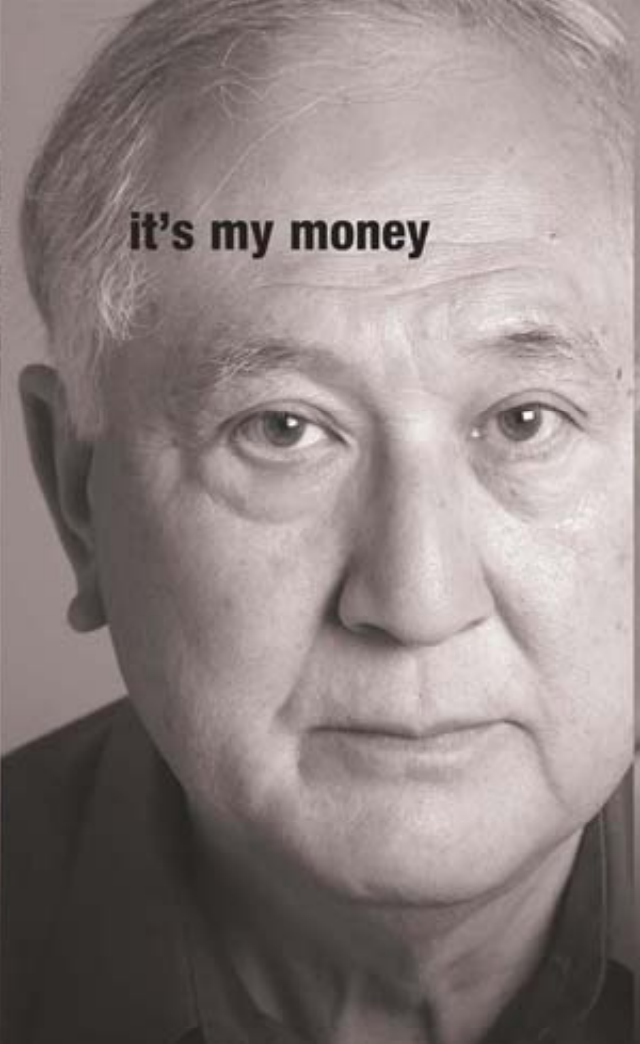
Respect Older People

- Enjoy time with grandparents or other older people.
- No one deserves to be abused or neglected.






stop hurting me



it's my money



treat me with respect

abuse hurts at any age

together we can prevent abuse of older adults

A federal/provincial/territorial initiative of Ministers Responsible for Seniors in Canada with the participation of the



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Activity

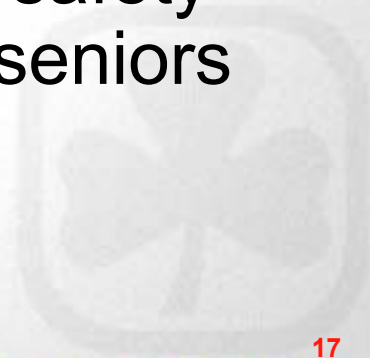
- Break into groups and answer the following true or false questions:
 - It is easy for older people to talk about abuse
 - Elder abuse does not always involve hitting
 - If a deal sounds too good to be true it usually is
 - Seniors can do things to keep the fun in gambling
 - It is okay to mix alcohol with medication





To Earn Your Badge:

- Meet with an older person. Give them the seniors safety and security handout and the pamphlets. Talk to them about what you have learned. Then choose one of the following activities:
 - 1) Spend some time with the older person helping them with a chore or doing a craft or hobby OR
 - 2) As a group do a skit on seniors safety and security and present it to a seniors group.





This badge was developed by:

- The Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- The Seniors Directorate of Manitoba
- The Addictions Foundation of Manitoba



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada
Division "D" Division



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Thank You!

