



The Corporation of the Municipality of West Grey

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MEDIA RELEASE

No Annexation, No Expropriation, Let's Work Together: Municipality Of West Grey

West Grey, Monday March 1, 2010 – For Immediate Release

The Municipality of West Grey is not interested in annexation or expropriation of West Grey's lands in the County Road 4 and 28 corridor that borders with the Town of Hanover.

Instead, West Grey Mayor Kevin Eccles said today: "It is time for Hanover to come to the table and work with us towards a mutual agreement that would benefit both municipalities. The land in question is in West Grey and it will remain in West Grey."

The Municipality of West Grey has already indicated it would be very interested in undertaking a cross-border joint water and sewer servicing agreement with the Town of Hanover. Unfortunately, to date, no agreement has been reached on this matter which would benefit West Grey, the Town of Hanover and the Region.

"There is a demand by developers, who are seeing opportunities to grow in this area and we are well aware of their concerns," said Mayor Kevin Eccles. "West Grey Council looks forward to exploring how we can move forward with enhancing regional development," said Mayor Eccles.

"Hanover must understand that both the Province and the County Council have said this issue should be handled through negotiations. Both upper orders of government have indicated that West Grey must initiate and lead any discussion and reviews of all options surrounding settlement area lands in West Grey. However, no formal discussions have taken place yet. In the interest of both our communities, creating jobs and economic development should be a priority. Let's talk." Mayor Kevin Eccles said.

On June 4, 2009, The Municipality of West Grey passed a resolution stating: "The council of the Municipality of West Grey supports the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Council by authorizing the CAO/Clerk to forward a letter to the Town of Hanover advising that the Municipality of West Grey is not interested in pursuing any discussions relating to the annexation or restructuring of West Grey lands at this time."

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It also stated in the resolution that West Grey "is promoting and initiating economic development and growth throughout West Grey and is interested in a joint water and sewer servicing agreement to enhance our infrastructure." West Grey also expressed its commitment to reaching an agreement that would be "tailored" to suit the Municipality of West Grey and the Town of Hanover.

"Other Ontario municipalities have cross border service agreements that work. It is time for our two communities to work together to develop an agreement that will benefit both West Grey and the Town of Hanover." said Mayor Eccles.

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