

# Aurora Care

## Save Money While Honouring Your Love

When it comes to the end of life, saving money is something we all need to consider, but few of us want to discuss, or even think about. We seem to equate money the amount spent with the amount of respect and love we want to show for our loved one. This simply is not the case.

The most important component of saving money when it comes to end of life care and funeral planning is Advance Planning. Spending the time to figure out what is important for you following your death will enable your loved ones to make difficult choices with ease. If you are the one making decisions on behalf of your loved one, having their Advance Directive will help you make decisions without spending more than necessary. It's so easy in times of grief and stress to decide to spend more than necessary in the name of love or respect.

If you're in the position of planning for yourself and trying to save, or organizing for a loved one and trying to save, without sacrificing respect, the following are some tips and resources to help you.

**Advanced Planning:** Choose DIY over guided planning. You can access this through [InteriorHealth.ca](http://InteriorHealth.ca) for free (comprises of medical planning only), or a more comprehensive DIY planning option through [AuroraCare.ca](http://AuroraCare.ca) for a small fee (includes after death planning).

**End of Life Care:** Choose free support through hospice care, home care through your family physician, there may be a cost for this depending on your income. You can pick and choose simple End of Life services through Aurora Care that will support you in the way that you need, pay as you go options are also available.

You can choose DIY legal paperwork through [legalwills.ca](http://legalwills.ca) Remember you do not need a notary to complete your Health Representative (Rep 9) Document.

Thoroughly research the components of a funeral and after death care, Check out [AuroraCare.ca](http://AuroraCare.ca) for resources and information.

Take the time to plan exactly which components are important for you to include, don't feel the need to rush into any decisions, even if you find yourself unexpectedly planning on behalf of a loved one.

Pre-Purchasing your funeral can save you thousands of dollars, if you decide to do this, the price will never go up! Sounds too good to be true, but it really is true!

Ask your local funeral homes for itemized price lists so that you will know the exact costs of the services that you are interested in.

Embalming is not legally required, even if you are bringing your loved one home for a vigil, or having a home funeral.

Homemade caskets and urns are absolutely allowed and can be a beautiful tribute to your loved one.

Cardboard caskets are the most affordable option, you can decorate these in so many ways, this can be a healing activity for those involved.

Home funerals and virtual funerals are both excellent options for beautiful, meaningful services.

Consider alternative locations for receptions, your home, a park or community centres are all great options.

Keep obituaries short, as difficult as this might feel, it can save you money! There are so many other ways to remember your loved one and to share stories

Consider crowdfunding if money is short, there are many online platforms to raise funds for a particular situation online through your community.