



Memorandum

Date: January 24, 2023

To: Catholic Parishes of the Archdiocese of Gatineau and parish cemetery officials

Subject: Continuing our green and sustainable approach

Les Jardins du Souvenir has been actively engaged in a sustainable development process for more than two years now.

- After having decided to let unused areas of some of our cemeteries return temporarily to their natural state, in order to reduce the pollution caused by our maintenance equipment;
- After having followed the great movement of "May without mower" to promote better pollination;
- After having offered a training workshop to all our employees on the "sustainable development" of cemeteries;
- After having shared this training with more than fifteen representatives of parish cemeteries;

We are undertaking the first step of a new phase that will lead us, in a few years, to offer our clients healthier, more natural and less polluting cemeteries.

Every year, large quantities of plastic, metal, varnish and other chemical products are put into the ground. Many of these products used in the manufacture of urns and caskets will take hundreds of years to decompose and represent sources of soil and groundwater pollution.

- Beginning with the 2023 season, which usually starts around mid-April, our clients will have the option of being buried in new sections of our cemeteries where only fully biodegradable urns and caskets will be available (the list and map of these sections will be posted on our website shortly);
- Gradually, over the next few years, we will continue our efforts to reduce our environmental footprint (soil pollution) by increasing the number of designated environmental sections and by encouraging our clients to opt for fully biodegradable urns or caskets and by offering preferred rates to those who choose to travel with us on this path;
- By the end of 2025, we plan to use only biodegradable urns and caskets in all our cemeteries;
- Customers who wish to continue to use urns and caskets made of traditional materials will be able to use interment in our columbaria and mausoleums.

We are committed to doing our part to preserve the environment and fight climate change and we are confident that our customers and the public will support us as we continue to go green and sustainable.

If you have any questions about ecological zones and our green and sustainable approach, please visit our website www.lesjardinsdusouvenir.com and/or contact us at 819-778-1515 or at info@lesjardinsdusouvenir.com

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