



WEBINAR

# Towards a Convention for the Rights of Older People

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DECEMBER 2, 2020

# WEBINAR HOUSEKEEPING

## Communication

All attendees will be muted during the webinar.

## ASL Interpreter :

Image and name of Interpreter will be visible during the webinar.

## Recording

A recorded version of this webinar will be available on EAPO and CNPEA's websites.

## Adjusting Speaker Image Size:

Drag the line between the video frame and slides to the left (adjust at beginning of the webinar).



CANADIAN NETWORK for  
the PREVENTION of ELDER ABUSE



Elder Abuse Prevention (ON)

Stop Abuse - Restore Respect

Maltraitance des personnes âgées Ontario

Maltraitance des personnes âgées Ontario

# WEBINAR HOUSEKEEPING

## Speaker

Will be visible while presenting. Once the presentation is completed all panel members will be visible for the Question/Answer session.

## Chat Box :

Post comments during the session.

## Questions

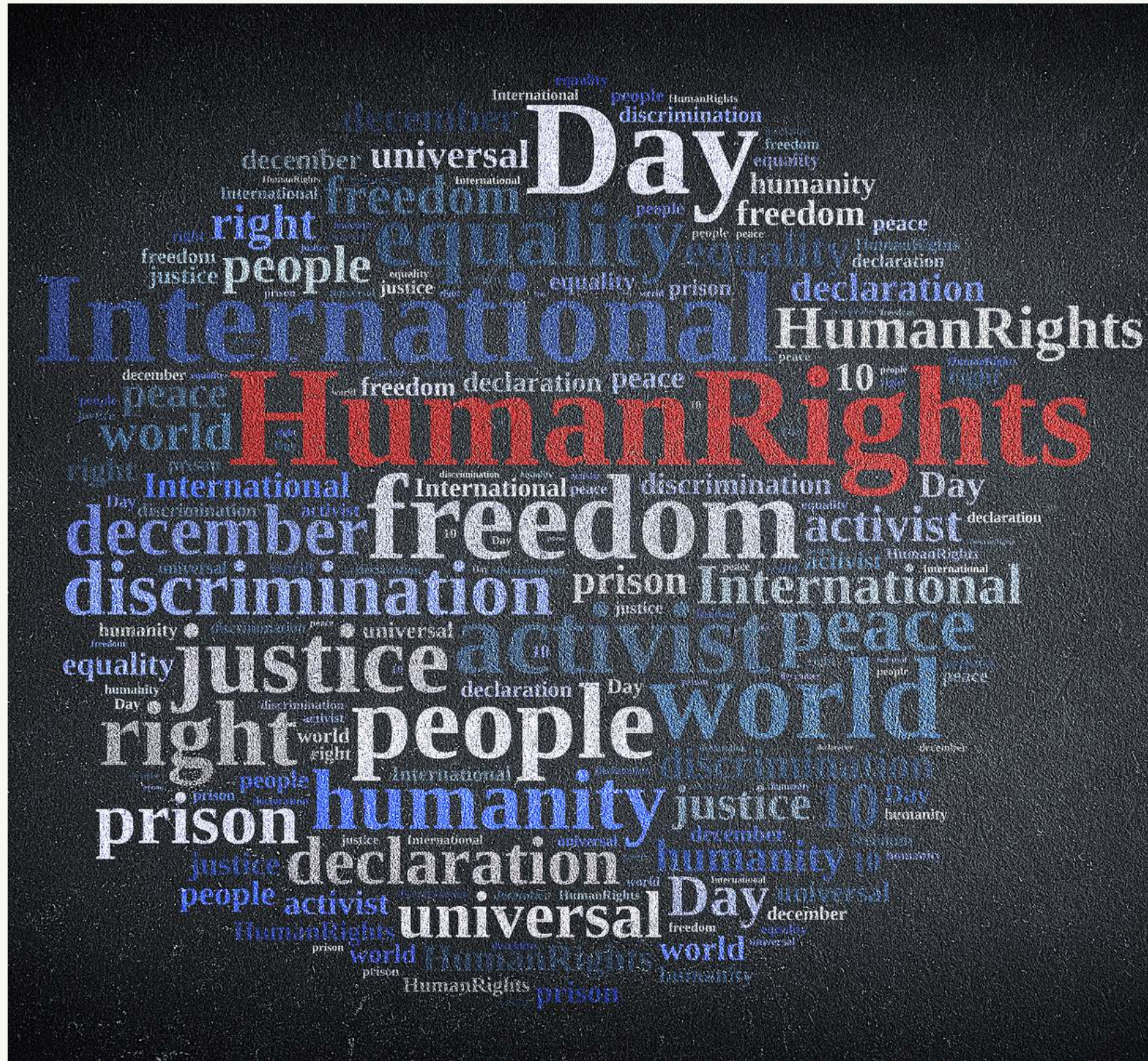
Type your questions in Question/ Answer box. A response will be posted during the webinar or asked to speaker after the presentation.

