

# Elmwood Cemetery Newsletter

Issue 42

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## *Experience the Serenity*

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## Mission Statement

Through our compassionate and caring staff our mission is to provide the highest level of competence and communication, while striving to exceed the expectations of each family we serve; before, during, and after the burial of a loved one.

## Board of Directors

John Munkittrick ~ Chair  
Peter Matwyuk ~ Vice Chair  
Burton Sine ~ Past Chair  
Ron Hansey ~ Property Chair  
Suzanne Emery ~ Public Relations Chair  
Tom DeHaan  
Janna Munkittrick-Colton  
Curtis Hayes

For past newsletters check our website:

[www.elmwoodcemetery.ca](http://www.elmwoodcemetery.ca)

## **BOARD NEWS**

It has been another busy six months at Elmwood and we are excited to share news with all of you ranging from changes to the environment at Elmwood Cemetery and how you can help through the Memorial Fund, to new columbaria, to changes to the Board of Directors.

Our Annual General Meeting held in May saw several changes to the Board of Directors. The first change was John Munkittrick becoming the new Chairperson. John has been a Board member since 2015 and was previously the Vice Chair. We wish to acknowledge Burton Sine for his outstanding contributions as Chair from 2017-2023. Many wonderful initiatives were realized during Burton's tenure, such as the construction of the accessible office building with a board room and washroom, as well as the two new columbaria close to the office with the beautiful paver walkway. We are thankful that Burton will continue to serve on the Board in the position of Past Chair and will mentor the Board members.

We also saw Peter Matwyuk become the new Vice Chair of the Board of Directors in addition to continuing his responsibilities as the Social Media Chair. Peter has been with the Board since 2020. The final change to the Board of Directors is the addition of Curtis Hayes. Curtis has many relatives interred at Elmwood Cemetery and we look forward to working with him on our activities.

**New Columbaria:** We have recently ordered 2 curved columbaria and 3 granite benches. Next spring, these will be added to the columbaria area near the office (shown below). Like the previous two orders these are also from Carrier Mausoleums Construction Inc. in Montreal QC and they will match in the style and design. This will increase the available niche inventory from the current 26 to 122.



## ***DONATIONS***

We couldn't do all that we do at our cemetery if it wasn't for our amazing volunteers. If you are interested in helping around the cemetery with your time and talent, please contact us as we would be most appreciative.

Due to recent storms, we have had to remove some of our beautiful trees. We are slowly replacing them, and if you are interested in donating towards a new tree, please contact the office and we will be happy to help.

***Please consider including Elmwood Cemetery in your obituary for those who wish to make a memorial contribution in lieu of flowers.***

**Memorial Gift Fund:** It was necessary to cut down a number of the older trees in the cemetery for the safety of everyone. A gift of a new memorial tree would help to replace them. In late summer and early autumn, nurseries have clearance sales on their tree inventories, and we buy a few each year. The average cost of suitable trees is \$200. The gift of a new cast-iron bench is another option. Many of the older cement benches found throughout the cemetery are deteriorating and it is recommended that we replace them with modest, cast-iron ones. The average price of suitable benches is \$350. In both cases, a charitable gift receipt can be provided and a memorial plaque could be added. Smaller donations can also be made to this fund for inclusion in other memorial initiatives.

**Elmwood Remembrance Ceremony:** The Remembrance Ceremony will take place on Friday November 10 at 4:00 p.m. The list of veterans now includes more than 200 names and unfortunately it grows each year. Each of their graves will have a new Canadian flag installed and their names will be read aloud during the ceremony.

**Water lines:** This is a reminder that our water lines and taps are only open from May 15 to October 15.

**By-laws:** A copy of our By-laws is provided at the time a Contract for Services is signed. They are also available on our website: [www.elmwoodcemetery.ca](http://www.elmwoodcemetery.ca) under the tab 'About Us'. Special attention should be paid to the section titled Memorialization (Section G). The abbreviated summaries below are intended as reminders:

- G.4 & 18: No items including candle holders and vases made in whole or in part of wood, glass, plastic, metal or crockery are permitted.
- G.10 & 11: One floral stand of a single-leg support type (Shepherd's hook) is permitted and may not exceed 1.22 metres (4 feet) in height. Ground level containers are not permitted. [**Note:** Empty floral stands should be removed by the owner and then returned for the next use.]
- G.13 & 14: New Ornamental or dwarf trees, shrubs, and plantings on grave sites are not permitted. All grandfathered shrubs on grave sites shall be maintained solely by Interment Rights Holder.
- G.15: Natural or artificial memorial displays placed on or at grave sites will be removed by the staff when their appearance no longer honours the grave site or cemetery.

Violations of these By-laws will be brought to the attention of the Interment Rights Holder and appropriate action will be taken. In order to facilitate these discussions, you are reminded to keep us up to date with your contact information.

The Board of Directors' wish is for all of you to remain healthy and safe. We welcome your questions and feedback through a telephone call or an email. A reminder that our nature trails are especially beautiful this time of year!

***Respectfully,  
Your Elmwood Cemetery Board & Staff***

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