

Funeral Service Association of British Columbia

# Cremationist Certification Program

## NEW Cremationist Apprenticeship Program

The Funeral Service Association of British Columbia  
Manages the **ONLY provincially accredited Certification  
Program in Canada for Cremationists.**

The **ONLY** program developed specifically for Cremationists  
In British Columbia and designated as a **NEW** and  
**RECOGNIZED** Trade by the Industry Training Authority  
Of British Columbia.



**PROGRAM STARTS SEPTEMBER 14, 2011**

**REGISTRATION STARTS NOW! Details Inside!**

*integrity ... dedication ... flexibility ... vision ... creativity ... intuition ... courage ... common sense*



## Cremationist Certification Program British Columbia

### NEW CREMATIONIST APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

- ❖ The Funeral Service Association of British Columbia manages the ONLY provincially accredited Certification program in Canada for Cremationists.
- ❖ The ONLY program developed specifically for Cremationists in British Columbia where the cremation rate is the highest in North America.

#### WHAT IS CERTIFICATION?

Obtaining your Certificate of Qualification as a Cremationist is a voluntary, recognized credential for cremationists. The credential confirms that a Cremationist has demonstrated competence having met predetermined standards developed and validated through extensive consultation with a broad cross section of stakeholders in British Columbia's funeral profession.

#### WHAT IS THE CREMATIONIST PROGRAM AND STRUCTURE?

**A Cremationist trainee is involved in the performing of cremations. As a trainee you will complete tasks and learn:**

**Dying, Death and Disposition:** Roles of the funeral service industry and common industry terminology; history of funeral service and cremation practices.

**Crematory Practices:** Funeral home and crematorium procedures; role of crematorium operator and cremationist; cremation terminology; documentation required for the cremation process and environmental issues with regard to cremations.

**Funeral Service Law and Ethics:** Legislation and regulatory Acts that apply; the handling of human remains and control of disposition, business ethics.

**Preparing for Cremation:** Procedures to protect self and others in accordance with regulations; operation and safety features of crematory equipment; types of containers and caskets; procedures for human remains containing pacemakers and post radiation of chemotherapy and other implantable devices.

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**Performing A Cremation:** Basic steps prior to cremation; principles of combustion and steps to follow to perform cremations; procedure for special cases; procedures for processing cremated remains following cremation.

**Maintenance and Service:** Maintenance routines and procedures; environmental practices; trouble shooting techniques and equipment used for fan and exhaust stack, burner, power and manual door maintenance.

**Communications:** Interpersonal skills in the funeral services industry; effective non-verbal and verbal communication; compassionate and professional communication with co-workers, the bereaved, associated professionals and the community.

### **WHAT IS THE DURATION OF THE CREMATIONIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM?**

The program will be delivered in a variety of formats combining in-school and work-based training, all designed to meet the competency standards defined by BC funeral service professionals including:

- 3 day classroom: program orientation and classroom instruction.
- 12 week online learning modules and guided work-based training through the use of a log book.
- 2 day classroom: program review & demonstration, ITA Certificate of Qualification examination, Cremationist Practicum Exam.

### **2011 Cremationist Course Calendar:**

September 14, 15, 16	3 day Program Orientation & Classroom Instruction	Vancouver
September 19 – December 9	12 week online learning modules	Online*
	Practicum exam	Variable
December 15 & 16	2 day Program Review / ITA Exam	Vancouver

*\*Access to a computer and the internet is a basic requirement to participate in the program.*

### **WHAT ATTRIBUTES WILL I NEED?**

- able to pay attention to details
- have a compassionate and caring attitude
- be able to follow instructions
- have clerical ability and an understanding of office functions
- committed to safe work procedures
- good communication skills
- able to work effectively in a team

### **WHAT WORKING CONDITIONS CAN I EXPECT?**

You will work at a licensed crematorium with specialized cremation equipment and be guided by a mentor.

You will provide a service to people from a wide range of cultural and religious backgrounds.

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## WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE MENTOR?

The mentor is the person who employs, supervises and trains the apprentice Cremationist on the job. Each mentor is provided with clear instructions and information to help the mentor in his or her role.

## WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF BEING A MENTOR?

Training Cremationist apprentices is the best insurance against future shortages of skilled workers in your firm. Apprentices are trained by your Crematorium's "mentor" and they inherit the skills and unique values that represent your Crematorium. Apprentices learn new skills that help to:

- ❖ Increase productivity and quality
- ❖ Improve customer satisfaction
- ❖ Improve morale by investing in careers and adding value to the job

## WHAT IS THE COST TO REGISTER?

We are excited to launch the pilot of this new program! To show our appreciation of your interest in becoming the first credentialed "certified" Cremationist in Canada we will be offering this program to you at "cost recovery" prices of \$950.00.

## HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE NEW CREMATIONIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM?

Registrations must be received BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2011.

There are several ways to register –

- Complete Enclosed Registration Form; or
- By Phone: Contact the Funeral Service Association of BC at 1-800-665-3899; or
- Download Registration Forms From: [www.bcfunerals.com/cremationist](http://www.bcfunerals.com/cremationist); or
- E-mail your request to: [careers@bcfunerals.com](mailto:careers@bcfunerals.com)

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For more information on this new Certification Program and the British Columbia Industry Training Authority Certificate of Qualification please visit [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca) for the most current version of the Cremationist Program Profile and Cremationist Program Outline.



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