## Evaluation

After the session, a pop-up screen will appear to complete survey. Your feedback and suggestions for future webinars is appreciated.

A close-up photograph of two hands clasped together. The hands are weathered and aged, with visible veins and wrinkles. The person is wearing traditional jewelry, including a wide white fabric cuff with colorful beaded patterns (teal, orange, and white) on the left wrist, and several necklaces with red, blue, and green beads and metal pendants. The hands are resting on a dark fabric with a colorful geometric pattern, framed by a white fringed border.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Human Rights of Older Persons  
Dec. 2, 2020

# Presentation Flow

- Opening Remarks
- Overview on Human Rights of Older Persons and Need for Convention
- Positions from Panel Members
- Interactive Discussion with Panel Members (Q&A)
- **CALL to ACTION**



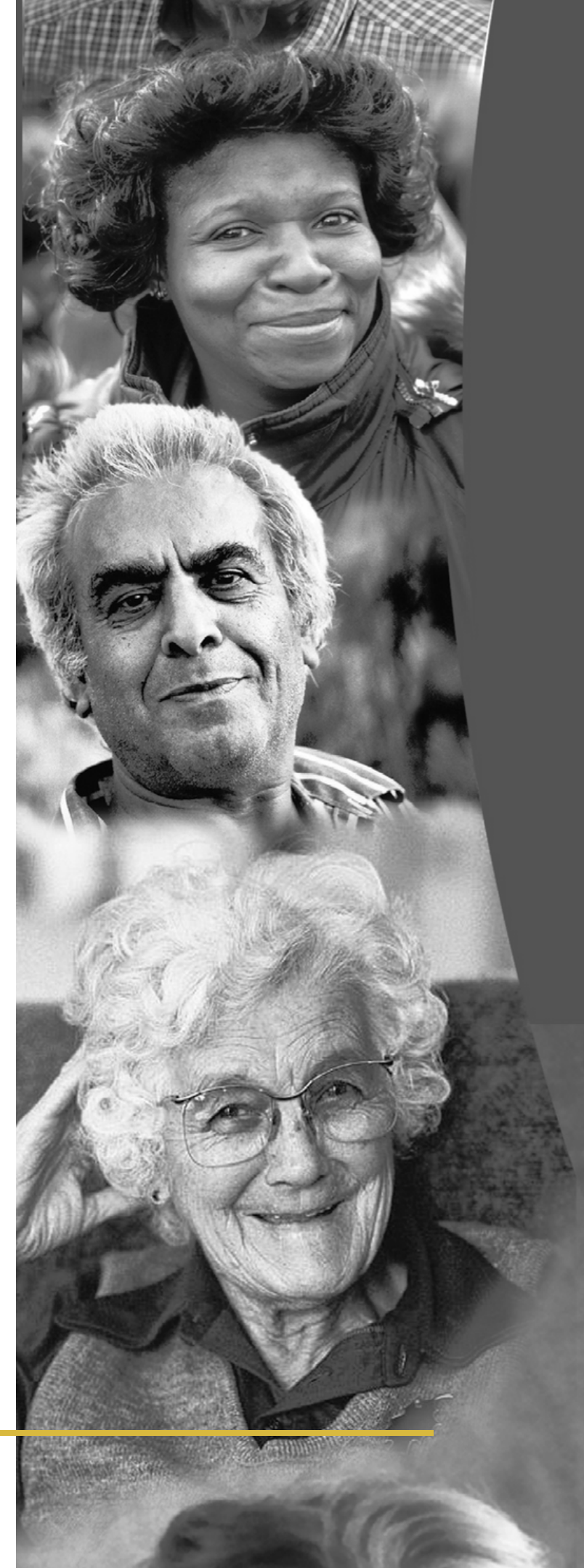
# Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario (EAPO)

## MISSION

EAPO envisions an Ontario where ALL seniors are free from abuse, have a strong voice, feel safe and respected.

## ACTION

Building that requires raising awareness, delivering education and training, working collaboratively with like-minded organizations and assisting with service coordination and advocacy.





# Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (CNPEA)

## MISSION

CNPEA connects people and organizations, fosters the exchange of reliable information, and advances program and policy development on issues related to preventing the abuse of older adults. We do this work at the local, regional, provincial/territorial, and national levels..

## VISION

We envision and work toward a Canadian society where older adults are valued, respected, and live free from abuse.

We strive to be the Canadian leader in our field—sharing information and coordinating resources for the prevention of elder abuse.





