



Impact Report

CNPEA's Annual Report

2019

CANADIAN NETWORK *for*
the **PREVENTION** *of* **ELDER ABUSE**

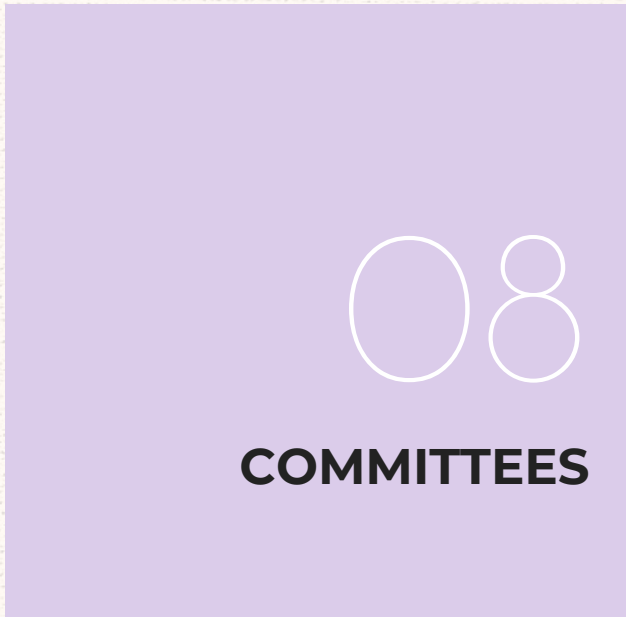
RÉSEAU CANADIEN *pour la* **PRÉVENTION**
du **MAUVAIS TRAITEMENT** *des* **AÎNÉS**



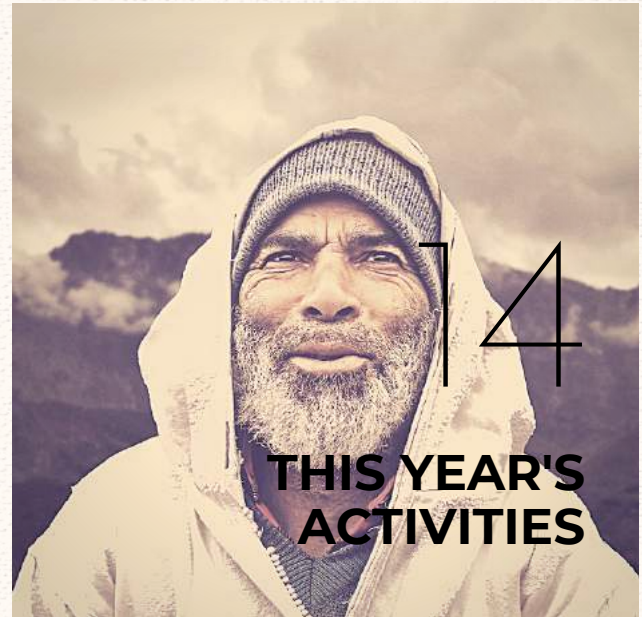
**FOREWORD BY
DR. ELIZABETH
PODNIIEKS**



**THE PEOPLE
BEHIND THE
ORGANIZATION**



COMMITTEES



**THIS YEAR'S
ACTIVITIES**



**FINANCIAL
INFORMATION**



**COMING & GOING
BOARD MEMBERS**

THINK BIG

Foreword by Dr. Elizabeth Podnieks

As CNPEA moves into a major strategic planning phase, Kathy has kindly asked me to write a short back story on the genesis of CNPEA. This takes us back to March 1991 when I presented a paper at the Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG) titled "Do we need a National Committee on the Prevention of Elder Abuse?". The idea was enthusiastically endorsed by those attending. Incredibly, it was eight years later that CNPEA became a reality, again, at the annual meeting of CAG in Halifax.

What happened in between is bittersweet, fraught with concerns and challenges (from language and geographical representation, to incorporation and membership fees). The glorious thing is that we survived, triumphed and just look where we are today!

Many ground-breaking initiatives were developing in tandem with CNPEA during this period. The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) was launched by the late, legendary Rosalie Wolf: she united elder abuse advocates around the world. Dr. Wolf also had a huge influence in helping generate initiatives in this country through her generosity in sharing research, policy, education. Dr. Wolf loved Canada, she was a mentor who came here often and encouraged our work.



THINK BOLD

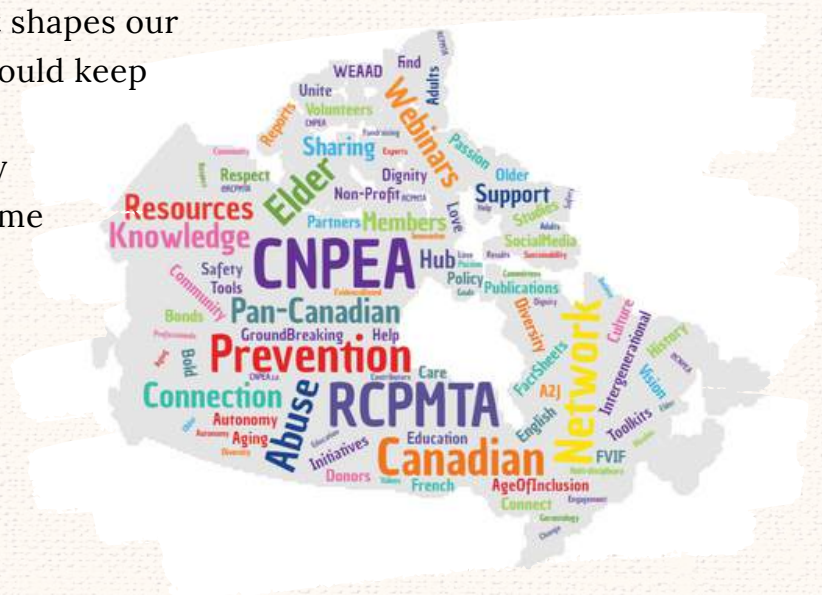
The Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (ONPEA, now EAPO - Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario) grew out of the former Toronto Mayor's Committee on Aging which had a subcommittee on elder abuse. I felt that elder abuse needed its own organization and left the subcommittee to initiate ONPEA. We were incorporated within six months. Our progress mirrored the development of CNPEA: no funding, no provincial support... But we did have unlimited energy, great humor, ambition, passion, and a huge sense of commitment. I was working with faith-based communities to increase awareness of elder abuse. We organized and hosted the first known elder abuse conference for faith leaders in Canada. Later we partnered with IFA and received funding for the Elder Abuse Awareness Teen Kit. We hired the wonderful Sharon McKenzie to write the manual - she has now been on the Board of CNPEA for several years!

