

Understanding Financial Abuse.

Tips for Seniors.



What is Financial Abuse

Financial mistreatment is characterized by acts, words, attitudes or lack of appropriate actions that cause or risk causing negative consequences on the financial integrity, health, security and well-being of an older person or their property. (i)

What are Warning Signs?

- Taking older adult's money (sometimes by force), or selling property or valuables
- Borrowing money without any intention of paying it back
- Denying services or care
- Signing or cashing pension cheques without permission
- Misusing bank and credit cards

Tips on How to Prevent It

Plan for your future and communicate your wishes

- Plan ahead, while you are independent and mentally capable
- Establish a Power of Attorney or a Living Will
- Think carefully before making changes to your living situation
- Seek alternative options for care beyond family members

Advocate for your rights

- If you are not satisfied with care services you receive, voice the challenge, place a complaint
- Educate yourself about your rights and the signs of elder abuse
- Report abuse when you see it

Where to get help

Reach out for a consultation [Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario](https://eapon.ca/)

416-916-6728 | <https://eapon.ca/>

Reach out for legal support [Pro Bono Ontario](https://probonoontario.org)

1-855-255-7256 | probonoontario.org

Who is causing harm?

- Intimate Partners
- Family Members
- Friends
- Caregivers
- Stranger
- Persons who befriend an older person
- People with unique trust relationships
- Financial Services Providers



**Elder Abuse
Prevention
Ontario**

416.916.6728 | <https://eapon.ca/>

(i) [Mistreatment of Older Persons: Federal Policy Definition - Explanatory Document](#)