

From: [Inquiry](#)
To: [Tasha Buchanan](#)
Subject: Fw: Request for your attention to an important issue
Date: September 15, 2023 3:37:49 PM
Attachments: [Resolution for AH template.docx](#)

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From: Gail Mitchell <gail.mitch44@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 3:00 PM
To: Inquiry <inquiry@barriere.ca>; info@centralsaanich.ca <info@centralsaanich.ca>; d-chet@gochetwynd.com <d-chet@gochetwynd.com>; info@clearwater.bc.ca <info@clearwater.bc.ca>; rhoyte@coldstream.ca <rhoyte@coldstream.ca>; mayor@elkford.ca <mayor@elkford.ca>; mayor@fortstjames.ca <mayor@fortstjames.ca>; info@highlands.bc.ca <info@highlands.bc.ca>; info@hope.ca <info@hope.ca>; info@houston.bc.ca <info@houston.bc.ca>; mayor@hudsonshope.ca <mayor@hudsonshope.ca>; info@invermere.net <info@invermere.net>; info@kent.bc.ca <info@kent.bc.ca>; mayor@kitimat.ca <mayor@kitimat.ca>; info@lakecountry.bc.ca <info@lakecountry.bc.ca>; district@lantzville.ca <district@lantzville.ca>; info@lillooet.ca <info@lillooet.ca>; mayor@loganlake.ca <mayor@loganlake.ca>; info@mackenzie.bc.ca <info@mackenzie.bc.ca>; mtlittle@metchosin.ca <mtlittle@metchosin.ca>; info@newhazelton.ca <info@newhazelton.ca>; council@northcowichan.ca <council@northcowichan.ca>; pjones@northsaanich.ca <pjones@northsaanich.ca>; JustAsk@northernrockies.ca <JustAsk@northernrockies.ca>; obcouncil@oakbay.ca <obcouncil@oakbay.ca>; info@onehundredmilehouse.ca <info@onehundredmilehouse.ca>; Mayorvanminsel@peachland.ca

<Mayorvanminsel@peachland.ca>; pcorbett-labatt@porthardy.ca <pcorbett-labatt@porthardy.ca>; mayor@saanich.ca <mayor@saanich.ca>; info@sechelt.ca <info@sechelt.ca>; info@sicamous.ca <info@sicamous.ca>; mtait@sooke.ca <mtait@sooke.ca>; mail@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca <mail@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca>; sparwood@sparwood.ca <sparwood@sparwood.ca>; info@squamish.ca <info@squamish.ca>; ADanuser@districtofstewart.com <ADanuser@districtofstewart.com>; dholmes@summerland.ca <dholmes@summerland.ca>; info@taylor.bc.ca <info@taylor.bc.ca>; info@tofino.ca <info@tofino.ca>; info@tumbleridge.ca <info@tumbleridge.ca>; info@ucluelet.ca <info@ucluelet.ca>; info@vanderhoof.ca <info@vanderhoof.ca>; clerk@wells.ca <clerk@wells.ca>; info@westvancouver.ca <info@westvancouver.ca>

Cc: Ruth Davis <lrDavis5@shaw.ca>; Ellie Hallman <elliehallman@hotmail.com>; swestie <swestie@shaw.ca>

Subject: Fwd: Request for your attention to an important issue

September 15, 2023

To all municipal governments of British Columbia,

We are writing to seek your help in getting an important piece of provincial legislation amended.

The Cemetery, Interment and Funeral Services Act of British Columbia needs to be amended because it only allows for burial or fire-based cremation. Using large tracts of land for cemeteries is no longer a viable option and cremation has become the most widely chosen form of human disposition, by up to 90% of BC residents. Crematoria are huge emitters of carbon. The smoke from these facilities makes them unpopular in any neighbourhood. Thus, bodies are being brought to Vancouver Island from Vancouver for the process with the ashes returned to the city.

There is a better option. Aquamation or Alkaline Hydrolysis is gaining recognition in Canada, the US and around the world as being an environmentally friendly and economically viable alternative. To gain information on this process, please see the list of references. There is also an attachment showing where AH is legal in North America.

Established goals of carbon reduction require our provincial government to broaden the definition of "cremation" to include flameless or water cremation (alkaline hydrolysis or aquamation).

We are asking you to consider the attached template, formulated by the District of Esquimalt, and use it to help us lobby the provincial government to make the necessary change to this piece of legislation, sooner rather than later. Your letters, with the resolution, to the Union of BC Municipalities and your MLA would be powerful.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

References:

1. www.aquamationbc.ca
2. www.cremationassociation.org/page/alkalinehydrolysis
3. <https://agoodgoodbye.com/tools-of-the-trade/the-latest-on-alkaline-hydrolysis-for-people-and-pets/>
4. <https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/local-news/aquamation-instead-of-cremation-5402741>
5. <https://www.thedailybeast.com/aquamation-and-human-composting-are-opening-up-eco-friendly-burial-options-for-funerals?ref=author>
6. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Le7rLbkFe4>
7. <https://biosafeeng.com/divisions/life-science/resources/alkaline-hydrolysis/>

Sincerely,

Representative advocates for legalizing Aquamation in BC:

Ruth Davis, North Cowichan,

Ellie Hallman, Cowichan Bay,

Gail Mitchell, North Cowichan,

Stuart Westie, Williams Lake

A RESOLUTION OF THE _____
SUPPORTING THE INCLUSION OF AQUAMATION aka ALKALINE HYDROLYSIS,
IN THE CEMETERY, INTERMENT AND FUNERAL SERVICES ACT OF THE
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

WHEREAS, every Municipality in the Province of British Columbia has an
obligation to encourage industry to reduce harmful climate emissions by adopting
greener technology; and

WHEREAS, flame cremation contributes to environmental air pollution by
consuming fossil fuels and emitting harmful CO2 into the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, local industry has available technology that will significantly reduce
environmentally harmful air pollution and the consumption of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, current regulations regarding the types of disposition of deceased
persons do not allow for Alkaline Hydrolysis as an approved method of
disposition; and

WHEREAS, four Canadian Provinces namely, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and
Newfoundland as well as the Northwest Territories recognize Alkaline Hydrolysis
as an acceptable process of disposition of a deceased person.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the _____
_____ supports the amendment to the CIFSA Act
and/or regulations therein, to allow for Alkaline Hydrolysis to be included as a
permitted form of disposition of deceased persons in the Province of British
Columbia.