**MARGARET GILLIS**  
President, International  
Longevity Centre Canada



**DR. KIRAN RABHERU MD,  
CCFP, FRCP, DABP**  
Geriatric Psychiatrist, TOH  
Professor of Psychiatry, U of Ottawa  
Board Chair and Founding Board  
Member, International Longevity  
Centre Canada; Chair, GAROP



**MARGARET YOUNG**  
Founder, Age Knowble;  
Steering Group Member,  
GAROP



**MARIE BEAULIEU**  
Research Chair on Mistreatment  
of Older Adults; International  
Network for the Prevention of  
Elder Abuse

# GUEST SPEAKERS

# WEBINAR PARTNERS

Human Rights of  
Older Persons  
Dec. 2, 2020





There Is No Best Before Date For Human Rights

# The Need for a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons in Canada

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WEBINAR DECEMBER 2, 2020:

CANADIAN NETWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE

ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION ONTARIO

# Hear Their Voices....

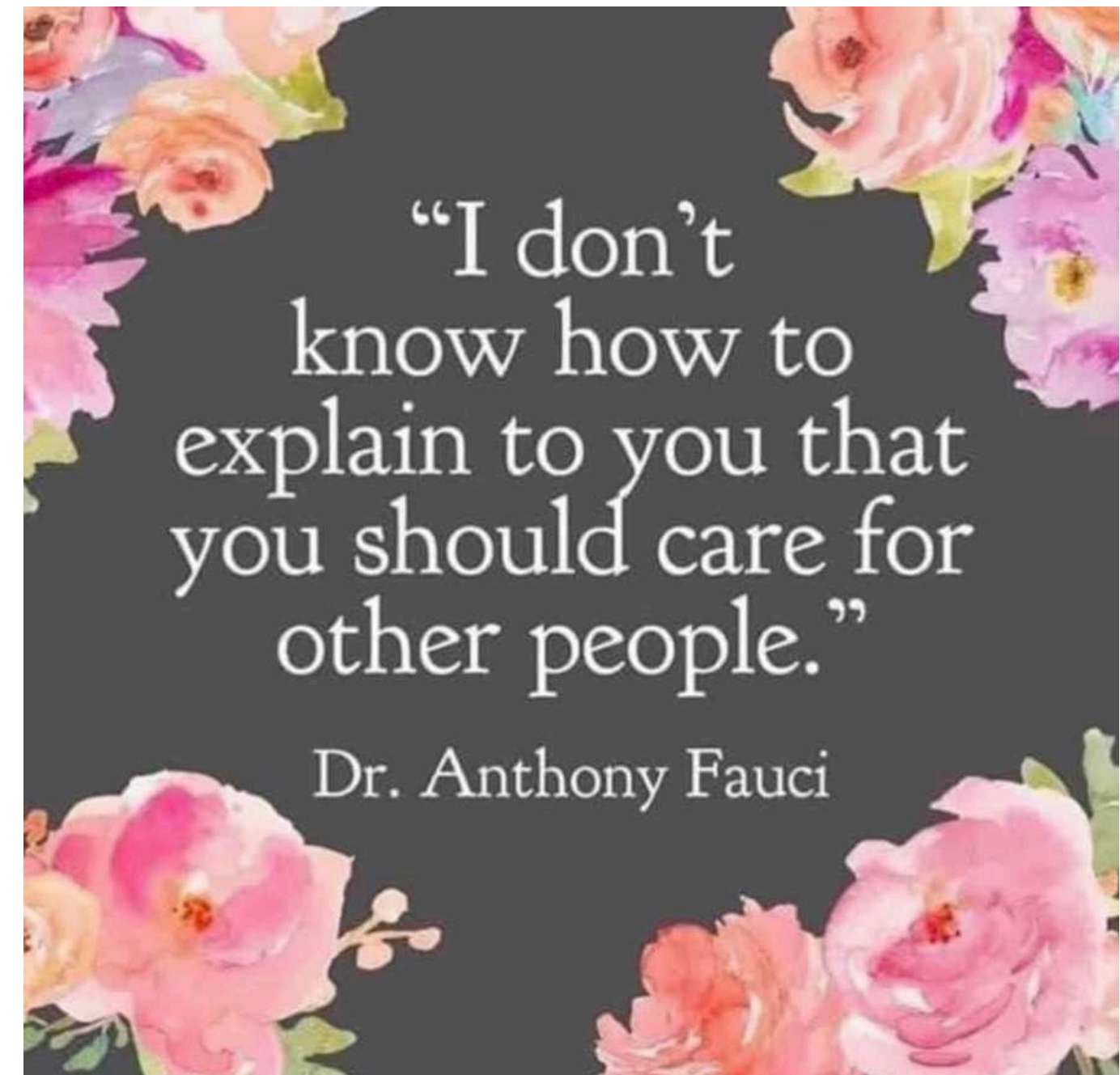
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“Terror awakened”

“Broken Spirited”

“Muzzled and Trapped”

The words of older Canadians in  
Long Term Care



# Who We Are, What We Do

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International Longevity Centre Canada – Human Rights Based

- Part of a Global Alliance of 16 countries

Partnered with the LIFE Research Institute at the University of Ottawa

# Ageism: The Ugly Truth

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## WHAT IT IS

Coined by Dr. Butler:

Employment Discrimination

Biased Health Care

Lack of Appropriate Housing and Home care

Media Marginalization

## DR. ROBERT BUTLER



# A Pandemic of Ageism:

The Grim Statistics for Older People:

Most severely impacted by the Pandemic.

