

**March 17, 2020**

**Funeral Services  
Coronavirus - COVID-19**

*Assalaamu Alaykum.* The BCMA Funeral Services is taking COVID-19 very seriously. We encourage social distancing and ask everyone to follow the temporary guidelines from Health Canada, the World Health Organization and our Provincial Health Agencies in order to reduce the impact of COVID-19 and protect our most vulnerable.

In an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect each other, while honoring and respecting the deceased, the BCMA Funeral Services will be implementing the following effective immediately:

1. No more than three family members including the person with the legal authorization as per compliance of the Funeral Services Act (CIFSA) Section 8 (1) are to meet for the initial in-person funeral arrangements;
2. No funeral notification will be sent out in order to discourage large public gatherings;
3. Family members will be restricted from the washing of the deceased. Only two BCMA trained funeral staff will conduct the religious ghusl washing of the body;
4. No family viewing of the deceased due to the strict Islamic washing process where the body is left in a natural state without having invasive medical/chemical treatments;
5. All Janazah Salaat shall be held at 11:30 a.m. and only at the BCMA Masjid As-Salaam, 5060 Canada Way, Burnaby.
6. The gathering for Janazah Salaat must be only for the close friends and family members not more than fifty (50) people or otherwise as directed by BC Health Authorities;
7. Young children, elderly and the sick are not to attend the funeral and are encouraged to make dua for the deceased from the comfort and safety of their homes;
8. Graveside service will only be for the immediate family;
9. The cemetery has requested in writing that, all graveside attendees are to leave at least fifteen (15) feet space between cemetery staff to maintain a safe social distance and so that they can continue to provide these essential services;
10. Anyone who has a non-essential service needs, we kindly request that they make an appointment prior to meeting in person to further discuss any funeral/burial related items.

We understand that these are difficult times and these measures may pose inconvenience to some of you. We kindly ask for your co-operation and understanding. We will keep the community informed as the situation evolves.

Please continue to do your prayers at your homes and make dua in seeking the refuge of Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala. May Allah make it easy for all of us.

The BC Muslim Association stands in solidarity with those affected by the coronavirus and their families, and the health workers who are trying to diagnose and treat patients. As Muslims, we should do our utmost best to reduce the spread of this deadly virus. Insha Allah we will get through this together if we stand united as one Ummah.

**The BC Muslim Association**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mohammed Asin'.

Mohammed Asin (Bakridi)  
BCMA Vice President Funeral Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mohammed Imraz Asin'.

Mohammed Imraz Asin  
BCMA Licensed Funeral Director