

Prince George City Council
1100 Patricia Blvd,
Prince George, BC
V2L 3V9

By email: 311@princegeorge.ca



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Todd Doherty

Member of Parliament
Cariboo—Prince George

Dear Mayor and Council,

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

Todd Doherty
Member of Parliament
Cariboo - Prince George

Ottawa Office

Room 900, Justice Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Tel.: 613-995-6704 Fax.: 613-996-9850
Todd.Doherty@parl.gc.ca

Constituency Office

1520 3rd Avenue, Prince George, B.C. V2L 3G4
Tel.: 250-564-7771 Fax.: 250-564-6224
Todd.Doherty.C1@parl.gc.ca

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 the City of Prince George 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 City of Prince George endorses this 988 crisis line initiative; and that Staff be directed to send a letter indicating such support to the local MP, MLA, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and local area municipalities to indicate our support.