



Alena Gabel took over the duties of President and Secretary Martin Dooley continues to set the agenda and prepare the minutes of the board meetings in his quiet, efficient way. Treasurer Jake den Hartog has done a fine job in his two consecutive 3 yr terms. We owe Jake a strong vote of thanks for his efforts and for all the work he continues to do on our internet/website. Thanks also to member Steven Nagy for keeping our website up to date. All of these volunteers are important to the ongoing work of the Funeral Advisory Society.

During the year your board members have discussed many matters of concern to the society and where necessary have dealt with complaints from members. Very few complaints are received but we do appreciate having concerns brought to our attention, so they can be resolved. We also appreciate any favourable comments from our members with respect to service, etc.

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#### Notice of Increase In Lifetime Fee

The Funeral Advisory Society of Hamilton and District must continue to maintain a strong consumer presence, and as a result we are constantly seeking new members. However as our costs continue to increase along with the cost of living, the FASHD has increased the lifetime membership fee to \$35.00. This onetime fee includes a complete package, which contains many forms and invaluable information on pre-planning and planning funerals.

Having the information contained in our kits on hand, may help eliminate some of the stress associated with end-of-life issues. Other benefits include our *Annual Newsletter and a vote at the Annual Meeting*.

**Please ask a friend or family member to join!**

If you require more information, give our telephone volunteers a call @ 905-389-8240.

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#### Membership Report

In 2006, we welcomed 40 new members and 6 people who transferred in from other societies. We were informed of the deaths of 14 members. From the founding of our society, approximately 6,600 people have joined, and are believed to still be living in this area. We send out about 1700 newsletters, which means our active membership is between 2500 and 3000. Last year, over 70 newsletters were returned. If you are moving, even within your apartment building, please call the society at 905-389-8240 or email to [funeralsociety@hwc.org](mailto:funeralsociety@hwc.org)

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#### Our Finances

Even with careful management, expenses exceeded our income over some \$600, which is less than in previous years. Our only source of income is from one-time membership fees and donations. We are asking for your financial support so as not to deplete our limited resources. We appreciate your generosity. **Thank you for your continued support!**

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#### Funeral Advisory Society Trustees:

Alena Gabel, Chair  
Pearl Davie, Past Chair  
Karen Laposa, Vice President  
Jake den Hartog, Treasurer  
Martin Dooley, Secretary  
Jean Wheeler  
Jim Sackville

#### Telephone Committee:

Connie Dunnett, Len Metcalfe,  
Verna Stanek, Maureen Wright

**Membership Secretary:** Miriam Kramer  
**Assistant:** Eileen Hayhoe

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#### New Board Members Required

The Society will require nominees for the board, as there are three positions open – two 3 year and one 2 year. As you are reading this, please consider giving some time to the business of your society as a member of the board. There is no financial consideration given to our board members, however there is a genuine feeling of satisfaction in serving our membership and promoting the memorial society movement. **Please consider becoming a board member and discover how truly rewarding it is.**

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#### Read our Newsletter Online

The society has a regular email address, which is [funeralsociety@hwc.org](mailto:funeralsociety@hwc.org) However, if you agree to read our newsletter online please send us a message addressed to [funadsoc@yahoo.ca](mailto:funadsoc@yahoo.ca) saying "I agree to read the newsletter online." With this procedure we will obtain your email address. Last year we had an error in the email address. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

We would also appreciate hearing from you regarding changes of address, name, etc. as we have a number of mailings returned annually. Please call us @ 905-389-8240 or email @ [funeralsociety@hwc.org](mailto:funeralsociety@hwc.org)

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**FEDERATION of ONTARIO MEMORIAL SOCIETIES  
Re  
SCATTERING OF CREMATED HUMAN REMAINS**

***The Federation is providing the following information for memorial society members and the public to ensure they are aware of their rights with respect to individual scattering of cremated human remains.***

For the past number of years the individual (private) scattering of cremated human remains has not been prohibited under the 'Funeral Directors and Establishments Act 1990' and the 'Cemeteries Act Revised', and information provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources indicates **individuals may scatter cremated human remains as follows:**

***On Crown land, public waterway or private property, given permission of the owner.***

During the review of legislation and regulation, the Legislation Committee of the Federation consistently stressed that the public must retain the right to scatter cremated human remains on an individual basis and not be restricted to scattering within a licensed cemetery for which, of course, a charge would be levied by the industry. This right has been retained as follows:

Under the new Funerals, Burials and Cremation Services Act 2002, (awaiting proclamation -anticipated early in 2008) **individuals will retain the right to scatter cremated human remains as follows:**

***(a) on land, including land covered by water, if the consent of the owner of the land where the remains are to be scattered has been obtained.***

***(b) subject to clause (c) , on unoccupied areas of Crown land and on Crown land covered by water OR***

***(c) on land that is Crown land, including land covered by water, in provincial parks and conservation reserves, if the consent of the Minister of Natural Resources has been obtained.***

*(The reason for the last provision is to restrict individuals from carrying out the scattering in areas where there are campgrounds or recreational facilities or where there is frequent public use. The Federation will consult with the MNR to help ensure there is a reasonable process for obtaining such consent and that this condition of consent is not used to unduly restrict private scattering. )*

The FBCS ACT 2002 also stipulates, with respect to land for scattering on a **regular basis:**

***No person shall maintain or set aside land to be used for the purpose of scattering cremated human remains unless that person is licensed as a cemetery operator and the land is within a cemetery.*** (This is so individuals will not set aside portions of private property to be used for other than occasional scattering.)

