St. Boniface cemetery can start to function as a park for the community and city by reinforcing the main entrance, decreasing the amount of turf, improving circulation, establishing borders, and increasing the amount of lighting.

Cemeteries in the past were created to function as parks as well as burial grounds, however, the typical present-day cemetery is only used for burials. In order to change the functions of a cemetery a more important change is needed in the mind-set of the general public.

In the UK there are an estimated 20,000 cemeteries and burial grounds, and North America has over 300,000. Some of these cemeteries represent up to half of all the open green space in it’s region. These are just two examples of the many countries not utilizing cemeteries and burial grounds as functioning public parks.

Imagine if we realized the full potential of burial grounds and cemeteries by including them in our public green space strategies.