

March 24, 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing today on behalf of the majority of funeral directors, crematorium operators and cemetery workers across Canada. We recognize the challenging decisions that our elected officials face in the current COVID-19 pandemic. We are the first to recognize the struggles and urgent needs of front-line health care providers that we often work alongside. We are compelled to remind you of the necessity of taking care of the deceased affected by and not affected by COVID-19. To be clear, those who die at home, hospital or in retirement facilities must be cared for. We are now, and have always been the caregivers in that sense.

We write this letter as a dedicated group of professionals who see the need for being included in the **essential and critical services** category as it pertains to the announcements taking place across the country. We understand fully the needs of the provinces and country as a whole and the impossible job you are faced with in selecting those representing **essential and critical services**. To do our jobs we need access to simple resources not limited to personal protective equipment, fuel for vehicles and a general mandate from the government.

On behalf of the associations listed below representing the dedicated and caring workers in our sectors, we insist that you allow us to support those in need as we always have, we ask nothing more but your consideration at a troubling time in order to do our job and serve the health and safety of our communities.

Respectfully,



Brett Watson
President



Steven Reynolds
President



Michael Sargent
President



Tyler Weber
President



John Schachtel
Acting President



Carey Smith
Registrar



Jason Everden
President



Michael Gibbens
President



Nancy Matthews
President



Patrick Curry
Acting President