

Information about Funeral home and Cremation

Information about funeral procedures, approximate expenses and required documents:

1) What To Do When A Death Occurs

When a death occurs there are many decisions that your family will be asked to make. This section is meant to help you prepare for the arrangement (meeting) conference with your funeral director at Trinity Funeral Home,

2) Schedule An Appointment With The Funeral Home

To assure that one of the funeral directors would be available and able to devote the time and attention needed to make funeral arrangements, funeral home will ask that you call to schedule an **arrangement conference** time. There are many factors that may affect when the funeral service can take place.

3) About services and pricing for cremation plans

Please go to <http://www.trinityfuneralhome.ca/services/> and decide the cremation plan

Please add CAD 400 to 500 to the plans, as pricing is based on services in Edmonton.

The basic plan options are explored in the answers to the questions provided by the Funeral home.

4) Things To Bring

In preparation for making funeral arrangements we ask you review the following and bring those items that are applicable.

Vital Statistic Information

In order to register the death with Alberta Vital Statistics to obtain burial or cremation permits, please provide the deceased's:

- ***Social Insurance Number***
- ***Alberta Health Care Number***
- ***Drivers' License Number***
- ***Fathers name and place of birth***
- ***Mothers name, maiden name & place of birth***

- ***Surviving spouses' Social Insurance Number***

Clothing, Jewelry & Other Items

If you are choosing to have services that would include a visitation you will need to bring the clothing that you would like your loved one to wear. If you are choosing a service that does not involve a visitation, you are still welcome to bring clothing. Please include the following:

Clothing

- Undergarments (underwear, bra, slip, socks, pantyhose, undershirt)
- Suit, shirt, tie
- Dress

Other additional items may include:

- Photographs
- Letters
- Rosaries
- Small personal items (golf balls, crib board etc.)

Trinity Funeral Home uses photographs for many things. They include:

Obituary

If you would like a photograph to appear with obituary, please bring it with you to the arrangement conference. The photo can be a large portrait or a snap shot with other people in the photo. Adding a photograph in the Edmonton Journal will increase the cost of the obituary by \$100. The photo appears in Black & White.

At the time of the arrangement conference we will work together with the Family to prepare the obituary for the newspaper. Most families like to prepare their own obituary and when doing so, please follow these guidelines as to what content you should include:

- Indicate who has passed away
- The surviving family members (spouse, children, grandchildren etc.)

- Any predeceased family members
- Funeral service information (include address of church)
- Interment or disposition information (name and address of cemetery)
- Memorial Donations (name and address of charity)
- Any special mentions (doctors, caregivers etc.)

Memorial Folders

At the arrangement conference we will discuss with you a variety of options available for memorial folders. The memorial folders serve as a keepsake and can be personalized to include the following:

- Photo of the deceased
- Photo of a setting (waterfall, farm etc.)
- Funeral Service information
- Custom Poem or Verse
- Obituary

Memorial Video Tribute

Memorial Tributes create a lasting impression and are an excellent way for family and friends to reflect on the person's life using still photos or video clips. Additional copies of the Video on DVD format can be purchased through the Funeral Home.

Frequently Asked Questions from the funeral home website:

What to Do When Death Occurs

Q. What should I do before a death occurs at home or at a hospital?

A. Before the death occurs, please provide the hospital nursing staff our contact information. The hospital staff will then contact Trinity Funeral Home following the death and we will arrange for the deceased to be transferred into our care. With a home death, please advise the Home Care Nurse to contact Trinity Funeral Home when the death occurs.

Q. What should I do after the death occurs at home or at a hospital?

A. When death occurs, Trinity Funeral Home personnel are available to assist you at any hour, seven days a week. Please call (780) 474-4663 for assistance. The only information you need to provide us with is the name of the deceased, the location of the deceased and the name, relationship and phone number of the person who will be responsible for making the funeral arrangements. We will arrange immediately for the deceased to be transferred into our care.

