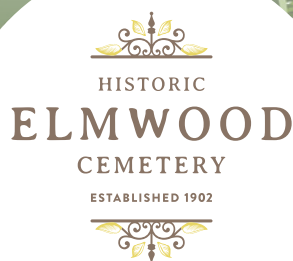


connections

A PUBLICATION OF THE HISTORIC ELMWOOD CEMETERY



Historic Elmwood Cemetery has been a trusted part of Winnipeg's rich tradition and history for well over a century. Since its founding in 1902, Historic Elmwood Cemetery has committed itself to providing outstanding service and beautiful environments for honouring heritage, remembering loved ones, and commemorating special events. We welcome and serve all faiths and cultures, and we offer a wide range of options for memorialization.

All my life through, the
new sights of Nature made
me rejoice like a child.

- Marie Curie

The Board of Directors
of Historic Elmwood Cemetery
wishes you and your family
peace, love, and joy this
holiday season.

May the New Year bring all of
us good health and prosperity
and an end to the chaos that
has been 2020.



connections



Rights Holders for Plots at Elmwood Cemetery

Many of the plots at Historic Elmwood Cemetery go back several generations. The original purchaser is the rights holder. This person owns the right of interment in the grave(s) he or she has purchased and has exclusive authority to exercise interment rights to a plot registered in their name.

In many cases the rights to the grave(s) have not been transferred to another person since the time of the passing of the rights holder. We would like to have a current rights holder for each grave in our cemetery. If you are not certain that your family plot has a current rights holder or have not designated a "next generation rights holder", please contact the office and we will help with that process.

Legacy Care

We offer a Legacy Care program at Elmwood Cemetery. For a donation of \$1500 for the first grave plus \$800 for each adjoining grave we will care for the graves for 10 years. This includes planting and watering flowers annually, levelling the ground, seeding grass, raising and levelling markers, cleaning markers and monuments as required. Adjoining graves are cared for but flowers are not planted. A tax receipt will be issued for the full amount.

If your family already subscribes to the Legacy Care program and would like to extend it, we offer this service at 50% off the current price. This can be extended for 10 or 20 years or longer.

Please contact the office for more information.

Report of the Executive Director



Bruce Birchard

Operations this summer were slower due to the Covid-19 restrictions which necessitated changes in interments in the cemetery. On the bright side we had a beautiful summer, and the fall weather continues to cooperate. Last year we had an October snowfall which severely damaged the trees in the cemetery. Hopefully, we will not be hit with a similar event.

With the nice weather and fewer interments our outside staff was able to work on levelling large areas of the cemetery. Work was completed along the roadway by the Red River and in section 3B. Workers also completed levelling work in a few smaller areas. We hired two students this summer with the help of the Manitoba Government and they worked on raising and levelling markers throughout the cemetery. We thank the Manitoba Government for the wage subsidy which allowed us to complete this important work.

Staff continues to repair and to power wash broken monuments in our infant and child sections as time allows. If your family monument is stained, etc. our staff can give it an acid and power wash which will revive your monument. Please call the office for a quote.

Our office staff is scanning historical documents into our system so that an electronic record is available and easy to

recover. We are interested in your family history. If you have obituaries or a written family history, we would appreciate a copy to attach to our system.

As mentioned in the spring we have completed new maps for the cemetery and an inventory of available grave sites. We still have hundreds of sites available, but double monument plots are in short supply.

The cemetery is 38 acres in area, so if you are visiting and do not know where certain graves are located please stop by the office and we will be happy to provide a detailed map. If you have concerns about a site in the cemetery, please contact the office for a maintenance quote.

Even with the impact that Covid-19 has had on our operations we still have had a successful year. The Board and I take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and past support as we cannot continue to keep the cemetery in top shape without you. Every dollar donated is invested at the Winnipeg Foundation. This provides inflation protected investment income for Elmwood Cemetery in perpetuity. The Winnipeg Foundation is a remarkable steward of our investment funds and continues to grow our funds despite these turbulent times.

The Friends of Elmwood Cemetery is dedicated to preserving and ensuring that the cemetery is maintained forever. We wish you well over the winter and pray you are safe and healthy. We look forward to seeing you in the future.

Treasurer's Report



Jim Baker

All financial reporting this current year shows continued financial stability resulting from support from individuals donors and timely government assistance that has the staff compliment virtually the same as a non-Covid year. Interment revenues have been affected negatively because of the pandemic with ash burials being postponed. The revenue reduction has been offset by columbarium and plot sales combined with steady investment income. All signs indicate that the budget will be met and perpetual care funding commitments will continue.





