

Plan to attend the Nbfd&EA Annual meeting and support the work of your organization.

Professional Funeral Directors and Embalmers working together for our profession.

Upcoming Events:

- **Nbfd&EA Annual meeting, Friday, April 15th, 2011, Fredericton, NB. Location to be announced.**
- **FSAC National Convention, June 9th – 11th, 2011, Saint John, New Brunswick.**



Executive Team 2010-2011

President Jim Bishop, Fredericton, NB	506-458-1885
Past President Mike Flewelling, Nackawic, NB	506-575-8988
Vice-President/Secretary Assistant Phil Ells, Jr, Grand Manan, NB	506-662-3116
1st Vice President Andre Valcourt, Edmunston, NB	506-235-2140
2nd Vice President Rick Scott, Woodstock, NB	506-328-3179
Secretary-Treasurer (Acting) Pat Kavanaugh, Grand Falls, NB	506-473-3063
Sargent at Arms Suzanne Welton Chipman, NB	506-339-6612
Chaplain Vacant	



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Challenging 2011 for Change....

As we reflect on the past year of 2010, it was a year faced with challenges that has given the Executive an opportunity to reflect on the organization as a whole. This reflection has given the Executive the mandate to restructure the Association to better meet the needs of the 21st century.

In this time of change the Executive will need the membership's full support and guidance, because this is your Association!

During the next few months the Executive will be formulating a plan of change, complete with recommendations for your consideration at the Annual meeting in April 2011.

If you have ideas or suggestions about how to make the Association stronger, you are urged to forward your **written comments**

To the office of the Association (see address on page 4).

Even through this time of change there are many important files that require our immediate attention and the Executive is committed to moving forward on these as well as the other work that needs to be done.

On behalf of the Executive I want to wish each member all the best for a safe holiday and a prosperous New Year! May you enjoy time with your family and enjoy the blessings of the Christmas season.



Sincerely,
Jim Bishop

Important Billing Changes With The Coroner's Office

Effective August 16, 2010 that the billing to the Coroners Department will be as follows:

NB Internal Services
Agency
Accounts Payable 435
Brookside
Fredericton, NB
E3A 8V4

Or

NB Internal Services
Agency Accounts Payable
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB
E3B 5H1

Please make sure that you include the following:

Invoice number

Date

Purchase Order Number or
Contract Number

GNB Contact Name (who
purchased the goods/
service from your busi-
ness) and department
(**GREG FORESTELL**)

Your HST Number

Brief description of the
goods/services provided as
per the Coroner's Agree-
ment with the Association.

GNB Customer Number
(If Applicable)

What you really need to know about Justice and Consumer Affairs

Update on Justice and Consumer Affairs File

July 9th the Department of Justice issued a press release with regards to changes in the *Pre-Arranged Funeral Services Act* effective August 1st.

July 9th Diane Kelly issued a bulletin to all funeral homes summarizing the changes. Also to adhere to the new changes and she issued new license applications.

July 29th the Executive of the Association met by conference call with regards to the new changes and lack of disclosure and consultation to the funeral establishment in New Brunswick. The executive agrees unanimously to contact Justice immediately with our concerns and insist on meeting Justice to discuss in more detail.

July 30th President Jim Bishop submitted a letter to the Minister of Justice stating concerns with the new act and it's changes.

July 30th President Jim Bishop issued a notice to all funeral homes stating the position of the Association with regards to the new act.

August 17th Diane Kelly concedes to meet with the Board and members of the Association to discuss our concerns. It is agreed at that meeting to have further discussions with a smaller working group.

September 7th the first meeting takes place with Justice. Members are present from the Board and the Association along with Dianne Kelly and Alaina Nicholson. The contact is reviewed and we begin to note our concerns.

October 5th the second working meeting is held and further discussion is held with regards to the contract, schedule "A", and also arguments were made to the new licensing fees and structure.

October 19th the third meeting was held and was for the better part dedicated to primarily schedule "A". Justice agreed to draft a revised schedule to be presented at the next Association meeting. Also arguments were made at that time for funeral homes to have the option of submitting their own schedule for approval from Justice. Additional arguments were made with regards to the new licensing structure at that time.

October 29th the Association rejects the concept of being bound to the use of a government issued schedule "A". The Association prefers to use their own schedule "A" and have it pre-approved by the department. It was noted that the membership also would prefer to use their own contract as well.

November 30th the working group meets with Justice and reviews their past meetings. Jim Bishop conveys the message and comments from the Association to Dianne Kelly.

December 13th the Association Committee working on this file meet by conference call to decide on the next steps to be taken.

In August the Association asked you to withhold from applying for the Pre-Arranged Licenses under the new act to make a point to the Province that we do not agree with all of the amendment's in the act and the lack of consultation with our business sector leading up to the changes. The support was overwhelming from the members. As discussions have moved forward we are asking that members ensure that they have applied for the new license as an act of good faith with the Province.



Vital statistics Reminder

The Department of Vital Statistics has requested that Funeral Homes submit Registration of Death information immediately to the Department by fax. If the attending physician has not signed the document please forward regardless. This is an attempt to minimize any opportunity for identity theft for the deceased. Once the attending physician signed the document then it should be sent through the regular channels.

Department of Social Development

The membership requested that the Executive contact Social Development to discuss unnecessary collections of pre-approved Social Development Funeral Services. A letter has been sent to the Minister and an initial meeting has been scheduled in December for discussion on this matter. Further information will be forthcoming following the deliberations.

Disinterment and Re-interment of Remains

At the October meeting it was noted that due to the changes in the Health Act the rules for disinterment and re-interment were quite vague by the Province. The Executive was asked to contact the Department for translation and clarification. The letter was sent and the Executive is waiting for a comprehensive response. In the meantime it is recommended that each Funeral Home have the person responsible for the Estate sign a standard form of release to conduct these activities.

EYE ON IT

Current Industry Trends

Cremation has dominated our discussions as social trends shift. The Association will endeavor to bring more information to the membership at the Annual meeting so we can better understand the needs of the client.

SOFTWARE

Is your Funeral Home currently using a software package specific to Funeral Homes



Contact Information

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