



GRAND ROUNDS

“Planning for a Healthy and Prosperous Future” will be the topic up for discussion during a public education seminar scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, October 19.

Everyone is invited to attend the event, which will focus on capacity as it relates to finances and health matters and powers of attorney.

The information is being presented on Provincial Elder Abuse Awareness Day in partnership with RVH, the Regional Assault Care Program (RACP), the Response to Elder Abuse Prevention & Awareness Coalition for Renfrew County (REAPAC) and the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County.

“An important strategy in the prevention of elder abuse is education. Empowering seniors to be free from harm involves informing older adults about their rights and issues such as mental capacity, that may impact on their ability to make financial, personal care and health treatment decisions. The education session on October 19 will help seniors

to better understand Power of Attorney documents, as well as inform seniors about measures that can be used to promote choice and well being such as advanced care planning,” says Jennifer Valiquette, Program Manager of the RACP and the Elder Abuse Response Services (EARS).

Dealing with this type of sensitive, but crucial subject matter plays a major role in living well later in life, when a patient no longer has the ability to express their own needs and desires.

“It is important that members of our community do advanced care planning related to their wishes in case of illness and it is important that they have those conversations and do that planning ahead of time,” comments RVH’s Vice-President of Patient Care Services, Chris Ferguson, adding that she feels this is an appropriate discussion to hold on Provincial Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

“The ethics committee at RVH is often involved in situations where advanced care

planning has not taken place. It’s always challenging to ensure that you, as their care providers, are able to carry out the patient’s wishes in these situations,” says Ferguson.

Neuropsychologist Dr. Clarissa Bush will begin the conversation with “Understanding Capacity and Ethical Considerations.” Dr. Bush provides services in Clinical Neuropsychology and Capacity Assessment and has considerable experience speaking to community groups on topics related to capacity assessment and cognitive functioning. She is a neuropsychologist on the oncology team at the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) and also has a private practice at Queensview Professional Services in Ottawa.

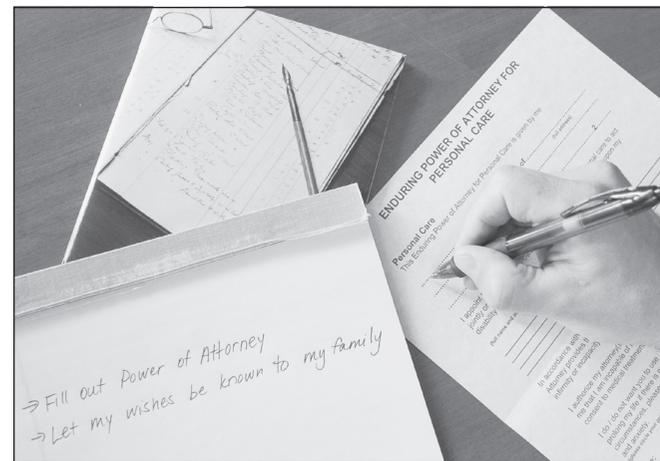
Following her presentation, Renfrew lawyer John Cooke will discuss Powers of Attorney with the attendees. Cooke is heavily involved in the local community and currently sits as a volunteer on the Board of Directors for Hospice Renfrew, on the Board for Community Living Renfrew County South and as a member of the RVH Ethics Committee.

The expert panel consisting of a family physician, RVH’s Ethics Committee and other health care pro-

viders will answer questions at the end of the session, notes Ferguson. Brochures, pamphlets and other important resources will be made available for people to take home with them at the end of the seminar.

The seminar is being held at GEM Hall in Groves Park Lodge (across the street from RVH) starting at 6 p.m. with refreshments and a light meal. Guest speakers will begin at 6:30, and the question-and-answer period will follow their presentations, with the night concluding at 8 p.m. There is no cost to attend and you do not need to pre-register.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, contact Chris Ferguson at 613-432-4851 ext. 225.



Power of Attorney will be one topic of discussion at the “Planning for a Healthy and Prosperous Future” seminar on October 19 at Groves Park Lodge.

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