Save Our Elms Campaign

We are moving into Year 3 of our plan to Save our Elms and the tree canopy in the cemetery. The plan developed by our Board and Green Drop Tree Care is to trim all of the trees in the cemetery over a 6-7 year rotation, inject the elms with a fungicide which protects them from Dutch Elm Disease, plant new trees and ensure infected trees are removed quickly from the cemetery.

In addition, this past summer we sprayed the trees for canker worms, and this was successful in saving our foliage.

In July we were able to inject 47 elm trees with Arbortect 20-S fungicide, a product developed by BioForest Technologies Inc. which protects them from Dutch Elm Disease for 3 years. BioForest has been donating some extra product each year and we thank them for their support.

We trimmed and pruned 60 trees in the cemetery. We also sprayed our elm trees with Basal in late August to help prevent the overwintering of Elm Bark Beetles.

Unfortunately, we still lost 43 trees to Dutch Elm Disease and a few of our oak trees due to the dry weather.

We continue to plant new trees with 20 planted this year. These will, of course, take decades to mature.

So how can you help? For starters, any donation to the cemetery builds our perpetual fund which provides the income for these projects, but for a \$500 donation you can Adopt A Tree. For a \$500 donation we will specifically inject an elm tree close to your family plot. The more trees we can get adopted, the faster we can protect our elms. I would like to thank the families who have adopted a tree over the past year and encourage everyone to help as much as they can. Please just mark your donation slip or let our staff know if you are adopting a tree.



Historic Elmwood Cemetery Adopt-A-Tree Program

Help protect our threatened Elm population from Dutch Elm Disease. For only \$500.00 you can Adopt-A-Tree which will be pruned and protected for three years with a preventative treatment of Arbortect

To donate please contact our office at 204.667.9481 or email office@elmccem.ca

OUR PROUD SUPPORTERS



THANK YOU

There are many kind and thoughtful people out there. Someone plants flowers on the grave of little Grace Lemon who was the first person buried at Elmwood in 1902. Similarly the Campbell-Bathgate grave and the Livingston vase are adorned with plants each year. Many other graves with vases are also tended. Thank you so much to the anonymous philanthropists.

The Glen Elm Neighbourhood Association will be taking over the care of the butterfly garden as well as tending and beautifying the front gate area. Thank you to the group!

CANCELLED

The annual sleigh ride through the cemetery on Louis Riel Day has been cancelled due to COVID 19 precautions. Hopefully we will be able to celebrate Family Day in 2022.

Similarly the annual Remembrance Day service will not take place this year.



DID YOU KNOW?

Elmwood Cemetery is the final resting place of John Hudson Chambers (1846-1924). He established the Paulin-Chambers Company which manufactured, among other things, Paulin's Chocolate Puffs. Did you eat the cookie or the marshmallow first?

James Porter founded Porter and Company which dealt with wholesale china and crockery. Their warehouse at 165 McDermot Avenue has recently been converted into apartments. There was a 3 foot high pitcher on display in the window of that building in the early 1900's. The creamer is now displayed in the lobby of the new Porter House.

This summer a doe made her way from the riverbank and delivered her fawn in the cemetery. The circle of life!



A Brief History of Headstones

No doubt that, as you have walked through beautiful Historic Elmwood Cemetery, you have observed the headstones which vary greatly in size, shape, colour, and kinds of stone. Have you ever wondered just why they are placed on the graves and how this tradition came to be?

Burial customs are more for the living than for the loved ones who are commemorated. Monuments and memorials and the inscriptions on them usually demonstrate love and respect for the deceased, a reassurance of an afterlife, a permanent display of religious views, and the status of the family.

During the Stone Age nomadic humans would bury their dead and roll a huge stone or boulder onto the grave. These were the first gravestones and it is now believed that they were so placed to prevent the deceased from rising after death. As time went on, stones and boulders were replaced by more sophisticated markers called "dolmens". The most famous grouping of dolmens is Stonehenge. In 2008 archeologists and the National Geographic Research and Exploration Team determined that Stonehenge is indeed a burial ground.

As social structures evolved, burial methods transformed into a desire to remember and honour the dead. Egyptians and Mesopotamians mummified remains and buried them in the ground with valuables and items that the dead may need in the afterlife. Elaborate, gigantic tombs

were constructed for Pharaohs. Those of common birth were buried close to home. Stones carved with a likeness of the deceased were placed to preserve their memories. In ancient Greece it was a civic duty to preserve the memory of and to honour ancestors. Stone statues were carved in the likeness of the dead and placed above the burial site.