When a sudden death has occurred at home, call 911, the medical examiner and local police (E.P.S. or R.C.M.P.) may be required.

Funeral Questions

Q. What is the purpose of a funeral?

A. A funeral is a gathering of family and friends who come together to honor the memory of a loved one who has died. Funerals provide surviving family members and friends a caring, supportive environment in which to recognize the death of a loved one, and to share thoughts and feelings about that person. Funerals are the first step in the healing process. The ritual of attending a funeral service provides many benefits including:

Providing a social support system for the bereaved

- Helping the bereaved understand death is final and that death is part of life
- Integrating the bereaved back into the community
- Easing the transition to a new life after the death of a loved one
- Providing a safe haven for embracing and expressing pain
- Reaffirming one's relationship with the person who died
- Providing a time to say good-bye

It is possible to have a full funeral service even for those choosing cremation. The importance of the ritual is in providing a social gathering to help the bereaved begin the healing process.

Q. Who is the funeral for?

A. The funeral is for the living. The deceased no longer has any needs. The funeral provides a place for family and friends to gather for support and to reminisce. It is an opportunity to celebrate the life and accomplishments of a loved one and allows a chance to say goodbye. The funeral illustrates that a person's life has been lived, NOT that a death has occurred.

Q. What do funeral directors do?

A. The primary role of a funeral director is to assist and serve people experiencing the death of a loved one. Funeral directors are caregivers and administrators. They make the arrangements for the transportation of the deceased, complete all necessary paperwork, and implement the choices made by the family regarding the funeral and final disposition of the deceased. Funeral directors are listeners, advisors and supporters. They have experience assisting the bereaved in coping

with death. Funeral directors are trained to answer questions about grief, recognize when a person is having difficulty coping, and recommend sources of professional help. Funeral directors also link survivors with support groups at the funeral home or in the community.

Q. Why have a visitation and/or viewing?

A. The viewing of the deceased is helpful in accepting that death has occurred. It is especially helpful to the immediate family but also to the extended family and friends. The opportunity to physically say goodbye is a very important part of the grief process.

Q. What are the key elements of a funeral?

A. A funeral can include any of the following: private or public visitation with the bereaved family and/or viewing of the deceased; the actual ceremony; and a gathering at the time of cremation and/or burial. Each of these stages offers an opportunity to make the funeral a very personal event, reflecting the unique needs and wishes of those involved.

Q. How soon do we have the funeral?

A. Usually the funeral service is held within three to four days following the death. Factors to consider when deciding on the time of the service are, the distance that family members have to travel to attend the funeral, are there any holidays that would interfere with the burial, what is the schedule of the person that will officiate at the funeral.

Preplanning & Prepaying

Q. What is a prearranged funeral?

A. A prearranged funeral is when all of the funeral wishes have been selected and recorded by the funeral home prior to death. The arrangements are either made by the person for whom the arrangements are for or by someone responsible for their care. There is no charge for prearranging a funeral. Prearrangements can involve the deposit of funds for payment of the funeral or can simply be the gathering of information. It is a way for people to ease the emotional and financial strain for those family and friends left behind.

Q. Is preplanning a funeral and prepaying the same thing?

A. No. Preplanning a funeral involves choosing all the preferences and options incorporated in a funeral, while providing the necessary vital statistic information that would be required at the time of death. This is what we refer to as The Simple Plan. When prepaying for a funeral, you are securing and “freezing” those funeral costs against inflation by funding the expenses prior to death. This can be in the form of a one time, lump sum payment, or time payments made over the course of a set period.

Q. What are the benefits of pre-planning?

A. Prearranging your funeral gives you the peace of mind of knowing that your wishes will be respected down to the last detail. Investing in a prearrangement is not only comforting for you, but also for your family, as it lifts the burden of arranging a funeral during their difficult time.

Q. What are the benefits of pre-paying?

A. It eliminates a financial burden to your family, it provides peace of mind and protects you from price increases, and it simplifies things for your loved ones at the time of your death.

