Planning Your Own Funeral in Alberta

Although many people do not think about funerals until they are faced with the death of a loved one, it is possible to pre-arrange one’s own funeral. For some, this is simply an automatic part of planning for the future, similar to taking out life insurance or writing a Will. For others, this pre-planning is done more out of concern for those left behind. If you have a funeral plan, your survivors will know what you wanted, and you spare them the difficulty of making decisions at a stressful and emotional time.

If you are considering planning your own funeral, you will want to ensure that you know your options and rights. This booklet will help. It provides important information about legal issues related to pre-arranging your own funeral and it can help you make some of the arrangements that will help your family and friends in the time following your death.

Contents

General Questions about pre-planning a funeral..........................................................2
Question about pre-need funeral contracts.................................................................3
Questions about burial..................................................................................................6
Questions about cremation..........................................................................................9
Questions about other aspects of the final ceremony.................................................10
1. General Questions about pre-planning a funeral

1.1 In Alberta is it possible to pre-plan a funeral and are there laws that cover this?

Yes, it is possible to plan one’s own funeral and there are indeed laws in place to help consumers who wish to do so. Specifically, the sale of these plans is regulated by the Funeral Services Act, the Cemeteries Act and the Cemetery Companies Act, and all of their associated regulations. If you would like to read these laws, please see our list of additional resources at the back of this booklet.

1.2 I am thinking about pre-arranging my funeral: what general things should I consider?

In general, topics to consider include:

• what is, or is not, to be done with your body before the service/farewell ceremony (such as organ donation, embalming, and make up);
• the kind of service/farewell ceremony you wish to have (such as casket, the venue, and the contents); and
• what is to be done with your remains (such as burial vs. cremation and final resting place).

For a handy 33-item checklist for funeral planning, see the link to: Saying Farewell – A Guide to Assist You with the Death and Dying Process, which can be found in our list of additional resources at the back of this booklet.

1.3 How do I start to plan my own funeral?

In Alberta, a funeral home is often the best place to go for help planning your funeral, as most funeral homes offer funeral pre-planning services (this is known as a “pre-need funeral”). This means you decide on everything you want done, and you arrange for the payment. Arrangements can include all of the items mentioned above. The arrangements you make are then put into a contract. Some funeral homes are even willing to keep a record of your preferences with no advance payment.

If you are thinking about pre-paying for your funeral, consider getting more than one quote. Be sure you know what is included in the basic price and what costs are extra. Consider whether the extras being offered are necessary to your funeral plans and if they fit your budget.

If you are a member of a church, you may wish to discuss it with your church. Many churches will keep this information about funeral wishes on file.

1.4 How do I know if I am dealing with a reputable funeral home?

In Alberta, funeral homes must have a “funeral services” business licence. In addition, funeral homes providing pre-need funeral services must hold a special “pre-need salesperson” licence. This licence is issued by the Alberta Funeral Services Regulatory Board (the “AFSRB”). It must specifically state that it is a licence that authorizes pre-need funeral service contracts. You can ask to see these licences. You can also contact the AFSRB to ask if the funeral home is in good standing. Similarly, you can check with the Better Business Bureau and check with the AFSRB to see if either of these agencies have received complaints about the funeral home.

To see the Alberta Funeral Services Code of Conduct for funeral homes, see Schedule 2 of the Funeral Services Act, General Regulation (See: Alberta Queen’s Printer in the additional resources section of this booklet).
What is the difference between a “funeral” and a “memorial service”?

There are no legal definitions for these terms, and many people and institutions use them rather interchangeably.

Traditionally, a funeral involved a service in a funeral home or religious house of worship, with the body present, followed by either a burial or a cremation. Sometimes there was also a viewing of the body the day before the ceremony. A memorial service, on the other hand, did not have the body present (although sometimes the previously cremated ashes were present). Today, these concepts are mixed and matched in numerous ways, and the result can also be called a “farewell ceremony”.

If you are making arrangements to pre-plan your own funeral, memorial service, or farewell ceremony, be sure to not assume that the words mean certain things: read the details and know what is included and what is not.

Questions about pre-need funeral contracts

I have heard that there are different ways of paying for pre-arranged funerals; is this true?

Yes, there are two ways (called “funding methods”).

• The first method involves you (the buyer) giving the money directly to the funeral home (the seller). In such a case, the seller must deposit the money that you provide into a trust account. Your contract will tell you where the trust account is located.

• The second method of funding a pre-need funeral is by an insurance contract.

