

Subject: Updates to Funeral Benefits Program Policy

Number: AISH-Program-2022-007

Date Issued: November 30, 2022

Effective Date: Immediately

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Distribution: **Seniors, Community and Social Services**
Employment and Financial Services
AISH Program Policy Update Subscribers

BACKGROUND:

Funeral benefits are available to help pay for the funeral arrangements of deceased AISH clients, their cohabiting partners and dependent children. Funeral benefits are available for expenses related to:

- the burial or cremation and the funeral of the deceased within Alberta; or
- transporting the deceased to another province in Canada for burial or cremation.

Funeral benefits policies have been updated as follows:

- contributions to the funeral provided by non-responsible survivors including family members who are not responsible survivors, friends, religious or community organizations or groups, and crowd sourcing accounts, are no longer considered when determining eligibility for a funeral benefit, regardless of the amount contributed;
- a funeral ceremonial farewell includes the cost of a facility rental and refreshments; and
- examples of what will be paid for as an exception have been clarified.

The [Funeral Benefits Application for AISH Clients](#) form has been updated to include:

- a consent to name people or organizations, such as the funeral home, to receive information on the status of an application;
- a section for an applicant to indicate where the payment should be directed to;
- a checklist of documents to submit with the application form; and

- the Funeral Benefits Contact Centre's phone number.

In addition, an amended [Funeral Benefits – Payment Direction](#) and a new [Funeral Benefits – Request for an Exceptional Amount](#) form have been added to the funeral benefits [website](#) for convenient access. These forms may be submitted either with a completed application form or once the applicant is notified of an approval for a funeral benefit.

INTENT:

To provide information on updates to AISH funeral benefits policy.

POLICY:

The following AISH program policy has been updated:

[Funeral Benefits](#)