

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Cemetery Advisory Committee functions as a resource offering support, advice and guidance for parish corporations and trustees entrusted with the operation and care of cemeteries, niche walls, scattering gardens and columbariums. It assists with the interpretation of and adherence to provincial guidelines and legislation governing cemetery operations and additionally, provides advice and support relating to pastoral situations and concerns that may occur.

During the preceding twelve months the Committee has provided corporations and trustees assistance and support relating to the following circumstances:

- The regulations governing the sale of abandoned church cemetery lands;
- The procedure required to disestablish a cemetery (columbarium) upon the sale of church property and further, the requirements governing the relocation of the columbarium to another church cemetery;
- Reviewing and updating cemetery bylaws and contracts of sale;
- The expansion of an existing cemetery;
- The regulations associated with liability issues relating to the maintenance and care of memorial markers;
- Licensing and reporting issues;
- The relocation and interment of human remains from an abandoned cemetery;
- Advice concerning inaccessibility of a cemetery plots due to substantial tree growth.

As part of the Diocesan Resource Centre, the Cemetery Advisory Committee extends an invitation to all parish corporations and cemetery trustees seeking assistance or advice concerning operations, regulations, and other cemetery matters. Inquiries may be directed to the chair at 519-843-2141 or via e-mail switcher@sympatico.ca.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Venerable Stephen Witcher, Chair