



## News Release – For Immediate Release March 8, 2010

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### County Urges Commission to Hold Public Hearing Locally

County Council passed a motion today to write a letter to the Electoral Boundary Review Commission stating their objection to the recommended realignment of local constituency boundaries. Council will urge the Commission to hold one of the proposed public hearings in the Grande Prairie area.

“It is imperative that the voice of every municipality, community group, and individual be heard in this important process,” emphasized Reeve Everett McDonald. “Not only is the enormous size of the proposed riding far too large for one person to represent, but it encompasses 20 per cent of the City.”

The interim report proposes a purely urban Grande Prairie riding and a new constituency called Beaverlodge-Valleyview which would encompass the County of Grande Prairie and the Municipal District of Greenview plus the northern area of the City (north of 116 Avenue, including Crystal Ridge and Crystal Lakes Estates).

“We will join forces with neighboring municipalities to ensure our opposition to this proposed realignment is clear and concise,” stated Reeve McDonald. “We must reinforce the fact that fair representation at the provincial government level is vitally important.”

The 2002/2003 review stated that “the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights is not equality of voting power per se, but the right to effective representation.”

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For further information, please contact:

Everett McDonald  
Reeve  
780-831-8590

