

## In This Month's Issue

WorkSafe BC New Rates  
Jan 1st

CPBC  
New Fee Schedule Jan 1st

First Nations Social  
Development Income  
Assistance Program

Transport Canada  
Enhancing Regulations For  
Shipping Human Remains

FSABC Brochure Updated  
Understanding Grief A  
New Beginning

RCMP Funerals

A Look Back In History  
BC Coroner's Office

When Disposition Is  
Binding

PARC Committee  
Referendum Results

In Remembrance Of

FSABC Health Benefits  
Program

Calendar of Events



### FSABC to Celebrate 100th Anniversary at 2012 Annual Conference & Showcase!

As 2011 winds down, the FSABC is looking forward to the 100th Anniversary celebration in April 2012. The Association will commemorate the 100th year with a celebratory annual conference and showcase on April 19 to 21 at the Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel & Conference Centre in Vancouver, BC.

The strength of the FSABC has always been due to the dedication and support from its membership. The Association could not have evolved into a first-class organization without the membership's input, and there is no better way to honour this momentous year than gathering and doing what we do best - offering a combination of education and celebration!

The FSABC | CCABC annual conference is a one-stop shop for funeral service related education and networking. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity where you will hear from top educators, explore an expanded exhibit hall which will include historical artifacts, and engage with your colleagues during the many networking and social events. Visit the FSABC website

[www.bcfunerals.com/category/vancouver2012conference](http://www.bcfunerals.com/category/vancouver2012conference) to learn more about this special event!

#### WorkSafe BC Claims Manual C8-54.00

##### New Rates Effective January 1, 2012

Where compensation is payable as the result of the death of a worker or as the result of injury resulting in a death, the amount payable for funeral and related maximum expenses are:

Funeral expenses: \$8,553.57

Transportation of body: \$1,351.40

#### Consumer Protection BC

##### New Fee Schedule Effective January 1, 2012

Including Funeral Service Providers, Funeral Directors, Embalmers; Operators of Places of Interment; Operators of Crematoria. Please note that the license fee for funeral provider has increased from \$27 to \$28 for each death registered in the province of BC. Some exemptions do apply. **Read more over ..**



## Consumer Protection BC Fees

The following fees for Funeral Service Providers, Funeral Directors and Embalmers are in effect January 1, 2012. This is not a complete list of the Fee Schedule and Notes. The complete Fee Schedule can be downloaded from the CPBC website at

<http://www.consumerprotectionbc.ca/businesses-cemetery-and-funeral-home/apply-for-a-license>

New or renewal license for an embalmer, funeral director, or funeral director/embalmer .....	\$138
Renewal license for a funeral provider .....	\$138
CPBC administrative fee payable* under funeral providers license .....	\$ 28
Change of licensee’s name or address .....	\$ 51
Change of licensee’s employer .....	\$ 51
Charge for late submission of a renewal application .....	\$ 51
Issuance of embalmer / funeral director ID card (please provide color or b/w passport photo ...	\$ 31

Notes: Consistent with the Bank of Canada’s CPI or cost of living adjustment, all fees and charges will increase by 2, on each year anniversary of the effective date noted.

\*The license fee for a funeral provider license includes a \$28 CPBC administrative fee payable for each death registered in the province of BC under the Vital Statistics Act by a funeral director employed by or under contract to the funeral provider. Exemptions from the CPBC administrative fee are: death registrations where the services are paid for by the Public Guardian and Trustee; Ministry of Social Development (Employment & Income Assistance Br); the federal department of Veterans Affairs and the Last Post Fund, and death registrations in respect to an infant either stillborn or deceased at less than 7 days of age.

---

## First Nations Social Development Society (FNSDS)

### Social Development Policy BC Region - Income Assistance Program

It has just come to our attention that FNSDS **effective June 2011**, has developed a “billing form” to be used when First Nations income assistance eligibility for service has been established.

Where eligibility for service has been established, if the person was residing off of a First Nations reserve at the time of death, and burial is to take place on a reserve within BC, or the person was living on reserve at the time of death and services are taking place on the reserve then the Administrating Authority (means the band, association of bands, (tribal council) or other organization that is authorized by a funding agreement with Canada to administer the Social Development Program) will require the billing form to be completed for funeral costs associated with services that take place on the reserve. The funeral cost supplement is only for those who meet the criteria for hardship of the funeral supplement.



