



GROW WITH US

Your future is here. We've planned for it. Our Economic Development Strategy – Prosperity 2020 - embraces diverse opportunities, built within a framework supported by a skilled and educated workforce and a population of more than 120,000 citizens. Centrally located along key transportation routes in southern Ontario we offer a competitive advantage of access to existing and emerging markets.

Guelph's varied economic landscape is renowned for fostering innovative technologies in the agri-food, life sciences, advanced manufacturing and environmental sectors. We have designed a future where growth is consciously feasible and sustainable, from our planned industrial developments to ongoing downtown intensification: we are building a smart future. With ready infrastructure and forecasted growth, we offer a quality of life in an atmosphere where we believe business prosperity and community development are sound investments.



LOCATION IS EVERYTHING

Location is the key to your business. Guelph is ideally positioned in the heart of Southern Ontario, just 100 km (60 miles) from the city of Toronto, 26 km (16 miles) to the Waterloo Region and 145 km (90 miles) to the United States border via Buffalo, New York. We are in close proximity to four domestic and international airports, (Toronto Island, Pearson, Waterloo and Hamilton). We have access to shipping ports through Hamilton, Niagara and Toronto. With linkages to international markets along major transportation routes via rail and Highway 401, Guelph is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada.

Not only are we a convenient launch pad for the import and export of goods and services, we are an easily accessible city. Over 60% of Canadians and 40% of Americans live within 800 km (500 miles) of Guelph, offering a convenient destination with solid opportunities for business growth.



Photos: (cover) Paddling at the Boathouse. (left page) Family on Heffernan walk bridge in Downtown Guelph.



A FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING

Investing in the future means investing in people. Guelph offers a holistic learning environment for any age and aptitude, through both traditional and alternative methods of self-development. Education is rooted in our progressive heritage of the University of Guelph, ranked one of Canada's top comprehensive educational institutions for student learning and innovative research. Post-secondary education is also offered through Conestoga College where comprehensive learning and skill development is pursued through an extensive range of college apprenticeship, diploma and degree programs.

Guelph offers progressive public education in both elementary and secondary schools, through the Upper Grand District School Board and the Wellington County Catholic School Board, opening new paths to knowledge that celebrate all learning styles and needs, including a Francophone school and others with full French Immersion programs. Our educational diversity also includes private and alternative schools with individual learning streams geared to high academic standards. Life-long learning happens here.





ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

Quality of life isn't something we say here; it's something we do. With the amenities of an urban centre and the atmosphere and connectedness of a small community, Guelph has been recognized for being a safe place for families to settle and an active place for people of all ages to call home. Connecting our neighbourhoods with 1000 hectares of parks and open spaces, and 70 km of trails linking our community to the Trans Canada Trail, our waterways, including the Speed and Eramosa rivers, unite us with our natural environment. Our public and sports facilities, local markets and heritage sites are where we gather. From the Goldie Mill and John McCrae House, to the Market Square Skating Rink and Water Park to the local bounty found at the Guelph Farmers' Market, we promote an active, balanced lifestyle. Guelph is a place to get rooted and grow your life.

A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

Guelph is a dynamic and creative city where arts collectives and heritage institutions, multi-cultural groups and even amateur and professional sports teams are weaved into the fabric of the community. Guelph's Hillside Festival and other events in dance, music, local food and culture have put us on the global map –attracting international artists to the city. The Sleeman Centre is the premiere location for sports and entertainment and home to Ontario Hockey League's (OHL), Guelph Storm and numerous concerts and events. Year round there is always something to see and do at local venues, including the River Run Centre, Guelph Civic Museum, MacDonald Stewart Art Centre and Hastings Baseball Stadium, to name a few, with everything from world-class theatre productions to gallery and museum exhibitions, music and arts festivals, to food and sporting events. We have built a city attractive to artists and patrons, athletes and spectators. It's a cultural landscape with something for everyone in every season.



Photos: (left page) Guelph Potter's Market. (above) Gadfly Dance Company at Guelph Contemporary Dance Festival, Woolwich Arrow, Guelph Storm (photo by Chris Tiessen)

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A GREENER TOMORROW

Guelph is committed to being a city where people can live, work and play in balance with their environment. We are committed to building a resilient future for our residents and the businesses that grow here through initiatives like our downtown intensification plan and our Go Service public transit infrastructure, connecting people and economies with the Greater Toronto Area. Guelph's award winning Community Energy Initiative is leading the charge in innovation and conservation, not just in strategy – but also in practice by ensuring

a sustainable energy future where we consume less energy in 25 years than we do today. Guelph has committed to investing in infrastructure that is leading the way globally in waste, composting and recycling, having diverted over two-thirds of our waste from the landfill to date. We continue to pursue emission reduction practices and pursue renewable energy, investing in a sustainable community for generations to come.



Photos: Bikes at University of Guelph (photo by Janet Gerrath),

8 Solar Panels (photo by Guelph Hydro), Hanlon Creek Business Park





BUILDING ON THE PAST

Guelph takes pride in the city's rich heritage, which dates back to the early 1800's. Our future plans include respecting our past experiences. Our city landscape is a blend of old and new, where heritage sites, homes and architectural infrastructure bring character to the modern infill neighbourhoods. Guelph will transform our community by making smart use of redevelopment lands, building mixed use community settings and new residential developments that complement our projected growth to ultimately enhance the characteristics of our city, and the quality of life for those who live, work and play here.

Photos: (left page, top left, clockwise) Hillside Festival (photo by Chris Tiessen), snow fort at City Hall, River Run Centre in Autumn. (this page) Douglas Street in Downtown Guelph.





Invest in Guelph is an initiative of the City of Guelph to position and promote Guelph Ontario as an investment ready and responsive community. For more information on the services offered by Guelph Enterprise Services please visit:

guelph.ca/biz



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