

Press Release

Nova Scotia Board of Registration of Embalmers and Funeral Directors

Issued: March 9, 2018

Board Chair – Adam Tipert will be available to media between 12:00 – 1:00 pm at Province House and can be reached at 1-902-226-0770

The Nova Scotia Board of Registration of Embalmers and Funeral Directors (the Board) released its decision today regarding the Serenity Lindsay Annapolis Valley Funeral Home. The Board has revoked David Farmer's funeral director and embalmer license effective immediately. Mr. Farmer will no longer be permitted to conduct business as a funeral director or embalmer. The Board found no disciplinary action against Anthony Facey's funeral director license.

On February 13th, 2018, the Board held an inquiry into professional misconduct of both Anthony Facey and David Farmer in relation to the provision of funeral services for Ms. Sandra Bennett and Ms. Myrtle Wilson. Ms. Bennett was mistakenly cremated while Ms. Wilson was mistakenly embalmed and presented as Ms. Bennett. Mr. Farmer was the Funeral Director who conducted the cremation and Mr. Facey is the owner / operator of Serenity Funeral Home and Crematorium.

The Board is responsible for licensing and regulating, funeral directors and embalmers. This includes disciplinary action relating to professional misconduct. Service Nova Scotia is responsible for licensing funeral homes and crematoriums.

In addition, the decision makes recommendations to consider changes to provincial regulations around labeling of human remains and making industry complaints more transparent to the public. A copy of the decisions can be found at:

<http://www.nsbrefd.com/>

“The events considered in this inquiry were unprecedented and extremely upsetting for families involved and the industry,” said Board Chair Adam Tipert. “Appropriate to the seriousness of this incident, Mr. Farmer's license has been revoked and the board is committed to strengthening processes to ensure this never happens again”.

“Funeral Directors provide an important service to families and we want the public to continue to have their full trust and confidence in their funeral director. The funeral sector and the public need to be confident that this Board is fully engaged in these matters when they are brought to our attention.”

If any person is concerned about unprofessional conduct of a licensed director, they are encouraged to contact this board at 1-902-226-0770, or visit <http://www.nsbrefd.com/>.