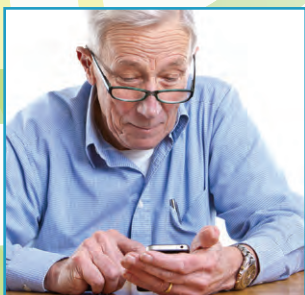


# Protect Yourself from Abuse and Fraud A Guide for Seniors



Public Legal Education  
and Information Service  
of New Brunswick

This legal Toolkit and guide were developed by Public Legal Education and Information Service of New Brunswick (PLEIS-NB) with project funding from the New Horizons for Seniors Program. PLEIS-NB is a non-profit, charitable organization funded by Justice Canada, the New Brunswick Law Foundation and the Office of the Attorney General of New Brunswick. We are pleased to acknowledge the contribution of members of the Law Society of New Brunswick who reviewed the content. We also wish to thank Aîné.e.s en marche / Go Ahead Seniors Inc., as well as the many seniors and community agencies, the Financial and Consumer Services Commission of New Brunswick, and the Departments of Social Development, Healthy and Inclusive Communities, and Public Safety, for their contributions to this initiative.

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of some legal tools that can help mentally competent seniors to plan for a safe and secure future. It is also a useful resource for family, friends and service providers who may act as a source of information for seniors. The guide refers to several more detailed PLEIS-NB publications on these topics. These and other resources may be included in the Toolkit. There is also a section on safety plans.

Legal tools such as Powers of Attorney and shared bank accounts are sometimes looked at with suspicion because there is a possibility that they could become a source of financial exploitation. Do not let this fear stop you from seeing a lawyer and exploring your legal options. There are more opportunities for someone to take advantage of a senior who has not planned ahead. It is important to choose a trusted individual or professional to act on your behalf if you are no longer capable. The advantages of these legal tools generally outweigh the disadvantages. This guide offers information and tips to help seniors prevent abuse. If you are aware of the possibilities for abuse, you can better protect yourself and your interests when you create these documents.



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March 2014

aussi disponible en français

ISBN: 978-1-4605-0392-8

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