



February 24, 2025

The Honourable Garry Begg
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Government of British Columbia

Re: Legislative Amendment to Permit Alkaline Hydrolysis Funeral Services

Dear Minister Begg,

On behalf of the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA), I am writing to urge your Ministry to take legislative action to modernize the Cremation, Interment, and Funeral Services Act to include Alkaline Hydrolysis as a permitted process for preparing human remains.

Alkaline Hydrolysis presents a significant opportunity to reduce the environmental impact of traditional burial and cremation methods. This process drastically lowers carbon dioxide emissions compared to conventional cremation and reduces land use requirements for human remains, aligning with the Province's broader environmental sustainability goals.

Despite its benefits, current legislation under the Cremation, Interment, and Funeral Services Act does not recognize Alkaline Hydrolysis as an acceptable process. Many other jurisdictions have already adopted this practice as an alternative funeral service, acknowledging its environmental and practical advantages. British Columbia now has an opportunity to modernize its approach to funeral services by allowing this method.

We urge you to prepare and introduce a bill in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia to amend the Act, thereby enabling Alkaline Hydrolysis as a legally permitted funeral service option. This change will provide British Columbians with more environmentally responsible choices while maintaining respectful and dignified practices for handling human remains.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your leadership in advancing this necessary policy update. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue further at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Judy Greenaway'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judy Greenaway
President

Cc: The Honourable Niki Sharma (Attorney General and Deputy Premier), The Honourable Tamara Davidson (Minister, Environment and Parks), Surinderpal Rathor (Mayor of Williams Lake), Margo Wagner (Chair, Cariboo Regional District)