Q. What is involved in making pre-arrangements?

A. Recording personal information that is required for Vital Statistics. This consists of full name, address, spouse's name, occupation, birth date, birthplace, parent's names and their birthplaces and your next of kin or executor. Making service choices. Funeral or memorial service, burial, cremation or transfer to another city, music selections, personalized service folders, video presentation, participants (family and/or friends) to create a meaningful service. Making specific selections. The selection of a casket or cremation container, an urn, a burial or urn vault, and a monument or memorial marker. Arranging a payment plan. The services do not have to be prepaid, but the costs will be guaranteed not to increase if payment is made at one time or by monthly payments.

Q. If I should move to another country or for whatever reason change my plans, can I get my money back?

A. Certainly. Keep in mind this money deposited in a trusted pre-paid funeral plan is always your money. Funds and interest earned may be returned to you on the receipt of a letter from you requesting its return, bearing your signature and the signature of a responsible witness.

Q. Are pre-paid funeral contracts transferable?

A. Yes. Transfers of pre-paid contracts take place regularly and for good reasons such as: the beneficiary moves, his/her contract is usually transferred to and is honoured by the funeral home in that city which the originating funeral home recommends. Because Trinity Funeral Home is a Canadian Independent Funeral Home, we will find a Canadian Independent firm to handle your funeral arrangements.

Cremation

Q. What is cremation?

A. Cremation is the process of using intense heat to reduce the body to bone fragments and ashes. It normally takes two to four hours for this process to be completed. The cremated remains weigh three to nine pounds, depending on the size of the body.

Q. Is cremation a substitute for a funeral?

A. No, cremation is an alternative method of disposition. In actuality, cremation is only part of the commemorative experience. In fact, cremation can actually increase your options when planning a funeral. Cremation gives people the flexibility to search for types of tributes that reflect the life being honored. But this doesn't mean that aspects of traditional funeral services have to be discarded. Even with cremation, a meaningful memorial that is personalized to reflect the life of the deceased could include:

- A visitation prior to the service
- An open or closed casket
- Special music
- A ceremony at the funeral chapel, your place of worship or other special location
- Participation by friends and family

Q. What happens during the cremation process?

A. The casket/cremation container holding the body is placed in the cremation chamber, where the temperature is raised to approximately 1400 degrees to 1800 degrees Fahrenheit. After approximately 3 hours, all organic matter is consumed by heat or evaporation. The remaining bone fragments are known as cremated remains. The cremated remains are then carefully removed from the cremation chamber. Any metal is removed with a magnet and later disposed of in an approved manner. The cremated remains are then processed into fine particles and are placed in a temporary container provided by the crematory or placed in an urn purchased by the family. The entire process takes approximately three hours.

Q. Is the body exposed to an open flame during the cremation process?

A. Yes, the body is exposed to direct heat and flame. Cremation is performed by placing the deceased in a casket or other container and then placing the casket or container into a cremation chamber or retort, where they are subjected to intense heat and flame.

Q. I would like a funeral, but I prefer to be cremated. Can I do that?

A. Yes. The fact that a person or their family chooses cremation as a final form of disposition makes absolutely no reference to the type of services which can be held prior to the cremation. In fact, many families choose to have traditional gatherings, visitations and/or viewings and funerals with their deceased family member's physical body present prior to the cremation.

Q. Is a casket required?

A. For sanitary reasons, ease of placement and dignity, most crematories require that the deceased be cremated in a combustible, leak proof, rigid, covered container. This does not need to be a casket as such.

Q. Can a casket be rented instead of purchased when choosing cremation?

A. Yes. Many funeral homes offer a ceremonial casket for viewing or funeral services prior to

cremation. The ceremonial (or rental) casket is specifically designed to provide a very pleasing and affordable alternative to purchasing a casket for a cremation service.

