

Foreign Service and the Canadian Foreign Service Alumni Forum



280, av. Beechwood Ave., Ottawa - 613-741-9530 -
www.beechwoodottawa.ca



Beechwood, Funeral, Cemetery and Cremation Services is owned by the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and operated by The Beechwood Cemetery Company

FE-1071 - Funeral Establishment Operator - Class 1 - CR-02946 - Crematorium Operator - CM-02946 - Cemetery Operator

Established in 1873, Beechwood is recognized as one of the most beautiful and historic cemeteries in Canada; designated as a National Historic Site.

It is the final resting place for over 85,000 Canadians. Beechwood is proud to be the home of the National Military Cemetery, the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery and the Ottawa Police Service Memorial Cemetery. Beechwood has served all cultures and faiths with care and compassion and is proud to have sections designed to meet the interment needs of the Chinese, Egyptian, Greek, Lebanese, Latvian, Muslim, Polish, Portuguese, Ukrainian and Vietnamese communities.



BEECHWOOD'S MISSION STATEMENT:

"Beechwood, operating on a not-for-profit basis, will be governed efficiently and effectively in the spirit of public service for our community and our nation. Beechwood will ensure that, both at time of need and in perpetuity, it will be operated and maintained in the highest order in memory, honour and respect of those who have left this world before us."

The story of Beechwood is the story of our country

The story of Beechwood Cemetery is the story of Canada, in all its diversity of colour, religion and culture. “Whenever I enter a cemetery,” former governor general Michaëlle Jean once said, “I feel as though I am opening the door to a library. Every tombstone is a book; every person at rest, a story.”

From its French and English roots, Beechwood’s story spans the Scots and Irish with their Celtic crosses to influxes of Chinese, Vietnamese, Portuguese and East European migrations and more recent memorials bearing Arabic and other scripts. Beechwood tells 85,000 stories spanning over 144 years and 160 acres. More than a cemetery, its memorials and tombstones describe a country that grew and matured, a country whose diversity and tolerance became pillars of pride and strength.

Beechwood had humble beginnings as a cemetery open to all faiths, which was built outside the old city boundaries. At the time, a council decree banned cemeteries from within the city due to fears that burial grounds harboured deadly diseases such as cholera, typhoid and smallpox.

It was the first cemetery in Ottawa to provide the Chinese community with its own distinct burial ground, in 1903. With a traditional Chinese pagoda honouring the community’s ancestors, Beechwood has since become the final resting place for waves of Asian immigrants, including those from Vietnam. Beechwood opened its gates to European communities before, during and after the Second World War, as well as those from East Europe escaping Cold War communism, and to Italians, Greeks, Portuguese and others seeking new lives in the New World.

Various parishes have established sections in the cemetery, including St. George and St. Anthony Orthodox Church, Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, St. Charbel Maronite Church, St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral, Sts. Peter and Paul Melkite Catholic Church and St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine. Special monuments have been erected to the Protestant Ophans’ Home, Protestant Home for the Aged, the Home for Friendless Women, the Canadians who perished in the 9/11 attacks, even the Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada.

In the Portuguese section, established in 1997, there is a statue of Our Lady of Fátima, based on the apparition that appeared before three shepherd children in Portugal in 1917. Rosaries are draped on the Virgin Mary’s wrists for her blessing.



In more recent years, refugees and immigrants have come from Africa and the Middle East, escaping tyranny and oppression in countries like Iraq and Syria, Somalia and Nigeria. In 2008, the Ottawa Muslim Association and Beechwood Cemetery signed an agreement under which a section was set aside to meet the religious, cultural and interment needs of the Muslim community, including an ablution room.

The stones at Beechwood bear inscriptions in dozens of languages, while staff at Beechwood can provide service in seven. “Almost since its inception, that was the idea,” says Nicolas McCarthy, Beechwood’s director of marketing, communications and community outreach. Once Beechwood started to grow, he says, “the caretakers who ran and who currently run Beechwood have always kept inclusion in mind, perhaps knowing the importance it would hold as Canada’s National Cemetery and the need to include all cultures.” Further to that end, Beechwood is working with a few First Nations leaders on ways to better reflect the Indigenous experience and contributions under a program it calls Reconciling History.

The 14,000-square-foot Beechwood National Memorial Centre was officially opened in April 2008, complete with reception rooms, family meeting rooms and catering facilities. It also includes the Sacred Space, a striking nine-sided worship area made from wood and stone that was conceived through extensive consultations with local faith leaders and the Ontario Multi-Faith Council. No fewer than 27 different religious denominations participated in the services that marked the opening beneath its soaring sky-lit dome, including a smudging ceremony performed by the Sacred Fire Keeper of the Algonquin Nation.

