



General Operating Guideline # 2001

Subject: Honoring of Fallen Members (funerals and other services)

Approval June 15, 2023

Section 1: Purpose

This guideline outlines general responsibilities of the Fire Department to ensure funerals for department members are conducted with dignity and good taste in accordance with protocol, always keeping in mind the wishes and feelings of the next of kin.

Section 2: Scope

The guideline on funeral for department members is applicable to Lunenburg Regional Fire and Emergency Service personnel.

Section 3: General Responsibility

Lunenburg Regional Fire and Emergency Services

Due to the number of retired, honorary or active member members and their families within the LRFES it is not feasible for the organization to be directly involved or support the expenses of department funerals or other services.

As an appropriate alternative, and with all due respect to its members and other fire service personnel, the LRFES as a matter of policy will conduct a minute of silence prior to all LRFES meetings to honor those that have fallen.

In addition the LRFES will continue to support the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation in its effort each year to honor those firefighters that have fallen in the line of duty.

Fire Departments

Upon learning of the death of a retired, honorary or active member of the Department the following steps will be taken.

1. The Fire Chief and Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Department's involvement in funeral procedures will be notified.
2. The OIC will lower Station flags to half-mast. Station Flags shall return to full mast at sunset on the day of the funeral or the next sunrise following the day of the funeral. **Note.** The fire department may choose to lower the firehall flags to half-mast in honor of a member's family or a community member that has passed.
3. The OIC shall contact the family of the deceased member and, in co-ordination with the funeral director establish the family's desires as to the Fire Department's involvement in the funeral.

The Fire Department may offer the following services, in accordance and agreement with the family's desires:

1. A formal funeral, at home, funeral home, church or cemetery, involving the use of an Engine, active pallbearers, honorary pallbearers, honor guard and funeral detail.
2. A semi-formal funeral at home, funeral home, church or cemetery involving active pallbearers, honorary pallbearers, honor guard and funeral detail.

Original: Approved June 15, 2023



Lunenburg Regional
FES
Fire & Emergency Services

General Operating Guideline # 2001

Subject: Honoring of Fallen Members (funerals and other services)

Approval June 15, 2023

3. A non-formal funeral, at home, funeral home, church or cemetery. There being no Fire Department involvement other than members attending in a passive role either in the viewing and/or funeral service.
4. A private funeral, at home, funeral home, church or cemetery respecting the family's wishes to have no outside participation at the funeral.
5. Having established the wishes of the family, the OIC shall carry out any or all of the following in order to realize these wishes. The OIC shall continually be in communication with the funeral director and the family as needed.

Specific Fire Service funeral protocols may vary dependent upon the circumstances of member status, i.e. line of duty, off duty or retired and according to the family's wishes. For this reason, Fire Departments are encouraged to make reference to The Canadian Fire Chiefs Association (CAFC) guidelines on Fire Department Funerals when making service arrangements. These guidelines are available on the LRFES website.

Original: Approved June 15, 2023