

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF VANSCOY NO. 345

BYLAW NO. 17-2024

CEMETERY BYLAW

**A BYLAW TO MAINTAIN, REGULATE AND CONTROL THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF VANSCOY
CEMETERIES**

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345, in the Province of Saskatchewan, enacts the following:

1. Short Title

- a. This Bylaw may be referred to as the "Cemetery Bylaw".

2. Definitions

- a. **"Base"** means the bottom part or lower portion of the monument;
- b. **"Cemetery"** means the following listed lands within the Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345 set apart for, or used as a place of, interment of the dead or in which human remains may be buried:
 - i. Avondale Cemetery: SW 03-35-09 W2
 - ii. Fron Lutheran Cemetery: NW 19-35-08 W3
 - iii. Wildrose Cemetery: NW 24-35-08 W3
- c. **"Cemetery Committee"** shall consist of two (2) councilors as per the Appointments in section 200.7 of the Municipal Policy Manual 01-2022;
- d. **"Administrator"** means the Administrator for the Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345;
- e. **"Columbarium"** means a building designed for the purpose of storing or interring cremated human remains in sealed compartments or niches;
- f. **"Council"** means the Council of the Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345;
- g. **"Cremated human remains"** means human bone fragments that remain after cremation;
- h. **"Cremation"** means the technical process of using heat to reduce human remains to bone fragments;
- i. **"Foundation"** means the concrete pad that supports the monument;
- j. **"Grave"** means a subdivision of land (standard size 1.30 X 3.00) for the purpose of a single burial in the cemetery;
- k. **"Human remains"** means a dead human body, but does not include cremated human remains;
- l. **"Interment"** means:
 - i. The burial of human remains or cremated human remains in a cemetery; or
 - ii. The inurnment of cremated human remains in a columbarium;
- m. **"Licensee"** means a person(s) who purchase a grave(s) or columbarium(s) in the cemetery;
- n. **"Memorial wall"** means the side walls of the columbarium used for the placement of personalized plaques in memory of the deceased when ashes have been spread at another location
- o. **"Monument"** means a marker, headstone, tombstone, monument, plaque, tablet, plate, inscription, lettering or ornamentation that is used to identify a grave or memorialize a deceased person;

- p. **“Niche”** means an individual compartment to be used for the interment of cremated human remains;
- q. **“Local Authority”** means the municipality to which this Bylaw applies.

3. **Cemetery Graves**

- a. Each standard grave can be used for one of the following:
 - i. One (1) casket interment; or
 - ii. One (1) casket interment and three (3) human cremated remains interments. The casket interments must take place first.
 - iii. Four (4) cremated remains.
- b. Within a standard grave the cremated remains interment must be placed in the following locations:
 - i. Top of the grave, middle of the grave and bottom of the grave.
- c. The Licensee shall be responsible for the cost of opening and closing of gravesites in the cemeteries.
- d. No burial shall be made in any cemetery without first obtaining a Burial Permit in the form provided by the local authority and shall be accompanied by the permit fee as per Schedule A for the processing, handling, and issuance of the permit.
- e. It shall be lawful after first receiving authorization from the local authority, for the Licensee of a grave, or their agent to place markers thereon, in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw.
- f. A monument must be placed on a foundation.
- g. Gravesites must be backfilled with natural dirt and grass reseeded.
- h. It shall be unlawful to cover gravesites with any substance other than grass.
- i. Each urn must contain markers identifying the deceased.

4. **Columbarium**

- a. A single niche is 12.5” on the vertical X 12.5” on the horizontal X 14” deep from front to back.
- b. Niche plaques are 11” X 7”
- c. The capacity of each niche shall not be defined so long as they do not exceed the dimensions of the niche.
- d. Urns must be fire resistant and made of ceramic, metal, composite, or another non-combustible material.
- e. Each urn must contain markers identifying the deceased.

