

# Minutes

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**Meeting Date:** June 15<sup>th</sup> 2022

**Meeting:** Resident Advisory Council

**Venue:** MP1 Multi-Purpose Room

**Time:** 10:30am

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**Staff & Resident Attendance:**

- 14 Residents
- 2 Recreation Facilitators
- 1 MP Social Worker
- 1 Social Work Student
- 4 TCU Social Workers
- 1 Social Work Admin

Meeting Called to Order at 10:30am

New staff and residents welcomed and Introduction of the topic of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day completed by MP Social Worker.

Resident's shown the visual representation board that Social Work Student Anna created for this event about World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Participants given stickers, temporary tattoos and Elder Abuse Awareness written resources.

Presentation by Winnipeg Police Services (2 Officers) about Elder Abuse:

**What is Elder Abuse:**

Elder abuse is any action by someone in a relationship of trust that results in harm or distress of an older person. Abuse can be a single incident or a repeated pattern of behavior. Financial Abuse, Physical Abuse and Emotional Abuse are the most commonly reported forms of abuse. Older adults may feel shame or embarrassment to tell anyone they are being abused by someone they trust. They may fear retaliation or punishment, or fear of having to move.

**Forms of Elder Abuse:**

Physical abuse can include things such as hitting, punching, striking, kicking.

Psychological abuse can include insults, threats, intimidation, humiliation.

Financial abuse can include misuse or stealing money, property, assets or forging.

Neglect can include not providing appropriate hydration, food, shelter, clothing, medication and care.

### **Signs of Elder Abuse:**

Older adults affected by abuse often know and trust the person mistreating them. It could be a family member, a friend, someone who provides assistance with basic needs or services, or a health care provider in a personal care home environment.

Signs and symptoms of elder abuse can include, fear, anxiety, depression, passiveness, unexplained physical injuries, dehydration, poor nutrition, poor hygiene, improper use of medications, confusion about new legal documents, a sudden drop in cash flow, reluctant to speak about the situation.

### **How to Prevent Elder Abuse:**

Seniors most vulnerable to neglect are those who are socially isolated and those who have serious health conditions. It's important that we as a community recognize the signs and symptoms of Elder Abuse. Seniors are entitled to respect, safety and security. If you suspect something, say something. If you detect signs of abuse try to document them and keep a log of any suspicious behavior or circumstances. Address your concerns with your director of care in the personal care home, home care provider, police, or an elder abuse attorney.

Residents were then given the opportunity to ask any questions they may have for Winnipeg Police Officers, regardless if it is Elder Abuse Awareness related or not. Residents were then assured that all allegations of elder abuse are taken very seriously and to speak with the police, the director of care in the PCH, social work or another trusted individual if they feel they are experiencing abuse of any form.

Misericordia Bill of Rights were reviewed by MP Social Worker with all residents, residents were provided with a large print copy of Bill of Rights. Residents agreed with all of the current rights and these were accepted by the group.

Residents expressed appreciation for the information shared with them today about World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and thanked Winnipeg Police Officers for coming.

Social Work asked residents if there were any remaining questions, concerns or comments. - None noted.

Residents were then given World Elder Abuse Awareness Day themed colouring and activity pages and we were welcomed to stay for a while and complete with recreation and social work staff.

Meeting Adjourned by MP Social Worker at 11:30am.