Five x higher fatality rate globally.

95% of COVID-19 deaths in Canada.

Vast Majority of Deaths in Long Term Care.



# Long Term Care and the Death of Human Rights

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## IMAGES BURNED IN MEMORY

Older People left to die alone.

Dying of Dehydration, Malnutrition  
And COVID 19.

In Canada? Where is our compassion?

## FAMILIES IMPACTED



# Canadian Armed Forces: In LTC?



Home / Today's News / Canadian Armed Forces Long Term Care Facility report released

Today's News

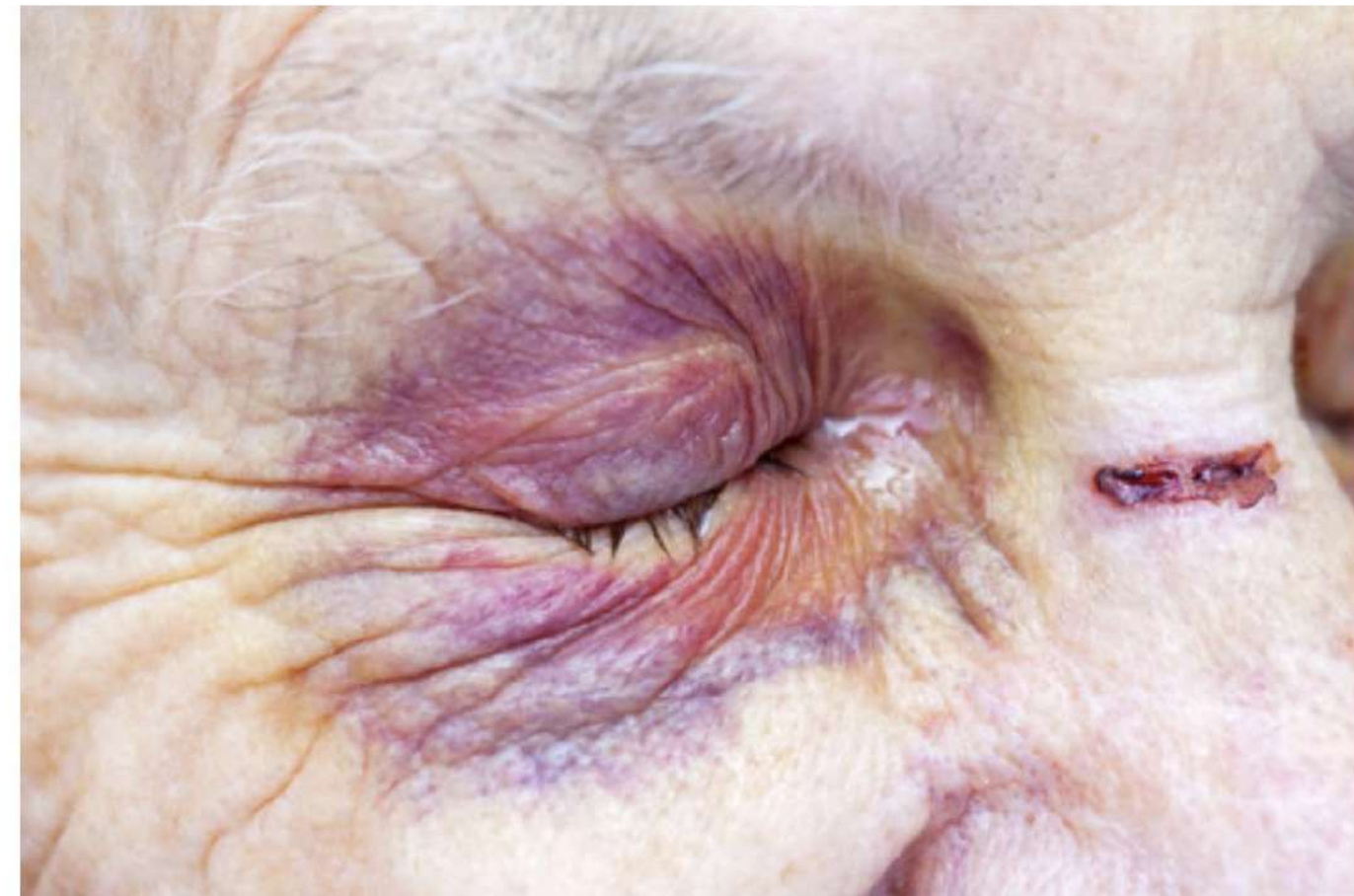
## Canadian Armed Forces Long Term Care Facility report released

The situation in some LTC. Staff shortages and high death and infection rates result in the Canadian Army being called into care homes in Toronto and Montreal.

