

Sent by Email

July 2, 2021

The Honourable Patty Hajdu  
Minister of Health  
[Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca)

Subject: Three-digit Suicide and Crisis Hotline  
File: A-1400-001-21

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The Council of the Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a meeting held on June 28, 2021 and adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, the Federal government has passed a motion to adopt 988, a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline;

And Whereas, on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the House of Commons passed a motion introduced by MP Todd Doherty, through unanimous consent, to bring a national 3-digit suicide prevention hotline line to Canada:

That, given that the alarming rate of suicide in Canada constitutes a national health crisis, the House call on the government to take immediate action, in collaboration with our provinces, to establish a national suicide prevention hotline that consolidates all suicide crisis numbers into one easy to remember three-digit (988) hot-line that is accessible to all Canadians.

And Whereas, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for suicide prevention services by 200%;

And Whereas, existing suicide prevention hotlines require the user to remember a 10-digit number and go through directories or be placed on hold;

And Whereas, in 2022 the United States will have in place a national 988 crisis hotline;

And Whereas, the City of Pickering recognized that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering declares:

1. That the City of Pickering endorse this 988 crisis line initiative; and,
2. That a letter demonstrating Pickering's support be sent to Todd Doherty, MP, Caribou-Prince George, Jennifer O'Connell, MP, Uxbridge-Pickering, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Uxbridge-Pickering, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications (CRTC).

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel  
City Clerk

SC:rp  
Enclosure

Copy: Todd Doherty, Member of Parliament, Cariboo-Prince George  
Jennifer O'Connell, Member of Parliament, Pickering-Uxbridge  
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Member of Provincial Parliament, Uxbridge-Pickering  
The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications (CRTC)

Chief Administrative Officer.