

Charter for the Well-being Of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans people Seniors

Preamble

Whereas seniors who are sexual minorities can present a high level of vulnerability;

Whereas those who work with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) seniors or spend time with them must contribute to their positive treatment;

Whereas homophobia and transphobia are forms of discrimination within the meaning of the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;

In light of this, the present charter suggests that people working with seniors or spending time with them adhere to the following principles:

1. Ensure that LGBT seniors receive equal treatment, free of any demonstration of homophobia or transphobia.
2. Ensure that LGBT seniors are provided a homophobia and transphobia-free environment.
3. Take any necessary measures to ensure that people who work with or spend time with seniors adopt a positive attitude towards homosexuality and transidentity.
4. Respect seniors' choice to reveal or not their sexual orientation or their transidentity.
5. Ensure that information obtained about the sexual orientation or transidentity of a senior remains confidential, unless they have given their consent to reveal such information.
6. Take any necessary measures to discourage demonstrations of homophobia or transphobia, whether verbal, psychological or physical, including gestures, teasing or insinuations.
7. Support the efforts undertaken by seniors who are victims of homophobia or transphobia on the part of workers or other beneficiaries.
8. Exhibit signs of openness toward seniors who are isolated due to their sexual orientation or transidentity.
9. Encourage respect and open-mindedness in beneficiaries with respect to LGBT seniors.
10. Include the fight against homophobia and transphobia in training programs intended for people working with seniors.
11. Refrain from making assumptions about a person's sexual orientation and respect their gender expression or identity.