In summary, there are two billing forms – one federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (on reserve); one provincial (Ministry of Social Development). They both look the same.

**Example:**

Where eligibility for service has been established, if the person was residing off of a First Nations reserve at the time of death, and burial is to take place on a reserve within BC, the Ministry of Social Development will pay any or all of the following:

- 60 per cent of the funeral provider's service fee to a local funeral director for preparation of the body and certification of death (Use Ministry of Social Development billing form)
- the cost of the casket to the local funeral director (Use Ministry of Social Development billing form)
- transportation of the body to the reserve (Use Ministry of Social Development billing form)

*The balance of the funeral service costs will be the responsibility of the agency that issues assistance on the reserve. (Use INAC Funeral Services billing form)*

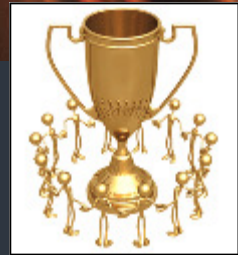
**The NEW [FNSDS BILLING FORM](#) came into effect June 2011 but its existence only very recently came to the attention of the FSABC.** The FSABC has not entered into an agreement or negotiated the rates and fees contained in the billing form and has not been consulted or contacted regarding the new Policy, Procedures or Income Assistance Program as published in the *Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada—Social Development Policy & Procedures Manual BC Region, Income Assistance Program.*

*For answers to specific questions we encourage you to contact the First Nations Social Development Society directly.*

The Billing Form and Policy can be downloaded from the FSABC website under the [“Members Only” tab, Helpful Uploads for FSABC Circular Book.](#)



**You must log on to the FSABC website [www.bcfunerals.com](http://www.bcfunerals.com) as an FSABC member in order to see all the valuable links and resources hidden under the “Members Only” tab.**



## FSABC Exemplary Service Award

**A New Year!**

## A New Opportunity to Participate!

The Funeral Service Association of BC recognizes the importance of the hard work and commitment of funeral directors. Since 2003, the Association sponsored program acknowledges the work of those funeral directors who repeatedly provide exemplary service to the families that they serve.

All licensed funeral directors who are affiliated with FSABC member funeral homes are eligible for this award and must participate in the program for 1 complete calendar year (January to December) to qualify for the award. Full participation means a minimum of two (2) returned evaluations per month.

There are no entry fees.

The Winner will receive a plaque and be invited as our guest to the annual FSABC Presidential Banquet.

To get started on the program TODAY, contact the office at 1-800-665-3899 to receive a supply of survey cards and prepaid postage envelopes.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE FUNERAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA REGARDING SHIPPING HUMAN REMAINS

**Transport Canada is enhancing the regulatory framework for air carriers and freight forwarders who are shipping air cargo, as well as for those that are handling air cargo.**

In the current regulatory framework, 100% of shipments going to the United States must be screened by active technology. The enhanced air cargo security provisions will require, by December 2012, 100% of domestic and international cargo, including human remains, to be screened by active technology or secured via a secure supply chain, prior to uplift. The screening will be conducted at the point of origin or at the point of acceptance into the secure supply chain, both on and off airport, by Air Carriers and Approved Participants (members of the Transport Canada Program).

During a recent conference call with Transport Canada, FSAC has learned that the requirements to be a “registered shipper” will change in 2012. Presently there are 223 Funeral Homes registered with Transport Canada as “registered shippers”. When the transition takes place, those Funeral Homes already registered with Transport Canada will have priority to become “registered shippers” under the enhanced regulatory framework. Although we don’t know all the details, basically the revised “registered shippers” will be required to:

- \* have security controls at the funeral home (i.e. restricted access to remains that are to be shipped)
- \* have Criminal Records and Criminal Background checks on those employees that will handle the remains prior to shipment
- \* and have some form of security training (i.e. on-line) and “chain of custody” for remains

**To become a “registered shipper” and be registered so you have priority during the transition, please contact Transport Canada’s Support Centre at 1-866-375-7342 or by e-mail at [aircargo-fretaerien@tc.gc.ca](mailto:aircargo-fretaerien@tc.gc.ca).**

As part of the application process, you will need to provide your Business Number (issued by the Canada Revenue Agency), a Canadian business address, and a referral that confirms an existing business relationship with respect to shipping human remains by air. The referral can be done by any Air Carrier, Approved Participant or non-participant freight forwarders. Upon receipt of the Registered Shipper status, you will be assigned a number that identifies your business as a secure part of the air cargo supply chain in Canada. Based on this number, participants in the Transport Canada Program will be able to validate your cargo (in this case, human remains) for transportation by air. Approved Participants and Air Carriers must adhere to certain Transport Canada requirements to validate air cargo. As such, the deliverer of the human remains will be asked for government-issued personal identification, company identification and documentation about the shipment.

