



THE FUNERAL BOARD OF MANITOBA

NEWSLETTER

May 2013

Please note that newsletters are sent via email only but are also available on our website at www.gov.mb.ca/funeraldirectorsboard/index.html.

Word of Thanks

Since November 2011, the Board's Inspector has visited nearly every funeral home in the province and hopes to complete this first round of compliance checks by year-end. The Funeral Board of Manitoba wants to acknowledge the great job John Delaney is doing in establishing relationships with members of the profession.

The Board thanks funeral directors and their staff for their warm welcome to John and cooperation during this process.

The Board also appreciates the supportive and positive feedback John has received from many of you regarding the Board's work and changes over the last few years.

Funeral Director education and training

Red River College's funeral director training program began on April 8, 2013 with 10 students enrolled.

With the next intake slated for September, an information session was held Monday, May 27th at Red River College. It was very successful with over 90 attendees.

registering for the upcoming Orientation Session right after the meeting and began again at 6 am the next morning. The Orientation Session was fully booked by noon Tuesday; the College had to create a waiting list.

Many thanks to all the speakers and administrators!

Professional Conduct

The Funeral Board of Manitoba recognizes that Crofo Funeral Chapel offered one of its licensed premises to Mike Knysh after the loss of his funeral home in Beausejour to fire.

It is wonderful to see Licensees lending each other a helping hand!

Education Committee

As part of the 2011 *Funeral Directors and Embalmers Act* amendment, the "Student Admission Committee" was renamed the "Education Committee" to reflect a wider mandate to oversee the education of students and the continuing education.

As previously advised, the Education Committee consists of Board members, Bob Clarke (Registrar/Chair), Darin

Hoffman and **Father C. Fred Olds**; the Board's Administrative Assistant, Denise Carrière; Owen McKenzie as the MFSA representative and Ed Coutu Jr as a practicing member.

Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in sitting on this committee!

Hearings

The Board held four hearings March 25, 2013 regarding files AI2012-01, 2012-26, AI2013-01 and AI2013-02. The Panel sent the decisions and reasons to the Licensees in May. These will be posted on the Board's website at the end of June.

Background about the approved school

The Funeral Directors and Embalmers Act 2009 regulation states the approved school must give the Board a syllabus, a statement itemizing all fees to be charged to a student who enrolls in the training course, and a statement indicating who the instructor and substitute instructors will be, and their qualifications upon request.

As the Board hadn't received this information when requested, it did not feel comfortable approving a school when it did not know if the education given met the requirements of the regulation. So, the Board approached Red River College asking if they could develop a Program.

With no approved school for funeral director education in Manitoba, and as Red

River College needed time to develop a new program, the Board was in a difficult position. It decided to accept the Canadian College's graduates as an interim measure but this will end shortly. The current regulation states that those who graduate by June 2013 will receive a Certificate of Qualification; any student not graduating by June should contact Red River College to discuss transferring to the new program.

The Board has had discussions with Red River College about offering continuing education courses and the College has mentioned the possibility of the certificate program becoming a diploma in the future.

Continuing Education

The Education Committee has been reviewing submissions for accreditation from several sources. Currently approved courses will be posted to the Board's website in the near future.

For more information regarding current events please visit our website at

www.funeraldirectorsboard.mb.ca.

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