

What documents need to be assembled?

- *Most recent copy of the will*
- *Cancel:*
 - Saskatchewan Health Card
 - Private Health Insurance
 - Credit Cards
- *Birth certificates for deceased and dependents*
- *Marriage certificate*
- *Several copies of the funeral director's Statement of Death. Death Certificate may be needed at a later date*
- *Social Insurance Number*
- *Life insurance policies/annuities*
- *Bank or credit institution passbooks*
- *Stocks, bonds, certificates, etc.*
- *Previous two years' income tax returns*
- *Real estate and property title deeds*
- *Safety deposit box keys*
- *Automobile ownership registration and insurance policies*
- *Record of benefits through the Employer, Canada Pension or Old Age Security, or Workers' Compensation*
- *Current contracts*
- *Loan and mortgage documentation*
- *Veterans Affairs Canada*
- *Bills*
- *Association and club memberships and subscriptions*

We're here to help

Support is available. If you need to speak with someone, please contact Palliative Care Services which includes bereavement support. For more information about **Palliative Care Services** and bereavement support services contact 655-5868.

Other sources of support include the following:

Spiritual Care Support

St. Paul's Hospital (306)655-5000
Humboldt and area (306)682-8139

Social Worker Support

Royal University Hospital (306)655-2579
St. Paul's Hospital (306)655-5519
Saskatoon City Hospital (306)655-8352

Palliative Care Support (306)655-5868

In rural areas

Contact your local hospital or health centre.

Adapted from: *Preparing for Death: A Guide for Caregivers*
Victoria Hospice Society, BC, Canada (2018)
www.victoriahospice.org



saskhealthauthority.ca

Revised July 2019

www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca/palliative-care

When a Loved One Dies



"Green Skies and Purple Seas Sunset"
courtesy of Gina De Gorna

***We wish to extend
our condolences
to you and your family.***

This pamphlet contains information that may be helpful to you.

Palliative Care Services



**Saskatchewan
Health Authority**

When someone you care for has died

Family members often feel numb, exhausted and confused in the first hours of grief. Yet, it is during these early hours that family is requested to make many decisions required by law, custom or their own wishes.

Some may have discussed these decisions in advance with the deceased; others may not have had the opportunity to do so.

For some, this will be the first time they have been involved with making these arrangements and choices; others will have had previous deaths in the family and will be familiar with the experience.



The information contained in this pamphlet may be of some help in the first hours and days of bereavement when proceeding with necessary arrangements.

Things requiring immediate attention:

- 1. Consider contacting a clergy person**
A clergy person is trained to help people who have just experienced a loss.
- 2. Sitting with, holding or touching the body**
Remember.....there is no need to hurry, time can be spent sitting with the person who has died.
- 3. An Autopsy**
An autopsy is a medical examination of the body to determine the exact cause of death. The doctor may request permission from family for an autopsy. If this is the case, a family member will be asked to sign a consent form. If a person dies unexpectedly, an autopsy is mandatory. Contact the family doctor for the final report, which takes 4-6 weeks.
- 4. Select a funeral home**
When a funeral home has been chosen, inform the hospital, long term care, or home care staff as soon as possible. The funeral home will make arrangements to remove the body.
- 5. Collect belongings**
In hospital and long term care, the staff will gather your loved one's belongings, or family may choose to assist with this.

Things to take care of at home

Clergy

- Contact a clergy person, who will assist in selecting a time for the funeral. The funeral home can assist with this if there is no clergy involved.

Notification

- Immediate family, relatives, close friends, etc.
- Employer or business colleagues
- Union, Church, Royal Canadian Legion, clubs in which the deceased was a member
- If deceased lived alone, notify utilities, landlord, newspaper, post office, etc.

Last Will and Testament

- Locate the will as it may contain instructions about the funeral.

For more information contact:

Funeral and Cremation Services
Council of Saskatchewan
Telephone: 306-584-1575
Website: www.fcscs.ca