

Refer to the pamphlet *Grief and Loss* to learn about self-care and common experiences related to grief.

<https://spaltc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/SPA-LTC-Grief-and-Loss-AB-EN-2025.pdf>

Refer to the pamphlet *Resources for Bereavement, Grief and Loss* to learn about services and resources to help you understand and cope with your grief.

<https://spaltc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/SPA-LTC-Resources-AB-EN-2025.pdf>

Private Pensions and Financial Institutions

If you are unsure if the deceased had private life insurance, or a private pension, contact their most recent employer. You can also try to find a recent benefit statement among their belongings. Contact any banks or other financial institutions with which the deceased was involved.

Your health is important too. If you are feeling overwhelmed, seek support from the Alberta Health Services Counselling Services or Grief and Bereavement Support.

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/amh/amh.aspx#services>

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page13161.aspx>

Finding Out About Benefits

You may be eligible for a Survivor's Pension, Allowance for the Survivor, and/or CPP Death Benefit. You can either ask about these when you call Service Canada OR visit the following web sites:

Survivor's Pension:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/cpp-survivor-pension.html>

CPP Death Benefit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/cpp-death-benefit.html>

Allowance for the Survivor:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/old-age-security/guaranteed-income-supplement/allowance-survivor/apply.html>

Online Resources

1. See SPA-LTC website for more resources

<https://spaltc.ca/resource-library/>

Contact Us

SPA-LTC Team McMaster
University
spaltc@mcmaster.ca
www.spaltc.ca

What to Do After a Death

A GUIDE TO LEGAL,
FINANCIAL AND
GOVERNMENTAL
FORMALITIES



Someone Dies

The Government of Alberta's Death website provides helpful information about advance planning, bereavement leave, funeral benefits, as well as other topics related to death.

<https://www.alberta.ca/death>

After the Death

When a family member or friend dies in long-term care, their body must be transferred. If you have pre-selected a funeral home, you or the long-term care home can call them to retrieve the body. If a funeral home has not been chosen, a family member or executor will need to select one immediately.

If you are unsure how to select a funeral home you can contact the **Alberta Funeral Services Association** at: 780-412-1310 or by email: inquiry@afsa.ca

Consulting a Will

If you know there is a will, check to see who is named as the executor. This person will be responsible for carrying out the deceased person's wishes. If you are not sure if there is a will, you can contact the deceased's lawyer, the local Law Society, or the local Court Registrar nearest to where the person lived. If there is no will, you may want to contact a lawyer to discuss who administers the estate and files the deceased person's final tax return. For more information on will and legal issues following the death of someone, contact:

Law society of Alberta:

1-800-661-1095 (toll free) or
<https://www.lawsociety.ab.ca/>

Legal Aid Alberta:

1-866-845-3425 (toll-free) or
<https://www.legalaid.ab.ca/>

Notifying Federal and Provincial Agencies

When someone dies, there are a number of organizations that need to be informed. The funeral home will issue you multiple copies of the Funeral Director's Statement of Death. This document certifies a death has occurred and is often accepted as proof of a death by various companies and organizations. However, some organizations will require a death certificate, which can be obtained online at:

<https://www.alberta.ca/order-death-certificate>
Phone: 780-427-7013

Provincial

Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan

Cancel any coverage by contacting the Alberta Health Insurance Plan at:

<https://www.alberta.ca/ahcip-cancel-card>

or call 780-427-1432 in Edmonton or call toll-free in Alberta 3100-0000 then 780-427-1432

Motor Vehicle Registration and Insurance

Visit any Alberta Registry Agent.

Find the closest Registry Agent by visiting:

<http://www.servicealberta.ca/1641.cfm>

Federal

Service Canada

Cancel OAS and CPP benefits. Check if you qualify for a Survivor's Benefit or CPP Death Benefit

1-800-277-9914

Canada Revenue Agency

File a final income tax claim

1-800-959-8281

Veterans Affairs Canada

Cancel a Veteran's pension and check if you qualify for death benefits

1-866-522-2122

Canada Post

Return incoming mail to senders

1-866-607-6301

Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Cancel a valid passport

1-800-567-6868