There are so many CNPEA heroes that could be honored: Anne Angel, Allison Leaney, Olive Bryanton (who recently was the subject of a CBC Documentary), Raeann Rideout (CNPEA's former co-chair), to name a few. All had a huge impact on this network and so can you. We should also be so proud of our Canadian government who supported elder abuse research and projects long before any other government.

In closing, please think about the power of history. In showing us the past, it inspires the future: history is a leadership tool, it shapes our culture and the path forward. CNPEA should keep building the dream with confidence and optimism. Celebrate the Network's many accomplishments. Keep the vision. Become better and in so doing, inspire greatness in others.

Think big, think bold.

Elizabeth Podnieks



MEET OUR BOARD

Executive Team



Kathy Majowski
Chair (MB)



Andrew Elinesky,
Treasurer (ON)



Lori Weeks,
Secretary (NS)

Directors



Left to right, top to bottom:

Pam Burns (AB), Mélanie Couture (QC),
Kelly Heisz (NL), Sarita Israel (QC), Jean Kozak (BC),
Denise Lemire (ON), Sharon McKenzie (BC), Lisa
Manuel (ON), Kavina Nagrani (ON), Wanda Roberts
(NWT), Elizabeth Sharma (AB), Weiguo Zhang (ON).
Biographies at cnpea.ca

MEET OUR COORDINATOR

Bénédicte Schoepflin

Bénédicte joined CNPEA in February 2015 to become the Network's Communications Assistant during the Knowledge Sharing Project. In 2016, Bénédicte became the part-time Coordinator for CNPEA. She oversees the management of the Hub, the development of webinars, the Network's communications and social media, as well as all daily operations and the current *Access to Justice* project.

Bénédicte holds a Master's degree in English Literature from the University of Poitiers, France. Past experiences run the gamut from talent acquisition to museum management. Bénédicte is also the part-time Social Media Coordinator for the British Columbia Law Institute. Bénédicte is a proud Board member of the dance-theatre company, the Tara Cheyenne Performance since 2015, and of the National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly since 2017.

A note from the CNPEA Chair

This brief list of activities does not adequately demonstrate the value that our Coordinator brings to the CNPEA. Bénédicte's role has inherent challenges, as we manage the majority of our Board and organizational activities virtually through e-mail, a file-sharing platform, and teleconferencing. Bénédicte's ability to keep a Board of busy people from across Canada organized could easily be compared to herding cats, but she makes it all look so effortless.

Her passion for preventing Elder Abuse and challenging ageism in all forms is evident in all of her activities with the CNPEA, and the organization could not ask for a better ambassador.



CNPEA'S BOARD AT A GLANCE

Board Members

15

Estimated volunteer hours in 2018-2019

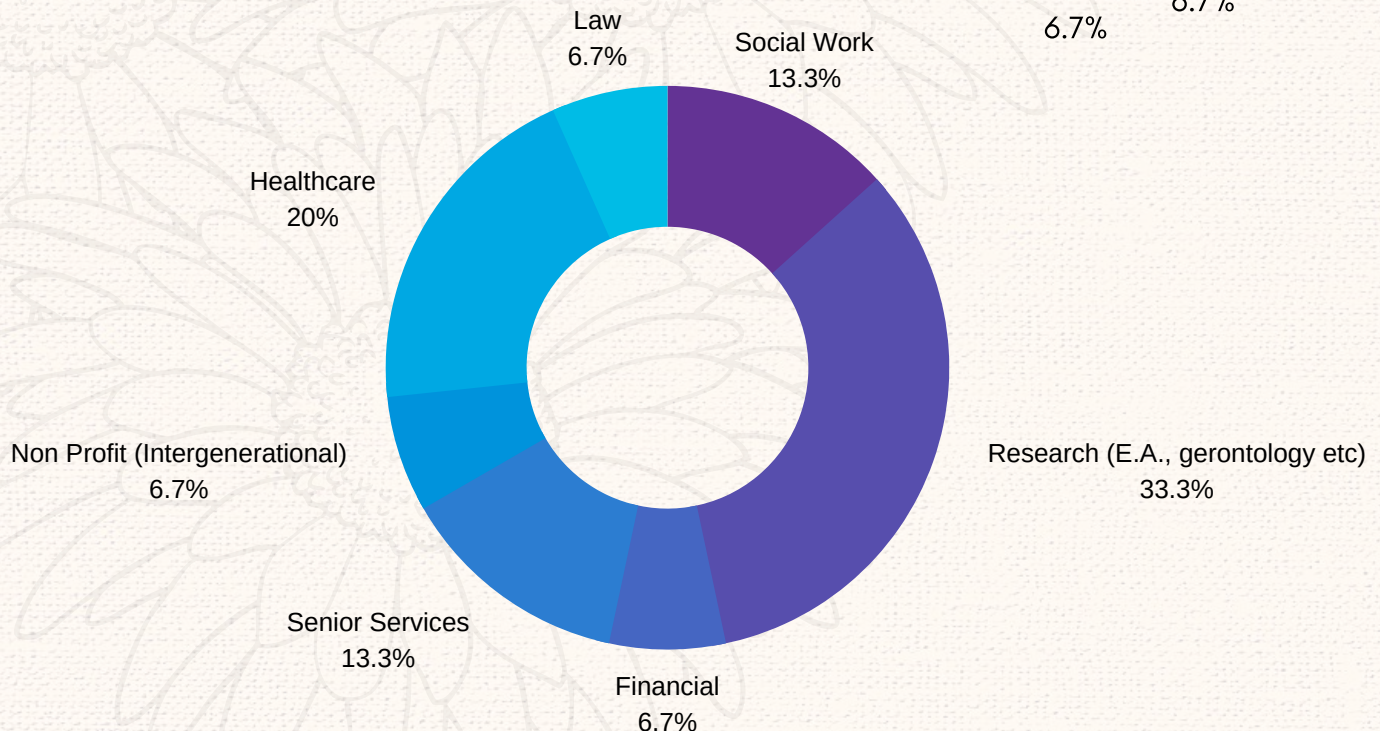
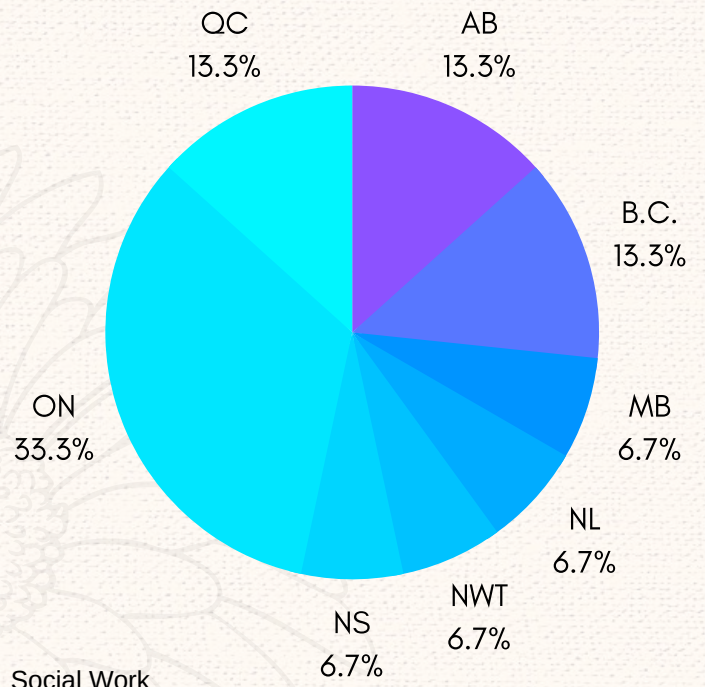
511.5 hours