***No person shall charge a fee for the use of land for scattering cremated human remains unless the person is a licensed cemetery operator and the scattering takes place on land within a cemetery.*** (This is to ensure no individual doing private scattering is charged a fee.)

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**2006 Annual Meeting of the Society**

Martin Dooley introduced Alison Roberts Miculan, Medical Ethicist, who currently teaches Professional Competencies in the MD programme at McMaster University. She gave a lecture on the ways in which death has come to be taken over by the health care system and outlined some other options available. This was followed by an extensive question and answer period. Martin thanked the speaker on behalf of all those present.

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**Be Wary of Mass Mailings from Funeral Providers**

Funeral providers and cemeteries are not permitted to send unsolicited promotional material to individuals, because it could arrive at a time, which is already stressful. However, they can send out unaddressed mail, often in the form of a survey or entry to a draw. You should be aware that by filling out and returning such a form, complete with your name and address, you have given the funeral provider or cemetery permission to contact you with a view to future sales of goods and services.

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**Chair's Message from Alena Gabel**

As your new President, I want to take this opportunity to thank the membership and vow to work diligently with the Board on your behalf. We do not take this responsibility lightly, as we have been entrusted to protect public interest regarding the costs associated with funerals and the practices of funeral providers.

We would also appreciate hearing from you about any future topics that you would like to see covered at our Annual General Meetings. The Board members are constantly working on ideas that will engage our membership and increase attendance at the AGM. Please remember that we appreciate your input and value your opinions. If you have any comments or concerns please call us at 905-389-8240 or email to [funeralsociety@hwc.org](mailto:funeralsociety@hwc.org) I look forward to serving you.

**FEDERATION of ONTARIO MEMORIAL SOCIETIES**

The 2006 ANNUAL MEETING, with 7 of 11 societies represented, took place in September in Toronto at the Scarborough Mission Centre. It was a resounding success, given the positive comments made by attendees on the assessment sheets. Some of the many issues covered at this meeting include:

**PANDEMIC PLANNING**

In a major disaster the public must be prepared to be without services and potential assistance for 72 hours or more. The government has printed a detailed booklet "72 Hours-are you prepared?" that can be obtained free of charge, by calling 1-800-622-6232.

It was suggested that societies advise membership through newsletters, that these are available and also recommend members contact local Health Departments to determine what procedures they have in place for a pandemic.

FOOMS is to be included in the website for "Guide to Programs & Services in Ontario". Thanks to Sarah Walker of Sudbury for this accomplishment. The website of the Ontario Seniors Secretariat (Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration) is: [www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/seniors/english/guide.htm](http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/seniors/english/guide.htm) FOOMS/societies will be included in the next Guide.

**Publications available, for Members Only:**

- Member's Information Handbook..... \$5.00
- Replacement Pre-Arrangement Forms..... \$5.00
- Cooperating Funeral Providers Price List.... Free
- Replacement Membership Card ..... Free

*\*\*N.B.: this latter item is costly to mail; a donation towards postage would be appreciated.*

**For Anyone, (no charge) upon request**

- Society Brochure – Membership Application
- "Vital Information Record" or "Organ Donor Card"
- "Readings for a Memorial Service"
- "Preparing for Approaching Death" (palliative care)
- \*\*Powers of Attorney Kit, Ontario, with forms

**List of Cooperating Funeral Providers, Spring 2007:**

J.B. Marlatt Funeral Homes (1985)	615 Main St. East, Hamilton	L8M 1J4	905-528-6303
J.B. Marlatt Funeral Homes (1985)	195 King St. West, Dundas	L9H 1V5	905-627-7452
Markey-Dermody Funeral Home	1774 King St. East, Hamilton	L8K 1V7	905-547-1121
Cresmount Funeral Home Ltd.	322 Fennell Ave. East, Hamilton	L9A 1T2	905-387-2111
Truscott, Brown & Dwyer Funeral Chapel	1309 King St. East, Hamilton	L8M 1H2	905-549-2417
Dodsworth & Brown, Robinson Chapel	15 West Ave. North, Hamilton	L8L 5B9	905-522-2496
Donald V Brown Funeral Home	36 Lake Ave., Stoney Creek	L8G 3N3	905-662-2948
Smith's Funeral Homes	485 Brant Street, Burlington	L7R 2G5	905-632-3333
Beckett-Glaves Funeral Homes	88 Brant Ave., Brantford	N3T 3H3	519-752-4331
Hill & Robinson Funeral Home	30 Nelson St., Brantford	N3T 2M8	519-752-2543
Thorpe Brothers' Funeral Home	96 West Street, Brantford	N3T 3E7	519-759-2211
Ballard-Minor Funeral Home	315 Broad St. East, Dunnville	N1A 1G4	905-774-7277
Ward Funeral Homes	109 Reynolds St., Oakville	L6J 3K4	905-844-3221
National Cremation Society	2289 Fairview Street		905-631-3128
	Unit 319, Burlington	L7R 2E3	1-866-627-9474
Canadian Cremation & Burial Services Ltd.	1919 King St. E, Hamilton	L8K 1V9	905-545-8889
Affordable Burial & Cremation	697 Mohawk Rd. East, Ham.	L8W 3J6	905-389-2998

**TO: Funeral Advisory Society, P.O. Box 89026, Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4R5 (905-389-8240)**

\*\*\*Please check the appropriate box/boxes

I enclose \$.....as a voluntary donation to the society **Please send a Receipt:.....**

I enclose \$35.00 to become a Lifetime FASHD Member

Name ..... Telephone .....

Address ..... City/Town .....

Postal Code ..... Email address .....

I enclose \$..... for the following publications.....