Burial customs began to change with the introduction of Christianity. Burial grounds were moved from homes to roadside areas. Decreased lifespans in the Dark Ages called for solemn and rapid funerals. Gothic skulls, cherubs, and skeletons were found on churches and carved into headstones. Wooden, iron, and brass crosses marked the graves of those unable to afford stone markers.

The beginning of the modern funeral trade has its roots in the Victorian era when private cemeteries were coming into vogue. Entrepreneurs discovered profit in creating elaborate grave markers and in co-ordinating even more elaborate funerals. Small crosses gave way to large statues and ornate monuments carved in stone. At this time grave robbing became a serious problem and a lucrative trade. Unscrupulous individuals were hired by schools of anatomy to bring bodies for dissection. Family members began to stand vigil at night to thwart the thieves. Others would place flowers and stones around a grave in elaborate patterns so that they could discern any disturbances to the area. Interesting too, at this time, bells would be placed inside coffins and



strung from the coffin to the surface in case of premature burial. Thus a person could be "saved by the bell" should he be buried alive.

Cemeteries today combine a plethora of rituals and practices which stem from thousands of years of beliefs and traditions. Gravestones, once rugged boulders, are now slabs of granite, marble, and stone placed upright at the head of a grave. Mausoleums, vaults, and statues are reserved for the wealthy. The type of inscription and the wording may also indicate the social climate at the time of death.

From the Stone Age to the Middle Ages to Modern Times, the way that we have cared for the dead has been evolving. Influenced by our social, political, and religious beliefs throughout time, where and how we bury our dead and show them respect has always mirrored how we view the living.

Enjoy studying the great variety of headstones and monuments on your next walk through our cemetery!

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Vandalism

During the night of August 30 -31 vandals cut through the chain link fence in the lane behind the office and gained entry to the cemetery. They proceeded to knock over headstones causing breakage and other damage. Families connected to the affected graves were notified. Cleanup and repair has been ongoing and is completed.



Dr. T. G. Hamilton

Dr. Thomas Glendenning Hamilton, a prominent member of the Elmwood Kildonan community, and buried at Historic Elmwood Cemetery, was born in Scarborough Ontario on November 27, 1873 to James Hamilton and Isabella Glendenning. In 1882 as part of a temperance colony James and Isabella and their six children moved west to homestead in Saskatoon.

Thomas grew up on a prairie homestead and was schooled in a rugged old stone school house.

Thomas's father died in 1885. His sister Margaret fell ill with typhoid fever and she too died in 1886. The family struggled to continue farming but finally Isabella and the five boys, seeking a better life and educational opportunities, moved to Winnipeg in 1888.

T.G. entered the Manitoba Medical College in 1899. He graduated with an MD in 1903 at age 30 and after interning at the Winnipeg General Hospital in 1904 he established his medical, surgical and obstetrical practice for the Elmwood area.

In 1906 Dr. Hamilton married Lillian May Forrester, a graduate nurse of the Winnipeg General. They went on to start their life in Elmwood and began a family, Lillian Margaret, born 1909, Glen Forrester in 1911, and twin boys, Arthur Lamont and James Drummond in 1915. The family moved into the big family home at 185 Kelvin Street, Elmwood, in 1910. T.G. occupied the main floor for his practice, (using the living room for a waiting room in the evenings), and utilized the basement for a small surgical area equipped with, (according to his son Glen) "a steel table, wash sink, small pharmacy, white plaster walls and flat rads in the ceiling to heat the place."

Dr. Glen Hamilton (son) described his father as being a very capable person, a good doctor, a good surgeon, a "very, very honourable man", very courageous, and "never guilty of deceit in the slightest

degree." Glen said, "When T.G. was a doctor, he was all doctor, he was a very level headed person. I never saw him smoke, and never heard him swear and he didn't drink so as I've always said, a real Calvinistic Presbyterian ...that's the way he was brought up, and I was too."

As Elmwood's first doctor, he was the kind of old-fashioned physician who made house calls (by horse and buggy in the early years) and delivered babies at home.

According to his daughter, Margaret, his outstanding quality was his genuine concern for people: "To his many patients, he was

not only the beloved physician, but he was the staunch friend and wise counsellor as well." His compensation was more often in kind than in actual dollars.

