



Town of Hanover c/o Clerk
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Municipality of West Grey c/o Clerk
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September 8, 2023

To the Council of the Town of Hanover and the Council of the Municipality of West Grey,

The Saugeen Municipal Airport has been in operation since 1990 because of the dedication of the volunteers and pilots. The efforts of these individuals in providing this service while keeping costs low should be lauded.

The past few years have been financially challenging for many municipalities that have faced high inflation, rising interest rates and a delay in updated property tax assessment cycle. It is imperative that municipal councils consider their role as stewards for the municipality and balance the services provided with the economic impacts of those services to all residents within the municipality. As the main financial contributor, it is incumbent on the Municipality of Brockton to consider the long-term viability of this service and its benefits to all Brockton residents.

In light of the current economic conditions, Council of the Municipality of Brockton believes that now is the time for the Municipality of Brockton to consider the future of the Saugeen Municipal Airport, and whether it should continue as a municipally subsidized organization, particularly given the jurisdictional challenges associated with the competing provincial and federal regulations. As such this will also be a consideration for the Municipality of West-Grey and the Town of Hanover as a partner in the SMA.

Specifically, Council of the Municipality of Brockton is inviting the Municipality of West-Grey and the Town of Hanover to undertake a public process to consider authorizing a sale of the Saugeen Municipal Airport assets, potentially to an entity that would allow the facility to continue as an airport, or by undertaking a voluntary winding up in accordance with section 230 (1) of the *Corporation Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. 38.

If you are interested in considering this process we anticipate the first step being a staff report either prepared jointly or separately by Municipal staff on all aspects of the airport with a comprehensive evaluation of the service and the potential implications of a sale or dissolution of the organization. Following this we anticipated a motion would be passed by each Council related to their intent on the future of the SMA.

In the alternative, if neither the Municipality of West-Grey or the Town of Hanover is willing to undertake the process described above, Council of the Municipality of Brockton is of the opinion that the cost-sharing agreement that was put in place in 2005 should be reviewed and renegotiated in the near future as Arran-Elderslie is still mentioned as a party to the agreement among other updates requiring due attention.

Council of the Municipality of Brockton acknowledges the many shared services and agreements that exist between the Municipality of Brockton, the Municipality of West-Grey and the Town of Hanover and looks forward to continuing to find collaborative solutions to common challenges in the best interest of the residents of our communities.

Sincerely,

Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)
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CC: Dave Hocking, Saugeen Municipal Airport Commission