Horrific neglect and conditions for older, frail Canadians.

# Elder Abuse

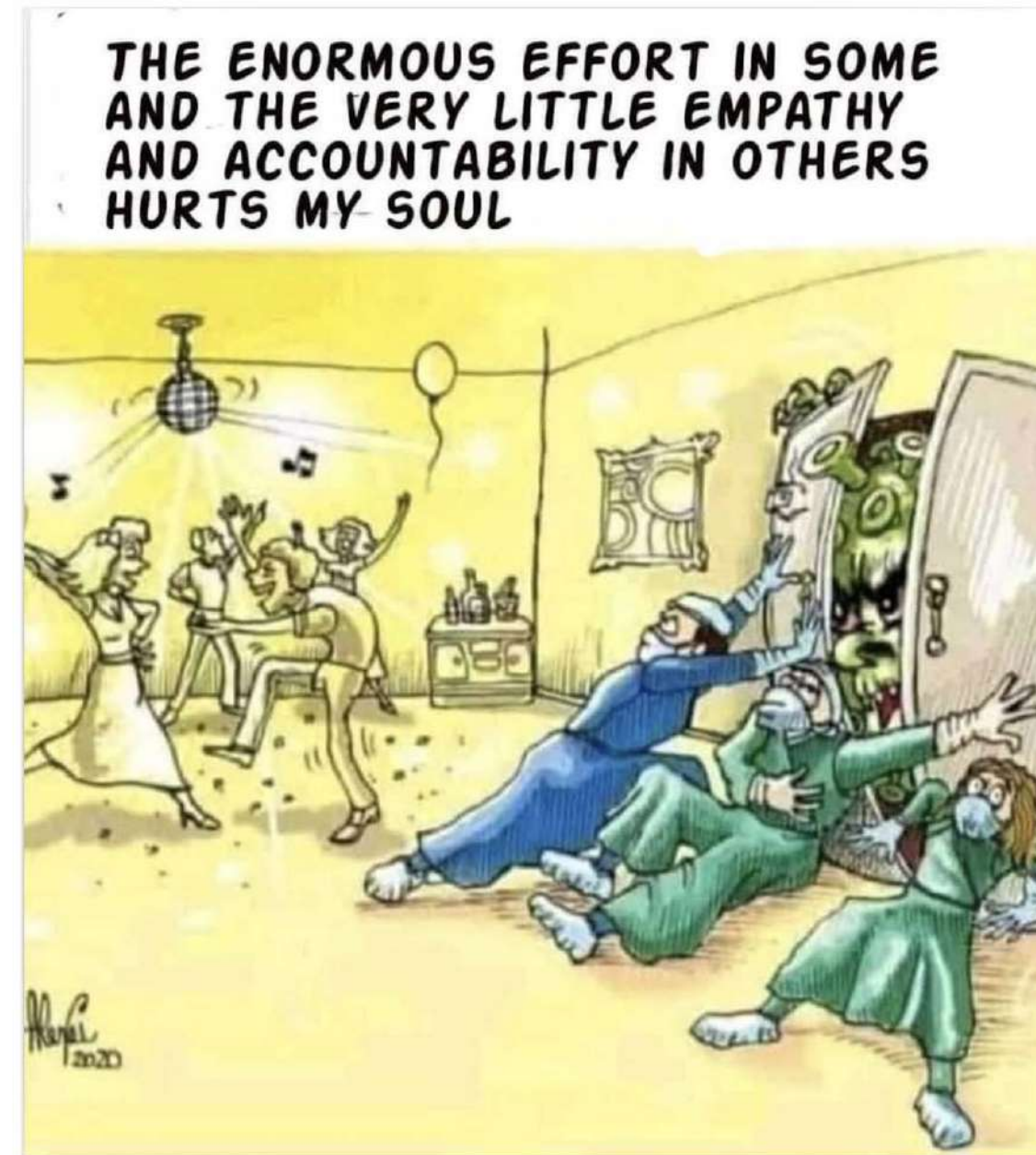
Elder Abuse on the Rise:  
Physical abuse  
Emotional Abuse  
Neglect  
Abandonment  
Financial Abuse



Close up picture of an elderly woman's injured eye & face - domestic



# A Call for Intergenerational Solidarity and Compassion.



# A UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons:

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The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

***Yet no Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.***

# What Would a UN Convention do for Older People?

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Why Do We Need a Convention?

Six simple reasons:

Ageism

Policy Making

Accountability

Work (like other UN Conventions).

