



City of Pickering passes 988 Three-Digit Suicide Hotline resolution

July 2nd, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRINCE GEORGE, BC— Todd Doherty, Conservative Member of Parliament for Cariboo-Prince George and Special Advisor to the Leader on Mental Health and Wellness, welcomed the passage of his 988 resolution by the City of Pickering.

“I want to thank David Pickles and the entire Pickering City Council for passing this important motion. Suicide prevention is too important to let slip through the cracks,” said Doherty. To date, over 260 cities, towns and municipalities across Canada have passed similar resolutions.

“I’ll be bringing this back to the Ontario Big City Mayors,” said Councillor David Pickles who moved the motion at council.

Statistics show that every 24 hours on average, 11 Canadians take their own life. Another 275 attempt to end their lives.

“It’s been 203 days since the House of Commons passed my 988 motion,” explained Doherty. “Since then, we’ve lost an estimated 2,233 people to suicide. Another 55,825 have attempted suicide.”

“We need a simple and easy to remember 3-digit number that people can call if they’re in trouble. Help should only be three digits away. 988 will save lives, it’s as simple as that,” concluded Doherty.

If you would like to personally support 988 please do an online submission with the CRTC at:

<https://services.crtc.gc.ca/pub/CommentForm/Default-Default.aspx?lang=e&EN=2021-191&ET=N&S=O&PA=A&PT=A&PST=A&FN>

You can watch the City of Pickering pass the resolution at their [June 28th meeting on YouTube](#). Forward to the **4:31:18** minute mark to listen to Councillor Pickles discussion the motion.

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