

Inspection Guide

Funeral service providers

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Introduction

Consumer Protection BC is responsible for the administration of the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act* (BPCPA), the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act* (CIFSA) and the Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Regulation (CIFSR). Together these acts and regulation govern the licensing requirements for funeral service providers.

This guide has been prepared to better inform and educate crematorium operators on the compliance inspection process. As one of our licensed businesses it is your responsibility to conduct yourself and to operate your business to comply with the laws and conditions on the licences. We recommend you take the time needed to read this guide fully and to make sure that your managers and staff are familiar with the information.

This guide provides a reference point, so you know what to expect and how to prepare for our compliance inspections.

This is a general overview of the compliance inspections process. This guide is not intended to provide legal advice and it is not an exhaustive review of the legislative provisions affecting crematorium operators in BC. We recommend that you get copies of the legislation and regulation and review them in detail. You can find them <u>online</u> or printed versions may be ordered from:

Crown Publications Inc. 563 Superior Street Victoria, BC, V8V 1T7 TF: 1.800 663.6105 Fax: 250.387.1120

For more general information, we can be reached at:

Consumer Protection BC #321-3600 Uptown Blvd. Victoria, BC V8Z 0B9 TF: 1.888.564.9963 Fax: 250. 920-7181 E: <u>operations@consumerprotectionbc.ca</u> W: <u>www.consumerprotectionbc.ca</u>



Background: our responsibilities

The role of Consumer Protection BC

Our purpose is to license and inspect regulated businesses, respond to consumer inquiries, investigate alleged violations of consumer protection laws, classify all general release and adult films, and provide information and referrals to consumers.

As part of our responsibility to ensure compliance with the law and conditions on a licence, we regularly perform compliance inspections as well as inspections in response to consumer complaints. When an inspector identifies issues of non-compliance, the inspector may open a complaint file. When the eventual outcome of a complaint file results in compliance by the business, or some form of enforcement action being taken against the business, the outcome is published to our website. We share this information to enable consumers to make informed decisions.

The role of the licensee

You are legally responsible for understanding the Act, Regulation, conditions on your licence and be in compliance with them all.

You are also responsible for making sure your employees follow the Act, Regulation, and conditions on the licence, even when you are not present at the business.

You must fully cooperate with an inspector. Providing false or misleading information to an inspector or obstructing or hindering an inspection are serious contraventions. A person that carries out such behaviours or activities is also subject to prosecution under *the Offence Act*.

Inspection process

Scheduling and notification

Inspectors attend businesses located throughout the Province – sometimes arriving unannounced. The Act allows for an inspector to enter a business at any reasonable time to determine compliance with the Act, Regulation, conditions on a licence, or the suitability of a licensee or an applicant for a licence.

Authority to inspect

It is your responsibility to cooperate fully during an inspection. In most instances, an inspector will provide their official identification on arrival, or a request can be made for them to produce it. You must not do anything to obstruct, hinder, or interfere with an inspector's entry and inspection of a business.

The Act gives the inspector the authority to:

- Inquire into any business, affairs or conduct of a person
- Inspect, audit or examine any record, goods or other things or the provision of services in the premises
- Inspect a vehicle or vessel that is being used for business purposes
- Require a person who has possession or control of any records, goods, or other things in the premises, vehicle or vessel to produce the records, goods or things



- Make a record, including a record on film, audio tape, video tape or otherwise, of the premises, vehicle or vessel or any other things in the premises, vehicle or vessel
- Remove any record from the premise, vehicle or vessel for purpose of making copies
- Remove and retain any record, good or other thing that may be required as evidence from the premises, vehicle or vessel.

Conclusion of inspection

Once the inspection is complete, the inspector will review the results with you, or the manager on duty at the time of the inspection and discuss any non-compliance identified during the inspection. A Certification of Inspection will be prepared by the inspector and a digital copy will be emailed to you as indicated on your licensing file.

Post Inspection Report and follow up

After returning to the office, the inspector will document the inspection, update your file and, if required, inform other departments within Consumer Protection BC of the inspection results.

The inspector will give you a Post Inspection Report. The report will identify the alleged violations that you must correct and/or the alleged violations that will be recommended for enforcement to the Director. For more information on the enforcement process, please see the section below entitled "Enforcement."