Educate and Empower

Rights Holders



# Why Do We Need a UN Convention in Canada ?



- Extra protection for older people
- Governments must report/explain and rectify failures.
- Older persons rights should be a piece of the human rights picture at home and internationally
- Conventions lead to activism



# Arguments Against a UN Convention



Older People are already protected

Too costly

Draws attention to older persons and increases their social marginalization.



# What Have We Done?

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Active at the United Nations, holding events to highlight need for a UN Convention since 2014.

Write in campaign and presentation of document at the UN in 2018 – led to the “door being opened”.

On May 1<sup>st</sup> spoke to the House of Commons Parliamentary Committee of COVID 19 – called for a Convention.

# So Are We There Yet?

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Met with Minister for Seniors Office and called for her to take up the charge.

Reinvigorated write-in campaign and worked with key allies IFA, CanAge to draw attention to the need for a UN Convention.

Speech from the Throne announcements

Senator Bovey has now taken up the cause.

# Twitter, Social Media and the Instant Update



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Throughout the pandemic ILC Canada used twitter to get out key messages

All major Canadian political figures have twitter accounts and we regularly tagged them and GAROP's (@GAROP) twitter feed to make sure there was wide awareness of our positioning

Used clear key message with each tweet, "ill treatment of older people is a human rights violation, and we need a UN Convention to fight abuses"



# Moving Forward: Fight For What's Right!



The UN Convention – much already done, can we drive it home?

Sign our letter, cc your MP demand action.

Help us find key influencers, find new allies.

Hold the shameful treatment of older persons up to the mirror - demand a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.



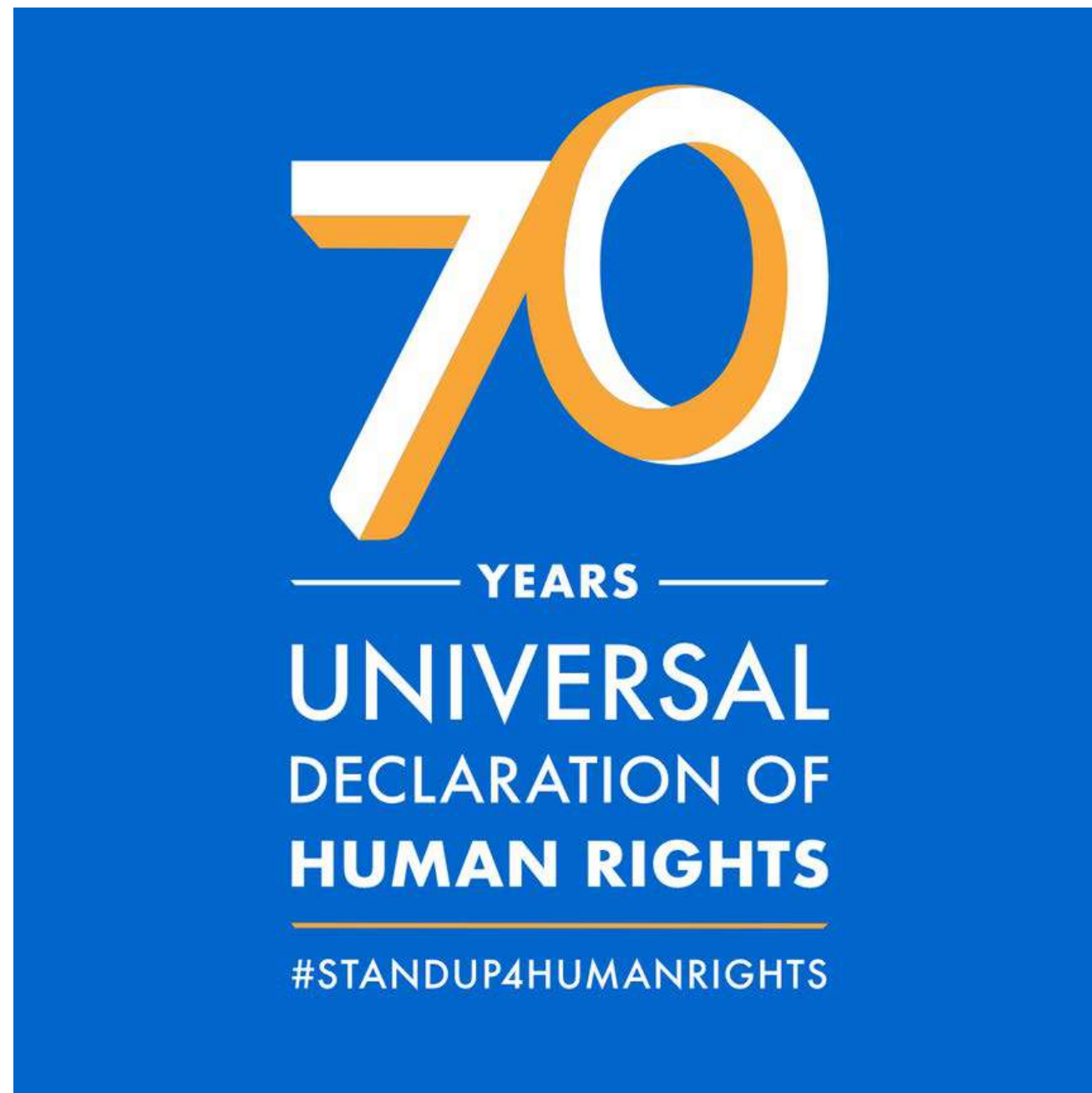
There is no best before date on human rights!  
They begin at birth and end at death.