5. **Monuments**

- a. No monument, marker, or object of any kind shall be placed on any grave in the cemetery except as provided for in this section.
- b. All monuments and markers shall be of granite or marble; the front top and back of monuments shall be axed, honed or polished. All bases shall be of granite and have rock pitched sides and ends. Monuments and markers even for temporary use, made of cement, artificial stone, wood tin or iron will not be permitted.
- c. No monuments shall be erected except on a concrete foundation constructed by the local authority. The local authority, or authorized designate, shall construct the foundation so that it is the full width of the grave for ease of maintenance.

- d. Once installed, no monument shall be removed from the cemetery without first notifying the Administrator or designate, in writing, stating the reasons for such removal.
 - e. There are no size and shape requirements for monuments except that they are restricted to the boundaries of the grave or portion of the grave purchased.
 - f. The RM shall not be liable for the loss of or any damage to any monument, marker, or any part thereof or of any memorial tribute located in any of the cemeteries.
- 6. Columbarium Niche/Memorial Plaques**
- a. To maintain the columbarium in a uniform manner, the RM of Vanscoy No. 345 shall arrange for the engraving and installation of the niche/memorial plaque.
 - b. Any person requesting a niche/memorial plaque shall complete and sign the RM of Vanscoy No. 345 Niche/Memorial Engraving Form provided by the local authority and shall be accompanied by the fee as per Schedule A.
 - c. The maximum niche engraving area is 11" X 7".
 - d. The maximum memorial engraving is 6" X 4".
 - e. Only name, birth date and death date will be allowed.
 - f. Under no circumstances will any portion of a "death of date" be pre-engraved.
 - g. All lettering shall be standard Times New Roman style – plain finish.
- 7. License Transfer and Buy Backs**
- a. Cemetery graves and columbarium's shall not be resold or transferred without prior written notification to the Administrator or designate, by the licensee. In the case of transfer to the RM, the RM will refund to the licensee all money paid by them for the grave/columbarium.
- 8. Care of Graves**
- a. To obtain the best landscape effects, the cemetery committee shall supervise the general care of all three (3) cemeteries. The licensee of graves shall observe all rules and regulations passed from time to time by Council for keeping the graves in order.
 - b. There shall be no installation of grave coverings, fences, borders, railings, curbs, copings, trellises, walls on the graves. The planting of any vegetation such as hedges, shrubs, trees, perennials or annuals, with the exception of grass, will not be permitted on or around the immediate area of the graves, except as provided in section 9 of this Bylaw.
 - c. One Vase, cross and or statue is permitted for a single grave.
- 9. Plants and Shrubs**
- a. The cemetery committee shall undertake to maintain as may be practicable, the planting of trees and shrubs to preserve and maintain landscape features.
- 10. General Regulations**
- a. The Administrator or designate, shall keep an accurate record setting forth the name, location and date of burial of the deceased person.
 - b. The purchaser of a grave shall be given a general receipt with the description of the gravel purchased.
 - c. Graves shall be purchased in sequential order.

- d. Notices given to any person pursuant to this Bylaw shall be deemed sufficient if in writing and mailed postpaid to the last known address of such person as entered on the cemetery records.
- e. No grave shall be used for any other purpose than for the burial of the human dead.

11. Repeal

Rescind resolution no.'s 113/1999 and 317/2020.

12. Adoption

This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect upon the date of the final passing thereof.

SEAL

Reeve

Administrator

Read a third time and adopted on the 18th day of November, 2024.

Administrator

**Schedule A
To Bylaw 17-2024**

Grave Fee – Avondale Cemetery	\$500.00
Grave Fee – Wildrose Cemetery	\$500.00
Grave Fee – Fron Lutheran	\$500.00
<i>(Prices are for residents & non-residents)</i>	
Columbarium niche package includes: <i>(including non-residents)</i>	
• Niche	\$800
• Niche Engraving	As per current pricing from Nelson Granite plus taxes & shipping
• Niche/Memorial Engraving Form Fee	\$25.00
Burial Permit	\$25.00
Columbarium Memorial Package includes:	
• Memorial Engraving	As per current pricing from Nelson Granite plus taxes & shipping
• Niche/Memorial Engraving Form Fee	\$25.00
Opening/Closing of gravesites	Licensee pays the full cost

Non-residents must have a family tie to the cemetery

