

## **Laws in Canada about Driving a Vehicle**

- You must not drive and drink alcohol.
- You must have a driver's license to drive a vehicle.
- The driver and all passengers must wear a seatbelt.
- Young children and babies must be in a car seat in the back seat according to their age/height and or weight.
- You must not talk on your cell phone or text while driving. This is called 'distracted driving'.

## **Other Laws in Canada**

- Children under 12 must not be left home alone.
- Children must go to school from ages 7 - 18.
- You must be 18 to purchase alcohol.
- You must be 18 to purchase cigarettes.
- Stealing is illegal. (Shoplifting)
- Killing is illegal.
- You must pay your taxes.
- Drugs are illegal.

## **Abuse**

It is illegal to abuse your family members. Examples of abuse are:

- Physical: Hitting, pushing, slapping, choking
- Verbal: Name calling, insults, threats
- Not allowing the person food, clothing or money
- Not allowing the person to have a relationship with family or friend
- Destroying your passport or immigration documents
- Threatening to send you back to your country

If you want more information about abuse call this number 1-877-977-0007. This is a free call. It is a confidential call.

If you think you are being abused call 911. The police will come to your home and decide if that person has broken the law. The police will make sure you are safe.

## **Women's Shelters**

If you feel unsafe at home you can go to a Women's Shelter. Women's shelters are places that you can go to be safe until you decide what to do. It is free. The locations of the shelters are kept secret to protect the women and children. You will get help at the shelter. They will help you look at your options.

If you need to go to a shelter call 1-877-977-0007.

## Elder Abuse

There is another kind of abuse and that is elder abuse. It is when an elderly person is abused. There are different types of elder abuse:

- **Physical abuse** - physically hurting an elderly person
- **Emotional abuse** - yelling at them, threatening them, not allowing them to see friends or go out, ignoring them, calling them names, being mean to them.
- **Neglect by caregivers** - not taking care of the elderly. The elderly person could be dirty, malnourished, alone too much,
- **Financial abuse** - stealing money or household items from the elderly, using their credit card, cheques, or personal bank account, forging their signature.

To report elder abuse:

**Call emergency 911 or Call the seniors abuse line 204-945-1884.**

## Rights

As an immigrant in Canada you have certain rights.

- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of opinion
- Live and work anywhere in Canada
- To be treated fairly by the police
- Live freely
- To be protected
- To be safe