

## 2010 Board

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## AFSRB Licensing Survey

In April 2010 the Alberta Funeral Services Regulatory Board conducted a province-wide licensing survey to determine if changes to legislation were needed to include non-active licences, honorary licences, and specific time requirements for part-time funeral director and embalmer licences.

Sixty-two out of one hundred fifty funeral businesses responded to the survey. Unfortunately the survey results proved to be inconclusive as funeral homes had strong opposing views and there was little consensus on any issue.

If an applicant for a funeral director licence or an embalmer licence has kept continuing education requirements up-to-date and has paid the required licensing fee, a licence will be issued to the applicant regardless of the number of hours he or she actually works.

The Board has recommended that the wording in section 22(1)(b) of the *Funeral Services Act - General Regulation* be changed to "will be employed" instead of "intends to work".

## Continuing Education for Funeral Directors and Embalmers

Comments from funeral directors and embalmers on the licensing survey confirmed that continuing education must be directly related to funeral director and embalmer functions. To this end continuing education credit will only be given to programs that are clearly relevant to funeral director and embalmer education.

Funeral directors will need 6 hours of Funeral Director Continuing Education by March 1, 2003.  
(Every 3 years)

Embalmers will need 6 hours of embalmer continuing education by March 1, 2005.  
(Every 5 years)

July 2010

## 2009 – 2010 Summary of Funeral Business Inspections

This year saw the opening of 11 new funeral services business locations and the closing of 9 existing business locations. A further 62 funeral services business locations were inspected along with 24 crematoriums.

### **New Funeral Business Locations**

- Cochrane Funeral Services Inc.  
Cochrane Country Funeral Home  
#6 Sundance Mall  
402 Railway Street, W, Cochrane AB
- 1499770 Alberta Ltd.  
Stettler Funeral Home (2009) Ltd.  
4707 – 70 Street, Stettler AB
- 1499770 Alberta Ltd.  
Stettler Funeral Home (2009) Ltd.  
5018 Royal Street , Coronation AB
- Reflections Funeral Home and  
Crematorium Ltd.  
Metcalf Funeral Chapel  
4200 – 49 Avenue, Innisfail AB
- Gregory's Funeral Home Inc.  
5135 – 52 Street, Provost AB
- Commemorate Group Inc.  
Trinity Funeral Home  
12821 – 58 Street, NW, Edmonton AB
- 1499770 Alberta Ltd.  
Stettler Funeral Home (2009) Ltd.  
5117 – 50 Street , Castor AB
- Reflections Funeral Homes and  
Crematorium Ltd.  
Mountain View Funeral Chapel  
5226 – 46 Street , Olds AB
- Reflections Funeral Homes and  
Crematorium Ltd.  
Mountain View Funeral Chapel  
1413 – 21 Avenue, Didsbury AB
- Hanna Funeral Chapel Ltd.  
330 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West, Hanna AB
- Prairie Sunset Funeral Home Ltd.  
9920 – 107 Street, Westlock

### **Business locations closed**

- 785575 Alberta Limited  
Slywka's Cochrane Funeral Home  
#6 Sundance Mall  
402 Railway Street, W, Cochrane
- Stettler Funeral Home Ltd.  
4207 – 70 Street , Stettler
- Parkview Funeral Chapels (1985) Ltd.  
5117 – 50 Street , Castor
- Parkview Funeral Chapels (1985) Ltd.  
5018 Royal Street , Coronation
- SC I (Canada) Limited  
Metcalf Funeral Chapel  
4200 – 49 Avenue , Innisfail
- Mountain View Funeral Home  
5226 – 46 Street, Olds
- Mountain View Funeral Home  
1413 – 21 Avenue , Didsbury
- Gregory's Funeral Homes Ltd.  
5135 – 52 Street , Provost
- Coronation Funeral Home Ltd.  
Hanna Funeral Chapel  
330 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West, Hanna



## Conclusion of 2009 Inspections

Once again there appears to be a problem with a non compliance of Section 8 of the *Funeral Services Act – General Regulation*. A number of funeral services businesses e failed to provide the facility charges and the transportation costs while some have neglected to provide a description of the casket, cremation container or outer receptacle. These funeral services businesses will be re-inspected for compliance to Section 8 in 2010.

## AFSRB Licenses two Islamic Funeral Homes in June 2010

The Islamic Missionary Association / Quba Masjid and the Islamic Funeral Society have been licensed as new funeral business locations in Edmonton. The business manager / funeral director for both facilities is Glenn Merritt of Sturgeon Memorial Inc. and Fountain Garden Funeral Services Inc. Mr. Merritt will work with the two locations until their trainees have graduated from the Canadian College of Funeral Service.

## Licensing Statistics

<b>Licences</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Funeral Bus.	139	139	144	144	144	145	147	150	150	150
Funeral Director	138	158	147	144	147	148	150	158	155	158
Embalmer	15	18	15	8	7	12	8	11	15	12
Fun Dir / Embalm	282	271	292	305	293	302	335	361	355	346
Pre-need Sales	178	150	125	118	121	121	105	100	109	114
Crematory		33	33	35	35	36	39	40	40	41

## Written Complaints Received by the AFSRB

<b>Year</b>	<b>At-Need Complaints</b>	<b>Pre-Need Complaints</b>
2007 - 2008	16 At-need complaints	3 pre-need complaints
2008 - 2009	14 at-need complaints	1 pre-need complaint
2009 - 2010	11 at-need complaints	8 pre-need complaints

## Pre-Need Insurance Sales

A recent amendment to the Insurance Agents and Adjusters Regulation (AR 122/2001) will require each funeral business that enters into pre-need funeral contracts that are funded by insurance to hold a Restricted Certificate of Authority issued by the Alberta Insurance Council.

While the amendment has been passed, the forms and processes are not yet in place. The Alberta Insurance Council hopes to be ready to issue Restricted Certificates of Authority by the end of September 2010.

We will provide complete information when it becomes available from the Alberta Insurance Council.

## Canada Revenue Agency Site

<http://www.cra.gc.ca/deceased>

The Canada Revenue Agency wants you to know that there is a website dedicated to assisting individuals when they face the death of a loved one.

The website is called "What To Do When Someone Dies".

The site includes information concerning

- GST / HST Refunds
- Deemed Disposition of Property
- Final Tax Return

A link to the CRA information will be posted on the AFSRB Website:  
[afsrb.ab.ca](http://afsrb.ab.ca).

## Loss, Grief & Growth Education Project Inc.

The Funeral Services Association of Canada has launched a Loss, Grief & Growth Education Project that will serve as a resource for teachers to help them support students in their classrooms that are facing loss and grief.

Loss, Grief and Growth honours the relationship between students and teachers. It acknowledges the reality that teachers are connected with students long after a crisis is over, after the "grief counselors" have left and long after the larger community is focused on the needs of the grieving child.

The resource can be downloaded from [www.fsac.ca](http://www.fsac.ca) or [www.curriculum.org](http://www.curriculum.org)

## Issues You Would Like to see the AFSRB Address

Are there issues you would like to see the AFSRB address? If so please let us know by email at [afsrb@telusplanet.net](mailto:afsrb@telusplanet.net) or 1 800 563 4652.