





# Welcome to West Grey

With a population of over 13,500, the Municipality of West Grey is the largest geographic municipality in Grey County (876 square kilometres), with the River Styx, Rocky Saugeen, Beatty Saugeen and South Saugeen Rivers being the connecting links between our rural communities of Elmwood, Durham, Neustadt, and Ayton.

Our municipal government delivers key services to support our fast-growing population, including two water systems, two waste-water systems, and one storm management system; 104 bridges. The Municipality of West Grey also has many community centres, libraries, fire halls and other civic properties; municipal police services (West Grey Police); over 700 kilometres of roads, and 23 kilometres of sidewalks.

In the heart of our largest urban centre, the Durham Hospital (under the jurisdiction of South Bruce Grey Health Centre) and the Rockwood Terrace long-term care home, are critical assets that anchor the community and are essential to the very fabric of West Grey and the surrounding area. Recent service reductions at the Durham Hospital are impacting the entire healthcare system in the region, including increasing costs and pressures on paramedic services, and jeopardizing the long-term viability of the Durham Medical Clinic, whose operations are directly tied to the 24/7 operation and in-patient beds at the Durham Hospital.

On behalf of our Council and our residents, the Municipality of West Grey looks forward to exploring innovative solutions, in partnership with and the support of the Province of Ontario, to ensure the long-term viability, sustainability and efficient operations of our rural communities in West Grey, and indeed across the entire province.

# **Mayor Kevin Eccles**



Durham **Hospital** c. 1946

# Emergency room effective June 3, 2024

24 hours to 12 hours

10 inpatient beds to 0 inpatient beds

60% serviced by locum physicians



#### **Ambulance calls**

June 3 - July 31, 2024

1949 additional minutes for non-Durham destinations



1682 additional minutes for patient transfers

## **Durham Medical** Clinic

6,622 rostered patients + hundreds of un-rostered patients





5 doctors serving our community

40% support for **Durham Hospital** 

Doctor recruitment and retention at risk due to uncertainty with Durham Hospital

### **Rockwood Terrace**

From 98-beds to 128-beds for long-term care in 2026



\$91 million investment in community health care \$24.3 million Province of Ontario support



# Seeking support from the Ministry of Health

- To address the recent impact of service reductions at Durham Hospital in response to broader healthcare concerns in the West Grey region.
- To develop collaborative, whole-of-government, and stakeholder solutions to the rural healthcare crisis.
- To facilitate discussions related to a systems approach for maintaining the critical healthcare network in West Grey.
- To restore in-patient beds and 24/7 emergency room services at Durham Hospital.





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