

May 10, 2021

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.

The Council of the District of Mackenzie, at their Regular Meeting held on Monday, April 26, 2021 hereby resolved the following:

31933. MOVED by Councillor Hipkiss
*Support for WHEREAS the Federal government has passed a motion to adopt 988, a National
988 Crisis three-digit suicide and crisis hotline;
Line*

*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 District of Mackenzie 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 District of Mackenzie endorses this
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
our support.*

CARRIED

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

Sincerely,



Joan Atkinson

Mayor

cc: Dan Davies
Member of the Legislative Assembly
dan.davies.mia@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
hcmminister.ministresc@canada.ca

Local Area Municipalities