Provinces & Territories Represented

8

Number of Committees

6



COMMITTEE UPDATES

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- **Mandate:** Website updates to improve user experience; development of a communications strategy, membership engagement and growth ●
- **Members:** Andrew Elinesky (Chair), Kathy Majowski, Jean Kozak, Wanda Roberts ●

The Communications Committee was led this year by Andrew Elinesky, Kathy Majowski, Jean François Kozak, and Wanda Roberts. As always, the committee was strongly supported and wouldn't have functioned without our Coordinator, Bénédicte Schoepflin.

Our goals for the year included

- the continued review and update of our website,
- furthering the development of our list of expert referrals for potential requests from the media or members, and
- introducing the use of data analytics and surveys to better understand the wants and needs of our members and website users.

In addition, the committee is involved in any communications component of the CNPEA's activities and initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Elinesky
September 4, 2019



COMMITTEE UPDATES

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

- **Mandate:** To lead the board in a strategic planning reflection and oversee
- the development of a new Strategic Plan for CNPEA

- **Members:** Kathy Majowski (Chair), Denise Lemire, Lisa Manuel, Elizabeth
- Sharma

This year the CNPEA worked on developing a Strategic Plan for 2019-2024. Given our pan-Canadian, "long distance" board membership, getting everyone together to discuss and develop a cohesive vision for the organization can be challenging. Our Strategic Planning Committee has been instrumental in taking the contributions from board member discussions and committees and putting them together into a plan that will guide our organization for the next 5 years.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Majowski
September 4, 2019



COMMITTEE UPDATES

POLICY COMMITTEE

- **Mandate:** To create, review and ensure the update of network policies. ●

- **Members:** Sarita Israel (Chair), Kelly Heisz (co-Chair), Melanie Couture, Kathy Majowski ●
- *Note: Thank you to the other board members who contribute, on an ad hoc basis, to the development of policies requiring their expertise or input.* ●

- **Policies created or reviewed, 2018-2019:** ●
- Record keeping policy – March 14, 2019
- Board Roles and Responsibilities – June 27, 2019
- Request for support policy - reviewed
- Privacy and confidentiality policy- in development ●

The creation of a policy committee four years ago reflected the need of a board that had transitioned from a collective board to a working board. The policy committee remains a crucial committee for the proper functioning of any board. The policy committee promotes the ongoing identification, creation and review of policies that ensure the common understanding of all board members of CNPEA’s mission, values and responsibilities. By providing clear guideline for all members, policies enable the optimal functioning of the board as a whole.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the first committee chair. I leave CNPEA and this committee, with regret but also with conviction that the ongoing committee members will support my successor and ensure the ongoing productivity and invaluable contribution of the policy committee to CNPEA.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarita Israel
August 30, 2019



COMMITTEE UPDATES

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

- **Mandate:** To identify and pursue various avenues to secure the funding and sustainability of the network

- **Members:** Kathy Majowski (Chair), Denise Lemire, Pam Burns, Jean Kozak

This year the committee prepared several applications for funding, and a few more will be submitted in weeks and months to come. Although no new funding has been secured at this point, we will continue to relentlessly pursue new funding opportunities to keep our activities going. The committee also started work on a vision and strategy for donor-cultivation and sponsorships.

We are happy to report that we also welcomed new individual and corporate donors to the fold of CNPEA supporters this year. We were thrilled to benefit from our first third-party-fundraising event this Spring. The wonderful team at Silver Fox Pharmacy (Ontario) made us the beneficiaries of a fundraising effort which they led during several trade shows. We are so grateful for Silver Fox's generosity and support and we hope to cultivate this relationship in the future. We also hope to inspire other organizations and businesses to activate their support of CNPEA in the same fashion.

Finally, the committee has been exploring various options for sustained annual funding (independent of project funding). We started consulting CNPEA membership on the matter of a paid membership model and will likely introduce additional surveys on other ideas this year and next.

Our committee takes this work seriously, understanding that securing sustainable funding from various sources will ensure that our work can continue for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Majowski
September 3, 2019



COMMITTEE UPDATES

IG DAY - WEAAD PLANNING COMMITTEE

- **Mandate:** To plan events and promotional efforts for Intergenerational Day ●
- and World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2019 ●

- **Members:** Sharon McKenzie, Pam Burns ●
- ●



Board member Sharon MacKenzie, the leader in the Intergenerational movement in Canada has been instrumental in making IG Day a success. We were proud to again collaborate with i2i Society, LinkAGES, and many more, to promote IG Day 2019 on our hub and social media.