We may conduct a follow up inspection to ensure that deficiencies noted have been corrected.

Enforcement

If an inspector detects violations that they believe should proceed to enforcement or a monetary administrative penalty, they will notify you of these alleged contraventions in a Post Inspection Report. The inspector will also prepare a Report to the Director (RD) document for the Manager of Inspections & Case Management. A copy of the RD will also be sent to you. The RD will identify the allegation(s) proceeding to enforcement and the evidence the inspector is relying on to support the allegation(s). You will be given an opportunity to respond to the allegations made in the RD. A decision maker will then decide whether the allegation took place, and whether statutory action such as an administrative penalty, licensing action or other remedial order is appropriate. Note: the decision to impose an administrative penalty is at the discretion of the Director or delegated decision maker.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision, you may apply for a reconsideration of the decision. Further information on the policies and procedures relating to the calculation of administrative monetary penalties and the reconsideration process can be found by visiting the About us (Our policies) section of our website at <u>www.consumerprotectionbc.ca</u>.



What will be inspected

Remember that inspectors attend businesses to confirm compliance with the Act, Regulation, and conditions on a licence, however inspectors are also there to educate and answer questions. Please feel free to approach them about any business issues or problems related to the Act or Regulation.

Typically, you can expect that an inspector will do some of the following:

- Review the legislation and the conditions on a licence for any issues that are identified
- Inspect the physical layout of the business
- Inspect legal, financial and other business records
- Observe and record your business practices, identify deficiencies or problem areas that may lead to non-compliance
- Identify any contraventions
- Answer your questions and help you understand your obligations

To find out what an inspector will be reviewing, please read a sample inspection checklist (Appendix 1). Note: the items on the checklist are not an exhaustive list of the items an inspector may review at inspection.

Documents and records

You must produce all business records and documents requested by the inspector. Since business records are not always kept on the premises, an inspector may schedule an inspection so you can make sure the records are at the business for the inspection. Sometimes, the inspector may require that you provide additional records at a later date. Refusing to provide records or providing false or misleading information is a serious contravention.



Appendix A - Inspection Checklist

The following are the types of types of things that the inspector is checking during an inspection of your business. This is not a comprehensive list and not all items on this list are inspected during each inspection.

	CONSUMER PROTECTION BC Licence #: Date of inspection:			
Question	FUNERAL SERVICE PROVIDER INSPECTION REPORT	Y	N	N/A
	GENERAL FACILITY	<u> </u>		
1	CIFSR 11 Is the funeral home using a registered name or DBA?			
2	CIFSR 12(1) Business address listed in all directories, advertising /marketing materials?			
3	CIFSR 12(2) Has the funeral provider declared ownership, in whole or in part, by a public company?			
4	CIFSR 41(a)(b) Are the licences displayed in a conspicuous location?			
5	BPCPA 31(2)(a) Is the general price list displayed in an accessible location?			
6	BPCPA 31(2)(b) Is the general price list readily available upon request?			
7	CIFSR 33(1)(b) Does the funeral provider maintain public liability insurance?			
8	Name of Insurance Company and Policy \$ Amount:			
9	CIFSR 33(1)(b) Is there a funeral director?			
10	If no, who provides funeral services / arrangements?			
11	CIFSR 33(1)(c) Is there an employee embalmer?			



12	If no, who performs embalming on contract?		
13	CIFSR 5(1) Are the vehicles suitable to transport human remains?		
14	CIFSR 34(1) Is there a book, brochure, or internet site that provides entire product line of containers offered?		
15	CIFSR 34(2) Is there a container display room?		
16	CIFSR 34(2)(b) Are the minimum six containers on display?		
17	CIFSR 34(3) Are the prices clearly set out on the containers?		
18	CIFSR 34(2)(a) Is the lowest price container on display?		
19	CIFSR 32(1) Is the arrangement room separate, private and suitable for discussing funeral services?		
20	Does the funeral provider accept human remains?		
21	Does the funeral provider disinfect, preserve or restore human remains (embalm)?		
	PREPARATION AND EMBALMING ROOM		
22	CIFSR 32(2)(b) Is the room clearly labeled from the outside to prohibit public access?		
23	CIFSR32(2)(a) Is the room at least 11 square meters?		
24	CIFSR 32(2)(c) Is the room adequately lit?		
25	CIFSR32(2)(c) Is the room mechanically ventilated to the outside?		
26	CIFSR 2 Are the human remains sheltered and handled in a dignified manner?		
27	CIFSR 32(2)(d) Is the room capable of being easily disinfected?		
28	CIFSR32(2)(e) Are surfaces of the room composed of non-porous materials?		



