

NEWS > SEMINAR

# Decisions between the elderly and their caregivers – from the halachic perspective

TORONTO – At the seminar on *Insights on Aging & the Elderly* presented this month by Scotia Private Client Group, Beth Tzedec Congregation of Toronto and B'nai Brith Canada, Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum will discuss some of the disagreements that commonly exist between the elderly and their caregivers from a *halachic* (Jewish legal) perspective.

There's often a conflict between what's in an elderly patient's best interests and the desire for autonomy, Rabbi Tanenbaum explained.

Problems frequently arise when elderly parents have lost their capacity to make reasonable decisions. For instance, adult children may see it in their parents' best interests to stop driving, but the parents say they're going to continue anyway. In another situation, the elderly parent may refuse to take necessary medication.

"When a person says, 'I want to do this,' and the other says it's harmful... what trumps and what prevails," he asked.

According to Tanenbaum, "the general direction of our hospitals is that autonomy prevails. Therefore, if in the hospital a



RABBI ROY TANENBAUM

patient refuses medicine, the policy is to go according to the patient."

However, "the hospital ethics committee today is not making the same decisions that a committee based on Jewish ethics would make," he said. "Jewish law has a decidedly different direction than what civil law is giving us. Jewish law is not based on independence. It's not true that I can do anything I want with my body... It's not the Jewish way. There's social responsibility."

The seminar will take place Thursday, March 27, 7 p.m., at Beth Tzedec synagogue, 1700

Bathurst St.

Other speakers include world-renowned geriatric psychiatrist Dr. Nathan Herrmann, who'll discuss the challenge of recognizing the red flags of Alzheimer's; Ian Hull, a leading expert on estates, trusts and wills; and Charles Wagner, chair of B'nai Brith Canada's Trust & Estates Group, who'll discuss issues surrounding powers of attorney.

Admission is \$10 to the Beth Tzedec Chesed Committee. For information or to register, call Hyla Reichmann at (416) 633-6224, ext. 128, or email hreichmann@bnaibrith.ca.

Sponsored by:

Scotia Private Client Group



BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION OF TORONTO



## TRUST & ESTATES GROUP LAWYERS' DIVISION

is pleased to invite you to a seminar on **INSIGHTS ON AGING & THE ELDERLY**

Thursday March 27, 2008  
7:00 p.m.

Beth Tzedec Synagogue  
1700 Bathurst Street  
Toronto

Refreshments will be served

Couvert: \$10 donation  
to Beth Tzedec Chesed Committee



**Dr. Nathan Herrmann**, Head of Geriatric Psychiatry at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, will speak to the topic of "Recognizing the Red Flags of Alzheimer's"



**Ian Hull**, of Hull and Hull LLP will speak on Ontario's statutory framework with respect to powers of attorney, as well as the practical and procedural considerations when the elderly lose their capacity, and litigation is required to appoint a statutory guardian over property or personal care.

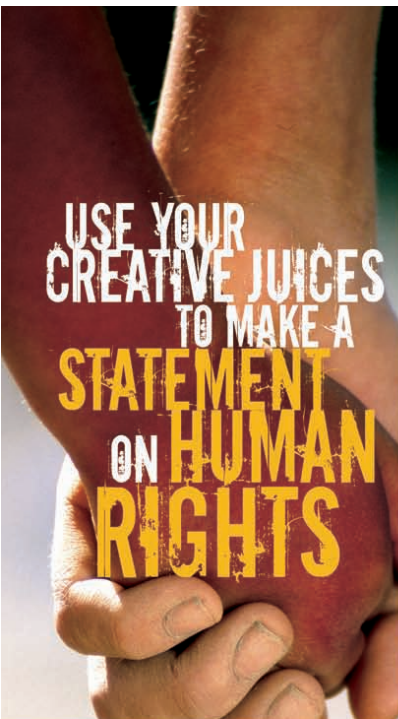


**Rabbi Roy D. Tanenbaum**, Rabbi at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, will address the Halachic (Jewish religious law) and Jewish philosophic issues concerning conflict between elderly autonomy and family perceptions of best interest



**Charles B. Wagner**, Chair, Trust & Estates Group, is going to address the duties of a person appointed as Power of Attorney over Property, and the remedies and forms of relief against an attorney who has violated his or her fiduciary duty as Power of Attorney.

For information or to register, please call Hyla Reichmann  
(416) 633-6224 ext. 128 or email: hreichmann@bnaibrith.ca



# STUDENT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS

Mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

TELL US ABOUT a **CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM** that **AFFECTS YOU OR YOUR FRIENDS**. You can **WIN AN EXCITING PRIZE** and receive a certificate for your school.

Write an **ESSAY**, a **PLAY**, a **POEM**, or a **SONG**. Send us a **PHOTO**, a **PAINTING** or a **VIDEO**, or maybe create a **WEBSITE** or **INTERACTIVE COMPUTER GAME**. The choice is yours—the only limit is your creativity!

### STUDENTS ACROSS CANADA CAN ENTER

A panel of judges will pick the winner in four separate age categories: Grades 1-3, Grades 4-6, Grades 7-9, Grades 10-12

### THE PRIZES ARE GREAT

The schools of the winning students will be recognized with a certificate of appreciation. Award ceremony details to be announced.

**Winning Entries will be announced May 30, 2008.**

### IT'S EASY TO APPLY

Send your submissions by e-mail to: [studenthumanrightsawards@bnaibrith.ca](mailto:studenthumanrightsawards@bnaibrith.ca) Or mail/drop-off to: B'nai Brith Canada • Student Human Rights  
15 Hove Street, Toronto, Ontario M3H 4Y8

Be sure to include your name, date of birth, address, phone number, email and school or complete the on-line registration form available at the website address provided below.

### E-MAIL/MAIL OR BRING US YOUR SUBMISSION SOON

Entry Deadline: Friday May 2, 2008

### QUESTIONS?

For more information [www.bnaibrith.ca](http://www.bnaibrith.ca)