Q. What can be done with the cremated remains?

A. Cremated remains may be kept at home, buried in a cemetery, placed in a columbarium, or scattered. In Alberta there are no laws prohibiting the scattering of remains. It is always a good idea to ask for permission when scattering on private land. If you are on crown land they ask that you avoid any waterways. The cremains can be interred in a cemetery plot, i.e., earth burial, retained by a family member, in an urn, scattered on private property, or at a place that was significant to the deceased.

Q. What is a columbarium?

A. A columbarium is constructed above ground and contains numerous small compartments (niches) designed to hold urns containing cremated remains.

Q. Can The Family Witness The Cremation?

A. Yes, in many cases, cremation providers will allow family members to be present when the body is placed into the cremation chamber.

Q. What is a keepsake or sharing urn?

A. A keepsake urn has been designed for those who wish to keep a small portion of the cremated remains and/or a lock of hair in their personal possession.

Q. What is cremation jewelry?

A. Cremation Jewelry offers families a means by which they carry a small portion of cremated remains of their one in a discrete manner. Many styles of hearts, crosses, birds in either sterling silver, traditional or white gold are available.

General Questions

Q. What is the cost of a funeral?

A. Funeral costs vary depending on the funeral home and type of service selected. There are three types of costs associated with a funeral: (1) services provided by the funeral home (2) merchandise such as a casket or urn and (3) disbursements such as newspaper or cemetery fees.

Q. Do I need to notify the government of my loved ones death?

A. No. Part of the legal paperwork completed by our funeral home includes legal notification to both the federal and provincial governments. The family's only responsibility is to provide the funeral home with the correct Social Insurance Number.

Q. Are funeral service providers or funeral homes regulated?

A. All funeral service providers, operating in the Province of Alberta are regulated by the:
Alberta Funeral Services Regulatory Board
11810 Kingsway Ave. Edmonton, AB T5G 0X5
Telephone: (780) 452-6130
Toll Free: (800) 563-4652
Fax: (780) 452-6085
Email Address: office@afsrab.ab.ca

Q. Do we need to have clergy involved?

A. While some choose to have family members or friends speak at the funeral, many families look for spiritual guidance and comfort at that time. So for them, having a clergy involved is natural. However, it is not necessary to have clergy involved. It's the opportunity for expression that is important, and we can help arrange for someone to assist in providing a meaningful celebration.

Q. Who prepares the obituary?

A. Our arranging funeral director will gather the information for the obituary at the time we meet with you. We will then draft the obituary and forward it to the local and out of town newspapers of your choice. We place special emphasis on the wording and writing of an obituary, knowing it serves a very special purpose for many of its readers.

Q. How expensive is an obituary?

A. The Edmonton Journal charges \$9.10 per line per day. Photos cost an additional \$100. Families should budget between \$300 – \$400 for an obituary.

Q. Does the law require embalming of a dead body?

A. Except in certain cases, embalming is not required by law. Embalming may be necessary however, depending on the type of service you select, such as a funeral with viewing. If the body is being transported out of Province or out of Country by a common carrier such as an airline, then the body must be embalmed.

Q. What is embalming?

A. Embalming is the temporary preservation of the human body following death. This surgical-like procedure involves injecting chemicals into the deceased to produce a life-like appearance. This helps to stall decomposition of the body, providing more time for a viewing and/or service.

The following is Simple Cremation plan.

Simple Cremation – \$795.00 **includes** the following:

- Arrangement Conference in the comfort of your home or at our Funeral Home
 - Registration of Death with Alberta Vital Statistics
 - Obtaining Certificate for Cremation from the Medical Examiner's Office
 - Completing & Mailing of Canada Pension Plan Death Benefit (receive up to \$2,500 back for those who qualify)
 - Completing & Mailing of Canada Pension Plan Survivor Benefit Forms
 - Transfer from Place of Death (24 Hour Service) within 150KM of Greater Edmonton
 - Composing of Obituary and Free Posting on our website
 - Standard Cremation Container
 - Cremation Fee
 - Scheduled Witness Cremation (Family can be present for the start of the Cremation Process)
 - Basic Utility Urn
 - 8 Statements of Death
 - Certificate of Cremation
 - Transit Permit (For those who are taking the Cremated Remains or the Urn outside of Canada)
- Clergy and Cemetery Permits
 - Submission of Deceased's name to Dearly Departed

