



Formerly the BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support, Seniors First BC is a charitable, non-profit society that provides information, advocacy, emotional support, and referrals to older adults across BC who are dealing with issues affecting their well-being or rights. In addition, we assist those concerned about the welfare of an older adult.

OUR MISSION

Seniors First BC is committed to:

- Protecting the legal rights of older adults;
- Increasing access to justice for older adults;
- Informing the public about elder abuse and other issues relevant to older adults;
- Providing supportive programs for older adults who have been abused.

OUR PROGRAMS

Seniors First BC is the only non-profit organization in Western Canada offering a mixture of psycho-social and justice-based supports to older adults. We have staff from a variety of professional fields, allowing us to approach elder abuse issues from a unique and multidisciplinary perspective through our four programs:

- Seniors Abuse and Information Line (SAIL)
- Victim Services Program
- Legal Programs
- Public Education and Outreach Program

#502-1281 W Georgia St,
Vancouver, BC V6E 3J7

Office Line: 604-688-1927
Email: Info@SeniorsFirstBC.ca

Seniors Abuse & Information Line:
1-866-437-1940 (Toll-Free)
604-437-1940 (Lower Mainland)



SENIORS ABUSE & INFORMATION LINE (SAIL)

SAIL is a confidential means for older adults, and those who care for them, to speak to a trained intake worker about issues that affect their well-being, receive information, or to learn about our programs. Our intake workers can also:

- Identify the needs, barriers, and risk factors of older adults.
- Provide safety planning and referrals to appropriate resources.
- Give emotional support.

Call **604-437-1940** or Toll-Free at **1-866-437-1940** weekdays 8am to 8pm and weekends 10am to 5:30pm, excluding statutory holidays. Teletyping and language interpretation available.

VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAM

The Victims Services Program helps victims of crime or abuse who are 50+ and provides emotional support to anyone who has witnessed the abuse of an older adult. This service is available regardless of whether an incident has been reported to the police. Our victim services worker can provide information about the justice system and help with contacting the police, doctors, or other professionals. Call SAIL to learn more about this program.

LEGAL PROGRAMS

We offer pro bono legal advice to eligible older adults residing in BC through our Elder Law Clinic, Legal Advocacy Program, and Trial Preparation Clinic.

The Elder Law Clinic offers support on a wide range of legal matters, including:

- Preparing wills, powers of attorney, representation agreements.
- Explaining legal proceedings and what to expect in court.
- Reviewing court documents.
- Preparing cases and submissions.
- Representation at certain court hearings.
- Assistance in matters of adult guardianship.
- General legal advice.

Additionally, our legal advocate can assist older adults on issues relating to residential tenancy and housing, debt, and pensions. While we do not offer legal services in either family or criminal law, we can direct persons to organizations who may be able to assist. Call **604-336-5653** to arrange an appointment with our legal division.

PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAM

Our public workshops raise awareness about elder abuse and provide older adults with strategies and resources to protect their rights. Some topics include frauds and scams, advance planning, and the BC Opioid Crisis. For our upcoming workshops, email our Workshop Coordinator at Outreach@SeniorsFirstBC.ca. Also, our website has useful resources for older adults and professionals, which can be found here: SeniorsFirstBC.ca/resources. Subscribe to our monthly newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/g1nn5v>.