

St. Peter's Lutheran Church and Cemetery

Scapa, Alta

Cemetery Rules and Guidelines

March 2025

Whereas the St. Peter's Lutheran Church and Cemetery located near Scapa, Alta, the Executive and Volunteer Committee oversees and operates a cemetery on land in the NE 20-33-15w4m.

The St. Peter's Cemetery Rules and Guidelines will support the "Final Certification of Approval" from the Province of Alberta that was granted on February, 6 2025

St. Peter's Cemetery was established in 1921 and serves as a symbol of the connection between the original pioneers and the areas current residents. Thus the St. Peter's Executive Committee reserves the right to not allow a person or person's to be buried at St. Peter's Cemetery.

Definitions

Burial Plot - means a single grave plot for burial of a casket or cremation urn.

Cemetery - means land set apart for or used as a place for the interment of the dead or which human bodies have been buried.

Closing - the backfilling of a grave and the removal of any excess earth.

Contractor - Any person, firm or corporation, or anyone engaged in placing, erecting or repairing any memorial or monument, or performing any work in the cemetery's grounds other than the opening/closing of a grave.

Grave - an excavation for the burial of a human body or cremated remains.

Interment - means the ceremonial service of burial of human body or cremated remains. The lowering of the human body or cremated remains into the grave and the time required for the bereaved to leave the grave site until the closing of the grave can commence.

Marker - shall mean a memorial of granite, marble, bronze, or other material, being flush with the ground.

Memorial Marker – commemorative marker for someone who is not buried there.

Monument - shall mean a memorial of granite, marble, bronze, or other material which extends or rises above the ground to within a certain height. Can be referred to as a headstone or a tombstone.

Opening - the excavation of a grave to the required depth and size. This will include stock piling of the spoil pile until after the interment.

Temporary Marker – A temporary manner of identifying an interment space which is installed at the cemetery at the time of the burial, until a more permanent monument or marker is purchased.

Rules and Guidelines

No burial shall be permitted in the cemetery unless a burial permit issued by the proper office of the Government of the respective Province is produced by the party applying for the burial to the Executive Committee.

The cost of an individual plot will be set by the Executive Committee. The price of an individual plot currently is set at \$100.00.

Plots can be pre-purchased for the full plot price.

Plots cannot be pre-picked by the purchasers. The Executive Committee reserves the right to pick plots and work with the families to arrange for the burial.

An unused plot may be transferred to another family member.

If a family chooses to return an unused plot to the cemetery it will not be refunded.

An individual plot will be 42" wide x 96" long.

The Executive Committee and Volunteer Group will oversee the operations and maintenance of the cemetery. This group will "Open" and "Close" burial plots-both cremations and full caskets.

Family members must be in agreement if a loved one wants to have their cremation remains buried with a family member which is buried in the cemetery. We will not administer these situations. If the Funeral Service contacts us to proceed with the burial we will.

Families are not allowed to open/close for a cremation urn burial.

The urn or wooden container will be placed in the cremation plot for burial. The Volunteer Committee will not place unsealed ashes in the plot.

It is the family's responsibility to provide the necessary lowering devices and make their own arrangements for the placing of mats, wreaths and flowers around the burial plot.

The families are responsible for purchasing and supplying a rough box if one is desired.

We are a Burial Service not a Funeral Service. The Volunteer Committee does not provide any services other than open/closing of the plots.

The fee to "Open" and "Close" a cremation plot is set at \$100.00.

The fee to "Open" and "Close" a full casket plot is set at \$500.00.

The fee for a winter burial to coal burn/unthaw the ground prior to digging will be set at \$300.00

If the weather and ambient conditions call for temperatures of -25 degrees or colder the volunteer committee could say no to digging a full plot or a cremation plot as we will not put workers at risk of working in the cold. We may ask the family to consider moving the burial date out until it warms up.

Four cremation urns will be allowed in one burial plot.

Tubular cremation burials angled in under an existing grave cover are not permitted.

Headstones, markers and monuments are the responsibility of the families.

The committee recommends having the permanent headstone/marker purchased and installed within a 24-month period.

Upright headstones/monuments for a single plot shall not exceed 40" in height, 18" in width and 36" inches in length.

Upright headstone/monuments for a double plot shall not exceed 40" in height, 18" in width and 72" inches in length.

Flat markers for a single plot shall not exceed 4" in height, 18" in width and 36" inches in length.

Flat markers for a double plot shall not exceed 4" in height, 18" in width and 72" inches in length.

The Executive Committee will measure out the headstone placements prior to the headstone installation to try and keep the rows square.

Grave covers will not be allowed.

Families can bring and place floral arrangements at the cemetery at any time. The Executive Committee has the right to remove flowers/arrangements that have become weathered or unsightly.

Fences, rails, trees and hedges in/around the plots are prohibited.

We do not allow for the burial of pets in the cemetery.