“To walk through Beechwood Cemetery is to walk through a place of memory,” Michaëlle Jean said at the centre’s official launch. “To go back in time and retrace the footsteps of our predecessors, discover the dreams that inspired them. “Entire chapters of Canada’s history can be read right here beneath our feet.

There are people buried in this cemetery who built this country through sheer determination, conviction and courage.”



Top 5 Reasons to Preplan Your Funeral

1. You want to ease the burden on your family and loved ones.

- If your wishes are unknown when you die, they will be faced with making difficult decisions at a trying time. Will they know if you wish to be buried or cremated? Will they agree on an open or closed casket? Will they agree on how much to spend? Confusion and disagreements are common occurrences when there is no plan to follow. You can avoid this by leaving behind a plan.

2. You want your family to have the benefit of a meaningful funeral.

- A funeral is an important event for a grieving family. Psychologically, it provides a sense of closure and enables the family to begin the healing process. Families benefit emotionally and socially by honouring the lives of their loved ones with a fitting ceremony and by giving them a proper send off. It is difficult to make the funeral the best it can be when planning it in a short time.

3. You want your final wishes to be followed.

- If you have specific preferences for the disposition of your remains and the nature of your funeral services, you can clearly express them in your funeral plan. You may have a preference for burial or cremation, the epitaph on your headstone, or the music and readings at your funeral. Or you may not want a funeral ceremony. Whatever your wishes, they need to be set forth in your funeral plan.

4. You want to be self-reliant and have your affairs in order at the end of your life.

- Taking care of your funeral arrangements is a thoughtful and caring thing to do for your family. It is comforting to know that you have done all you can do to ease their burden. And you can be assured that they will appreciate that your caring for them continued after you are gone.

5. You want to assume the financial responsibility for your funeral.

- Planning ahead allows you to make financial arrangements to cover your funeral costs. Even if you are leaving behind sufficient money, will your survivors be able to access it? Preplanning provides you with sound financial planning options you can consider ahead of time.

TRADITIONS

This example includes : up to four hours of visitation in a visitation suite on the day prior to the service. The next day includes one hour of visitation in the visitation suite followed, by the Funeral Service in the Sacred Space and final disposition. (Casket present)

Professional Services and Consultation

Professional Services	\$ 2,375.00
Legal Formalities and Documentation	\$ 595.00
Facility for Sheltering Remains (up to 5 days)	\$ 395.00
Basic Preparation and Handling of Deceased	\$ 325.00
Professional Embalming Service	\$ 625.00
Executor Assistance Program	Complimentary for funeral clients

Transportation (within 50km)

Transportation of Deceased from Place of Death (up to 50KM)	\$ 575.00
Lead Vehicle	\$ 225.00
Funeral Coach (3 hours)	\$ 595.00

Staff, Equipment and Related Facilities

Staff Services for Visitation (5 hours)	\$ 1,045.00
Visitation Suite and Equipment for Visitation (5 hours)	\$ 1,040.00
Staff Services for Ceremony (60 minutes)	\$ 750.00
Sacred Space and Equipment for Ceremony (60 minutes)	\$ 680.00

TOTAL TRADITIONS **\$ 9,225.00**

Staff Services for Reception (2 hours)	\$ 595.00
Reception Suite and Equipment for Reception (2 hours)	\$ 755.00

TOTAL TRADITIONS WITH RECEPTION **\$ 10,575.00**

N.B. Taxes not included

Next Steps

To complete the arrangements, supplies and disbursements will need to be added. Such items may include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Cremation Fee
- ✓ Casket
- ✓ Urn/Keepsake Urn
- ✓ Stationery
- ✓ Catering/Bar Services
- ✓ Disbursements (i.e. municipal registration, coroner's fee, flowers, clergy, etc.)
- ✓ Cemetery Services (i.e. lot, monument, vault, interment fee, etc.)

BAO Consumer Protection Fees
(applied to each service)

- ✓ BAO Consumer Protection Fee (Funeral Service)
- ✓ BAO Consumer Protection Fee (Cremation Service)
- ✓ BAO Consumer Protection Fee (Burial Service)

FAREWELL

This example includes: up to two hours of visitation in the visitation suite followed by the Memorial Service in the Sacred Space. (Urn Present)

Professional Services and Consultation

Professional Services	\$ 2,375.00
Legal Formalities and Documentation	\$ 595.00
Facility for Sheltering Remains (up to 5 days)	\$ 395.00
Basic Preparation and Handling of Deceased	\$ 325.00
Executor Assistance Program	Complimentary for funeral clients

Transportation (within 50km)

Transportation of Deceased from Place of Death (up to 50KM)	\$ 575.00
Transportation of Deceased to Place of Disposition	\$ 85.00
Lead Vehicle	\$ 225.00

