



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

April 13, 2021

Sent Via Email hcmminister.ministresc@canada.ca

Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Health - Canada

Dear Minister:

Re: National 3-Digit Suicide Prevention Hotline

The Council of The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, March 23, 2021, gave consideration to a letter from MP Chris Lewis, Essex regarding the House of Commons National 3-Digit Suicide Prevention Hotline.

At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

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

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

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

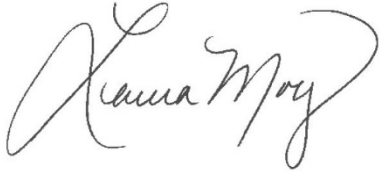
And Whereas in 2022 the United States will have in place a national 988 crisis hotline;

And Whereas the Town of Tecumseh recognizes 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 Town of Tecumseh endorses this 988 crisis line initiative; and that Staff be directed to send a letter indicating such support to the local MP, MPP, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and local area municipalities to indicate our support.”

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of Tecumseh's support for adopting 988 as a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline.

Yours very truly,



Laura Moy, Dipl.M.M., CMMIII HR Professional
Director Corporate Services & Clerk

LM/sw

Attachments

1. Letter from Mr. Chris Lewis, MP – Essex, dated February 12, 2021

cc: Mr. Ian Scott, Chairman and CEO, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (ian.scott2@canada.ca)

Mr. Chris Lewis, MP – Essex (chris.lewis@parl.gc.ca)

Mr. Dave Epp, MP Chatham-Kent-Leamington (dave.epp@parl.gc.ca)

Ms. Irek Kusmierczyk, MP – Windsor-Tecumseh (irek.kusmierczyk@parl.gc.ca)

Mr. Brian Masse, MP – Windsor West (brian.masse@parl.gc.ca)

Mr. Taras Natyshak, MPP – Essex (tnatyshak-qp@ndp.on.ca)

Mr. Rick Nicholls, MPP – Chatham-Kent-Essex (rick.nicholls@pc.ola.org)

Mr. Percy Hatfield, MPP – Windsor-Tecumseh (phatfield-qp@ndp.on.ca)

Ms. Lisa Gretzky, MPP – Windsor West (lgretzky-qp@ndp.on.ca)

Ms. Paula Parker, Municipal Clerk/Risk Manager, Town of Amherstburg
(pparker@amherstburg.ca)

Mr. Robert Auger, Clerk, Manager of Legal and Legislative Services, Town of Essex
(rauger@essex.ca)

Ms. Jennifer Astrologo, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Town of Kingsville
(jastrologo@kingsville.ca)

Ms. Kristen Newman, Director of Legislative and Legal Services/Clerk, Municipality of Lakeshore (knewman@lakeshore.ca)

Ms. Agatha Robertson, Director of Council Services/Clerk, Town of LaSalle
(arobertson@lasalle.ca)

Ms. Brenda Percy, Municipal Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services, Municipality of Leamington (bpercy@leamington.ca)

Ms. Valerie Critchley, City Clerk/Licence Commissioner, City of Windsor
(clerks@citywindsor.ca)

Ms. Mary Birch, Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk, County of Essex,
(mbirch@countyofessex.ca)

Ms. Judy Smith, Director, Municipal Governance/Clerk, Municipality of Chatham-Kent
(CKclerk@chatham-kent.ca)

Ms. Janice Hensel, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk, Township of Pelee
(Janice.hensel@pelee.ca)



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February 12, 2021

TECUMSEH TOWN COUNCIL
917 Lesperance Road
Tecumseh ON
N8N 1W9

Dear Members of Tecumseh Town Council,

On December 11th, 2020, the House of Commons passed a motion introduced by Conservative 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.

We're asking all municipalities across Canada to consider passing a motion similar, to the one below. In order to make 988 a reality, we must continue to put pressure on the government and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).

Personally, you can support the cause by signing our electronic petition at:
<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-2772>

The past year has been a challenging year. Lives and livelihoods have been lost. We have begun to see the devastating impacts that COVID has had, through isolation, on the mental health of Canadians. The rates of suicide continue to rise. As elected officials and as leaders, and especially during this period of difficulty as a nation, Canadians are counting on all of us to make a difference.

Please consider passing this motion as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Chris Lewis, MP
Essex

Draft motion:

Support for 988 Crisis Line

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

AND WHEREAS the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for suicide prevention services by 200 per cent;

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 _____ Town Council/Municipality/City recognizes 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 _____ Town Council/Municipality/City endorses this 988 crisis line initiative;

and that Staff be directed to send a letter indicating such support to the local MP, MPP, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and local area municipalities to indicate our support.