



Municipality of Central Elgin

News Release

Council Intends to Commence Negotiations to Acquire Port Stanley Harbour

Release: December 21, 2004

The Municipality of Central Elgin intends to commence negotiations to acquire Port Stanley Harbour from its current owner, Transport Canada. Mayor Dave Rock stated, "I am optimistic that harbour divestiture negotiations will lead to a positive outcome for the Municipality and the local community." Mayor Rock added, "The Municipality will work towards a deal with Transport Canada that is based on a sound long-term business plan that recognizes the port's economic development opportunities, but does not burden the taxpayers of Central Elgin with new costs."

Transport Canada announced in 1995 that the department wished to divest Port Stanley Harbour along with numerous other port facilities across Canada. Following an extensive due diligence process involving the former Village of Port Stanley (now part of the Municipality of Central Elgin), the County of Elgin and several commercial port users, the County of Elgin entered into negotiations with Transport Canada to acquire Port Stanley Harbour. These negotiations ceased in 2000. In 2003 and 2004 Transport Canada met with parties who had expressed an interest in the divestiture process with the intent of identifying a single entity for negotiations. With no single entity identified by November 30, 2004, Transport Canada officials made a presentation to Elgin County Council and members of Central Elgin Municipal Council on December 16, 2004. Central Elgin Municipal Council, at its meeting of December 20, 2004, passed a resolution indicating its intention to commence negotiations with Transport Canada to acquire Port Stanley Harbour.

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