Thank you.

[ilccanada.org](http://ilccanada.org)

# Human Rights Day Dec. 10

RECOVER BETTER – STAND UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



#STANDUP4HUMANRIGHTS



#HUMANRIGHTSDAY



SUPPORT OUR  
EFFORTS FOR THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
OF OLDER PEOPLE

Call to  
ACTION

18

17

**S T A R T**

**N O W**

# Actions you can take NOW



ILC Canada demands a United Nations Convention on the Rights of Older Persons in response to the human rights violations in the 2020 pandemic.

**Sending OUR letter with  
YOUR written endorsement  
to MINISTERS:**

The Honourable Francois-Philippe  
Champagne  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
[Francois-Philippe.Champagne@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Francois-Philippe.Champagne@parl.gc.ca)

The Honourable Deb Schulte  
Minister of Seniors  
[Deb.Schulte@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Deb.Schulte@parl.gc.ca)



**DOWNLOAD**  
**THE LETTER**

[www.ilccanada.org](http://www.ilccanada.org)

**Sending our letter with  
your written endorsement  
to LOCAL MP:**

We kindly request that you  
copy us on your email:

Margaret Gillis :  
[margaret.gillis@ilccanada.org](mailto:margaret.gillis@ilccanada.org)

Kiran Rabheru:  
[kiranrabheru@hotmail.com](mailto:kiranrabheru@hotmail.com)

# Promote Human Rights Day



FACEBOOK

#HUMANRIGHTSDAY



INSTAGRAM

#STANDUP4HUMANRIGHTS



TWITTER

On December 10, 2020  
help strengthen  
older persons' rights worldwide



**THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE**  
FOR THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PEOPLE

# Moving Forward

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BECOME INVOLVED...

- Inform government representatives in capital cities about the importance of the OEWG.
- Encourage their government to participate in the work of the OEWG and include them in the national delegations in the OEWG.
- Provide information on discrimination against older persons and violations of their rights to government representatives in capital cities and in New York.
- Meet with government representatives to discuss issues that need to be raised at the OEWG.
- Work with civil society and older people's groups to advocate for their rights and raise awareness of the ongoing discussions.
- Work with journalists on media articles on older persons' rights.

# Moving Forward

BECOME INVOLVED...

- Gather evidence of discrimination, abuse and other violations of the rights of older persons and bring them to the attention of the Independent Expert.
- Translate and disseminate relevant material
- Accredit your NGO to the OEWG process. ECOSOC consultative status is not required to participate in the OEWG process.
- NGOs with an interest in older persons' rights can become accredited for the OEWG, submit information and reports to the OEWG and attend the sessions.
- Individual civil society organizations and their networks can contribute as panelists to the substantive discussion of the OEWG.
- Become a member of GAROP and contribute to the unified voice advocating for the convention on the rights of older persons



# Speaker Contacts

Continuing the Conversation



Dr. Kiran Rabheru  
MD, CCFP, FRCP, DABPN  
kiranrabheru@hotmail.com  
[www.rightsofolderpeople.org](http://www.rightsofolderpeople.org)



Margaret Gillis  
[margaret.gillis@ilccanada.org](mailto:margaret.gillis@ilccanada.org)  
[www.ilccanada.org](http://www.ilccanada.org)



Marie Beaulieu  
marie.beaulieu@usherbrooke.ca  
[www.maltraitancedesaines.com](http://www.maltraitancedesaines.com)



Margaret Young  
margaret@ageknowble.com  
[www.ageknowble.com](http://www.ageknowble.com)

GIVING TUESDAY DECEMBER 1

Everyone has a role to play in  
#restoringrespect for seniors.



 Elder Abuse Prevention (ON)  
Stop Abuse - Restore Respect  
Prévention de la maltraitance envers les aînés (ON)  
Arrêtez les mauvais traitements - Restaurez le respect

#GivingTuesday

Giving Tuesday is a time to lean in to support seniors in our community who are living at risk or in abusive relationships.