It is important to understand the details of these options. It is also important to know that the two options are governed by different legislation (and many of the provisions of the Funeral Services Act do not apply to pre-need insurance contracts). As a result, there can be significant differences. For example: a trust-funded plan may have better cancellation rights than a plan funded by insurance. However, often a plan funded by insurance is more easily transferred to another province than a plan funded by a trust. Other areas of difference can include: administration charges, late fees, fees for “extras” and the treatment of inflation.

I had someone come to my door to try to sell me one of these pre-planned funeral contracts. Can they do that?

Not unless you asked them to do so. In fact, it is illegal for a funeral home to sell pre-need funerals over the telephone or door-to-door unless you have specifically requested it. The same applies to a seller of pre-need funeral insurance contracts. In addition, funeral homes may not display or distribute information about pre-need funeral contracts in any home or residence maintained for elderly persons or in any hospital (or its grounds), unless the funeral home first obtains written permission from the management of the home, residence or hospital.
Funeral homes and insurance companies can, however, solicit business by direct mail, media advertising and Internet communications.

If you think a funeral home broke these laws, you can report it to the Alberta Funeral Services Regulatory Board. If the funeral home is found guilty it can be fined and the person involved may be subject to a prison term.

2.3 What are a funeral home’s legal obligations when selling a trust-funded pre-planned funeral?

All details of the arrangements and the costs must be in a written contract. As the buyer, you must receive a copy of that contract.

If you are purchasing a trust-funded plan, the funeral home must deposit any money you pay for a pre-arranged plan into a trust account. This account may be a completely separate account, or it may be an account containing the funds received from the sale of more than one pre-need funeral (in other words, your money may be combined with other people’s money). Either way, the money, and the interest earned on that money, must stay in the account until either the services are provided or the contract is cancelled. Although funeral homes may invest that money, only certain kinds of investments are permitted (the safer kind). Appropriate records must then be kept (and that includes a yearly pre-need trust report to the Alberta government).

If, at a later date, the funeral home goes bankrupt, the money kept in trust will be distributed by the courts to everyone whose money was in the trust.

2.4 What exactly goes into a contract for pre-arranged funerals?

In Alberta, the law requires that certain specific details be written in a contract (a verbal contract will not do). They are:

- the professional service charge;
- the facility charges;
- the transportation costs;
- the cost of the casket;
- the cost of the outer receptacle;
- the cost of cremation;
- the cost of the cremation container;
- the cost of the urn;
- the amount or amounts, if any, set aside for the payment of taxes;
- the itemized cost of any other disbursements;
- the total cost of all items;
- the terms of cancellation (in not less than 10-point type);
- the signature of both a funeral home representative and the purchaser (you).

If the contract does not contain the information required by law, you may be able to ask a court to cancel the contract.

2.5 Last week, I signed a pre-need trust-funded contract. Now I am having second thoughts. Can I cancel the contract?

Yes, but you may not be able to do so without a cost. Your exact rights of cancellation will depend on the payment arrangements that you made.

- If you signed a trust-funded plan, you have 30 days to cancel it without charge or penalty. After the 30-day period, you can still cancel the contract, but the seller may charge you an administration fee.
- If you signed an insurance-funded plan, your right to cancel will depend on the terms of the contract itself. The cancellation rights for trust-funded plans will not apply. For the exact wording that must appear in trust-funded contracts, you can see Schedule 1 of the Funeral Services Act, General Regulation (See: Alberta Queen’s Printer in the additional resources section of this booklet).
2.6 If I cancel my pre-need trust-funded contract and a fee does apply, how much will that fee be?

That will depend on the total cost of the funeral. Currently, the maximum cancellation fee is 15% of the total cost. It should be noted, however, that the maximum cancellation fee is determined by regulation and could change any time that the regulation is amended.

2.7 I am considering pre-arranging my own funeral, but I am concerned that what I want now may not be what I want 20 years from now. What if I want to change some of the terms at a later date?

Generally, most contracts contain clauses about what will happen if future changes are required. Pre-need funeral contracts can, too. Be sure to read your contract carefully and, if you are not satisfied with the process and costs for making changes, talk to your provider about it before signing the contract.

2.8 What if I make these arrangements and then die when we are out of the country on holiday?

Many pre-need contracts include options for “repatriation”. For example, they can include a specific fee that, if you choose to purchase it, would result in any and all related costs incurred (such as cremation) out-of-province or out-of-country as well as the cost of return transportation. If you travel regularly, you may wish to consider this option. Be sure, however, to understand the exact costs, as not all contracts are the same: some have a one-time lump fee, others have multiple fees or fees that vary by things such as the duration of the trip(s).