CNPEA recognizes the crucial role of intergenerational bonds in the fight against elder abuse. They are also key to curbing the widespread epidemic of social isolation that affects all age groups, in cities and rural communities. For these reasons, the IG/WEAAD Committee chose to promote the connection between intergenerational bonds, healthy communities, and elder abuse prevention, through a World Elder Abuse Awareness Campaign entitled **The Age of Inclusion**.

This social campaign was created collaboratively with Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario. Participants were invited to share posters, resources and statements (specifically crafted for the occasion) on social media between June 1 and June 15. The campaign was introduced by EAPO during an event in Toronto. The campaign was quite successful, with nearly 44,000 Twitter impressions for CNPEA over the month of June (on average 1,500 views/day), peaks in website traffic prior to WEAAD, 143 downloads of WEAAD posters and related materials, and dozens of Canadian and international agencies joining in and sharing our #AgeofInclusion messages from the FCAC, to the Mayor of Winnipeg and the International Federation on Aging. We were heartened to see how many agencies and seniors centres embraced our online campaign, in addition to the numerous events and ceremonies they organized across the country.



COMMITTEE UPDATES

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

- **Mandate:** To assist with recruitment of candidates; to review and select applicants to Board positions and report to the Board prior to the AGM; to assist with the voting process at the AGM ●
- **Members:** Kavina Nagrani (Chair), Lori Weeks, Liz Sharma ●

The Nominations Committee this year was led by Kavina Nagrani, Liz Sharma and Lori Weeks. Our CNPEA current chair, Kathy Majowski also joined us and participated in the Board Application review and selection process.

Our mandate for the year was to refine the recruitment process of Board Members to the CNPEA from start to finish. This involved reviewing and improving the call for nominations and the process by which applicants were rated.

This committee spent considerable time evaluating the questions posed in our application process. We refined the questions so as to ensure the most pertinent and relevant information about each of the applicants was provided to us.

We then developed a standardized rating tool and scoring system whereby each applicant would be given a score from 1-5 on elements such as: their overall contribution to the Board, their language and technology skills and their overall 'uniqueness' factor, and then each applicant was given a total score out of 30.

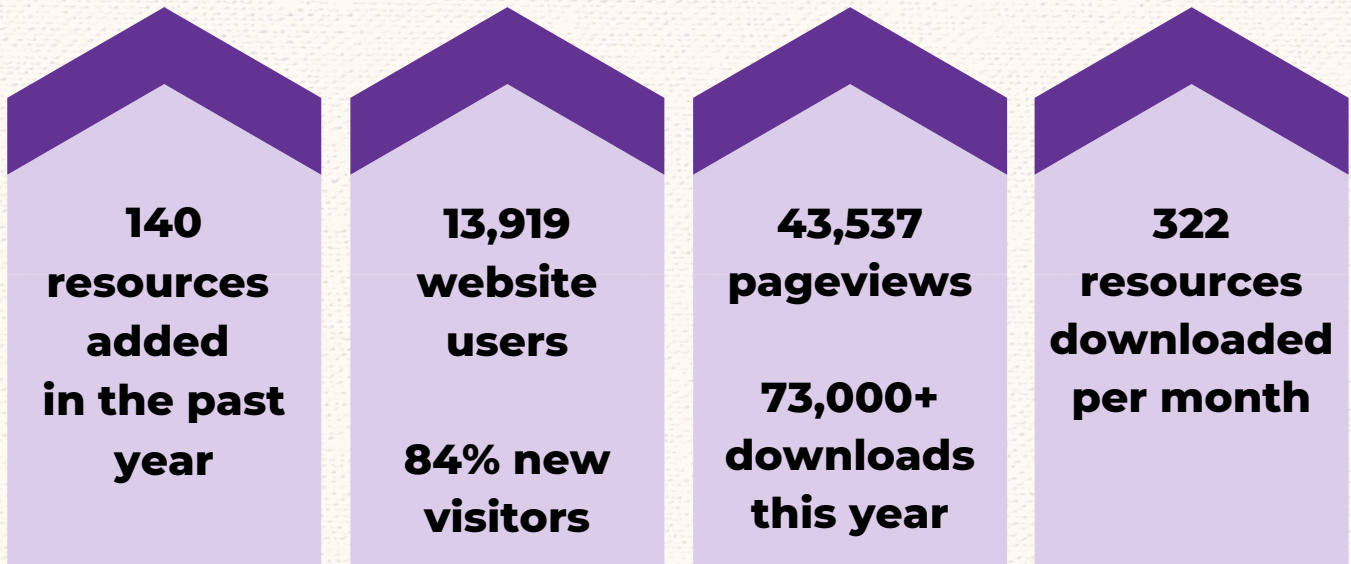
Keeping in mind that our Board strives to be pan-Canadian with representatives from as many provinces as possible and that each Board member brings a unique perspective and skill-set to the CNPEA, we strived to develop a recruitment

process and tools to attract and retain a diverse group of applicants. We received fourteen (14) stellar applicants in this process this year, making it difficult to put forth a short-list, but we are proud of those who have expressed interest in working with us and we hope to continue to attract and elect quality individuals each and every year.



Respectfully submitted,
Kavina Nagrani
September 3, 2019

THE HUB



MOST SOUGHT AFTER TOPICS (BASED ON DOWNLOADS)

- Violence against older women (handbook, safety planning toolkit, promising practices etc.)
- Social isolation
- Sexual violence in long term care
- Senior-on-senior bullying
- Intergenerational programming
- National Seniors Strategy
- Canadian Elder Abuse Prevalence Study



SOCIAL MEDIA



335 followers

+ 116



1,725 followers

+ 277



Our social media reach grows steadfastly and we continue to increase our visibility and to strengthen our awareness-raising mission. Both channels have experienced another audience increase this year: 19% for Twitter, and 52% for Facebook. At the time we write this report, CNPEA has over 1,720 Twitter followers and 335 Facebook followers; many of whom, Canadian and international stakeholders and supporters across sectors.

