

January, 2021

ST. NINIAN'S CEMETERY CARE COMPANY NEWSLETTER

ST. NINIAN'S
Parish Cemetery

2020 Fiscal Year



This is the first of what is hoped to be an annual newsletter to keep parishioners informed of ongoing efforts to maintain and enhance the beauty of our cemeteries. Due to Covid-19 this past year there was no Cemetery Mass or Annual General Meeting so hopefully this newsletter will provide information of interest. Numerous projects have been undertaken over the past few years including monument restorations, asphalt paving, and Columbarium installation.

In May an annual general clean-up of the cemetery was held with board members and several volunteers participating.

Drainage and asphalt paving around the vault and Columbarium area were completed, which was made possible with a generous donation received.

Work continued with the "Adopt a Stone" campaign and over 200 monuments have been uprighted and repaired. This very worthwhile initiative has made a tremendous difference in the care and respect shown for our cemetery and many of the volunteers must be congratulated on their efforts.

The construction of the Cemetery website continues with more and more information being inputted and it is now available to parishioners. The Cemetery website can be accessed at stninianparishcemetery.ca

St. Ninian's Cemetery Care Company is also responsible for the Pioneer Cemetery located where the Opportunity Shop and the How Club are situated. This cemetery has unfortunately been neglected over the years with buildings and parking lot being established over a large portion of the cemetery grounds. A development plan is currently in the works to restore some respect and dignity to this sacred historic place where many of our ancestors were buried. Generally the plan will include cleaning and standing up the remaining 46 monuments, installation of wrought iron and wooden fencing, lighting, installation of a celtic cross, benches, pathways and interpretive / wayfinding signage. This will be an expensive initiative and with no revenue associated with his cemetery donations will be required in order to bring the plan to fruition.

The Columbarium, installed in 2019, currently has 12 of the 60 niches purchased. A granite bench, through a donation, was installed and there are plans to add three more benches, when funds become available. A beautification plan for the area around the vault / columbarium area is being developed which

will see the installation of appropriate trees / shrubs and eventually an overall plan for the entire cemetery. Many of the trees in the cemetery are in poor condition, primarily due to poor soil conditions and choice of tree type. These trees will be removed in 2021 and hopefully once again, as it has been in the past, parishioners will donate towards the installation of new trees.

A 2020 financial statement for the cemetery company will soon be available for your review.

Everyday operations of St. Ninian's Cemetery are overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors, three part time / seasonal staff and with the generous help of the Parish office.

Board Members:

Lauchie MacIsaac – President	Trina MacDonald – Member
Sharon MacIsaac – Treasurer	Elliot Anderson – Member
Bill Landry – Secretary	Norm MacPherson – Member
Fr. Donald MacGillivray – Rector	Mike MacDonald – Member
Lou Palmer – Member	Tony Secco – Member
Mary Bekkers – Member	Donald MacDonald – Member

If you have any issues, concerns, comments or suggestions that you feel we should be aware of please contact one of the board members and we will address them at a Board meeting. The St. Ninian's Cemetery Care Company depends on lot sales, interments, investments and donations in order to operate. Costs to maintain the cemetery continue to increase, but to date the challenge has been met. The Board is dedicated to being good stewards of funds provided to see that the cemetery remains a beautiful sanctuary for reflection, meditation and remembrance for past and future generations. We would like to thank each contributor for their continued support of the cemetery and for donations used for special projects and permanent improvements to our cemetery.