

Peguis First Nation

COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSISTANCE POLICY “Funeral Policy”

Adopted 14th day of September 2023

Amended 7th day of November 2023

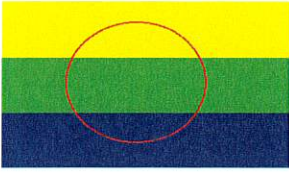
Overview

Peguis First Nation provides essential services to its members and is committed to treating all Members fairly, and equitably, with transparency and accountability. The Peguis First Nation Community Services Assistance Policy (CSAP) - Funeral Policy's primary focus is to address the need for financial assistance for its registered members for financial assistance specifically to costs associated with funerals, burials, and cremation.

All other financial requests such as rent, hydro, hardship, furniture, medical reimbursements, wood hauling, emergencies, etc. should be directed to the Circle of Care Programs, such as social assistance programs, Jordan's Principle, and family/community health programs, etc. where support workers are available to help.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Peguis Band members on-reserve may be eligible for funeral cost assistance under the Peguis Income Assistance (PIA) program. The PIA is the first program for members to access funding after the death of a family member, (assistance of \$5,000.00 paid directly to the funeral home plus \$150.00 for immediate family, i.e., mother, father, sister, brother to the deceased). The PIA program will follow its own policies and procedures for assisting the family with funeral costs.
2. Peguis Band members off-reserve may be eligible under their respective Provincial Income Assistance Program to cover funeral costs.
3. Peguis Band members, both on-reserve and off-reserve, may be eligible under the Canada Pension Program (CPP) for Death Benefits of \$2,500.00 to cover funeral costs. An application must be made to CPP.
4. Peguis Band members, both on-reserve and off-reserve, may have a life insurance policy, an employer death benefit policy, and/or if in a motorized vehicle may be eligible for death benefits under provincial auto insurance, to cover funeral costs. An application must be made to the respective insurance companies.



Peguis First Nation

5. Peguis First Nation will NOT provide any assistance for compassionate/bereavement assistance to non-status relatives of band members.

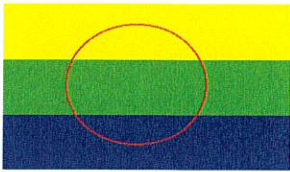
PROCEDURES AND FUNDING

Financial assistance will be provided for all Registered Band Members of Peguis First Nation as follows:

1. Upon the death of a family member, the executor or spokesperson for the family will contact Peguis First Nation. Once it has been confirmed that the deceased is a Peguis Band member who resided on-reserve, via the Peguis First Nation registry the executor/spokesperson will be provided with the funeral application, via email, fax, or in person at the Peguis Band Office.

The executor or spokesperson may contact the Peguis Income Assistance Administrator, via phone at 204.645.2359, fax 204.645.2360, or email: Social.Admin@peguis.ca.

2. A legal death certificate issued by the funeral home must be provided with the application. A copy of the death certificate must be submitted to the band membership clerk, who will then forward the death certificate to Indigenous Services Canada, ESTATES Department.
3. Only the executor or spokesperson of the estate, as named on the death certificate, may apply for the funeral funding, on behalf of the family.
4. Peguis First Nation will, depending on the availability of own-source funding, contribute \$3,500.00 to the family of a deceased Peguis band member who was not on Income Assistance and had no other death benefits, to cover the funeral home expenses. This one-time payment will be made payable to the funeral home.
5. Peguis First Nation will, depending on the availability of own-source funding, contribute \$3,500.00 to the family of a deceased Peguis band member who was not on Income Assistance and is eligible for CPP Death Benefits of \$2,500.00, to cover the funeral home expenses. This one-time payment will be made payable to the funeral home.
6. Peguis First Nation will, depending on the availability of own-source funding, contribute the sum of \$750.00 to the deceased Peguis Band member's family, both on-reserve and off-reserve, to cover funeral-related expenses, i.e., food, clothing, funeral arrangements, and travel. This one-time payment will be made payable to the caterer or executor/spokesperson of the estate in charge of the funeral arrangements.



Peguis First Nation

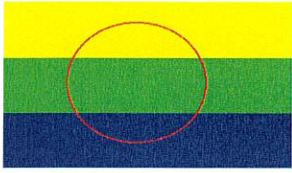
7. For funerals in Peguis First Nation, Peguis First Nation will contribute 4 half-ton trucks of wood for the Sacred fire – it will be the responsibility of the family friends, and relatives to tend to the Sacred fire. Peguis First Nation will not provide honorariums to firekeepers.
8. For funerals in Peguis First Nation, Peguis First Nation will contribute toward the costs of grave excavation and using the Peguis Community Hall.
9. Peguis First Nation will NOT provide any assistance for funeral funding for non-status band members.

POLICY LIMITATIONS

1. This policy does not apply to non-members.
2. Final funding approval shall be granted only after all required documentation has been submitted.
3. Peguis fleet vehicles will not be available for travel to pick up or drop off out-of-town relatives.
4. Peguis First Nation will not be responsible for any debt incurred for any funeral costs without prior approval from Peguis Chief Financial Officer or Chief Administrative Officer.

SUMMARY OF PEGUIS FUNERAL POLICY

Peguis Member On and Off Reserve	Income Assistance Support (IA)	Canada Pension Plan Benefits (CPP)	Additional Band Funeral Support - Funeral Home	Additional Band Funeral Support – Caterer/Family	Total
IA Client(s)	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$5,750.00
IA Client(s) with CPP	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$8,250.00
Non-IA Client(s) with no CPP or employer benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$750.00	\$4,250.00
Non-IA Client(s) with CPP benefits	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$750.00	\$6,750.00



Peguis First Nation

OTHER INFORMATION

Moving forward, the Chief and Council hereby declare that \$100,000 shall be immediately set aside in a separate fund account for the express purpose of the Community Services Assistance Policy to support our band members so that we may all be put to rest with peace and dignity. Furthermore, this separate fund account shall be replenished by an amount of \$100,000 on an annual basis.

The Peguis First Nation Chief and Council reviewed and approved this **Community Services Assistance Policy (CSAP) - Funeral Policy** 14TH day of September 2023 and Amended 7th day of November 2023.

Peguis First Nation

Chief Stan Bird

Councillor Kelvin Wilson

Councillor Mary Tyler Bear

Councillor Terrance Sinclair

Councillor Linda Sinclair

Councillor Dennis Cameron

Councillor Donna Lee Sutherland