Funeral Services and Follow-Up Details

Funeral Services

The County of Middlesex provides the funds for a basic, respectful service according to the County of Middlesex's Fee Schedule. Only items and services provided for in the Fee Schedule will be approved. Additional items can be purchased by the Next of Kin.

Recovery of Funeral, Burial and Cremation Costs

The County of Middlesex will complete recoveries for the cost of funeral, burial and cremation services from the estate of the deceased, including any income or assets eligible for recovery, such as cash in bank accounts and CPP Death Benefits.

Death Certificates

Original Death Certificates are held by The County of Middlesex while recoveries are pursued.
Once the funeral application has been completed and all recoveries received the Original Death Certificates are provided to the Next of Kin.

We're here to support YOU!

For further information or to request financial assistance for funeral, cremation or burials, contact our office:

Middlesex County Social Services
Phone: 519-434-7321
Email: benefits@middlesex.ca

Other supports:

Community Supports

middlesex.ca/departments/social-services/community-supports

Discretionary Benefits

middlesex.ca/departments/social-services/discretionary-benefits

Housing and Homelessness

middlesex.ca/departments/social-services/housing-and-homelessness

Burial Assistance

Financial Assistance for Funeral, Cremations, and Burials in Middlesex County

middlesex county

middlesex.ca/socialservices

The County of Middlesex's Discretionary Benefits Program may be able to provide financial assistance for basic funeral expenses on behalf of deceased residents of the County of Middlesex who do not have sufficient funds in their estate to cover the cost of a basic funeral, cremation and/or burial.

Important: Middlesex County Social Services must authorize services before a contract is signed with a funeral home or cemetery. We are unable to reimburse the cost of a funeral, cremation, and/or burial after a contract is signed, as we are not in a position to interfere with a legally binding contract.

Eligibility

County of Middlesex residents may be eligible for this financial assistance:

- Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
- Low-income, non-social assistance recipients

A full eligibility review of the deceased person's estate must be completed by the County of Middlesex before completing funeral arrangements. If the deceased is a minor (17 years of age or younger), the application for funeral assistance will be based on the parent or legal guardian's eligibility.

Criteria

Individuals are eligible for assistance with the cost of funeral, burial and cremation services if they meet the following criteria for the deceased individual:

- Resident of the County of Middlesex
- No valid life insurance policy or prepaid funeral services.
- Funds available through the deceased's estate (bank accounts, RRSPs, CPP Death Benefit, or other available asset) are less than the maximum assets allowable for Discretionary Benefits financial assistance.

The following documents may be needed to complete the application for funeral, burial and cremation services:

- ❖ Identification for the deceased: If not on social assistance
  - Valid government issued photo ID
  - Social Insurance card
  - Birth Certificate
  - Immigration documents

- ❖ Valid government issued photo ID for the applicant/Next of Kin

- ❖ Verification of a Middlesex County address:
  - Lease or Mortgage agreement
  - Utility bill
  - Piece of government mail

- ❖ Income Verification:
  - Sixty (60) days of banking on all bank accounts
  - Most recent Notice of Assessment from Revenue Canada for the deceased (and spouse)
  - Two (2) most recent pay stubs

- ❖ Verification documents for any and all assets owned by the deceased as requested by Discretionary Benefits
  - 60 days of banking on all bank accounts
  - Vehicle ownership
  - Life insurance
  - Pre-paid funeral
  - Any items within the estate with a monetary value i.e. mortgage of any properties owned

- ❖ Copy of a will

Note: Please continue with the application even if you do not have access to all of the above information.