CNPEA's social media approach revolves around several goals:

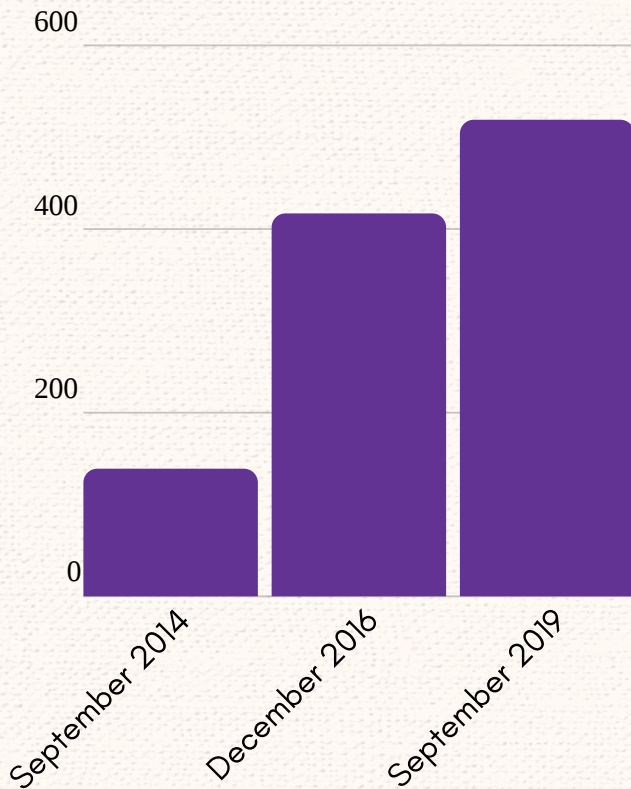
- **to support the Hub's knowledge-exchange mission**
- **to connect and engage with our supporters**
- **to increase awareness of elder abuse among new audiences.**
- **to communicate about elder abuse prevention and the well-being of seniors in Canada in a productive and solutions-oriented manner.**

CNPEA is a founding member of, and active participant in, the Elder Justice League, an international, interdisciplinary, and collaborative group of social media advocates who are invested in the issue of elder abuse and who share relevant elder abuse news, and information, with the goal of taking the conversation about elder abuse mainstream.

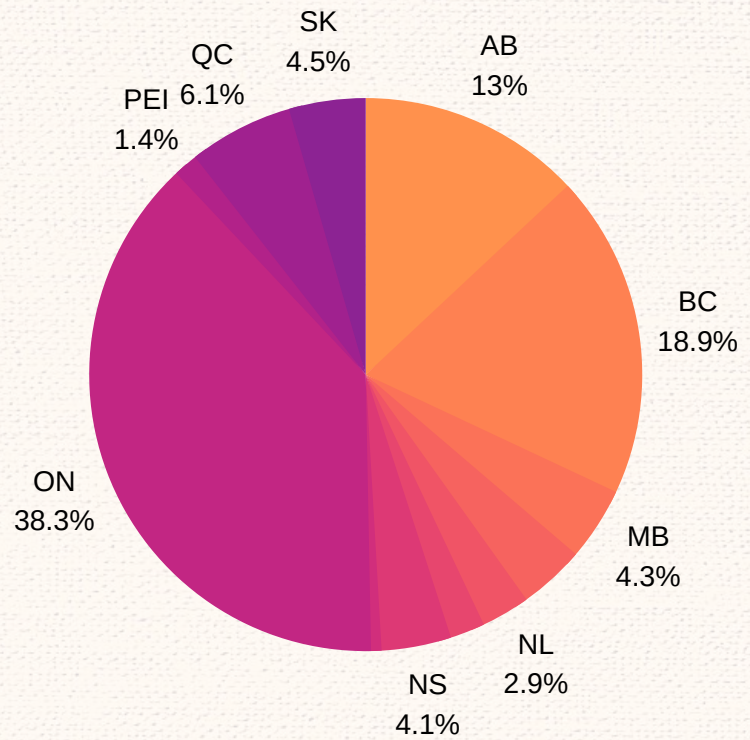
MEMBERSHIP

518 Members in September 2019

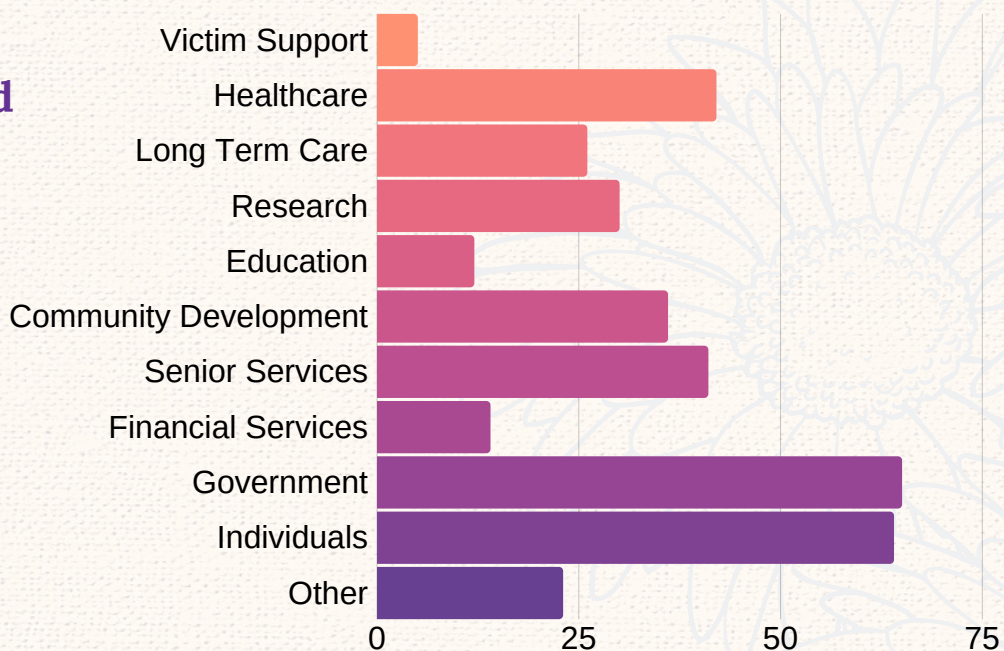
Membership growth



Provenance



Sectors represented



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MEDIA OUTLETS ENGAGED

- CBC Radio (syndicated, 11 shows)
- CJOB Global Radio, Winnipeg
- CKUT McGill Campus Radio
- SAGE Magazine
- Chartered Professional Accountants Canada Web

