

Planning for Aging



The Estate and Elder Law Practice of Ann Soden

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“Most people plan their estate
to protect their assets
in the event of early death.

But they don't anticipate the
problems of living longer
and facing disability.”

“Legal counseling is needed to ensure that older persons are protected against adverse circumstances and can live as full a life as possible.”

Ann Soden is the Canadian representative to the Law and Aging Practice Group of the World Jurist Association, Washington, D.C.

A Montreal lawyer pioneering the growing field of Elder Law in Canada, Ann Soden is also a consultant to the Quebec Institute of Gerontology, a founding Director of the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and founding Chair of the National Section of Elder Law of the Canadian Bar Association.

Ann Soden offers advice, advocacy and case management to older clients and the people who influence their lives. These include their families and caregivers, professionals in health care, social services, finance, real estate and insurance, as well as legatees, trustees and executors.

Ms. Soden is a frequent national and international speaker on issues affecting the elderly, a legal columnist for *Solutions*, a national magazine for caregivers and professionals, and is the General Editor of *Advising the Older Client*, slated for publication in 2003 by Lexis Nexis Butterworths.

A range of multidisciplinary experts is available to advise and assist-geriatric physicians, nurses, care managers, social workers and financial advisors. Ann Soden's correspondent firms across Canada and the United States are consulted to deal with cross-jurisdictional assets and issues, when applicable.

Estate & Elder Law

The Estate & Elder Law practice of Ann Soden, Lawyer, and her associates provide a full range of services in planning for aging and in the protection of dependent relatives and their assets in the case of death or incapacity.

The Estate Practice comprises:

- Estate Planning: Wills & Trusts
- Estate Administration & Audits
- Estate Litigation
- Alternative Dispute Resolution through Arbitration & Mediation of Estate Disputes

The Elder Law Practice addresses:

- General Planning for Aging and Disability, including Personal and Financial Planning
- Legal Capacity Counselling
- Durable Powers of Attorney, Mandates and Health Care Directives
- Guardianship (Protective Regimes)
- Housing Options and Assisted Living Issues
- Pensions
- Age Discrimination
- Elder Abuse and Exploitation
- Ethical and Fiduciary Obligations of Professionals and Caregivers
- Conferences and Training for Legal, Financial, Health and Social Work Professionals.

“Elder Law is not about wills and estate planning. It's about elder care, with law being only a part.

One needs a whole new set of skills and a handle on a variety of associated issues to serve this community well.”