

Allan Thompson Mayor

Sent via E-Mail to: Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca

March 31, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Hajdu,

RE: SUPPORT FOR 988, A 3-DIGIT SUICIDE AND CRISIS PREVENTION HOTLINE

I am writing to advise that at the Town Council meeting held on March 30, 2021, Council adopted a resolution endorsing the 988 crisis line initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help.

The resolution reads as follows:

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

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

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

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

Whereas the Town of Caledon 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 Town of Caledon endorses this 988 crisis line initiative; and

That a letter demonstrating Caledon's support be sent to Kyle Seeback, MP, Dufferin-Caledon, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP, Dufferin-Caledon, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications (CRTC) and all municipalities in Ontario.



Allan Thompson Mayor

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Allan Thompson

Mayor

Cc. Kyle Seeback, MP Dufferin-Caledon, Kyle.Seeback@parl.gc.ca

Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon, sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

Ian Scott, Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), <u>iscott@telesat.com</u>

All Ontario Municipalities