ROUNDTABLES & CONSULTATIONS

- National Seniors Strategy Roundtable, Ottawa (organized by Rachel Blaney, MP)
- FCAC - *Code of Conduct to guide banks in their delivery of services to Canada's seniors*, Toronto
- National Seniors Council - *Financial Harms and Crimes Against Seniors*, Winnipeg
- FARFO - Developing a French-speaking Elder Abuse Network in Ontario
- House of Commons' Standing Committee on the Status of Women - *Challenges Faced by Senior Women with a Focus on the Factors Contributing to Their Poverty and Vulnerability*, Ottawa

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

Exhibitor

- 2018 Geriatric Services Conference, Vancouver
- 2018 FACE IT: Elder Abuse Happens Conference, Edmonton
- 2018 Older Adult Expo & Ontario Summer Games 55+, Mississauga
- 2018 Canadian Association on Gerontology Conference, Vancouver
- 2019 Geriatric Services Conference, Vancouver

Sponsor

- 2018 NICE Annual Knowledge Exchange, Toronto
- 2019 NICE Annual Knowledge Exchange, Toronto

Presenter

- 2018 Manitoba Gerontological Nurses Association Spring Conference, Winnipeg
- 2019 CBA Ontario -Elder Law Section *Supporting Older Adults: Health Care Autonomy*

Attendance

- IFA's 2018 Emerging Leaders Forum, Toronto (Student Ambassador reporting)
- 2018 Canadian Medical Association Health Summit, Winnipeg
- 2018 Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre - *Abuse of Older Women: Strategies for a Community based Approach*, Fredericton (Student Ambassador reporting)

ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROJECT UPDATE

CNPEA concluded Year Two of the project Increasing Access to Justice for Older Adult Victims of Sexual Assault: A Capacity Building Approach (A2J), funded by the Justice Canada Victim's Fund.

THE PROJECT

The project aims to build capacity among service providers and justice service personnel to help them respond more effectively to older adult victims of sexual assault, including providing them with support and assistance in accessing the justice system. The project also aims to raise public awareness about sexual assault of older adults, an overlooked and understudied issue, for the benefit of the greater public and specifically of older adults.



CNPEA is gathering, curating and synthesizing a detailed, up-to-date selection of key resources about sexual assault of older adults from across Canada. The Hub serves as a centralized repository for these resources. CNPEA also provides new learning opportunities for individuals and service providers through a series of webinars.

YEAR TWO REVIEW

Year Two was a year of rethinking, refining, research and writing. The project management team and the Advisory Committee decided to align with trends in the academic world - and the world at large- that call for more accessible language and approachable formats. Instead of three large literature reviews, the team opted for two literature reviews and a collection of Research Snapshots, Learning Briefs, and Fact Sheets that synthesize key research, findings, and resources.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROJECT UPDATE

This year, project Researcher Myrna Dawson and research Assistant Amy Peirone developed:

- Two fact sheets tackle sexual abuse in later life. One is aimed at older adults, the other at caregivers, service providers, friends and families. Each contains definitions of abuse, risk factors, red flags and support resources.
- One Research Snapshot (the second in a series) summarizing research on criminal justice responses to the sexual assault of older women in Canada

In addition to these resources (available for download on cnpea.ca), Myrna and Amy also nearly completed the second literature review focusing on existing resources and strategies on improving access to justice in Canada and internationally. They have also developed two Learning Briefs. All are currently pending review and approval by the project's Advisory Committee.

CNPEA hosted two project webinars during Year 2. This year focused on practical approaches as the previous year's feedback called for practical resources and advice, particularly for healthcare and senior service providers. Attendance numbers stayed strong this year with a total of 164 registrants and 80 attendees. Both webinars were recorded and are now available online on our YouTube Channel and on our website. Both webinars have been viewed a total of 140 times so far.

STILL TO COME

Research Snapshots 3 - 6

Learning Briefs 3 & 4

Project Webinars 5 & 6

ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROJECT UPDATE

ONGOING EVALUATION

Evaluator Ben Kadel has been surveying webinar participants. 39% of the attendees participated in a survey. Of these participants:

- 84% found the webinars useful and informative
- 71% felt that the information was directly applicable to their work
- 77% felt the webinars helped them understand the unique needs of older adults
- 73% felt that the webinars provided them with new information and resources

The Year Two evaluation shows consistent positive results, in line with year One results. Respondents provided very positive feedback on the content and methods of delivery of the materials. No major problems have been identified and the background of attendees shows a wide range of professions and a healthy mix of current members and new audience with an interest in CNPEA's output and in membership.

OUR PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We are grateful for the dedicated support and invaluable contributions of our Advisory Committee members:

- **Kristal LeBlanc**
- **Wendy Verhoek-Oftedahl**
- **Mona Gregory**
- **Lucie Fortin**
- **Raeann Rideout**
- **Joan Braun**
- **Bernice Sewell**
- **Dr. Cathy Carter-Snell**
- **Krista James**

TREASURER'S REPORT

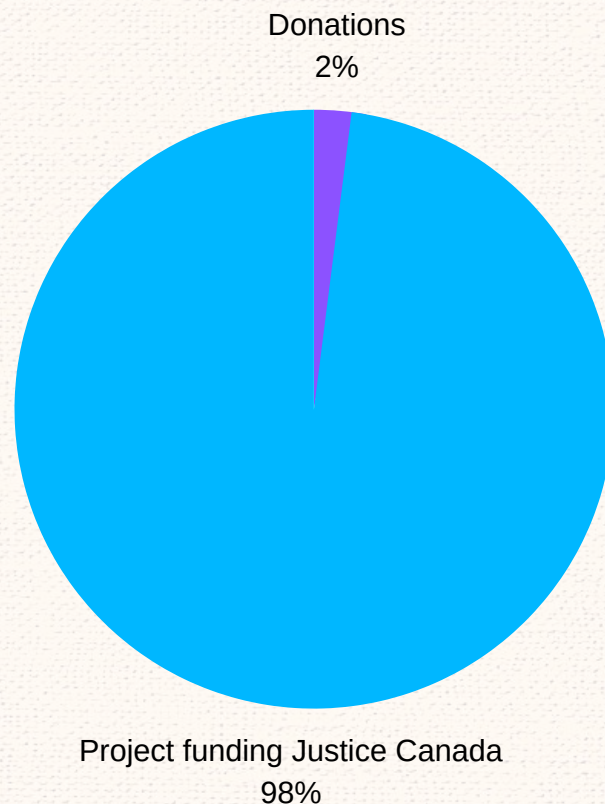
With the organization completing the second year of the three-year Access to Justice project, the CNPEA's financial position remains stable as a result. Thanks to the Justice Canada grant, as well as a few individual donations, we continue to be able to fund our project, retain our Coordinator and maintain the hub and all related activities.

