May 7, 2021

RE: Support for 988 - a 3 Digit Crisis and Suicide Prevention Hotline

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands, at its meeting held May 5, 2021, passed the following resolution:

2021-312

Moved by Aakash Desai, Seconded by Dane Nielsen

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; and

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

Whereas the Municipality of Grey Highlands 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 Municipality of Grey Highlands endorses this 988 crisis line initiative; and

That the Municipality of Grey Highlands request that this initiative move forward expeditiously; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MP Alex Ruff, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Bill Walker, Federal Minister of Health Patty Hajdu, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications (CRTC) and all municipalities in Ontario. CARRIED.

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jerri-Lynn Levitt

Jerri-Lynn Levitt Deputy Clerk Council and Legislative Services Municipality of Grey Highlands