2.9 I bought a trust-funded pre-need funeral several years ago. I now want to move to another province to be with my children and I wish to be buried there instead. What can I do?

You can ask the funeral home from whom you purchased the pre-need funeral to “assign” the contract to a funeral home in your new area. This must be a written request. The funeral home will then be required to assign the contract. Be aware, however, that the money (and its accumulated interest) may not be enough to cover the cost at this new funeral home. Be sure to do your research so that you can get as close to the similar services for the same amount of money.

2.10 How much does it cost to pre-plan a funeral?

The price varies and depends on many factors. One way to be sure you are getting a fair market price is to get several quotes. Also, be sure that you look at all of the same details: what is “standard” for one plan might be an “extra” in another.

2.11 I was very unhappy with the funeral home that I tried to do business with: where can I file a complaint?

You may wish to first bring your complaint to the funeral home itself. If this does not result in a satisfactory resolution, you can file a complaint with the Alberta Funeral Services Regulatory Board (AFSRB), which is the organization created under the Funeral Services Act to consider and investigate complaints regarding the conduct or actions of any person or company licensed to provide funeral services.

Complaints must be made in writing using the AFSRB Complaint Form (see our list of resources at the back of this booklet). Complaint forms are also available from the AFSRB office by calling 1-800-563-4652. For more information on how complaints are handled, please see the “Complaints” section of the AFSRB website.
3. Questions about burial

3.1 What exactly is “embalming”?

Embalmimg is a process that results in replacing blood with a substitute chemical fluid. The purpose is both to temporarily preserve the deceased and/or for cosmetic purposes if the farewell ceremony is to include an open casket.

3.2 I have obtained several quotes and I am confused about embalming: is it required?

Only in very limited circumstances. In general, the law does not require embalming. However, a body must be embalmed if the deceased died while infected with a communicable disease (other than anthrax, plague or viral hemorrhagic fever) and is to be transported by common carrier. Embalming is not necessary to transport the deceased by private vehicle or by a vehicle owned by the funeral home. When death resulted from anthrax, plague or viral hemorrhagic fever embalming is not permitted. Instead the deceased is placed in a sealed container.

A funeral home can embalm if it is requested to so do. If you are concerned about how the embalming will be done, you can also ask the funeral home to see its “code of conduct” for embalming (the home is required by law to have such a code of conduct).

3.3 Caskets are all so expensive. Do I have to have one, or can I make my own pine box?

The price of a casket can range from a few hundred dollars to several thousand dollars, depending on the kind that you choose. For example: a hardwood or metal casket will be much more expensive than a simple plywood or cardboard casket. Things like fancy trims can also add to the price. In the past few years, more and more “green” caskets have become available; they are sturdy enough to contain and bury the deceased, but they are bio-degradable.

Often, less expensive caskets are not displayed, and you may have to ask specifically about alternative options (such as making your own casket or rental caskets for ceremonies).

Although there is no law prohibiting you from making your casket (as long as it complies with all legal requirements), a funeral home may choose not to use any casket other than one from one of its providers. Be sure to discuss this issue with the funeral home before you sign a pre-need contract.

3.4 I was told that if I want to be buried, I will need a permit. Is this true?

Yes. In order to bury, cremate or otherwise dispose of a body, a burial permit is required. Permits are often printed by funeral homes on behalf of the family when funeral arrangements are being made. Burial permits may also be obtained from a hospital registrar.

A cemetery will not consent to a burial without the prescribed burial permit. Similarly, a crematorium will not consent to a cremation without the proper permit.
3.5
Can I be buried anywhere, or does it have to be in a cemetery?

Burials must be made in registered cemeteries. Cemeteries can be owned and managed by churches, local municipalities or private businesses.

There are two ways to be buried. The first is the traditional earth burial, where the deceased is placed in a casket and lowered into the ground. The second type of burial is less common: it involves placing the deceased and the casket permanently in a mausoleum, or tomb, above or just below the ground.

Once you decide on a cemetery, and before you agree to purchase a plot or other goods or services, ask for a written statement listing all costs. Be sure to compare because cemetery costs vary widely. Here are some of the things to inquire about:

• plot prices;
• grave markers (and any restrictions on the shapes and sizes);
• restrictions on suppliers (some cemeteries limit you to their approved list of suppliers);
• installation charges;
• permanent care costs (for example: lawn maintenance fees);
• vault requirements (if there is one);
• grave opening and closing fees; and
• surcharges for non-residents.

