

May 21, 2021

Hon. Patty Hajdu  
Minister of Health  
Brooke Claxton Building, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor 0916A  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9  
[hcminister.ministresc@canada.ca](mailto:hcminister.ministresc@canada.ca)

Dear Minister Hajdu:

**Re: Endorsement of 988 Suicide and Crisis Prevention Hotline Initiative**

At its Regular meeting held on May 17, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Owen Sound considered the above noted matter and passed Resolution No. R-210517-009 as follows:

R-210517-009

**"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%; and**

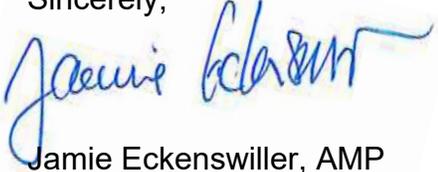
**WHEREAS existing suicide prevention hotlines require the user to remember a 10- digit number and go through directories or be placed on hold;**

**THEEFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council endorses the 988 crisis line initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help; and**

**THAT a letter demonstrating City Council's support be sent to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, the Honourable Alex Ruff MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, the Honourable Bill Walker MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, Ian Scott Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications and all municipalities in Ontario."**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jamie Eckenswiller, AMP  
Deputy Clerk  
City of Owen Sound

cc. Hon. Alex Ruff, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound  
Hon. Bill Walker, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound  
Ian Scott, Chairperson and CEO, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications  
Commission  
All Ontario Municipalities