

Memorandum

To: Funeral Directors via Bereavement Authority of Ontario

From: Alexandra Schmidt
Deputy Registrar General / Director

Date: February 26, 2021

Re: Expansion of the use of the Electronic Medical Certificates of Death

I am writing to inform you that beginning February 26, 2021, use of the electronic Medical Certificate of Death (eMCOD) will be expanded to include physicians and registered nurses holding an extended certificate (referred to as nurse practitioners) providing palliative care outside of a hospital setting (e.g., patient's place of residence, hospice, long-term care home).

Role of the Funeral Directors:

The role of the funeral directors remains the same. Once the coroner, coroner investigator, physician or nurse practitioner submits the completed eMCOD to the funeral home via the password protected secure transmission method, the funeral director will need to print the eMCOD; and the printed paper copy becomes the official Medical Certificate of Death (MCOD).

The funeral director must then:

- 1) Compare the MCOD to the information provided by the Informant on the Statement of Death for accuracy between both forms and rectify any inconsistencies;
- 2) Send a copy of the Statement of Death and MCOD to the municipality through the interim process agreed to by the municipality and funeral homes within the municipality (e.g., secure email or fax) for the expedited issuance of a burial permit; and
- 3) Send or deliver in-person the original death registration documents to the municipality by the next business day or, under the current circumstances, as soon as practicable for processing.

Thank you again for your continued cooperation. If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact Melissa Power, acting Operations Manager at: (807) 343-7557.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Schmidt

Alexandra Schmidt

Deputy Registrar General, Office of the Registrar General

Director, Thunder Bay Production and Verification Services Branch

- c. Carey Smith, Bereavement Authority of Ontario
- Monika Turner, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- David Arbuckle, Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario
- Kelly McCarthy, City of Toronto
- Allan Thompson, Rural Ontario Municipal Association
- Marc Gagnon, L'Association française des municipalités de l'Ontario