



THE FUNERAL BOARD OF MANITOBA

NEWSLETTER

October 2012

The Funeral Board of Manitoba is excited to introduce the first edition of its quarterly newsletter! For your convenience, future newsletters will be emailed directly to you and will also be posted on our website at www.gov.mb.ca/funeraldirectorsboard/index.html.

Introduction of New Board Members

On August 24, 2012 the Funeral Board of Manitoba said good-bye to two Board members as they finished their appointed terms. We wish Beth Rutherford and Louis Bernardin all the best in their future endeavours and greatly appreciate all their hard work over the years. The Board is pleased to welcome two new members, Jaswant Singh and C. Fred Olds.

Welcome Aboard!

The Prearranged Funeral Services Act

After six months of consultations, the Board is now developing changes to the regulation.

Upon proclamation, administration of *The Prearranged Funeral Services Act* will be transferred from the Public Utilities Board to the Funeral Board of Manitoba. This is part of a larger plan to transfer all relevant funeral services acts and legislation to the Funeral Board to provide the profession and the public with one convenient organization to address their needs. Information will be mailed out in the coming weeks. Please visit our website for all up-to-date information.

Welcome to New Licensees

The Funeral Board of Manitoba is pleased to welcome 2012's newest licensee, Bianca Vergunst. Congratulations on receiving your Certificate of Qualification!

The Board also welcomes Pamela Pysyk who is transferring from British Columbia. We hope you enjoy our province!

Continuing Education

Please remember to send in proof of the six hours of continuing education you completed in 2012. If you file this information in advance, we can process your 2013 license renewal without delay. Thanks to those who have already sent in their hours.

NOTE:

The Funeral Board of Manitoba will be establishing an Education Committee who will be reviewing the list of accredited courses. Once approved by the Board, a list of the courses will be posted on the website and will be updated regularly.

2013 Licenses

All applications for license renewals will be mailed out by mid-October 2012. The forms have been improved to reflect changes that have occurred since last year's renewal.

REMINDER: Death Registration Forms

In partnership with Vital Statistics Agency, we ask you to please remember to take the *Registration of Death* form when a deceased person is released to you from a hospital or health care facility. Once you've completed the form, return it to Vital Statistics Agency without delay. Additionally, we suggest you keep a copy of this form or the information contained in it on file as a safeguard.

Funeral Director Certificate Program

The Funeral Board, Red River College, and other stakeholders have worked very hard to develop a new funeral education program. A well-attended Information Session occurred on September 11, 2012. The full program will be available to new applicants in January 2013, although two courses are available this month. Red River College has indicated that they've received interest in the program from over 60 people to date. The Board has also received numerous phone calls regarding the new program.

Compliance Program

On behalf of our inspector, John Delaney, we would like to thank all Funeral Homes and Funeral Directors/Embalmers for their continued cooperation during this year's inaugural compliance audit process. All funeral homes within the city of Winnipeg have been inspected and John is now in the process of visiting our rural licensees. The Board appreciates how accommodating everyone has been. If

John has not yet visited you; please keep an eye out for him. While he is there, he would be happy to help you with any questions, concerns, or issues you may have. Please feel free to contact him or Denise at the Board office anytime.

Annual Report

The Funeral Board of Manitoba's 2011 Annual Report has been completed and approved by Minister Rondeau. It will be posted on the Board's website in the near future.

For more information regarding current events please visit our website at

www.gov.mb.ca/funeraldirectorsboard/index.html.

(Available in alternate formats upon request/*Disponible en autres formats sur demande.*)

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