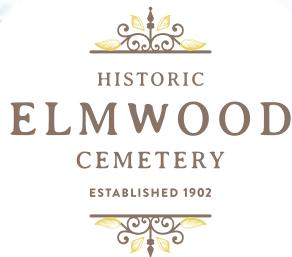


connections

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.

Christmas Snow

The country roads and thoroughfares
are white with fallen snow
and silver flakes on hills beyond
reflect a starlit glow.

The pine trees stand so tall and proud
like shepherds in the night.
Surrounding homes and cottages
adorned with twinkling lights.
Pure and white the blanket is
that wraps the town below.
Peaceful is the evening that is
dressed in Christmas snow.

by Pamela Joyce Randolph

The Board of Directors and the Staff
of Historic Elmwood Cemetery wish
you a happy and relaxed holiday season.
May the New Year bring all of us good
health and prosperity.

connections

Rights Holders for Plots at Elmwood Cemetery

Many of the plots at Historic Elmwood Cemetery go back several generations. The original purchaser of the plot is the rights holder to that plot. This is the person who owns the right of interment in the gravesite and has exclusive authority to exercise interment rights to a plot registered in his or her name. In many cases the rights to the grave(s) have not been transferred to another person upon the passing of the original rights holder. We would like to have a current rights holder for each grave in the cemetery. If you are uncertain whether your family plot has a current rights holder or if you have not designated a "next generation" rights holder, please contact the office for help.

Legacy Care

The Legacy Care program that we offer at Historic Elmwood Cemetery has changed. To purchase Legacy Care the cost will be \$800 for the first grave and \$500 for each adjoining grave. We will care for the grave(s) for 10 years. This includes planting and watering flowers annually, levelling the ground, seeding grass, as well as raising, levelling, and cleaning markers and monuments. Adjoining graves are cared for but flowers will not be planted. Please contact the office for more information.

Report of the Executive Director



Bruce Birchard

In my Spring report we had hoped that the pandemic would ease, and we would be able to return to a normal summer season. Unfortunately, this did not occur, and our operations were affected by Covid regulations and rules.

We closed our office at times and families have not been able to plan funerals and interments due to the restrictions and rule changes. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families whose loved ones passed away during these times. We hope that we will return soon to normal, and interments will be less restrictive allowing closure for families.

The drought conditions this summer impacted maintenance in the cemetery. Plants were not as robust, and the grass would not grow where we had completed maintenance. The rain in August helped, but we still have areas that must be reseeded. We thank you for your patience this summer as we worked to keep the cemetery in top shape.

On a sad note, we lost three more oak trees to the drought and also several of our newer trees that were planted last fall. We have replanted these this fall and hopefully the weather will cooperate next year.

Our Save the Elms project appears to be having an impact. Only 12 elm trees

will be removed this winter which is a substantial improvement. We have injected 130 elm trees over the last three years. As the protection only lasts three years, we will begin re-injecting trees from Year 1, along with new elm trees.

We continue to trim our trees and expect the entire tree canopy to have been trimmed in the next couple of years. This helps with the health of the trees. We have removed old stumps and sprayed for canker worms which also helped maintain the tree canopy.

As reported in our last letter the cemetery's historical documents have been scanned into our system, but we would still like to receive family histories and stories that we can attach to our records. Please contact the office and our staff will ensure your family's history is preserved.

The cemetery covers 38 acres, so if you are visiting and do not know where your relatives are located, please stop in 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.

Over the summer we completed a new columbarium area by the Red River. We now have 3 columbaria areas, Henderson, South Side, and the Red River, providing lots of choice when choosing a niche. In addition, we have over 700 gravesites available, but have a limited supply of double monument sites. If you are interested in a double site, please call the office.

The Board and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and past support





We have continued to level areas of the cemetery. Work was completed in Section 3B, by the river and in Section 7. Due to the pandemic, we were unable to hire a full complement of summer staff and were not able to probe and level markers and monuments in other areas. We plan to increase staff next year and to continue to work through our older sections.

The Board and I would like to 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 it continues to grow our funds.

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

As reported in the Executive Director's report we are pleased with the continued donation support and the resulting growth in our fund with the Winnipeg Foundation. Likely stirred by Covid-19 the past year has seen noticeable increases in revenues from plot and columbarium sales pre-need. Operating costs have been controlled resulting in continued operational success with revenues matching costs, and cash flow available for continued Perpetual Care contributions.

The Board of Directors receive monthly financial statements and a report from the Executive Director consisting of comments regarding the financial statements and updates on the various projects ongoing within the Cemetery.

DID YOU KNOW?

Nellie McClung's in-laws, Rev. James and Annie McClung, are buried at Elmwood Cemetery. Annie McClung was also a women's rights activist and inspired her daughter-in-law.

Edward Pitblado (1896-1977), besides being a distinguished and prominent Winnipeg lawyer, was an ice hockey player whose team competed in the 1924 Winter Olympics and won bronze medals.

James Arthur Long, who was buried at Elmwood in 2008, was an electrical engineer who invented a wind powered instrument which measured water flow in rivers in preparation for water generated power stations. In their youth he and his twin brother, John, pioneered the first gas powered model airplanes. James, always fascinated with flying, was a pilot officer in the RCAF in 1943. In 1962 he earned a glider licence and he holds a record for the Diamond Distance Flight of 300 miles.

Robert James Speers (1882-1955) acquired and bred thoroughbred race horses. In the 1920's he built four racetracks including Polo Park in 1925. He raced horses for the remainder of his life.

CANCELLED

Due to ongoing concerns and restrictions over Covid 19 both of the annual events, the Remembrance Day service and the sleigh ride through the cemetery on Louis Riel Day, have been cancelled. Hopefully by 2022/23 we will be able to participate in these two events once again.