PREPARATION AND EMBALMING ROOM CONTINUED						
29	CIFSR32(2)(f) Is room equipped with a first aid kit?					
30	CIFSR32(2)(g) Can the examining table(s) be easily disinfected?					
31	CIFSR32(2)(h) Is there a sink with hot and cold running water?					
32	CIFSR32(2)(i) Is each water supply in the room equipped with a vacuum breaker?					
33	CIFSR32(2)(j) Are there sufficient storage facilities in the room to store equipment and supplies?					
34	CIFSR32(2)(k) Is there sufficient protective eyewear/disposable coverings?					
35	CIFSR32(2)(I) Are there sheets or towels?					
36	CIFSR 32(2)(m) Are there disinfectants, germicidal soap, paper towels, a pail, a mop and detergent in the room?					
IF ROOM IS ALSO USED TO DISINFECT, PRESERVE (EMBALM) OR RESTORE HUMAN REMAINS						
37	CIFSR32(3)(a) Is the room equipped with a sanitary drain or does the existing sink have a second compartment?					
38	CIFSR32(3)(d) Is the sanitary drain equipped with a splash guard?					
	CIFSK52(5)(u) is the same y uran equipped with a spiash guard:					
39	CIFSR32(3)(d) Is the sanitary drain equipped with a backflow valve?					
39 40						
	CIFSR32(3)(d) Is the sanitary drain equipped with a backflow valve? CIFSR32(3)(b) Is the room equipped with minimum 15minute continuous flow					
40	CIFSR32(3)(d) Is the sanitary drain equipped with a backflow valve? CIFSR32(3)(b) Is the room equipped with minimum 15minute continuous flow eyewash? CIFSR32(3)(c) Are there sufficient supplies necessary for the					



43	CIFSR 33(2) If no, does provider have access to refrigeration? (Location:)				
APPRENTICE FUNERAL DIRECTOR/EMBALMER					
44	Apprentice Funeral Director/Embalmer				
45	Supervisor				
46	CIFSA 55(1) / CIFSR 37(2)(a) If apprentice is under 1800 hours or 25 arrangements/ embalming's, is supervisor present when required?				
47	CIFSA 55(1) / CIFSR 37(2)(b) If apprentice is over 1800 hours and 25 arrangements / embalming's, is supervisor available for supervision?				
	PRENEED FUNERAL SERVICES CONTRACT				
48	BPCPA 19(a) Supplier's name?				
49	BPCPA 19(b) Supplier's business address?				
50	BPCPA 19(c) Supplier's phone and facsimile number?				
51	BPCPA 19(d) Date when contract is entered into?				
52	BPCPA 19(e) Detailed description of goods/services to be supplied?				
53	BPCPA 19(f) Itemized purchase price for goods/services?				
54	BPCPA 19(g) Costs payable including taxes and shipping?				
55	BPCPA 19(h) Description of additional charges that may apply which cannot be reasonably determined by the supplier?				
56	BPCPA 19(i) Detailed statement of the terms of payment?				
57	BPCPA 19(j) Total price?				



58	BPCPA 19(m) Notice of the consumer's right to cancellation?				
59	BPCPA 19(n) Any other restrictions, limitations or other T &C's that may apply to the supply of goods & services?				
60	BPCPA 36(c)(i) Listed fee charged for storing cremated remains?				
61	BPCPA36(c)(ii) Statement that no fee is charged until 60 days after date of cremation?				
62	BPCPA 36(1)(d) A space for the written acknowledgment by consumer that they received the initial disclosure statement in Section 35 of the BPCP Act?				
63	BPCPA 36(2) The supplier provides a copy of the contract within 15 days after the contract was entered into?				
	PRENEED TRUST ONLY				
64	BPCPA 36(1)(b)(ii) Portion of trusted monies that will be refunded if contract cancelled?				
65	BPCPA 36(1)(b)(ii) List the name of the financial institution that is the trustee of the preneed trust account?				
66	BPCPA 36(1)(b)(iii) Information about administration of trust account including information respecting investment of money in the account?				
	PRENEED TRUST ACCOUNT (AS APPLICABLE)				
67	Savings Institution name(s)?				
68	Savings Institution address?				
69	69 Account number(s)?				
70	Total Amount in trust?				
71	BPCPA 40(3) Are monies deposited, within 5 days of receipt, into a preneed interim account or preneed trust account?				



