



Municipality of Middlesex Centre
10227 Ilderton Road, R.R. #2,
Ilderton N0M 2A0.

RECEIVED
AUG 05 2022
MIDDLESEX CENTRE

Attention: Mayor Aina DeViet

Dear Mayor DeViet,

Re: Elder Abuse

I am writing to ask that your municipality become engaged in helping to prevent the rising tide of Elder Abuse in the region. Statistics tell us that in a few years almost a quarter of the population of Canada will be over the age of 65 years. It is that demographic which has a high percentage of victims of elder abuse. Such abuse can be physical, emotional, sexual and especially financial.

Volunteer networks such as ours have been created over the years across Ontario and indeed across Canada which have been attempting to educate citizens about elder abuse and where possible direct people to appropriate services such as the Police, medical professionals and social workers. In fact, some of our network members are also representatives of those services. However, networks are not funded by government and only have limited resources to combat this increasing social problem. It is for that reason that I am writing to ask you to consider participating in any one or more of the following ways:

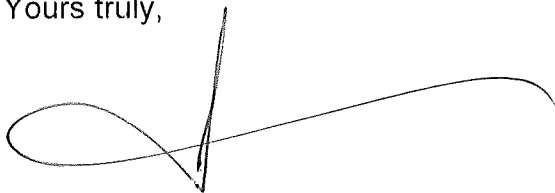
1. **Join the network.** In order to become aware of the issues which can arise we would welcome adding a new member from your municipality whether it is an elected official, staff member or a concerned citizen.
2. **Declaration.** June 15 each year was designated by the World Health Organization as "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day" and a municipal declaration from you would be appreciated.

3. **Advocate for Seniors.** Bring this issue forward at the next meeting of Association of Municipalities Ontario. While there has been some recognition and action regarding this issue at the Federal, Provincial and municipal levels across Canada the Ontario Elder Abuse network in concert with local networks is encouraging further action to address what will soon be a major social concern. I would like to think that London, Ontario and the surrounding region will become a leader amongst other jurisdictions to show how we can value, respect and care for our seniors.

4. **INR Presentations.** Some of our network members have been trained to present a program called "It's Not Right" developed at Western University which highlights elder abuse situations, statistics and causes. The program can be delivered to any group which expresses an interest such as faith groups, social clubs and senior residences. The program is approximately one to one and a half hours in length and can be delivered in person or virtually. There is no cost involved.

I am sure you have many issues to deal with every day so I thank you for taking time to read this letter. If you would like further information or have any questions please free to contact me at your convenience.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a vertical stroke and a long horizontal flourish.

Michael J. Lamb Chair, Elder Abuse London-Middlesex