3.6
Can’t I just be buried on my family’s land?

No. There are a number of steps that must be taken to ensure it is done properly and legally. As part of this, arrangements must be made with a cemetery or crematorium. Burials must be made in registered cemeteries. This is because there are certain health issues involved in burying bodies, and an improper burial can lead to health crises such as an unintended contamination of a water source or the spread of disease.

It is the legal responsibility of the spouse, next of kin, or person who has full knowledge of the facts surrounding the death to complete a Registration of Death form. Vital Statistics must be informed of the death. So, too, must the Canada Revenue Agency. It really is not possible for a death to not be noticed. Eventually, an illegal burial would come to light and the next of kin would find themselves in trouble with the law. Consider, instead, the scattering of your ashes on your family’s land.

3.7
I want to be buried next to my spouse. Can I do that?

In general, it is possible to arrange for the purchase of two side-by-side plots. In some cemeteries, it is also possible to arrange for something called “double occupancy”, which is when cemeteries allow two burials in one plot, one deep and one shallow. As always, when making your decision, be sure to look into the various fees and costs for these different options.

3.8
I have received quotes and I do not understand all of the different costs associated with burial. What are all of these things?

Cemetery and burial costs vary widely, as can the list of items that is “included” or “extra”. Items often considered are the following.

• Plot prices. This is the price of the piece of land itself. The price will vary not only by the cemetery and its location, but the location of the plot within the cemetery itself.
• Grave opening fee. Although you may have purchased the land, the price may not have included the cost of getting your body into that piece of land (such as the backhoe required, and the salary of its driver). Again, this price may vary by cemetery. Also, the price may be different depending on whether they are opening a new grave, or opening a grave to bury you above or below someone else, such as your previously deceased spouse (this is known as a “double-occupancy” grave).
• Grave markers. This is the head stone or plaque. Sometimes the price of this is included, sometimes it is not. Another
thing to remember is that the types of markers permitted can vary by cemetery. For example: some may have size restrictions, placement rules (standing up or lying flat) or restrictions on words that can be used. Another consideration is that some cemeteries have required suppliers. So, if your heart is set on a particular marker or epitaph, be sure to double check the details before you sign a pre-need contract.

- Grave closing fee. Again, this may be included, or not.
- Surcharges. Sometimes cemeteries add surcharges for other matters. For example: some cemeteries add an additional amount if the deceased resided outside of the municipality.
- Permanent Care. There may be additional fees for the care of the gravesite. For example: lawn maintenance. The exact cost varies by cemetery. The cost may also depend on other factors. For example: certain types of grave markers (the vertical kind) involve more maintenance (such as weeding) than others (the flat inset variety).

3.9

My sister in the United States mentioned that she has arranged for a “green burial”. What is this, and is it possible here?

The term “green burial” refers to a growing practice of caring for the dead with minimal environmental impact that furthers ecological aims such as the conservation of natural resources, reduction of carbon emissions, protection of worker health, and the restoration and/or preservation of habitat. Green burial favours interring the deceased in either cloth shrouds or in simple caskets made from sustainable materials (such as pine or wicker). Grave markers, if used at all, are typically made from native fieldstones and set flat to the ground, though shrubs and trees may be used instead. Bodies are laid into vault-free graves, in a natural setting, legally protected as a cemetery. Green burials have become common in the United Kingdom, and the United States now has over 30 green burial and hybrid cemeteries. In Canada, there are currently two such sites, one on Vancouver Island and one in Coburg, Ontario.
4. Questions about cremation

4.1 What exactly is cremation?

Cremation is the process of burning the remains of the deceased. This process generally takes about three hours. Throughout the entire process a labeling system ensures correct identification of the ashes.

As cremation is an irreversible process that eliminates all DNA as well as any ability to later investigate the exact cause of death, each cremation must be authorized by the Medical Examiner. More specifically, before a body can be cremated, the Medical Examiner must review the Medical Certificate of Death, signed by the attending physician. The Medical Examiner will then issue something called a “Form 4”, which gives approval for the cremation.

After cremation, all that usually remains of the body is 2 to 3 kilograms of pulverized bone and ash. These materials are pure and represent no health risk.

If you choose, the cremated remains may be disposed of by the crematorium, or returned in a container (usually called an “urn”) to the next of kin.

