

41.--Cemeteries

1. A Cemetery Committee of the Diocese shall be established as a sub-committee of the Administration and Finance Committee and shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with this Canon and applicable laws governing cemetery operations.
2. The establishment of a cemetery, scattering ground or columbarium (hereinafter referred to as "Cemetery") shall require the prior approval of the Vestry of the parish/congregation. The Territorial Archdeacon shall forward a report on such proposed Cemetery to the Diocesan Council or the Diocesan Sub-Council, and to the Bishop. Only after approval of the Diocesan Council or the Diocesan Sub-Council, and the Bishop has been obtained, may a Cemetery be established, and such establishment shall be made in accordance with the applicable Ontario legislation.
3. Real property used as a Cemetery or held by any parish/congregation in the Diocese shall be registered in the name of The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron, which shall hold such property in trust for the benefit of the parish/congregation.
4. A parish/congregation that owns or operates a Cemetery must have an established Cemetery Board in place, with appointed trustees, who shall be responsible for the care and maintenance of the Cemetery. The Cemetery Board shall report to the Churchwardens of the parish/congregation and shall ensure strict compliance with all laws governing cemeteries.
5. When parishes/congregations realign or reorganize, existing Cemeteries of such parishes/congregations shall continue to have in place an established Cemetery Board with appointed trustees. The Cemetery shall be attached to a parish/ congregation and the trustees shall report to the Churchwardens of the parish/congregation, as determined by Diocesan Council or the Bishop.
6. Upon the disestablishment of a parish/congregation that owns and operates a Cemetery, the final Vestry meeting shall ensure that a Cemetery Board and trustees remain appointed as a separate entity, as required by applicable laws. The Territorial Archdeacon, in consultation with the Bishop, shall ensure that the Cemetery Board is assigned to a Rector/Incumbent/Priest-in-Charge for reporting and ministry purposes.
7. The Cemetery Board of the parish/congregation shall submit an annual financial statement and copy of its provincial filing return of the operations of the Cemetery to the Cemetery Committee through the Secretary-Treasurer. Where a Cemetery is attached to a parish/congregation, the Cemetery Board shall report to the Vestry of such parish/congregation.
8. In the event that there is no reporting relationship of an existing Cemetery to a parish/congregation, the Cemetery Board and its trustees shall report to the Cemetery Committee of the Diocese through the Secretary-Treasurer.