



June 5, 2009

Province supports international effort to raise awareness of elder abuse

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15

Edmonton... The Alberta government is working with the Alberta Elder Abuse Awareness Network to support the fourth annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, as part of an international effort to raise awareness and prevent elder abuse across the globe.

“All of us have a role to play in being aware of elder abuse and how to prevent it,” said Mary Anne Jablonski, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports. “By participating in World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, we are bringing attention to this serious issue and helping Albertans, including those who work with seniors, to learn more about it.”

“Elder abuse is a concern both here and in communities across the world,” said George VanderBurg, Chair for the Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta and MLA for White-court Ste. Anne. “That is why we have helped distribute information packages to more than 2,400 organizations across the province.”

The information packages include a service provider screening guide, which will help front-line caregivers and service providers to identify possible cases of elder abuse and assist in situations where elder abuse may be occurring. More information on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and elder abuse, including links to the screening guide, posters and fact sheets, is online at www.seniors.alberta.ca by following the elder abuse link.

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