During the next year there will be exhaustive consultations cross Canada. We will make sure to keep you informed of the process so you can become involved if you so choose. **If you have questions please call the FSAC office at 1-866-841-7779.**

### TIP ...

#### Exportation of Cremated Remains from Canada

Cremated remains, because they do not pose a quarantine risk, do not require a death certificate.

However, it is recommended that when transporting the cremated remains that the cremated remains travel with a certificate that verifies the death and a declaration of contents or cremation certificate (or both) and ensure that the remains are in a container that is rigid and strong enough to prevent leakage and that can easily be scanned (i.e. cardboard, wood or plastic)

#### Reference:

**Canada Border Services Agency  
Memorandum D19-9-3**

## UNDERSTANDING GRIEF A NEW BEGINNING ... REVISED



### A New Look for 2012!

This popular FSABC publication has been given a fresh new look but we've kept the cost the same!

In stock now and still available at \$ 1.25 per copy.

Also, we are now taking imprint orders for the 2012-2013 Helpful Information brochure. Over 338,000 copies distributed to date and most highly rated publication by consumers and health care agencies!

All FSABC member contact information is included so be sure to keep us up to date with your new locations and affiliates!

## RCMP Funerals

### For an RCMP member that dies in the line of service:

Up to \$14,393 may be paid to defray funeral expenses when one funeral director is involved

An additional 7.9% of \$13,393 may be paid when a second funeral director is required, when burial is other than the place of death.

### Any death other than in the line of duty is at the family's expense.

On the other hand, **the RCMP will pay the following for headstones or markers for any RCMP member or retired RCMP member:**

The RCMP will pay for the manufacture, transportation and placement of a:

Regimental headstone or marker, if burial takes place in Canada; or

Non-regimental headstone or marker of choice to a maximum of \$220, provided there is a reference on the headstone or marker to the member's service in the RCMP.

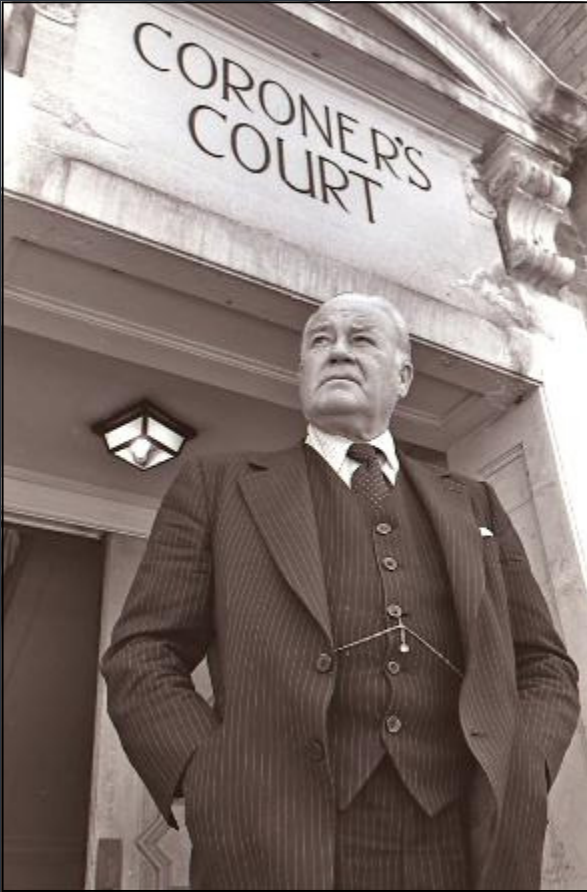
Notes:

1. Ensure the next of kin are aware that the choice of headstone or marker must comply with local cemetery restrictions. Regimental headstones or markers provided by the RCMP bear a uniform inscription and no change from the format is allowed.
2. Retired pensioners have the option of purchasing their headstone or marker in advance and can be reimbursed when the headstone or marker is being placed on a prearranged family plot.