Staff, Equipment and Related Facilities

Staff Services for Visitation (2 hours)	\$ 595.00
Visitation Suite and Equipment for Visitation (2 hours)	\$ 715.00
Staff Services for Ceremony (60 minutes)	\$ 750.00
Sacred Space and Equipment for Ceremony (60 minutes)	\$ 680.00

TOTAL FAREWELL

\$ 7,315.00

Staff Services for Reception (2 hours)	\$ 595.00
Reception Suite and Equipment for Reception (2 hours)	\$ 755.00

TOTAL FAREWELL WITH RECEPTION

\$ 8,665.00

Cremation Fee

\$ 950.00

Private Family Time

\$ 330.00

A room is offered to immediate family members for up to 1 hour. Maximum attendance is 10 people, however, this amount may change at the discretion of Beechwood. (For identification only)

N.B. Taxes not included

Next Steps

To complete the arrangements, supplies and disbursements will need to be added. Such items may include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Cremation Fee
- ✓ Casket (see pages 20-23)
- ✓ Urn/Keepsake Urn (see pages 24-29)
- ✓ Stationery (see page 30)
- ✓ Catering/Bar Services (see pages 33-34)
- ✓ Disbursements (i.e. municipal registration, coroner's fee, flowers, clergy, etc.)
- ✓ Cemetery Services (i.e. lot, monument, vault, interment fee, etc.)

BAO Consumer Protection Fees (applied to each service)

- ✓ BAO Consumer Protection Fee (Funeral Service)
- ✓ BAO Consumer Protection Fee (Cremation Service)
- ✓ BAO Consumer Protection Fee (Burial Service)

What is cemetery planning?

Preplanning your cemetery arrangements is one of the most thoughtful and considerate gifts you can give to your loved ones, because it relieves the burden of making difficult and expensive decisions at the time of grieving, and lets you set your own legacy.

It can help build your legacy with your family, which will endure for generations. Having your plans in advance allows your family and friends the time to connect with the warm and tender memories you all shared together.

It really means:

- Sparing your family from making hard decisions at an emotionally stressful time;
- Lightening additional grief at the time of loss;
- Ensuring your decisions are informed and thoughtful;
- Choosing the specific items, you want at today's prices.

Making such a thoughtful decision, helps you protect your loved ones and your wishes.



Thank you for your interest in Beechwood Cemetery.

For nearly 150 years, Beechwood has been the cemetery and funeral home of choice for Canada's public service and is the final resting place to many Canadian diplomats and members of the foreign service.

As such we understand the importance of the foreign service both historically and in modern times. It plays a vital role in securing and maintaining Canada's economic, political and social interest around the world. The foreign service protects our global reputation.

As a member of **Canadian Ambassadors Alumni Association**, Beechwood would like to offer you a preferential rate. This rate includes:

- 10% off all funeral services* and caskets for you and your family, excluding disbursements (flowers, newspapers notice, clergy honorarium, coroner's certificate and municipal death registration)
- 10% off our regular rate on the purchases of interment rights (land, niche or crypt)
- 10% off memorials (monument or marker)

We look forward to serving you and your loved ones for many generations to come. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us directly.

Beechwood Cemetery
info@beechwoodottawa.ca
Toll Free: (866) 990-9530

Payment Policies for Funeral and Cemetery Services:

Frontline Financial Credit Union has partnered with Beechwood Funeral, Cemetery and Cremation Services to provide loans to our families for the purposes of paying funeral and/or cemetery expenses. Beechwood offers flexible financing and payment options to meet individual needs.

Conditions/Features:

- Loans are available from 1 to 15 years
- Loans are fully open and can be paid off any time without penalty
- Credit Union membership required - \$75 membershares
- Application fee of \$75 waived
- Must be less than 69 years of age to qualify for life insurance
- Pre-existing conditions - 6 months prior and 6 months after
- If joint life insurance coverage is purchased, the loan will be paid in full on the death of either applicant
- Life insurance coverage ends at age 76
- Life insurance premiums are not age banded and are reimbursed on a prorated basis if loan is paid out early
- Payments based on interest rate of 7.99%**; 5 year renewable term
- On approved credit, some conditions may apply

HST is applicable to all costs associated above. All pricing is not retroactive and cannot be applied to previous purchases. All group rates increase annually beginning the 1st day of January unless otherwise posted. *Discount not applicable to Minimal Package.** Loan rates and prices are subject to change.

Bereavement Authority of Ontario Consumer Protection Fee (the fee is applied to each service)

- \$30.00 BAO Consumer Protection Fee - Funeral Service
- \$30.00 BAO Consumer Protection Fee - Cremation Service
- \$30.00 BAO Consumer Protection Fee - Burial Service

The Bereavement Authority of Ontario Fee is charged by the BAO in order to provide its services of information on your options in bereavement services and to regulate the profession making sure the law is consistently followed. Should you have any questions, please visit <https://thebao.ca/>

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