



Township of The Archipelago

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June 18, 2021

21-111

**Moved by Councillor Mead
Seconded by Councillor Zanussi**

RE: Scott Aitchison, MP Parry Sound Muskoka – Support for 9-8-8 Crisis Line

WHEREAS the Federal Government has passed a motion to adopt 9-8-8, a National 3-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 9-8-8 crisis hotline; and

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago 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 Council for the Township of The Archipelago hereby endorses this 9-8-8 crisis line initiative; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that staff be directed to send a letter indicating support to Scott Aitchison, MP Parry Sound Muskoka, Norm Miller, MPP Parry Sound Muskoka, Hon. Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), and all Ontario municipalities and local First Nations.

Carried.