

**The Estate and Elder Law Practice
of Ann M. Soden Ad.E.**

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A Montreal lawyer developing the growing field of Elder Law in Canada, Ann Soden is the Founding Chair of the **National Elder Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA)**, **Chair of the Quebec Elder Law Section of the CBA**, a founding Director of the Canadian and Quebec Networks for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, a founding member of the International Association of Law and Aging, St Petersburg, Florida and the Canadian representative to the Law and Aging Practice Group of the World Jurist Association, Washington, D.C. Ann is a Commissioner of the American Bar Association's Commission on Law and Aging, Washington, D.C., and is the first international member to hold such an office in the Commission's twenty-six year history. She also heads the **National Institute of Law, Policy and Aging**, (www.nilpa.org), based in Montreal, a Canadian reference center for excellence in research, education and advocacy on issues of law, policy and aging. Ann Soden was designated *avocate émérite (Ad.E.)* in 2007 by the Barreau du Québec for her development of the field of Elder Law in Canada and Quebec.

Ann Soden is a frequent national and international speaker on issues affecting older persons. She taught the first national Elder Law course at McGill University's Faculty of Law in the winter of 2005 and has developed specialized lectures for the McGill School of Social Work, the McGill University Health Center Geriatrics Academic Seminars and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. In 2007 Ms Soden opened the Centre for Legal Information on Aging /Centre d'information légale pour les aînés, a clinical course on Elder Law offered through the McGill Faculty of Law and a *pro bono* legal information clinic for the public and professionals using the services of senior lawyers and notaries. Ms Soden recently developed the first course on Elder Law for judges in Canada with the National Judicial Institute in Ottawa and is General Editor and one of the authors of **Advising the Older Client**, the first national and comparative law text on law and aging in Canada, published in 2005 by Lexis Nexis Butterworths and has two other titles, **Planning for Incapacity** and **Advising the Older Client in Quebec**, expected to be published in 2010 by LexisNexis.

As a practitioner Ann offers legal advice, advocacy and case management to older clients and to the people who play a role in the lives of older people. These latter include families and caregivers, professionals in health care, social services, finance, real estate and insurance, as well as legatees, trustees and executors.

As part of her commitment to community and public service, Ann Soden has acted, for more than fourteen years, as a consultant to the Quebec Institute of Social Gerontology on issues of abuse and exploitation as part of a multidisciplinary consultation team and currently acts as a consultant to government study groups on caregiving and end-of-life issues initiated by Health Canada, the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Palliative Care Association and on abuse and exploitation initiatives for the Quebec Ministre responsable des aînés.