Looking forward, we need to find additional sources of funding to keep us going once the Access to Justice funding ends after the 2019/2020 fiscal year. This is a major focus for the Board of Directors and our Sustainability Committee, as they both undertake the search for further grant opportunities and for ongoing funding for operations.

I would like to thank our bookkeeper, Meredith Burney, for her very dedicated and careful attention to the CNPEA accounts upon commencing the maintenance of them. Also, many thanks to Benedicte Schoepflin for her ongoing support for all aspects of the CNPEA work.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Elinesky
September 2019

Sources of funding April 2018 - March 2019



FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared By Meredith Burney

Meredith Burney
Professional Bookkeeper
1941 Turner Street
Vancouver, BC V5L 1Z9
604-785-8674

NOTICE TO READER

On the basis of the information provided by the organization, I have compiled the Statement of Financial Position of Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse as at March 31, 2019 and the Statement of Operations and Statement of Changes in Fund Balances for the year then ended.



MEREDITH BURNEY
Professional Bookkeeper

Vancouver, BC
22-Jul-19

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the year ended March 31, 2019
(Unaudited)

	Operating Fund	Department of Justice	Total 2019	Total 2018
REVENUE				
Donations	410	0	410	4697
Interest Income	26	12	38	38
DOJ Contribution	0	67500	67500	70481
	<u>436</u>	<u>67512</u>	<u>67948</u>	<u>75216</u>
EXPENSES				
Bank charges/interest	26		26	178
Contract service		63949	63949	53353
Insurance	1332		1332	1305
Meals and entertainment				
Office	458		458	849
Professional fee	1821	1219	3040	3086
Registration	270		270	20
Rent				
Research and development				16894
Telephone		788	788	855
Travel & Accom.		262	262	
Webinar		4976	4976	5119
Website				
	<u>3907</u>	<u>71194</u>	<u>75101</u>	<u>81659</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>-3471</u>	<u>-3682</u>	<u>-7153</u>	<u>-6443</u>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ended March 31, 2019
(Unaudited)

	Operating Fund	Department of Justice	Total 2019	Total 2018
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	16829	0	16829	23272
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	-3471	-3682	-7153	-6443
BALANCE, ENDING OF YEAR	<u>13358</u>	<u>-3682</u>	<u>9676</u>	<u>16829</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION


As at March 31, 2019
(Unaudited)

	Operating Fund	Department of Justice	Total 2019	Total 2018
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash	11997	7628	19625	34974
Accounts Receivable	194		194	3148
Prepaid Expenses	1272		1272	1240
	13463	7628	21091	39362
LIABILITIES				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	105	11310	11415	22533
FUND BALANCES	105	11310	11415	22533
Operating Fund	13358		13358	16829
Department of Justice		-3682	-3682	
	13358	-3682	9676	16829
	13463	7628	21091	39362

Approved on behalf of the Board of Directors:

Director: 

 ANDREW ELINESKY

Director: 

 KATHY MAJOWSKI

Note to the Financial Statements

1 NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (CNPEA) was incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act of May 10, 2000 as a not-for-profit organization and is exempt from Income tax under paragraph 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act. Effective April 1, 2017, the organization met the requirements for charitable registration under the Income Tax Act.

CNPEA is an organization operating programs to increase Canadian society's ability to recognize and prevent mistreatment of older adults so they can be free from abuse, neglect, and exploitation in later life.

BOARD RECOGNITION

We would like to thank the following out-going Board members and CNPEA champions for their invaluable contributions during their time on the Board.

Kavina Nagrani

Board member since 2017. Kavina is a practicing Ontario lawyer who specializes in Elder Law. Kavina is passionate about helping aging adults and their family members navigate legal issues and understand their rights. Kavina is also a Board Member of the Ontario Society of Senior Citizens Organizations and the Secretary of the Canadian Bar Association, Elder Law Section. In 2017, she completed a specialized Certification in Elder Law at Osgoode Law. Kavina has led this year's Nominations Committee and was also part of the prior Communications Committee. Kavina provided her expertise to help develop a Privacy Policy for CNPEA and has represented CNPEA during numerous Ontario-based events and speaking engagements.

Lori Weeks

Board member since 2015. Dr. Lori Weeks is a Gerontologist who completed a Ph.D. and a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology at Virginia Tech in 1998. Lori worked in assisted living in her home province of Prince Edward Island for three years before becoming a faculty member at the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI). In January 2015, Lori joined Dalhousie University as an Associate Professor in the School of Nursing. Lori has conducted research on the abuse of older adults with particular focuses on supports for older abused women and training peer educators to raise awareness about elder abuse. She serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Women and Aging and is a member of the Abuse and Neglect of Older Adults Research Team in the Maritimes (ANOART), a research team affiliated with the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research at the University of New Brunswick. Lori contributed to the Nomination Committee this year, she has provided invaluable, level-headed insight over the years and has been the Secretary of the Board for the past few years.

BOARD RECOGNITION

Mélanie Couture

Board member since 2017. Mélanie is Associate Professor at the Université de Sherbrooke & Researcher at the Center for Research and Expertise in Social Gerontology (CREGÉS). She is the scientific lead of the Health interventions and technology assessment unit at the CIUSSS West-Central Montreal and provides methodological support for researchers, administrators and health care professionals. Older adult mistreatment is a fundamental part of her research program. Mélanie was an active member of our Policy Committee.

Sarita Israel

Board member since 2015. Sarita Israel is a trained clinician, and part of a team specializing in elder abuse prevention since 1991. Sarita is a consultant for the implementation, coordination and clinical development of the Ligne Aide Abus Aînés. She has trained the trainers for the elder abuse prevention network throughout Québec. She is also involved in several partnership projects championing the development of knowledge, practice, resources, and programs geared towards the prevention and response to elder abuse. For the past few years, Sarita has been the Chair of the policy committee, stewarding the group in developing new policies and procedures for CNPEA with great drive and humour.