After the death of his three-year old son, Arthur, from influenza in 1919, he found time for a new interest: psychic phenomena. His ultimate question was whether some part of the human mind, consciousness, or personality survives bodily death. Along with so many others, who were suffering from great loss of loved ones due to WW1, T.G. was also grieving and struggling with the ultimate question...do we survive death? He approached his investigation with scientific and scrupulous methods. His findings were carefully documented and photographed and he lectured on his results in 86 addresses to audiences in Canada, the United States and England.

His peers had nothing but glowing reviews of T.G. as a man of integrity, honesty and genuine devotion to his family, his profession and his God.

Dr. T.G. Hamilton's sudden death on April 7th, 1935, was the result of a heart attack. His funeral was held at King Memorial Church with hundreds in attendance; those unable to get into the church gathered outside to pay their respects.

-submitted by Linda Hamilton Klassen



Emily Patterson

In June of 1927 Lola Cowan and Emily Patterson were laid to rest side by side in Elmwood Cemetery. Their only connection was the brutal man who had murdered them. The classmates of 14 year old Lola collected enough to purchase a grave marker for her. Emily's family had just immigrated from Ireland and were likely unable to afford a stone. One of our dedicated cemetery workers, Rhonda Joy-Favreau, has not been pleased with the unmarked grave. For a number of years she planted a single yellow daisy plant on Emily's resting place and she discussed with her family about buying a small stone to commemorate a 27 year old mother and wife cruelly taken too soon. She spoke to Matt de Landes of M.C. Delandes Monuments and Memorials about it and he readily agreed to make and donate a stone. Because Emily was Irish, Matt decided on a green granite stone with a shamrock which was placed this spring. Thank you to both Rhonda and Matt for your kind hearts and for restoring our faith in humanity! Rest now, Emily.



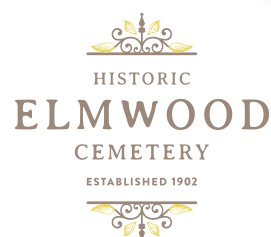
Please meet
our dedicated
Board of Directors
& Cemetery Staff

Our Board of Directors

Mr. Richard Schwartz, *Chair*
Mr. Jim Baker, *Director*
Mr. Hollingsworth Cowan, *Director*
Mr. Ron Hector, *Director*
Mrs. Alison Mendres, *Director*
Mr. Harry Sklar, *Director*
Mrs. Linda Klassen, *Director*
Mr. Rudy Klassen, *Director*

Our Operations Team

Mr. Bruce Birchard,
Executive Director
Mrs. Nancy Borne, *Office Manager*
Mr. Richard Joy,
*Director of Cemetery Operations
and Maintenance*



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Phone: 204 667 9481
Email: office@elmcem.ca
www.historicelmwoodcemetery.ca

Proudly owned & operated by
Friends of Elmwood Cemetery Inc.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Office 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Monday to Friday

Closed 12:00 - 1:00 for lunch

Cemetery 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
(April to October)
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
(October to April)

Charitable Registration No:
88462 0626 RR0001

Why do your donations matter?

For Historic Elmwood Cemetery to be financially self-sufficient in the future, the annual amount of our investment income will need to cover most of our annual operating costs.

Our policy is to place 100% of all donations into our Perpetual Endowment Fund held at the Winnipeg Foundation. This grows our fund and provides increased investment income each year. Income from our fund covers over 50% of our operating costs, with the remainder split between plot and niche sales and fees for interments and maintenance. Sometime in the future our plots and niches will be sold, and this source of revenue will cease for the cemetery. This income, currently \$125,000 annually, will have to be replaced by investment income. Based on our current payout ratio of 5% this would require our endowment fund to grow a further \$2.5 million from today's base.

So, your donations matter as each dollar donated moves us closer to ensuring the care of the cemetery in perpetuity for your loved ones.



If you have received this newsletter in error, or if your address has changed, please call the cemetery office so we can update your information.

If you know of friends or family who would like to be added to our mailing list, please let us know.

Yes, I would like to help preserve and care for Historic Elmwood Cemetery:

☐ Please accept my gift of \$_____ (return envelope enclosed)

☐ Annual Donation \$_____ ☐ Monthly Donation \$_____

☐ Please accept my credit card donation: (please print)

To make a gift by credit card fill out this form or call 204-667-9481

Card number _____ CVC _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ Amex

Expiry ____/____ Signature _____
MONTH YEAR

To receive a charitable tax receipt please include the following information:

Name _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please make cheques payable to Friends of Elmwood Cemetery Inc.