

HOUSE OF COMMON

## Elder Abuse

Mr. Speaker,

While many forms of abusive relationships exist in our society, one of the most reprehensible is elder abuse: physical, mental or, perhaps the most perverse of abuses, financial.

The elderly whose will has been weakened by the advancing onset of age cannot defend themselves, as they surely would have in their younger years, and are shamed into silence.

Life-long savings carefully planned to provide security and independence from the state, planned small gifts to family members or charities of choice from the remaining assets on demise are heartlessly drained away by those most close to them, right before their eyes.

We as Parliamentarians must recognize the problem of elder abuse and be the architects of its resolve.

I commend those on the front lines of the efforts, police departments across the country, but they need more resources and better tools.

Elder abuse is pervasive and shamefully growing. We need to do better to protect our seniors.

Peter Goldring Member of Parliament Edmonton East

Standing Order 31 – 119



December 11, 2007