Thank you to all departing Board Members. It has been a pleasure working with you, and the CNPEA looks forward to working together again in the future.

2019 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

Meghan Derkach, British Columbia

Meghan completed her BSW with a Specialization in Aging in 2014. She is passionate about working with the aging community, specifically in promoting healthy aging. Meghan believes it's imperative to support older people in retaining their autonomy and health at all levels of government. Meghan has worked at Seniors Outreach Resource Centre (SORC) since 2014 addressing mental, physical, environmental, and social factors affecting vulnerable older adults. She was simultaneously employed with Kelowna Women's Shelter where she learned first-hand about abuse and the lack of knowledge, support, and policy surrounding the aging population. Meghan now works at SORC applying for grants, constructing awareness articles, and most recently generated an organizational policy manual with updated constitution and bylaws.

Meghan is very excited to have the opportunity to be a part of a large-scale initiative of addressing elder abuse through provincial/territorial and national policy development and believe it is vital to protect older persons so they can age safely with dignity and respect.

Marta C. Hajek, Ontario

As newly appointed Executive Director for Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario, Marta has been working diligently with the Ontario government to build a stronger presence in the community; to advance the priorities of the ON Strategy and to build sustainable partnerships with agencies and other stakeholders. In the end, all EAPO strategic approaches aim towards improving the quality of life, for the most vulnerable Canadians, helping build community capacity to address the growing complexity of needs of vulnerable at-risk older adults or providing supports to their families and caregivers.

2019 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

Sandra P. Hirst, Alberta

Sandra Hirst RN, PhD, GNC(C) has held a number of leadership positions in gerontology including president of the Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association; president of the Canadian Association on Gerontology, and president of the Alberta Association of Gerontology. Sandra has completed a three-year appointment from the Prime Minister to sit on the National Seniors Council. She currently sits on the Board of the IFA.

Her areas of research and related scholarship focus on abuse and neglect of older adults, and the experiences of older adults who reside in long term care facilities. In 2012, she received the Jeanne Mance Award from the Canadian Nurses Association, the highest honour that a registered nurse can receive from her peers.

Yogeeta Jhodhan, Ontario

Yogeeta is Care Manager for Bayshore Home Health. Yogeeta is involved in a number of organizations in the Peel Region: LHIN, Making our Seniors Matter, Flower City (Senior Groups), Brampton Seniors Council, Temple- President, Community Emcee for local churches & temples, Caledon 55+ networking, PEAPN member, Member of Paramedic Dufferin- Peel, Support William Osler's Brampton Civic Hospital, Peel Memorial, & Headwater Hospital. As well, she is a part-time Professor at the University of Guelph-Humber and a part of the faculty of Health Science.

Yogeeta obtained her Personal Support Worker diploma back in 2009, followed by an RPN designation from George Brown College, a double degree in Psychology and Adult Development and Masters. She is looking to further her education in her PhD.

In 2012, Yogeeta was one of 60,000 Canadians honored with a commemorative Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding community service and contributions. Awarded both in 2018 & 2019-International Woman's Month in Peel Region.

2019 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

Kate Schroeder, Manitoba

Kate is Compliance Manager at Investors Group. She sits on the Senior and Vulnerable Client working group whose mandate is to provide guidance for the Advisor network and for client-facing departments on how to assist and support senior and vulnerable clients and victims of financial abuse. Kate also chairs the Senior and Vulnerable Client Escalation group which provides real-time advice to high-risk situations with the ultimate goal of protecting those clients from initial or further financial harm.

Kate is interested in furthering industry knowledge and best practices on supporting seniors, vulnerable clients, and victims of financial abuse. She recently attended the National Seniors Council roundtable which brought together a variety of industry experts to discuss best practices and further requirements to adequately protect seniors from financial harm. Kate has also attended multiple sessions as an industry expert participant at the Investment Industry Association of Canada (IIAC) to discuss and promote best practices on dealing with the senior and vulnerable client demographic.

Chelsea Skanes, Newfoundland/Ontario

Chelsea is a registered social worker in long-term care who has a strong interest in LGBTQ+ older adults and their needs. Chelsea has experience in project management, event coordination, and grant-writing through Planned Parenthood NLSHC and St. James United Church. She hopes to bring a queer-informed lens to the table, along with her background on faith committees, and her experience volunteering with palliative care.



2019 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

CURRENT CNPEA BOARD MEMBERS APPLYING FOR RE-ELECTION

Pam Burns, Alberta

Pam has a BSW and brings 21 years of experience in the field of Social Work. She currently works in the nonprofit sector for an organization that provides direct services as well as advocacy for the senior population in Fort McMurray/Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB), in northern Alberta. Pam facilitated the creation of the Coordinated Community Response to Elder Abuse in the RMWB and continues to be a champion of elder abuse awareness and prevention. She is the Vice-Chair of the Alberta Elder Abuse Awareness Council (AEAAC) and also sits on the Advisory Committee on Aging (ACOA), which is city council appointed committee that focuses on Age-Friendly initiatives.

Weiguo Zhang, Ontario

Weiguo is a social demographer who received his Ph.D. in Development Studies at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands, in 1998. From 1997 to 2000, he worked as a lecturer and social scientist at the Post-Graduate Diploma Program in Population and Sustainable Development, sponsored by the United Nations Population Fund, at the University of Botswana. Weiguo has been conducting research on aging and care in China in the past 10 years and has recently started to engage in research and community service on Chinese immigrants in Canada. His research on elder abuse among Chinese immigrant families, using participatory action research, together with Chinese senior associations and service providers in Mississauga can bridge local communities, service providers, research institutions, and policymakers in addressing research and practice on understanding and preventing mistreatment of older adults.



THANKYOU

To our volunteer board members, network members, community supporters and advisers, generous donors, our current funder, Justice Canada, and above all, to the many individuals and local/provincial/ territorial agencies who work relentlessly to fight elder abuse and to guarantee a safe, healthy and happy life for us all, at all stages of our lives.

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CANADIAN NETWORK for
the **PREVENTION** of **ELDER ABUSE**

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