From: Charlotte O"Malley

To: Planning

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: Fwd: RZ A 07-21 bylaw reference 1966, 2021

**Date:** December 7, 2021 6:55:23 AM

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> To whom it may concern, I am writing this email in support of the proposed application for crematorium at 3844 Henry Road

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> Our region currently does not have access to adequate death care in the community. We are forced to send loved ones more than two hours away (or even transport ourselves) to our nearest facility. We now have the opportunity to bring this much needed service to our community. There are many sad, unfortunate instances of people being forced to transport their own deceased loved ones, or having excessive wait times and ultimately having to travel a long distance to pick up remains. We deserve better in our community.

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> And now we have a trained, knowledgeable individual, with the best interests of the community at heart ready to offer this service. So much research and training has been done to determine the most environmental, technologically advanced method for cremation for our community that exceeds governmental regulations, both environmental and for the industry. The equipment that will be used has been shown to meet stringent environmental regulations in the locations that it is currently in use. We are decades away from the black smoke chimney stacks that seem to strike fear into some individuals concerned about living next to a crematorium. Our nearest location in Terrace is in the middle of a busy residential neighbourhood and there are no concerns from neighbours about the facility - either about its appearance or about visible smoke or smells from the incinerator. This is because the technology being used today emits negligible emissions and the industry is highly regulated to ensure that quality death care is offered.

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> I have heard, from one individual in particular, numerous allegations of the issues the crematorium will pose to the community. Complaints about smell, smoke and appearance - with no factual support to these claims - with the sole intention to cause concern to people in the community that the crematorium will have a negative impact on their house prices. The majority of homes in the area are heated with wood stoves which are and will continue to be the source of pollution, smoke and smell in the area. Surely a community that has access to all healthcare services (which includes death care) is likely to increase the value of a community rather than devalue it.

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> I am hopeful that the Board will listen to need of the community in providing this much needed service to the area. The location is discreet, and poses no threat to individuals in the surrounding area.

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> Charlie Stam, 1127 Toronto St, Smithers