

Cemeteries Act

Service Alberta

Overview

- **Cemetery ownership**
- **Records**
- **Evidence of ownership**
- **Care and maintenance**
- **Specifications for graves**
- **Bylaws**
- **Perpetual Care Funds**
- **Questions**

Ownership eligibility

Religious auxiliary

Religious denomination

Municipality

Burial

- **Final Certificate of Approval**
- **Amended Final Certificate of Approval**
- **Burial permit**
- **Disinter / Reinter permits**

- **Cremated remains and cemeteries**

Records

- **Information that must be supplied to the Director.**
 - **Current contact information for the cemetery (Reg 20.1)**
 - Name
 - Address
 - Phone number
 - Email
- **Where perpetual care is required, records must be kept and supplied.**

Records (continued)

- **Records that must be maintained and supplied upon request by the Director**
 - **Cemetery plan (s. 24 Regulation)**
 - **Cemetery register (s.37 Regulation)**
 - **Burial permit (s. 38 Regulation)**
 - **Disinter/reinter permit (s. 39 Regulation)**

Cemetery Register

- **Section 37 Regulation**
 - **Date of sale**
 - **Sale price**
 - **Name and address of purchaser**
 - **Name and address of any person to whom a plot is transferred**
 - **The date of each burial or interment**
 - **Name of each deceased**
 - **Name of next of kin**
 - **Name of funeral director in charge of the funeral**
 - **Amount of charges made**
 - **Particulars about disinterment, if applicable**

Evidence of Ownership

- **Cemetery owners must ensure that a purchaser of a plot is provided with proof of purchase**
 - **The evidence of ownership can be in the form of a certificate, agreement or other document**
 - **It must be provided at the time of sale or agreement, and**
 - **It must contain the following elements:**
 - Name
 - Date
 - Amount
 - Amount deposited into perpetual care
 - Location of grave

Care and Maintenance

- **Ensure public safety**
- **Preserve the dignity**
- **Fences, walks and entrances in good state of repair**
- **Markers may be moved for maintenance (certain situations)**
- **Cemetery owners not legally responsible for vandalism**

Specifications for Graves

- **Grave lot shall be not less than 1.2 m in width and 2.8 m in length(4' x 9')**
 - **There are exceptions to this requirement in areas that are meant for the burial of urns or the burial of children**
- **Grave lot shall not be any closer than 9.1 m (30') from a public highway**
- **Graves can be double depth**
- **Cremated remains**

Grave Depth

- **Depth between the top of the casket and the surface level**
 - 0.6 m (2') if a grave liner is used
 - 0.9 m (3') if no grave liner is used
- **More than one body may be interred in one grave as long as the uppermost casket is**
 - 0.6 m (2') if a grave liner is used
 - 0.9 m (3') if no grave liner is used

Director's Consent

- **Section 74**
 - **If the cemetery property is to be sold, transferred, mortgaged, pledged, hypothecated, charged or encumbered**
- **Alteration in size of the cemetery**
- **Other uses**

Bylaws

- **Bylaws are not a requirement under the *Cemeteries Act***
- **Bylaws provide details for items not covered in the *Cemeteries Act***
- **Bylaws help to outline the interests of the cemetery operator**
- **Examples of items to be included in your bylaws**
 - **Double interment graves**
 - **Grave liners**
 - **Burial of cremated remains**
 - How many allowed per plot
 - **Scattering of cremated remains**

Bylaws

- **Monument specifications**
- **Permission to place monuments**
- **Memorial benches or other such items**
- **Allowable items to be placed graveside**
- **Cemetery fees**
 - **Regular plot price**
 - **Cremation plot price**
 - **Opening and closing fees**
 - **Member vs non-member price**
 - **Extra charges (i.e. winter burials)**



Questions

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