Optional Items

The following may be added to the Simple Cremation Option:

- Dressing and Viewing of deceased at Trinity Funeral Home Chapel – \$200.00
- Cremation Urn – \$36.00 & up
- Obituary in Edmonton Journal or Edmonton Sun – Lineage rate applies. Please ask funeral director for current costs
- Stationery Package – \$245.00 (Includes memorial book, 4 pens, 100 color memorial folders & memorial candle)

Please go to <http://www.trinityfuneralhome.ca/services/> to see different plans ,options and pricing.

Following are the questions or the explanation of the sentence or phrase found in simple plan prepared by committee members and answers provided by the Funeral home:

Q1 In funeral check list, what is the requirement of “Personal Data of Deceased”?

- In order for us to legally register a death in Alberta we require certain information about the deceased such as, date of birth, social insurance number, Alberta health care number etc. Please see attached sheet that lists all the required information.

Q 2 “Arrangement Conference in the comfort of your home or at our Funeral home”. What is that?

- This is something we offer to our Edmonton families. They can either choose to come to Funeral Home to make the arrangements or if they are not mobile or uncomfortable in coming to the Funeral Home, we can go to their home to make the arrangements.

Q 3 “Registration of Death with Alberta Vital Statistics” What is the significance of this and is there any extra charges for this?

- Please see Q1. Every death in Alberta has to be registered with Vital Statistics. There is NO additional charge for this and is included in any of our service offerings.

Q 4 “Obtaining Certificate for Cremation from the Medical Examiner’s Office” Who will collect certificate from hospital / Doctor? If it is accident or unnatural death do we need police clearance certificate also?

- If the person passes away at the hospital, the medical certificate accompanies the body to Edmonton. The medical certificate is required before we can register the death with Alberta Vital Statistics. In the event the medical examiner is involved, they will complete the medical certificate and will provide that to us when we pickup the body to bring to Edmonton. If there is an accident or unnatural death, the medical examiner and the police need to be notified.

Q 5 “Completing & Mailing of Canada Pension Plan Death Benefit (receive up to 2,500 back for those who qualify.” Who will do the paper work?

- Trinity Funeral Home will complete and mail the CPP death benefit and also the CPP widow’s pension benefit.

Q6 “Completing & Mailing of Canada Pension Plan Survivor Benefit Forms” Who will do the paper work?

- Please see Q5

Q7 “Transfer from Place Of death (24 hour service) with in 150 KM of Greater Edmonton”. But we live in Fort McMurray, how is your services for Fort McMurray area all year round? What is the price for transfer of body of the deceased, what is the temperature you maintain during the transfer from Fort McMurray to Edmonton? Who can travel in the vehicle in which the body of the deceased is being transferred?

- We have licensed funeral directors available 24 hours per day. In the event of a death in Fort McMurray we will pick up the body from the hospital or home at any time. Now, please note that we will not leave Edmonton until we have secured a release of the body from the hospital or medical examiners office. There would be an additional mileage charge for transfers from Fort McMurray. I am currently trying to work on a price with Capital Transfer Service. I imagine the cost will be \$400 - \$500 in addition to our current service cost options. There is no temperature adjustment for a short trip of this nature and someone could ride with the deceased back to Edmonton but would have to make their own arrangements for getting back to Fort McMurray.

Q8 “Standard Cremation Container” can you specify size please?

- This is our basic cremation container constructed of Cardboard. We also have a plywood container available at an additional upgrade cost of \$100.

Q9 what is the method of payment for Cremation Fees?

- Payment can be made by cheque, cash or credit card. We would require payment in full at the time the cremated remains are returned to the family.

Q10 “Scheduled Witness Cremation” Can family be present for the start of the Cremation Process?

