

RITUAL FOR THE SCATTERING OF ASHES

SMUDGE—Amanda Rozyk

I would like to call Amanda Rosyk now from Indigenous Health Services who will be providing a smudge for this ceremony.

HOLDING OF THE URN – Lorelie Nolasco

On behalf of the families I am holding this urn in memory of your babies. Let us have a moment of silence as we honor your babies.

READING—Lorelie Nolasco

We will now lay to rest the ashes of our beloved children, returning them to the source of life and sustainer of all creation. We commit them now, trusting that they will be held forever in peace and love.

SCATTERING OF ASHES

As ashes are interred by Jansen and staff from Brookside, Amanda will offer a drumming ceremony.

LET US PROCEED IN PEACE WITH THESE WORDS - Daniel Barclay

As you continue to travel on the road ahead, may the love you have for your child remain a part of you.

As you begin to see and reach for glimmers of hope and peace, may you find the courage you need to follow your heart along other journeys and possibilities.

As your life unfolds, the good and the bad, the joyful and the heartbreaking, may you open yourself up to all of it. May you embrace the fullness of life and love, even as you carry the memory and the ache of your loss over the years.

And may you know joy and laughter and goodness in the midst of your loss.

CLOSING WORD - Daniel Barclay

This is the end of the formal portion of the ceremony. Our thanks go to the staff of Brookside Cemetery and Kotaska Cremation Services Limited for their commitment to caring, they too honour these children during this service. You are invited to place a handful of earth and flowers, if you wish, and you are welcome to stay as long as you like.



Health Sciences Centre
Winnipeg
A Shared Health facility

Scattering of Ashes

Gathering / Music

Sam Singer, Artists in Healthcare

Words of Welcome

Lisa Merrill, Director
Women's Health Program

Reading of Poem

"A Parent's Love" (Adapted)

Lorelie Nolasco

Spiritual Health Practitioner

A Moment of Silence

Invitation for the Ritual

Lorelie Nolasco

Spiritual Health Practitioner

Ritual for the Scattering of Ashes

Daniel Barclay

Lorelie Nolasco

Spiritual Health Practitioner

Amanda Rozyk

Spiritual & Cultural Worker

Indigenous Health



TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT—Daniel Barclay

Good afternoon, I am Daniel Barclay, from Spiritual Health Services . I would like to read the treaty acknowledgment. HSC and Shared Health acknowledges that it provides services in facilities located on the original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis nation. Shared Health Inc. respects that the First Nation treaties were made on these territories and acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to collaborate in partnership with First Nation, Métis and Inuit people in the spirit of reconciliation. I would like to call upon Lisa Merrill, Director of Women’s Health Program at HSC Shared Health Services to welcome us all.

WELCOME—Lisa Merrill

On behalf of the Women’s Health Program, Spiritual Health Services and Indigenous Health, I welcome you - parents, family and friends to this service in memory of the children who have passed away before birth or shortly after. It is our privilege to honour you and your children today.

To the parents and families of the children we remember especially today, we extend our sincere sympathy. You have experienced a great loss; we hope today offers solace on your journey through this time.

It is our desire that this service be meaningful for you and we have planned it with that in mind. This is an emotional time; allow the memories to wash over you; they are precious and we wish to celebrate those memories together with you here today.

Now I would like to ask Lorelie to come forward and read “A Parent’s Love” (adapted from a poem by Kathy Schmucker, Louisville, Ohio).

A Parent’s Love

We didn’t have to look into your eyes

to fall in love with you.

We didn’t have to hear you cry

to know you loved us too.

We didn’t need to hold your hand

to cherish you for always.

You touched our soul.

You sweetened our spirit.

You gave us memories we’ll always hold dear.

Yes, our hearts ache since you departed too soon.

But a parent’s love does not end with death.

For you are our child.

Forever our love is yours.

Adapted from
Kathy Schmucker
Louisville, Ohio

“Let us take a moment of silence”