For more  
information go to  
[www.rcmpgraves.com](http://www.rcmpgraves.com)

## • A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY – BC Coroner’s Office



Coroner Glen McDonald  
in front of the Coroner’s  
Court in Vancouver, BC

The Office of the Coroner is one of the oldest common law institutions, with references dating as far back as the time of Saxon King Alfred in 925 A.D. The first detailed statute concerning coroners was the Statute of Westminster of 1275. Formerly, the coroner was a protector of Crown revenue, responsible for bringing suspects to trial. The coroner was known as a “Keeper of the pleas of the Crown”, or in Latin, “custos placitorum coronas,” from which the word “coroner” is derived.

Coroners have been investigating deaths in British Columbia for more than 100 years. BC inherited the English Coroners Act (of 1848) when it became a province in 1871. Coroners conducted their work independently through their own municipalities, as there was no provincial organization.

In 1932, the City of Vancouver built the first “Coroner’s Court” building. The building contained a court room, where coroner’s inquests were held, a morgue and autopsy facilities. The building was also shared with the City Analyst’s Laboratory. The analysts performed toxicological analysis for the Coroners Department of Vancouver.

Coroners worked independently until the appointment of a Supervisory Coroner, Glen McDonald, who served in this capacity from 1969 to 1979.

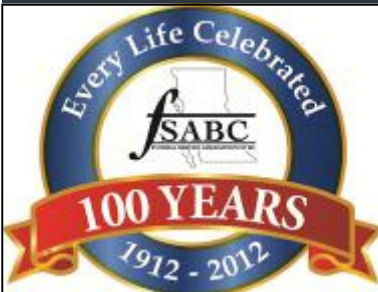
The BC Coroners Act was enacted into law in 1979. At this time, the Vancouver Coroner’s Department / Office came under the authority of the province and was declared a provincial service. The first Chief Coroner, Dr. William McArthur, was appointed in 1979.

BC funeral professionals and members of the BC Coroner’s office share a long and storied history. Over the years I have heard a few stories about what went on at the old “Coroner’s Court” building .

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the FSABC, we have invited members of the BC Coroners office and funeral professionals from across the province to reunite, celebrate, and share a few of their own stories!

**Join us April 19, 20, 21 at the FSABC 100th Anniversary & Conference at the Sheraton Wall Centre, Vancouver, BC.**

**The full conference package will include both educational and networking events with individual event tickets also available!**



## WHEN DISPOSITION IS BINDING

There is not a week that goes by that the FSABC office doesn't get a query from the public, funeral director, cemeterian or others about when disposition is binding and order of priority in determining who can make decisions regarding the final arrangements. The Consumer Protection BC has posted some very informative and concise information on their blog. By law, the deceased must be buried or cremated. Families and funeral service staff are required to follow Section 5 of the Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act in deciding who gets to make those important decisions regarding the care of a loved one after their death. While all funeral professionals are well versed on CIFSA (5), questions do arise regarding the following:

"spouse" - is married to another person, is united to another person by a marriage that, although not a legal marriage, is valid at common law, or has lived and cohabited with another person in a marriage-like relationship, including a marriage-like relationship between persons of the same gender, for a period of at least 2 years immediately before the other person's death.

"adult" - means someone who has reached the age of majority or 19 years of age.

"child" - a person under the age of 19

"parent" - the natural parent of a person, also includes a guardian or guardian of the person of a child, or a stepparent of a child if the stepparent contributed to the support and maintenance of the child for at least one year, and the determination for recognition by or against the stepparent is commenced within one year after the date the stepparent last contributed to the support and maintenance of the child.

### Basic Rules For Claiming the Right To Determine Final Care

1) If the person at the top of the list in the order of priority, is **unavailable or unwilling to give instructions**, the right to give instructions passes on to the person who is **next in rank** on the priority list. Should this right not be exercised by the first person identified, **it is not transferable by that individual** but instead passes to the next person identified from the list.

2) If, under the persons named on the priority list, the right to control the disposition of human remains or cremated remains **passes to persons of equal rank** (e.g. brothers and sisters), the order of priority is determined in accordance with an agreement between or among them, or if they can't agree, **the right begins with the eldest of the persons** and descends in order of age.

3) If someone still feels that, despite all of the above, they should be given the sole right to control final wishes they may apply to the Supreme Court to be granted those rights.

### Respecting the Preferences of the Deceased

It is important to remember that if the deceased gave written instructions in their will or in a pre-need funeral contract regarding their instructions for final disposition (i.e. burial or cremation); then the person with the right to give instructions must follow those instructions unless it could be considered unreasonable, impractical or cause a hardship.