4.2 Do I need a casket if I am going to be cremated?

If cremation is chosen, a casket or other appropriate cremation container is still required. However, an appropriate cremation container need not necessarily be a casket, it need only be an enclosable, combustible container of rigid construction and equipped with handles. In some cases, you may supply your own home-made container providing it meets the requirements of the crematorium. Be sure to discuss this matter with the funeral provider.

4.3 Does cremation occur at a funeral home, or elsewhere?

Technically, cremation occurs at a “crematory”. These are generally located in funeral homes and cemeteries.

4.4 Can cremated remains be buried?

Yes. However, cemetery facilities for receiving cremated remains vary. Some have an urn garden where cremation lots are available for burial of an urn. Others have a columbarium, an above-ground structure where urns are held. Another option is to bury the cremated remains in a family plot. Some cemeteries also offer a common scattering garden. It’s best to check with the cemetery in question.

4.5 I want to be cremated and have my ashes scattered in a natural setting. Can I do this anywhere, or are there restrictions?

It is possible to have one’s ashes scattered, and you can leave specific instructions as to where and how this is to be done. However, just as a person cannot necessarily simply go anywhere during life, so, too, in death.

If you want your ashes to be scattered on your own land, this does not pose any problems. However, if you wish for your ashes to be scattered on land owned by someone else, you (or your personal representative) will first need to get written permission from the land owner. This includes national, provincial, and municipal parks. Although such parks can choose to allow scattering of ashes, there are no universal policies and you should not plan on being able to scatter your remains in this manner. If you wish to scatter cremated remains in a provincial park, contact the park in question to learn whether it is allowed, and, if it is, any restrictions as to time and location. See our list of additional resources for contact information.

As a last thought, since the act of scattering ashes is irreversible, you may want to think through all the pros and cons and discuss it with loved ones in advance.
5. Questions about other aspects of the final ceremony

5.1

For my farewell ceremony, I want my body to be transported in my favorite old, restored car. Can I do this?

If a body is to be transported within Alberta, and not on a “common carrier”, there are no regulations as to the type of vehicle that must be used and no permits are needed. That said, transporting a body does present challenges and it may be difficult to complete your wish. Be sure to address this topic with the funeral home and your family.

5.2

I served in the Canadian military: how do I go about arranging military honours at my funeral?

Military honours are available to any veteran or serving member of Canada’s armed forces. Services can include covering the casket with the Canadian flag, Red Ensign, or Union Jack, and a bugler sounding the Last Post. Veterans’ organizations such as the Royal Canadian Legion may provide pallbearers and a Guard of Honour if requested. For more information contact Veterans’ Affairs and the Royal Canadian Legion. Contact details are listed at the back of this booklet.

5.3

Are there special rates for veterans?

Under the Alberta Cemeteries Act, cemeteries must give reduced rates to veterans. However, they might not provide space nearby for other family members (although some cemeteries allow a spouse’s cremated remains to be buried in or scattered on the plot). There is no requirement for a reduced rate for funeral services.

A veteran may, however, be eligible for financial aid from the federal government. The Veterans Affairs Canada Funeral and Burial Program, administered by the Last Post Fund, provides financial assistance toward the dignified funeral, burial, cremation and grave marking for eligible veterans. To qualify for the Funeral and Burial Program, veterans must meet certain financial and service-related criteria. It is important to note that every case is unique and coverage is not automatic. To discuss specific situations, contact the Last Post Fund. Contact details are in the list of resources at the back of this booklet.

5.4

I am not very traditional and I want my farewell ceremony to be unique. I’ve tried to talk to my children about this, but they do not like my ideas. What can I do?

If you do not pre-arrange your own funeral/farewell ceremony, someone will have to do it for you once you have died. If you write a Will that outlines your wishes, the executor is supposed to act in accordance with those wishes. Technically, this is a legal requirement. However, sometimes it is very difficult for survivors to put aside their own wishes, as well as wishes of, and pressure from, other survivors. This can result in final wishes not being carried out. Although there are legal remedies for this, sometimes it is too late to change things. For example, if you did not want to be cremated, but you were, that cannot be undone. Also, often, people do not want to pursue these remedies (suing someone is not pleasant).

Once you are dead, you cannot ensure that your wishes are followed. Therefore, a pre-arranged funeral could be helpful. You will have a contract. The funeral home will be bound by law to deliver the arrangements for which you paid. For the funeral home, this is business. It will not be overcome by emotion and sentimentality. It will not bend to the pressure of family members.
5.5 I have made arrangements for my funeral: should I just include them in my Will?

