

associated with Senior Link in Toronto provide opportunities for seniors in an apartment building to interact with children in a day care on the ground floor. In New Brunswick, the Seniors Federation is working with the Department of Education to get seniors involved with the younger grades, kindergarten, grade 1 and 2 in the hope that they will "go in and do story-telling, get the children interested so they will have a different picture of the older person than they do today."⁵²

In a similar vein, the Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse has developed and distributed a story book and play cards called "Old Friends: A Storytelling Kit about Old Age" and a colouring book called "Helping Granma" as positive imaging tools for children ages 4 to 7. To reach ages 8 to 13, they are now developing an intergenerational kit for children and seniors that will enable them to put on plays together. For teenagers, a program in a technical school where hairdressing is taught, encourages interaction between adolescents and the older people who come to the school.

Committee members are convinced that reaching children and adolescents with positive and enlightening examples of the contributions of older people will help to reduce potentially abusive situations.

The Committee recommends:

- 14. That the federal government, through the relevant federal departments and from their existing budgets, provide funding and evaluation support for educational endeavours on positive images of aging aimed at children and adolescents; and that this funding constitute 10% of the total amount targeted to education of children and adolescents.**
- 15. That the federal Minister of State for Seniors, through the Council of Ministers of Education, liaise with the provincial ministers of education with a view to ensuring that education related to prevention of elder abuse is incorporated in provincial curriculums.**

⁵² Darrah, 2:17.