



Motion

Re: Support for 988 Suicide Crisis Line Initiative

“Whereas the Municipality of Chatham-Kent has already seen the benefit of implementing the easy to remember 3-1-1 telephone line for accessing and connecting to Municipality information, and;

Whereas the Municipality of Chatham-Kent has recognized, through the work of partnerships with numerous community groups and organizations that it is critical to ensure that barriers are removed for those individuals and caregivers who are required to respond quickly for help; and;

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 users to remember a 10-digit number and go through directories or be placed on hold;

Be it therefore resolved that the Municipality of Chatham-Kent endorse this 988 suicide crisis line initiative; and

That a letter demonstrating Chatham-Kent’s support be sent to the local M.P., M.P.P., Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications (CRTC), Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Association of Municipalities of Ontario.”

Signed: Councillor Karen Kirkwood-Whyte

Notice Given On: April 12, 2021