



Councillor  
**Gary Crawford**



100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor Suite A11, Toronto ON M5H 2N2



April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Re: Creating Designated Waterfront Areas for Post-Funeral Rites**

In the 11 years I have spent representing Scarborough Southwest, it has been commonplace for people to conduct post-funeral rites (e.g. scattering of ashes, etc.) along waterfront areas, including parts of Bluffer's Park.

Conversations concerning such ceremonies have recently been brought to the forefront through coverage in various media outlets. Some park patrons have expressed environmental concerns regarding the disposal of non-decomposable materials associated with such ceremonies. Although I recognize the value of such concerns, I feel it is also important to recognize and respect that the scattering of ashes on water is a traditional practice for various cultures.

I believe the key to balancing these interests is through studying the creation of designated areas to conduct such ceremonies. Clear models for this exist in other municipalities, such as Pickering and Mississauga, and the City could benefit from studying such models to explore the feasibility of their application to our context. As such, I would like to move the following motion:

"Councillor Crawford recommends that

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report to the May 25, 2021 meeting of Infrastructure and Environment Committee on the feasibility of creating designated areas for the scattering of ashes along the City's waterfront."

Sincerely,

Gary Crawford  
Councillor, Ward 20  
Scarborough Southwest