

# Ontario's Strategy to Combat Elder Abuse

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The Ontario Seniors' Secretariat (OSS) developed Ontario's Strategy to Combat Elder Abuse and is partnering with the Ontario Victim Services Secretariat, Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) and the Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (ONPEA) to implement the Strategy.

Ontario's five-year, \$4.3M Strategy to Combat Elder Abuse is the first of its kind in Canada and addresses three key priorities:

- Coordination of Community Services
- Training for Front-Line Staff
- Public Education to Raise Awareness

## Elder Abuse Awareness Day

The Minister Responsible for Seniors and the Attorney General marked October 19, 2004 as the first Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Ontario. Proposed by MPP David Zimmer and endorsed by all parties in 2004, Elder Abuse Awareness Day is recognized annually across the province.

## Conferences and Stakeholder Networking Days

The Ontario Seniors' Secretariat and Ontario Victim Services Secretariat partner with Ontario

Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse to deliver Elder Abuse Strategy Conferences which showcase innovative approaches of community partners in responding to and preventing elder abuse in Ontario. Stakeholder Networking Days are held across the province to provide service providers with local educational and networking opportunities.

## Victim Support Line

The Victim Support Line is a province-wide, toll-free information line providing a range of services in English and French, to victims of crime. Seniors, or people calling on their behalf, can get help by calling the Victim Support Line and speaking to information counsellors who have been trained to provide information and referral services on elder abuse. The toll-free number is 1-888-579-2888 or Toronto area 416-314-2447

## Elder Abuse Consultants

Elder Abuse Regional Consultants have been put in place across the province to help promote and support efforts in addressing and preventing elder abuse. The Consultants act as key resources to justice and community service providers, and to existing and new coordinating committees addressing elder abuse throughout Ontario.

**Provincial & GTA Multicultural  
Coordinator  
416-916-6728**

**Regional Consultants:**

North West                    807-343-8563

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North East                    705-525-0077

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West                            519-971-9217

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Central West                905-276-3282

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Central East                705-745-4100

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East                            613-789-3577 ext. 14