

# CRIME PREVENTION FOCUS

**Seniors are safer when we reach out and show them, we care. Elder Abuse is a growing problem in Canada.**

**Abuse can take many forms: physical, financial, emotional, sexual, psychological, spiritual. If you are being abused, or suspect someone is being abused, report to one of the agencies listed on the other side of this page.**

It must be noted that abuse can fall into 2 categories: criminal and non-criminal offences. Possible signs of abuse:

- the onset of unexplained physical injuries, like bruising, sprains or broken bones
- a change in financial status
- abandoning / leaving a dependent elder alone for long periods of time
- a sudden change in appearance
- bedsores, unattended medical needs, poor hygiene, and unusual weight loss are indicators of possible neglect
- belittling, threats, and other uses of power and control by spouses or those who should be in a position of trust

*This information sheet is provided by BC Community Response Networks committed to preventing and stopping adult/senior abuse, neglect and self-neglect.*



Everyday, citizens especially seniors are impacted by the effects of crime in our communities.

Approximately 1 in 10 Canadians aged 60+ have experienced some form of elder abuse. These statistics do not show the true picture as many, many cases are not reported.



Awareness is the best protection against crime. Many people may not realize that simple actions make a difference, not only in their own lives, but the lives of those living in their communities.

**We all have a responsibility** to do what we can in our communities to bring awareness to the issues impacting the sense of safety and well-being.

**You can take action  
to prevent and stop abuse!**

*See other side of this page...*