

Please Seek Professional Advice

At the Alzheimer Society we believe that all Canadians should have a Will, appoint Powers of Attorney for Personal Care and Property and name guardians for your dependents, whether your assets are \$10,000 or \$10 million. We understand that it is a difficult conversation. Speaking with legal professionals can help minimize the stress. And by getting the facts and making a plan you are ensuring your questions are answered and your needs are met.

Whether you're in your 30s or 70s, creating a Will should be on everyone's to do list. However, there's more to writing a Will than just saying which family members get what. Creating a plan makes sure your estate is looked after and, while alive, your health-care and financial directives are carried out in case of any incapacity issue arises.

A lawyer or estate planner knows simple and effective solutions for the many estate planning concerns. They will help you understand your options and develop a plan that meets both your needs and your family's. They will help you execute that plan by:

- ***Drafting your Will***
- ***Drafting your Powers of Attorney for Personal Care and Property***
- ***Planning for incapacity***
- ***Planning for business succession***
- ***Minimizing probate fees***

The illness, incapacity, or death of a loved one is difficult enough on its own. But, such a tragic event can lead to conflict and family turmoil if loved ones disagree with your wishes. Here are some of the reasons why you need a Will:

- **Peace of Mind.** Your Will is simply a plan of your wishes stated in a legal document that helps reduce chaos in a time of grief.
- **Your Hard-earned Money.** Without a Will, the government decides how your assets will be divided. If you have children, some provinces will allocate a fixed portion to the spouse and the rest to the children.
- **Tax Deferral.** A Will dictates where assets go to maximize tax deferral without confusion.
- **Dependent Children.** If both spouses were to pass away with surviving dependent children without a Will, the courts decide who the primary caregivers would be.

Making a Will isn't overly expensive – The cost depends on the complexity of the document and how much your lawyer charges per hour. But whatever the cost, it's worth it. You don't want a judge deciding your estate's fate. We recommend that you seek professional advice to ensure your financial goals are considered, your tax situation is reviewed and if you make a charitable gift, it is tailored to your family circumstances.

Be our *Super Hero* – Do your Will and Powers of Attorney Today!