

April 15, 2021

File # 0220-20

Via email: bob.zimmer@parl.gc.ca

Bob Zimmer, Member of Parliament
9916 100 Avenue
Fort St. John, BC V1J 1Y5

Dear Mr. Zimmer, MP

Re: Letter of support for national three-digit suicide prevention hotline – 988

On behalf of Council, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the creation of a national three-digit suicide and crisis hotline – 988.

At the Regular Council meeting on April 12, 2021, Council passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 120/21
MOVED/SECONDED

“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, the City of Fort St. John recognizes that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in crisis and seeking help,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City of Fort St. John endorses the 988 crisis line initiative;
AND THAT, staff be directed to send a letter indicating such support to the local MP, MPP, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and local area municipalities to indicate support.”

CARRIED

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We see great value in this project and we look forward to the implementation of this initiative.

Sincerely,



Lori Ackerman
Mayor

cc Dan Davies
Member of the Legislative Assembly
dan.davies.mla@leg.bc.ca

The Hon. Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Canadian Heritage
Minister Responsible for the CRTC
steven.guilbeault@parl.gc.ca

The Hon. Patty Hajdu
Federal Minister of Health
hccminister.ministresc@canada.ca

Local Area Municipalities