

ROMA CONFERENCE 2025

Delegation

Ministry of Health

January 21, 2025



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.

In the heart of the Town of Durham, 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 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.
- That discussions focused on developing a systems approach to maintaining the critical healthcare network in central Grey/Town of Durham be initiated.
- To restore in-patient beds and 24/7 emergency room services at Durham Hospital.



MUNICIPALITY OF
West Grey

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