[WWW.CANADAHELPS.ORG/EN/DN/14272](http://WWW.CANADAHELPS.ORG/EN/DN/14272)

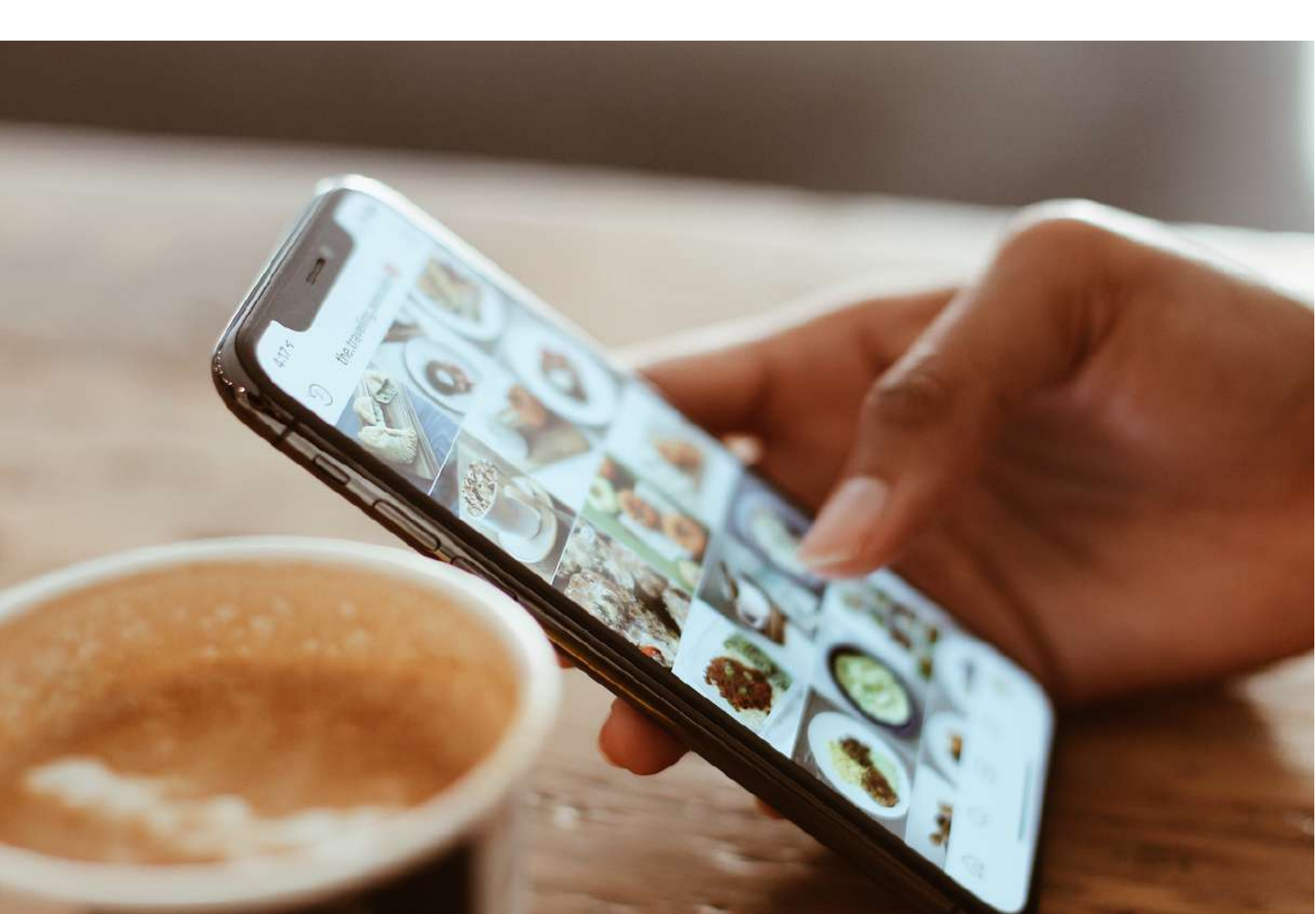
GIVING TUESDAY | DEC 1



Help us keep older Canadians healthy, safe, and free from abuse.

On December 1, make a gift, make a difference.

[HTTPS://CNPEA.CA/EN/DONATE](https://CNPEA.CA/EN/DONATE)



# Contact Us



Comments? Questions?  
Keep in Touch

Bénédicte Schoepflin  
Executive Director,  
Canadian Network for  
the Prevention of Elder  
Abuse

[www.cnpea.ca](http://www.cnpea.ca)  
Tel: 604.715.1007

@cnpea

Raeann Rideout  
Director, Provincial  
Partnerships & Outreach,  
Elder Abuse Prevention  
Ontario

[www.eapon.ca](http://www.eapon.ca)  
Tel: 705.876.1122 ext 327

@EApreventionON



**EVALUATION**

WE WOULD  
APPRECIATE HEARING  
FROM YOU.

A purple rectangular tag with a hole on the left side is tied with a light-colored string. The tag is placed on a rustic wooden surface. Three white daisies with yellow centers are scattered around the tag. The text 'Thank you!' is written in a black, cursive font on the tag.

Thank  
you!