

UPGRADING MEADOWVALE'S CREMATION CENTRE



CREMATION HAS BEEN GROWING IN POPULARITY OVER THE PAST FEW DECADES, BUT THE MOUNT PLEASANT GROUP HAS OFFERED IT FOR NEARLY 85 YEARS. WE OPENED ONTARIO'S FIRST CREMATORIUM AT TORONTO NECROPOLIS CEMETERY IN DOWNTOWN TORONTO IN 1933 AND FROM THAT MOMENT ON, WE HAVE BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE GROWING TREND TO CREMATION.

In 2011, we felt it was time to modernize the cremation industry to meet increasing demand and customer preferences, but also to become

as environmentally responsible as possible. That year, we undertook a world-wide research study to identify industry best practices and to find the most advanced, environmentally friendly cremation equipment. Facultatieve Technologies in The Netherlands (the largest cremation equipment manufacturer in the world) was selected as the supplier of choice and we created a plan to transform and upgrade the cremation equipment at all four of Mount Pleasant Group's Cremation Centres within the Greater Toronto Area.

Because no crematorium in North America had ever installed such advanced equipment, we undertook a lengthy environmental approval and testing process in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and the Technical Safety Standards Association. The equipment promised ambitious new emission target standards that had never been achieved within the industry. So we tested, analyzed, and re-tested the equipment until there was nothing left to test. The final results proved the new filtration system would virtually eliminate all smoke, odour, and particulate matter, reduce the carbon footprint by using 50% less natural gas, and improve on Ontario's most stringent emissions standards by emitting less than 1% of the province's safe level targets.

Mount Pleasant Cremation Centre in Toronto was the first to be upgraded in 2014. Elgin Mills Cremation Centre in Richmond Hill followed closely thereafter in 2015 and was awarded the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce Environmental Award for its new equipment. Thornton Cremation Centre in Oshawa was upgraded in 2016. The new Meadowvale Cremation Centre in Brampton was the last project to complete the transformation, opening in 2017.

At Meadowvale the entire cremation complex has been renovated and expanded. Natural light streams through the chapel which overlooks a beautiful water feature. A stained glass window is centered between the floor-to-ceiling windows. Fixed pews have been replaced by comfortable chairs which can be set up or removed to accommodate different cultures and faiths.

The new cremation witnessing room has been relocated and is now located on the same level as the chapel. Visitors choosing to witness the cremation process can move directly from the chapel into the witnessing room which is decorated with porcelain floors, art work, chairs, and couches. Natural light fills the large room, which can accommodate up to 100 people.

GTA CREMATIONS

