

June 9, 2021

Via Email: Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Patty Hajdu,
Federal Minister of Health
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Hajdu:

Re: National 3-Digit Suicide and Crisis Hotline

Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores adopted the resolution below supporting the City of Barrie in their endorsement for a 988 crisis line initiative.

Resolution No. 2021-244

Moved by: Councillor Jelly
Seconded by: Councillor McArthur

Whereas the City of Barrie adopted a resolution regarding a National 3-digit suicide and crisis hotline, at their regular meeting on April 26, 2021; and

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

Whereas the motion calls for the federal government to consolidate all existing suicide crisis numbers into one three-digit hotline; 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 Barrie 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 for the City of Temiskaming Shores hereby supports the City of Barrie in their endorsement for a 988 crisis line initiative; and

That a letter demonstrating the City's support be sent to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health; the Honourable Anthony Rota, MP for Nipissing-Timiskaming and the City of Barrie.

Carried

Please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Belanger".

Logan Belanger
Municipal Clerk
lbelanger@temiskamingshores.ca

C.c.

The Honourable Anthony Rota, MP for Nipissing-Timiskaming
The City of Barrie