

June 23, 2006

s.22
E-mail: s.22

Dear s.22

I am responding to your May 22, 2006 e-mail, regarding prohibition on sales, and offers of sale, of arrangements relating to cryonics and irradiation in the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act*.

At this point in time, information continues to support the view that the benefits of the present legislation outweigh any drawbacks. Government continues to be concerned about British Columbians who may be taken advantage of at a time when they are experiencing grief and sorrow associated with the loss of a family member or friend. Government is also troubled by the notion that consumers, who are contemplating their own immortality or who have a terminal medical or health situation, are particularly vulnerable to the promise of being brought back to life when in fact this clearly cannot be delivered by present-day science.

Government intends to maintain the consumer protections provided through the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act* as we believe these provisions continue to be in the best interests of the public and help to ensure a fair marketplace for British Columbia consumers and businesses.

Thank you for writing.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

John Les
Solicitor General

336888

Vermaning, Tiny SG:EX

From: Down, Betty SG:EX
Sent: Wed, May 24, 2006 9:23 AM
To: Vermaning, Tiny SG:EX
Cc: 'Tayt Winnitoy'
Subject: FW: bill 3

Morning Tiny:

Below is an e-mail from s.22 addressed to the SG but sent to the Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority.

The BPCP Authority forwarded this e-mail to us.

I assume the correspondence requires your skills to enter into cliff and determine its disposition. I also assume it will eventually work its way back to my desk.

Please let me know if you require anything more at this point of if my assumptions are incorrect.

Many thanks,
Betty

Betty Down
Senior Policy and Legislation Analyst
Corporate Policy and Planning Office
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9234 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9J1
Phone: (250) 387-3398
Fax: (250) 356-1092

RECEIVED	
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL	
MAY 24 2006	
REFER TO MAIL ROOM	
OTHER	336888
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-----Original Message-----

From: Tayt Winnitoy [mailto:Tayt.Winnitoy@bpcpa.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2006 9:18 AM
To: s.22
Cc: Down, Betty SG:EX
Subject: RE: bill 3

Dear s.22 ;

Thank you for your email. I am not sure if this message was also sent as a paper copy to Minister John Les or not, however I will assume that it was not and thus I will forward your message to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

As the Executive Director, Operations for the Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority of BC, I am responsible for the licensing and regulation of BC funeral providers, funeral directors and embalmers. The decision making responsibility respecting changes to policy such as you suggest more appropriately resides with the Ministry.

I have therefore cc'd this response to our contact with the Ministry so she is aware of your concerns.

Thank you for writing,
Tayt Winnitoy
Executive Director, Operations

From: s.22

2006-05-24

Message

Page 2 of 2

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 12:33 AM

To: Tayt Winnitoy

Cc: info@bcfunerals.com; mail@memorialsocietybc.org; person@griefworksbc.com

Subject: re:bill 3

Honorable John Les
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9053
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC
Canada V8W 9E2

In Bill 3 (2004), the Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act, Section 14 states that a person must not offer for sale or sell an arrangement based on cryonics that is offered on the expectation of resuscitation of human remains at a future time. This section is a rewrite of a similarly worded law that was created in 1990 by a single bureaucrat (David Oliver) with the acquiescence of his committee. There was no consultation with cryonicists or scientists familiar with cryonics technology.

No other province or state in North America has a similar piece of legislation. When the Alberta government was considering legislation similar to that in BC they agreed to consult with the Cryonics Society of Canada before making a decision. In the 16 years that BC's anti-cryonics law has been in effect no one in the government of British Columbia has ever consulted with anyone knowledgeable about cryonics or with expertise in the science behind cryonics.

Decades ago cessation of heartbeat was equated with the finality of any potential for life. With defibrillators this is no longer necessarily true. Cryonicists believe that future technologies will cure diseases that are currently fatal and allow for regeneration of organs. Molecular repair technologies may be able to resuscitate, rejuvenate and/or reconstruct body tissues. Vitrification (anti-freeze) solutions currently used in cryonics have allowed rabbit kidneys to be cooled to -135oC without ice formation and transplanted into rabbits after rewarming, with full functionality. Prospects are best for the best preserved human remains, which requires rapid cool-down and cardio-pulmonary support soon after clinical death.

I believe that British Columbia citizens should be treated as mature adults by their government, capable of making their own decisions on whether to buy or sell an unproven procedure that is dependent upon technologies that may or may not materialize in the future. I strongly request that Bill 4 (2004) Section 14 be removed from British Columbia legislation.

Respectfully yours,

s.22

2006-05-24

June 23, 2006

Robin Helweg-Larsen
President, Andromedia Training, Inc.
PO Box 9244
Chapel Hill NC 27515
USA

Dear Robin Helweg-Larsen:

I am responding to your May 18, 2006 letter regarding prohibition on sales, and offers of sale, of arrangements relating to cryonics and irradiation in the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act*.

At this point in time, information continues to support the view that the benefits of the present legislation outweigh any drawbacks. Government continues to be concerned about British Columbians who may be taken advantage of at a time when they are experiencing grief and sorrow associated with the loss of a family member or friend. Government is also troubled by the notion that consumers who are concerned with their own mortality, or who have a terminal medical or health situation, are particularly vulnerable to the promise of being brought back to life when this clearly cannot be delivered by present-day science.

Government intends to maintain the consumer protections provided through the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act* as we believe these provisions continue to be in the best interests of the public and help to ensure a fair marketplace for British Columbia consumers and businesses.

Thank you for writing.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

John Les
Solicitor General

336889

Honorable John Les
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9053
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC
Canada V8W 9E2

18th May, 2006

Dear Mr. Les,

I am a Canadian citizen who lived in British Columbia for 17 years. s.22

s.22
area; and I retain a lot of connections to the province.

I am writing to ask you to ensure the repeal of the anti-cryonics law which I believe was Bill 3 (2004), the Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act, Section 14.

s.22 Obviously it would be stupid for me to return to BC if BC is the most reactionary jurisdiction in North America – but that is precisely the image you are creating for that portion of the scientific community that is interested in experimental concepts such as nanotechnology and genetic engineering.

Sincerely,



Robin Helweg-Larsen
President
Andromeda Training, Inc.
PO Box 9244
Chapel Hill, NC 27515 USA
t: +1.919.933.6555
f: +1.919.933.1968
e: robin@income-outcome.com
<http://www.income-outcome.com/>
Be the change you wish to see in the world – Gandhi

RECEIVED	
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL	
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June 23, 2006

s.22

Pittsburgh PA s.22
USA

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Thank you for writing.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

John Les
Solicitor General

336890

Honorable John Les
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9053
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC
Canada V8W 9E2

RECEIVED MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL MAY 24 2006	
REFER TO MAIL REGISTRY	
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Pittsburgh, PA

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PATTSBURGH
APR 24 2006
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