Here is the link to the page ...

[www.consumerprotectionbc.ca/businesses-cemetery-and-funeral-home/disposition-rights](http://www.consumerprotectionbc.ca/businesses-cemetery-and-funeral-home/disposition-rights)



# Potential Amalgamation Review Committee Update

## Potential Amalgamation Review Committee Update

### Referendum Vote Results

Thank you for participating in the recent survey and referendum vote. The level of participation, comments, questions and concerns are reflective of engaged memberships, and that we are moving in a positive, proactive direction. Change can be uncertain, uncomfortable and result in growing pains, and your Association Directors and PARC greatly appreciate the level of faith and trust you have put in this process.

Here for your information are the results of the recent **referendum vote which will be ratified at the next annual general meeting scheduled for Friday, April 20, 2012 at the Sheraton Wall Centre in Vancouver** immediately before the annual conference. Members are encouraged to attend the AGM regardless of conference attendance.

The next level in this process is defining the new Association governance and related high level items. As PARC moves forward they will be working closely with the current respective Board of Directors and periodically communicating with the membership for input and information.

Again, thank you for the level of faith and trust you have put in this process.

Ryan McLane, FSABC President

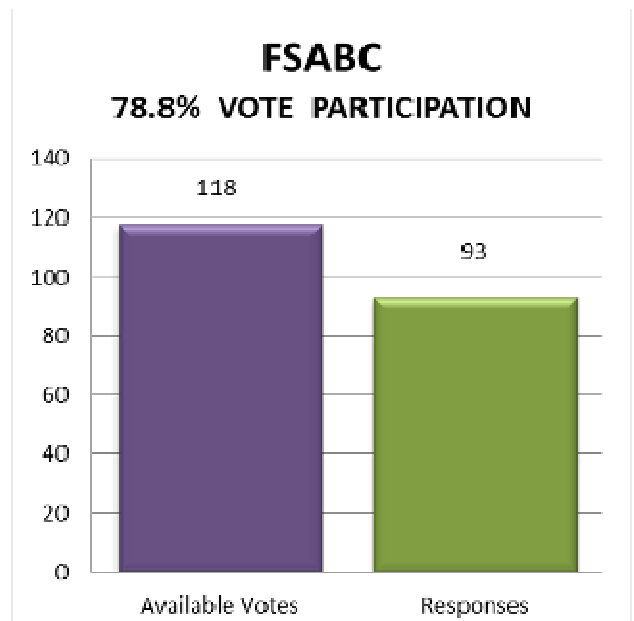
PARC member

### The Results FSABC

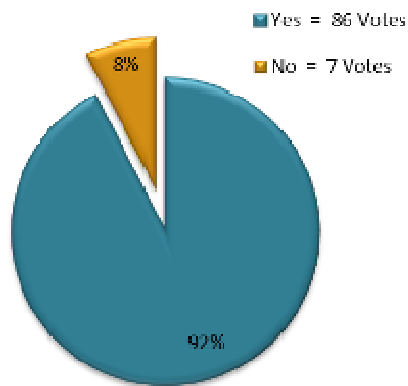
*"I approve the merger of the Funeral Service Association of BC and the Cemetery and Crematorium Association of BC."*

Of a possible 118 votes 93 votes were cast. Results are calculated on received votes.

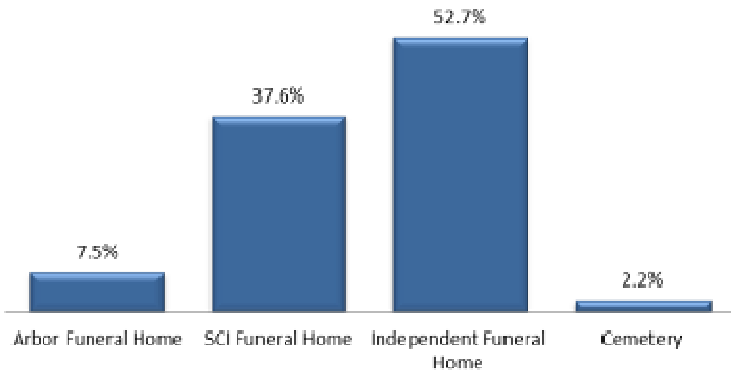
- FSABC realized a 78.8% participation in the on line voting process
- that the 'yes' votes received equals 72.8% of the total available votes



