THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF PINEY

"Roadside Memorial Monuments Policy"

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Subject: **Roadside Memorial Monuments Policy**

Effective Date: **October 29th, 2025**

Replaces Policy: **New**

Resolution No.: **661** **Resolution Date:** **October 28th, 2025**

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A. DEFINITIONS:

Roadside Memorial: A temporary or semi-permanent marker placed within the road allowance to commemorate a person who died in a traffic-related and/or medical incident along a road allowance.

Road Allowance: Land designated for public roadway use, including undeveloped portions, as defined by the Dominion Land Survey system.

Clear Zone: The area adjacent to the roadway that must remain free of obstructions for safety and maintenance purposes.

B. PURPOSE AND EXPECTATION:

To establish a respectful, safe, and consistent approach to the placement, maintenance, and removal of roadside memorial monuments within the road allowance of the Rural Municipality of Piney. This policy aims to balance the emotional needs of grieving families with public safety, road maintenance requirements, and municipal liability.

The Rural Municipality of Piney recognizes the significance of roadside memorials as tributes to individuals who have lost their lives in traffic-related incidents and/or medical incidents along a road

allowance. However, these memorials must be managed to ensure they do not pose safety hazards, interfere with municipal operations, or violate legal and land use regulations.

C. POLICY GUIDELINES:

1. Eligibility and Application:

Memorials may only be placed by immediate family members or close friends of the deceased.

An application must be submitted to the RM office including:

- Name of the deceased;
- Location of the incident;
- Proposed memorial design and dimensions;
- Duration of placement;
- Contact information of applicant;

2. Design and Placement Criteria:

- Be no larger than 0.5 m^2 in area and no taller than 1.0 m;
- Be placed at least 1.0 m from the curb, sidewalk, or any street furniture;
- Not obstruct visibility or traffic signage;
- Not include artificial lighting, audio devices, or electrical components;
- Not be affixed to municipal infrastructure (e.g., signs, hydrants, trees);
- Be discreet and respectful, avoiding offensive or political content;

3. Duration:

Memorials may remain in place for a maximum of six (6) months. Extensions may be granted upon written request, subject to review and approval.

4. Maintenance and Removal

- The applicant is responsible for maintaining the memorial;
- Once the duration of time has expired, the applicant is responsible to notify the RM once the memorial has been removed;

- If the memorial becomes unsafe, deteriorates, or interferes with municipal operations, the RM may remove it;
- If the memorial is not removed by the approved maximum duration and no extension has been submitted, the RM may remove it;
- The RM will contact the applicant once a memorial has been removed by the RM;
- Removed memorials will be stored for 30 days for retrieval by the applicant before disposal;

5. Safety and Liability

- The RM reserves the right to remove any memorial that poses a safety hazard or violates this policy;
- The RM is not liable for damage to memorials due to weather, vandalism, or municipal activities;

D. ADMINISTRATION:

The Public Works Department will oversee the implementation and enforcement of this policy. All applications and inquiries should be directed to the RM office.