

# SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

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## ESTATES PLANNING

### Power of Attorney (POA):

There are two (2) types of Power of Attorney:

1. Power of Attorney for Personal Care (Medical/Health POA)
2. Power of Attorney for Property (Financial POA)

Rules for Power of Attorney (POA):

1. Do not put conditions in your POA.
2. Two (2) witnesses must watch you sign your Power of Attorney (POA).
3. You can change your POA as often as you want.
4. If you do not have a POA, then the Office of the Public Guardian will assign someone to be your Power of Attorney.

Community members can find a Power of Attorney document on the following website:

<https://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/pgt/poa.pdf>

### Wills:

Everyone can write a will using their own hand writing as follows:

"This is the last will and testament of \_\_\_\_\_.

I appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as my executor. I leave everything to  
\_\_\_\_\_."

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Place this hand written document into a plastic freezer bag and place it in your freezer.  
Your freezer is water proof and fire proof.

For more complex wills, with Trusts, property and gifts, please see a lawyer.

Debt does not go to your executor. Your estate will pay off any debts, and anything left over will go to your beneficiaries.

Wills expire when you get married. Therefore, you may want to write a new one, if you have started a new partnership/relationship.

If you don't own property, and you are on a fixed income, the Elliot Lake & North Shore Community Legal Clinic can help you write a Power of Attorney and they can help you write a Will. They can be reached at (705) 461-3935 to schedule an appointment when COVID19 restrictions have been lifted.

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**Our Vision** *Serpent River First Nation will have self-sufficient people within a community of caring and compassionate families.*

**Our Mission** *Serpent River First Nation will use all available financial, human, natural, technological and cultural resources to achieve self-sufficiency through the efforts of all Community Members. Our strong and unique cultural and spiritual identity will drive us to ensure a healthy community that is safe and secure for all generations.*