### FSABC MERGER APPROVAL



### FSABC - OF THOSE THAT VOTED



## The Results CCABC

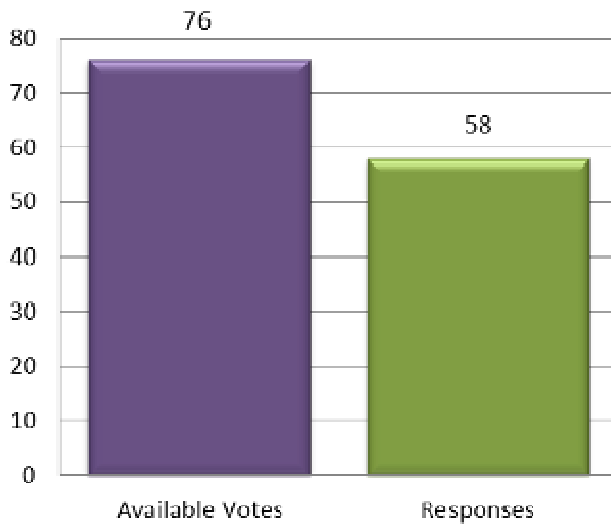
*I approve the merger of the Funeral Service Association of BC and the Cemetery and Crematorium Association of BC”.*

Of a possible 76 votes 58 votes were cast. Results are calculated on received votes.

- CCABC realized a 76.3% participation in the on line voting process
- that the ‘yes’ votes received equals 71% of the total available votes

