

## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 14, 2015  
**FROM:** AmConGen Quebec, Canada  
**SUBJECT:** Death : Disposition of Remains  
**TO:** Department of State (CA/OCS/ACS)  
**REF:** 7 FAM 263

### **1. Maximum Period Before Burial**

Quebec law does not require burial within any prescribed period, unless the person died of a contagious disease. In the case of death by smallpox, Asiatic cholera, plague or typhus, the body must be cremated without delay. In the case of death by another contagious disease, such as botulism, cholera, yellow fever, viral hemorrhagic fever, anthrax and smallpox the body may be buried, but this must be done within 24 hours after death, unless the body is placed in a hermetically sealed coffin.

### **2. Embalming**

Local facilities for embalming exist. The law does not set an exact time limit for how soon after dead bodies must be embalmed, but simply states that it should be done as soon as possible. Cremation allowed after 6 hours of death.

### **3. Cremation**

Local facilities for cremation exist. Local law allows cremation after a thorough investigation has been made of the cause of death and a permit has been granted for cremation of the body.

### **4. Caskets and Containers**

When the remains of a deceased person are to be transported out of the country, the embalmed remains are placed in a casket which is hermetically sealed by soldering. Containers can be obtained locally which meets the requirements for shipment out of Canada.

### **5. Exportation of Remains**

Exportation of remains requires a permit issued by the Coroner. An embalmed body can be exported in a coffin. If the body is not embalmed, it must be exported in a hermetically sealed coffin. In order to export cremated ashes the crematorium issues a Registration of the Cremation permit and a Transportation Permit.

**6. Costs**

Attached on following pages

**7. Exhumation and Shipment**

No disinterment shall take place except under the authority of an approved petition granted by a judge of the Superior Court. If the disinterment is to take place on a Roman Catholic Cemetery, the petitioner must also show that permission for the disinterment has been contained from the superior ecclesiastical authority of the diocese concerned. In the case of a person who dies of Asiatic cholera, typhus, smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, scarlatina or glanders, the petitioner must show permission for the disinterment has been granted by the Quebec Ministry of Health.

**8. AUTOPSIES**

An autopsy is mandatory in Quebec when there is reasonable cause to suspect that the deceased died a violent or unnatural death or a sudden death of which the cause is unknown.

**DISPOSITION OF REMAINS REPORT**

	<b>\$Can.</b>	<b>\$ U.S.</b>
<b>A. Cost of disinterment would be approximately..</b>		
Total cost of disinterment and shipping charges would be	\$1700.00	\$1287.87
From Quebec City to New York.....	\$ 2480.00	\$1878.78
From Quebec City to Boston.....	\$2480.00	\$1878.78
Quebec City to San Francisco..	\$2708.00	\$2051.00
The following approximate costs are for Quebec City and surrounding areas:		
<b>(a) Local burial</b>		
1. Transportation (each).....	\$ 465.00	<b>\$352.27</b>
2. Preparation and embalming.....	\$1070.00	\$810.60
3. Use of funeral parlor (no limit).....	\$850.00	\$643.93
4. Pall bearers (4 or 6).....	\$580.00	\$439.39
5. Car for pallbearers or family (each)....	\$470.00	\$356.06
6. Hearse.....	\$575.00	\$435.60
7. Casket		
Least expensive – presswood.....	\$1650.00	\$1250.00
Medium priced- solid oak.....	\$4295.00	\$3253.78
Most expensive – solid bronze.....	\$8195.00	\$6208.33
8. Cemetery plot – includes interment fee and Perpetual care – monument allowed...	\$3200.00	\$2424.24
TOTAL COST, with complete funeral service, cemetery plot and interment fee, and least Expensive casket (including miscellaneous charges not listed above)		
	\$7970.00	\$6037.87
<b>(b) Cremation and local burial .....</b>	<b>\$3700.00</b>	<b>\$2803.03</b>
(c) Cremation and shipment by air to the US....	\$3000.00	\$2272.72
(d) Preparation and shipment of whole remains to the US:		
To New York.....	\$4000.00	\$3030.30

To Boston.....	\$4000.00	\$3030.30
To San Francisco.....	\$4200.00	\$3181.81

(calculated for medium weight body, with a total shipment weight of 180 Kg (400 lbs))

Rate of exchange used: **1.32**