72	BPCPA 40(4)(b) Are monies transferred from interim account within 21 days?		
73	BPCPA 40(5) Are at least 80% of the preneed sale proceeds deposited into the trust account?		
74	BPCPA 40(6) Is there a written trust agreement between the savings institution and the funeral home prior to discharge of monies?		
75	BPCPA 40(7) & (8) Are the T&C's of the trust agreement being met prior to the discharge of trusted monies?		
76	BPCPA 40(10)(a) Does the consumer get written notice within 15 days of the first time deposit?		
	FUNERAL SERVICES CONTRACT		
77	BPCPA 19(a) Supplier's name?		
78	BPCPA 19(b) Supplier's business address?		
79	BPCPA 19(c) Supplier's phone and facsimile number?		
80	BPCPA 19(d) Date when contract is entered into?		
81	BPCPA 19(e) Detailed description of goods/services to be supplied?		
82	BPCPA 19(f) Itemized purchase price for goods/services?		
83	BPCPA 19(g) Costs payable including taxes and shipping?		
84	BPCPA 19(h) Description of additional charges that may apply which cannot be reasonably determined by the supplier?		
85	BPCPA 19(i) Detailed statement of the terms of payment?		
86	BPCPA 19(j) Total price?		



87	BPCPA 19(m) Notice of the consumer's right to cancellation?			
88	BPCPA 19(n) Any other restrictions, limitations or other T &C's that may apply to the supply of goods & services?			
89	BPCPA 34(1)(b)(i) Name and address of the consumer?			
90	BPCPA 34(1)(b)(ii) Name and address of the deceased or stillborn infant?			
91	BPCPA 34(1)(b)(iii) Name and address of the person who has the disposition right under Section 5 CIFS Act?			
92	BPCPA 34(1)(c) Complete address where the human remains will be sheltered pending disposition?			
93	BPCP 34(1)(d) A statement that embalming is not a legal requirement but may be required in some cases?			
94	BPCPA 34(1)(d) A space for the written acknowledgement of the embalming service by the consumer if embalming is required?			
95	BPCPA 34(1)(e)(i) Listed fee charged for storing cremated remains?			
96	BPCPA 34(1)(e)(ii) Statement that no fee is charged until 60 days after date of cremation?			
97	BPCPA 33 Listed fee or disbursement for using or handling containers not supplied by the funeral provider?			
98	Amount?			
99	LIC REQ Is the BPCPA fee charged to the consumer?			
100	Amount?			
RECORDS				
101	LIC REQ Is there a disclosure statement regarding the BPCPA fee?			



102	CIFSR 43(1)(a)&(b) Name of deceased and if human remains were interred, the date and place of the interment?		
103	CIFSR 43(1)(a)&(c) Name of the deceased and if human remains were cremated, the date and place of the cremation?		
104	CIFSR 43(1)(c) A record of the disposition of cremated remains?		
105	CIFSR 43(1)(d) Name and mailing address of a person who had kinship relation with the deceased?		
106	CIFSR 43(1)(f) A copy of the burial permit?		
107	CIFSR 43(1)(e) A copy of the written authorization including the address of the person who had the right to control the disposition?		
108	BPCPA 34(2) Does the supplier provide a copy of the contract within 15 days after the contract was entered into?		
109	CIFSA 1 Are the funeral services contracts all signed by a funeral director?		
110	Is the licensee registered on "MyAccount" and did the Inspector review/update the active status at the time of inspection?		

For more information about your obligations as a licensed business, our processes and our organization, please visit <u>www.consumerprotectionbc.ca</u>.