Although you certainly can include your pre-planned funeral arrangements in your Will, you may wish to consider doing more than just that, as, in some cases, the Will is not found until after the funeral. Therefore, consider:

• telling your family and the people who would likely organize your funeral about the arrangements you have made;
• if applicable, leaving a record of your wishes with your church or religious organization;
• leave a copy of the contract for the funeral where it will be found and read immediately after your death, and consider giving a copy to the person you have named as your Executor and to your next of kin.

5.6 I don’t think I need a funeral, as I am planning on donating my body to science, but my daughter still asks me what I want other than that. Should I be planning something?

Even if you donate your body to science, you can still plan a farewell ceremony. Consider telling your daughter what, if any, kind of ceremony you might like (address issues such as speakers, readings, and music). You may also wish to discuss this with the venue where such a ceremony might be held. Another consideration is that a farewell ceremony is often more important for the people who are left behind and are grieving than it is for the person who has died. It may be helpful to work together with your daughter to figure out what might be appropriate for everyone concerned.

It is also worth remembering that, although medical science greatly benefits from the donation of bodies, not all bodies can be accepted. Consider creating a back-up plan in case your donation wish cannot be met. Although you need not go through the trouble of pre-arranging everything, you may at least want any alternate wishes to be clear.

Note: If you wish to donate your body or organs, this must be arranged ahead of time and your family be informed. Often, specific consent forms are required. See the resource list on the back of this booklet for more information.

5.7 When I die, if I have not pre-arranged, who can make my final arrangements for me?

If, when you die, you have not pre-arranged, the authority for making your final arrangements falls in the following order of priority:

• the Executor designated in your Will (if you made one);
• your spouse (if your spouse was living with you at the time of death), or a person who at the time of death had been living with you for a continuous period of at least 2 years;
• an adult child of yours (oldest first, then in descending order of age);
• a parent of yours (oldest first, then in descending order of age);
• your legal guardian;
• an adult grandchild of yours (oldest first, then in descending order of age);
• an adult brother or sister of yours (oldest first, then in descending order of age);
• an adult nephew or niece of yours (oldest first, then in descending order of age);
• an adult next of kin, as determined by the law regarding intestate succession;
• the public trustee;
• an adult having some relationship with you not based on blood ties or affinity; and
• the Minister of Family and Social Services.

If a person who has the right to control the disposition of your remains is not available or is unwilling to give instructions, the right passes to the next available qualified person.
Additional Resources

Alberta Queens Printer provides Alberta Acts and Regulations: www.qp.alberta.ca/laws_online.cfm
Phone: 780-427-4952 (Dial 310-0000 for toll-free access)

Alberta Funeral Service Regulatory Board (AFSRB):
www.afsrb.ab.ca 1-800-563-4652
Complaint Form available at: www.afsrb.ab.ca/forms.asp

Alberta Parks: www.albertaparks.ca 1-866-427-3582

Alberta Vital Statistics: 780-427-7013
www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/VitalStatistics.cfm

Green Burial Council: www.greenburialcouncil.org

Last Post Fund: www.lastpostfund.ca 1-800-465-7113
Veterans’ Affairs: www.veterans.gc.ca 1-866-522-2122

The Royal Canadian Legion: www.legion.ca

Memorial Society of Alberta:
www.memorialsocietyofalberta.com

Parks Canada: www.pc.gc.ca
General Inquiries line: 1-888-773-8888


U.S. site: www.cremation.net

For body donation to science:
Edmonton: www.anatomy.med.ualberta.ca, and;
Calgary: www.fp.ucalgary.ca/bodydonation/program_details.htm

Other medical schools across the country may have similar programs. Check with the one nearest to you.

For organ donation, one central source of information is:
Canadian Society of Transplantation:
www.transplant.ca/pubinfo_orgtiss.htm

It also has contact information for programs across the country.

CPLEA

The Centre for Public Legal Education Alberta is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide Albertans with reliable information about their rights and responsibilities.

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CPLEA gratefully acknowledges:

Alberta Law Foundation

Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia

The People’s Law School, Vancouver, BC

Justice Canada

This booklet is one of a number produced by the Centre for Public Legal Education Alberta that may interest you. Other booklets related to this topic include:

- Making a Will
- Making a Personal Directive
- Making a Power of Attorney
- Being an Executor
- Being an Attorney
- Being an Agent
- Alberta Adult Guardianship and Trusteeship Act

To order our publications, visit our website at www.cplea.ca

You should not rely on this booklet for legal advice. It provides general information on Alberta law only.

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