- We allow family members to be present at the start of the cremation process. We allow the family to press the button that starts the process. Cremation times vary from 1.5 hours to 4 hours. The family cannot be present for the entire process.

Q11 what is “Basic Utility Urn”?

- If the family does not provide or purchase an urn we include a Basic Utility Urn. This is a very simple black plastic box that is then placed inside a white cardboard box.

Q12 “8 Statements of Death” If we need more how we can get, what is wait period and how much fees?

- We can provide you with an unlimited amount of Statements of Death at no additional cost.

Q13 What is “Certificate of Cremation” and where it can be use?

- The certificate of cremation is a document that shows the cremation number, date of cremation, the name of the Crematory Operator, next of kin etc. Sometimes it is required by the cemetery before the urn or cremated remains can be buried.

Q14 “Transit Permit” (For those who are taking the Cremated Remains or The Urn outside of Canada). Who will provide this permit? Do we have to put Urn in the Check in luggage or with hand carry if travelling through airline?

- We provide you with this permit. The urn should be in your carry-on baggage so that in the event your baggage is lost by the Airline the urn is safe.

Q15 While going through Canadian and other airport custom while in transit, do we need to declare anything? What other document required while travelling with urn?

- At customs nothing happens. You just have to let security know that you are travelling with cremated remains. They may ask to see the Burial Permit (which we automatically provide you with) or the certificate of cremation. If the urn is going outside of Canada, then we need to get a certificate of non-communicable disease for the medical examiner’s office which we will apply for. There is no additional cost for this.

Q15 What is “Clergy and Cemetery Permit”?

- These are documents required by the cemetery and clergy person. It is called the Burial Permit and it's the same document.

Q16 Please explain about” Submission of Deceased’s name to dearly depart”

- This is a FREE service provided by the Edmonton Sun newspaper. We submit the deceased's name, age and date of death to the Sun. It appears there for 4-5 days at no cost to the family.

Q17 What if deceased person’s body needs to be transferred to India, if the person is not a Canadian Citizen? Do you have facility to transfer the deceased person from Canada to India? What kind of paper work is required?

- Transporting a deceased person to India is an involved process. The body MUST be embalmed and free of communicable disease. Our funeral home is well equipped to

complete this process. We require the person's passport and other legal ID. All these documents are sent to the consulate to be verified and approved. It could take up to 2 weeks from the time of death until the body arrives in India. We also need the name of the receiving funeral home, their phone number and the name of their funeral director. The must travel to India in a hermetically sealed casket or if in a wood casket, the body must be placed in a Zinc lined bag. The airfare for transportation to India is around \$2000 - \$3000 plus funeral home costs.

Q18 If Deceased person is on student visa or on visitor visa, can the deceased person be cremated in Alberta or in any other province of Canada?

- Yes. However, we need the cremation authorization to be signed by the Legal next of kin (Father, mother, brother, sister Etc.). The cremation authorization may be sent via fax to India to obtain such signatures. Your community leader may sign as long as we see written permission from the family.

Q19 What kind of Funeral home do you have? How you cremate the body?

- We have a free standing building for our funeral home. We have the embalming room, offices, chapel and cremator all under one roof. We use a Millenium III crematory that was installed at Trinity on June 4, 2012. The machine is the latest in technology and can cremate a person in 1 hour to 1 hour and a half. It is very efficient.

Q20 In our religion, some people needs to do religious prayer to the dead body by family member before cremating. Would you allow?

- Yes. We have a chapel and also the family can do their religious prayer at the crematory area if they wish.

If you have any further questions or concerns please call directly at the number below to:

John E. Laureano
Trinity Funeral Home Ltd.
12134 66 ST NW
Edmonton, AB T5B1J8

Phone: [780-474-4663](tel:780-474-4663)

Fax: [1-888-329-3408](tel:1-888-329-3408)

Email: john@trinityfuneralhome.ca

Visit online: www.trinityfuneralhome.ca

