

SUMMER NEWS BRIEF 2023

AFSRB Board Members

Board Chair/ Public Member

Jack Redekop

Vice Chair /Industry member

Stuart Murray

Treasurer/Public Member

Deborah Gust

Industry Member

Shawn Feist

Industry Member

Rod Krushel

Public Member

Joshua Jackman

**Alberta Funeral Services
Regulatory Board**
*promote a fair and informed
marketplace by protecting
consumer rights, enhancing
industry professionalism,
maintaining rigorous
educational standards and
enforcing fair business
practices.*

CONTACT AFSRB

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Message from the Chair



This is my first Message from the Chair and, initially I would like to recognize your previous chair, Shawn Feist, for his steadfast, unwavering commitment and direction in a year where the AFSRB aggressively pursued multiple endeavours.

This included the re-emergence of the Funeral Education and Review Committee (FERC) with the subsequent revamping of Continuing Education qualification time frames and the introduction of the resoundingly successful "Lunch and Learn" program, a comprehensive update of the website to be unveiled the end of this month, an exhaustive review of our

licensing system and the selection of a vendor tailor made to make multiple improvements for our consumers and industry professionals, and the ongoing review, by committee, of the Funeral Services Act.

As we expand and complete these endeavours over the coming year, the website, when finished, will provide families in advance, or at their most critical time of need, instant access to a wealth of information to guide them in making their decisions as to how best honour and recognize the passing of their loved ones. For our funeral services and their staff, you will have a streamlined, on-line experience granting you secure access to licensing, education, publications, and regulations, including a Member Only portal that will allow for a more streamlined experience. Further, as we conclude our review and recommended updates to the Funeral Service Act through our Legislative Review Committee, we have now commenced quarterly sessions with Service Alberta, who anxiously await this committee's recommendations.

As I conclude this first message, I want to welcome Rod Krushell as our new industry board member, replacing Scott Barbour, who, as a previous board member and chairman, contributed immeasurably to the AFSRB and will be sorely missed. I would also like to welcome Pierre Lautischer as our new Inspector. Pierre's extensive array of skills has allowed us to expand the responsibilities of this position to include additional trust fund review and pre-need oversight. Please welcome him to your funeral homes.

This newsletter will continue to keep you informed of major changes in legislation and regulations, and with our new and expanded website, www.afsrab.ca. As your current chair, I pledge to serve our public and industry with the highest level of standards, professional commitment, and ethics the position requires.

Sincerely,

Jack Redekop

Board News

Scott Barbour



The Board and staff of the AFSRB would like to thank Scott for his six years serving with us. Scott was our board chair during the pandemic where the board did not meet in person the entire year. This situation created new challenges that the board has never had to deal with before and Scott managed to make it work for all of us. We could always count on Scott to give us his honest opinion and to make sure that the voice of the funeral profession was part of the conversation. Scott will serve on the Continuity Committee as a source of knowledge and experience for the AFSRB staff to tap into.

Scott was an asset to have on the Board and he will be greatly missed by all of us.

Rod Krushel



The AFSRB is happy to welcome Rod Krushel to the board. Rod was appointed by the Board to complete a vacant industry member term.

Rod is a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer who first entered Funeral Service in 1992. In 1993, he gained employment with Cook Southland Funeral Chapel in Medicine Hat and spent the next 17 years working between Cook Southland and Southland Funeral Chapel located in Taber. He received his Funeral Director and Embalmer License in Alberta, graduating in 1996. In 2008, Rod and his wife Stacey, purchased the shares of Cook Southland Funeral Chapel. As a funeral director and owner, Rod continues to work alongside his

fellow coworkers and is very much involved in the day to day operations.

Rod, first and foremost is a family man and has been married to his wife Stacey for 25 years.

Having met as teenagers while playing junior hockey, they haven't looked back. They have 24 year old twins, Kanen and Jayda (boy and girl) and the baby of the family, Brazen is 21. Although the kids are older, they enjoy family time together going boating, hiking, biking and holidays.

New AFSRB Inspector



The AFSRB is pleased to welcome and introduce Pierre Lautischer as the new inspector for the Board. Pierre was hired to the Board at the end of May and we are excited to have Pierre join the AFSRB and look forward to fresh perspective he will bring to the position.

He comes with a wealth of investigative and oversight experience gained from past employment in three separate countries. Some of his previous expertise was developed from working as a constable for two police organizations, as a pensions inspector and compliance coordinator. His various education pursuits include being a Certified Fraud Examiner, Certified Forensic Interviewer, Certified

Inspector General and a sixth degree Black Belt in Ju-Jitsu. He values integrity, transparency, truth and championing the underdog. He looks forward to his new position and making a positive impact for the funeral profession.