Of Flags and Funerals

Whenever we see a funeral with a flag draped coffin we always assume that it is a ceremony for one who has served in the armed services. This is not necessarily the case. In Canada this honour is not reserved for soldiers, veterans, and dignitaries but can be given to any Canadian. The Canadian flag draped over a casket symbolizes a final tribute that celebrates a life that has passed. It is considered a high honour as it signifies that the deceased was a Canadian who made a significant contribution to the county or community where he or she lived. Interestingly military families have the option of refusing a flag on the coffin of their loved one.

Flags used for funerals are special 'burial flags' which are four and a half feet by nine feet. A flag is removed just prior to the casket's being lowered into the ground. In a military funeral the process is this: "On the command PREPARE TO FOLD FLAG – FOLD. The bearers on the right will fold the flag so that the edge reaches the far side of the casket. The left side bearers will fold the flag so that the edge is level with the far side. When this is completed, the foot end bearer will fold the flag once to the left. The remainder of the right side bearers will then, in turn, fold the flag to their left until the flag is neatly folded in front of the commander. The commander will then place the accoutrements onto it and remove the flag from the casket. Each bearer, on completion of their fold and having smoothed the flag flat, will return their arms to the position of

attention." The word, "accoutrements" in this case refers to any other objects placed upon the coffin such as a uniform cap, sword, and so on. Obviously this act of precision must take a great deal of practice! In the United States there are 13 steps to folding the flag, each fold symbolizing something from life itself to womanhood and mothers to a tribute to one who has entered the valley of the shadow of death.

Flying a flag at half mast or half staff is also a symbol of mourning. There are strict rules about how this is done as well. First the flag must be raised to the top of the flagpole and then slowly lowered to a point exactly half way down. At the end of the day, the flag is raised to the top of the flagpole and then lowered and removed. The flag must never touch the ground.



The Canadian flag draped over a casket symbolizes a final tribute that celebrates a life that has passed.



The Butterfly Garden

Have you seen the butterfly garden? Plants which attract butterflies have been planted in a butterfly-shaped plot. The Glen Elm Gardening Club has sown and tended this garden during this very arid summer with volunteers faithfully watering the garden and keeping it flourishing. This very talented group, headed by Arlie Schultz, is also in charge of the flowers planted at the main entrance to the cemetery. We thank them for their volunteering to make our spaces beautiful.



Ulysses Stanley Wagner



Ulysses Stanley Wagner led an extremely interesting and varied life. He is buried here at Elmwood in Section 6A (8-151). His marker lists much information about him.

Born in Colorado in 1908, Stanley's family moved to Plum Coulee shortly afterward. His father died of tuberculosis when Stan was only 8 months old so he was raised by his mother, Wilhelmina, and many aunts.

As a young boy, Stanley became an excellent hockey player. Later in life he told people that the boys he played with used old magazines as shin pads. He was on the Winnipeg senior hockey team when they won Canada's Allen Cup. In 1932, with Stan as their goalie, the team captured gold medals at the Winter Olympics in New York. They made a heroic entry down Portage Avenue upon their arrival back to Winnipeg. In 1987 when Stan was inducted into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame, he donated his gold medal for display.

Flying was Stan's secret ambition and he left his studies in chartered accountancy in favour of aviation. In 1927 he took flying lessons at Western Canada Airway's Flight School at Kirkfield Park. Years later he was the last surviving graduate of the school. He started Northern Air Transport in 1931 in order to serve and bring supplies to northern Manitoba mines and their communities. In 1948, he was the first employee of Central Northern Airlines before it became TransAir Limited.

In May of 1937 Stan experienced a harrowing accident. Delivering a shipment of meat to Mackenzie Island the engine of the plane he was piloting exploded. With no engine and no propellor and part of one float sheared off, he managed to land the plane on water off Mackenzie Island. He spent an hour on the roof of the sinking craft before he was rescued. Several hours later he was back in the air – in a different model of aircraft.

Stanley Wagner was one of the last bush pilots of the Red Lake District. In 1974 Manitoba named Wagner Lake in his honour. He stopped flying at the age of 75 and drove a car until he was 92. On October 11, 2002, 95 year old Stanley passed away at Grace Hospital after a very fulfilling life.



Save Our Elms Campaign

We are moving into Year 4 of our campaign 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 the trees in the cemetery in a 6–7-year rotation, inject our 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, we remove old stumps and spray our trees to protect the foliage from canker worms and the overwintering of elm bark beetles.

We have injected just under 130 elm trees with Arbotect 20-S fungicide, a product developed by BioForest Technologies Inc., which protects them from Dutch Elm Disease for 3 years. BioForest has been donating extra product each year and we thank them for their support. Starting next year, we will start re-injecting trees as their protection from the fungicide will end.

The good news is that only 12 elms have to be removed, a vast improvement over previous years.

We trimmed and pruned 87 elm trees in the cemetery last winter and plan to trim a similar number this winter. We planted 15 trees this fall, which replaced newer trees that did not survive the drought conditions or ones which vandals snapped last year.

So how can you help? To begin with 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 selected by your family. The more trees that are adopted, the faster we can protect our elms. I would like to thank the families who 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 Arbotect.

To donate please contact our office at 204.667.9488 or email office@elmcem.ca

OUR PROUD SUPPORTERS



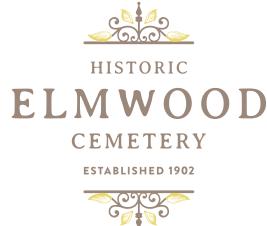
Please meet
our dedicated
Board of Directors
& Cemetery Staff

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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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.