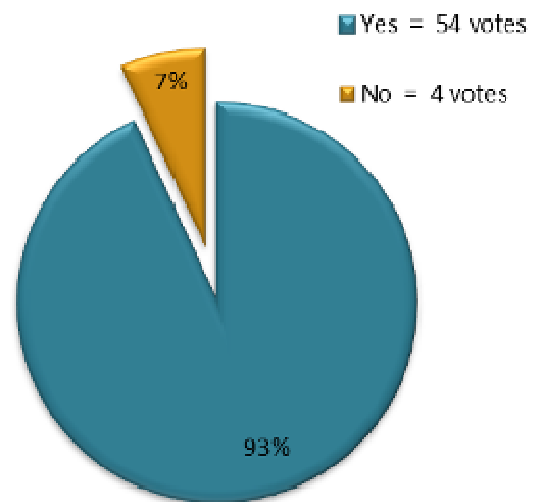
### CCABC

#### 76.3% VOTE PARTICIPATION

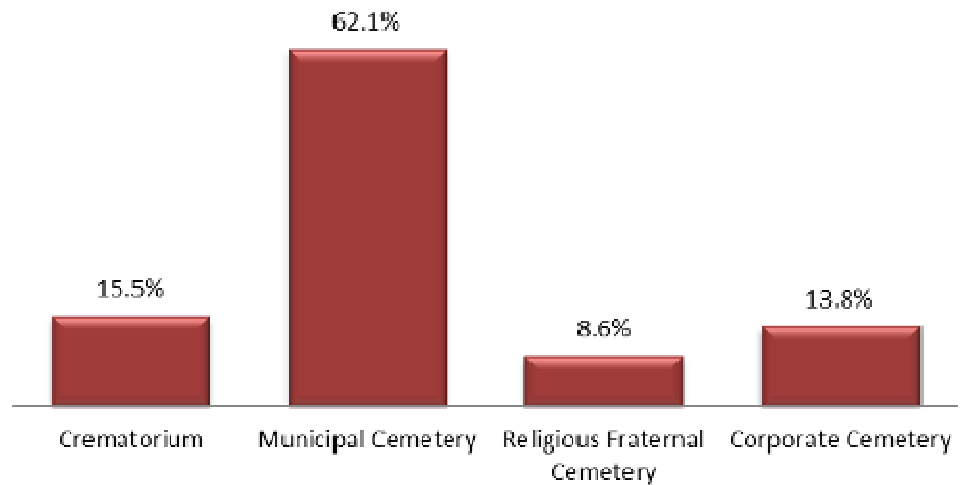


### CCABC

#### MERGER APPROVAL



## CCABC - OF THOSE THAT VOTED



### *In Remembrance Of ...*



**THOMAS ALLAN MITCHELL** passed away on Sunday, November 27, surrounded by family. Born December 24, 1965, Tom was a gift to all who knew him. Although Tom considered a career in golfing, which he loved, his compassion and caring nature kept bringing him back to Schoening Funeral Service, where throughout his 26 year career, he comforted many families in their darkest hours. Tom was one of those rare people who loved their job. Tom had many interests and hobbies, but spending time with family was what he enjoyed most. He loved watching his sons play soccer. They were his best buddies, truly the two greatest gifts in his life. Most weekends from spring to fall would find Tom taking his family to their favorite camping spot at Shuswap Lake where rain or shine, they would have a wonderful time. Tom was genuine; what you saw was what you got. A Celebration of Tom's life was held at Schoening Funeral Service on December 3. Donations may be made to the Canadian Diabetes Association, PO Box 26331 STN BRM B, Toronto, ON M7Y 4R1. Condolences may be expressed at [www.schoenings.com](http://www.schoenings.com)

**SANDI IRVING**, beloved wife of Doug for 41 years suddenly but peacefully passed away at their desert home on Saturday December 10, 2011. A private family service was held in the desert on December 16, 2011. A celebration of her life will be held in Vancouver, Courtenay and LaQuinta at a later date. At her request, no flowers but please donate to your local animal shelter.



## How can good employee health increase your company's effectiveness?

There's no arguing that healthy employees are better able to serve your customers. With employee health issues and their associated costs on the rise, it's time to take action to promote the health of your team.

Connect with Morneau Shepell to gain access to the Funeral Service Association of BC employee benefits program. Morneau Shepell can help you arrange a targeted, relevant employee benefits program that is easily accessible to your employees. And, enjoy the volume-buying power of your Association.

### Comprehensive coverage can include...

- **Assistance with medical expenses.**  
(prescription drugs, hospital, psychology, massage and more)
- **Assistance with dental expenses.**  
(checkups, fillings, crowns, bridges, children's braces and more)
- **Disability insurance.**  
(ongoing compensation during periods of eligible injury or illness)
- **Life, accident and critical illness insurance.**  
(lump sum payments for death, serious accident or illness)
- **Group savings plans.**  
(RRSP's, TFSA's or non-registered savings plans)
- **Confidential employee counselling and referrals.**  
(support for health and wellness at work and in life)
- **Second medical opinion service.**  
(an independent review of medical files in cases of serious medical diagnoses)
- **Access to the industry-leading professionals at Morneau Shepell.**

### **Let's get started:**

Contact Terry Schorn today  
tschorn@morneaushepell.com  
1.866.432.8427

**MORNEAU  
SHEPELL**

*Morneau Shepell is the largest Canadian-based firm providing human resource consulting services.*

**Health, Wellness and Financial Security Programs for participating FSABC Members and their employees.**



## Upcoming Events

### January 16-18:

Winter seminar for Funeral Service students, Vancouver

### January 17:

BC Foundation Student Career Fair. All FSABC employers invited. RSVP to 1-800-665-3899. SFU Harbour Centre, Vancouver, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

### January 18:

Karl Wenzel – 6 hr CEU program for Embalmers and Funeral Directors, River Rock Hotel, Richmond - Free Parking!

### April 19-21:

FSABC 100th annual general meeting & conference in conjunction with the Cemetery & Crematorium Association of BC, at the Sheraton Wall Centre, Vancouver

**Register Early!** Maximize your conference investment and SAVE on your conference fee if you register by MARCH 1, 2012. The advance registration and full registration fee includes access to all seminars and conference activities Thursday, April 19 through to the closing gala event on Saturday, April 21. FSABC & CCABC early registration fee is \$495.

**Sheraton Wall Centre Room Reservations!** A special rate of \$169 per night (net, non-commissionable) for our conference delegates. The “cut-off date” for reserving rooms is March 15, 2012. Call hotel direct at (604) 893-7120 or toll free (800) 663-9244.

### Important Dates!

March 1st: Early Bird Conference Registration Deadline  
Exhibit Space Applications Deadline  
Conference Sponsorship Opportunities Deadline



Funeral Service  
Association of BC

Suite 211  
2187 Oak Bay  
Avenue

Victoria, BC  
V8R 1G1

[www.bcfunerals.com](http://www.bcfunerals.com)

Funeral Service Association of British Columbia

Toll Free: (800) 665-3899

Telephone: (250) 592-3213

Fax: (250) 592-4362

Email: [info@bcfunerals.com](mailto:info@bcfunerals.com)