



Investor Community Profile



ONTARIO – CANADA





We invite you to choose Perth County, alongside the businesses that enjoy success and prosperity in our thriving region. Our businesses have mastered the balance of being technologically advanced and globally connected while maintaining local roots.

Perth County offers affordable development charges and land rates, modern infrastructure, a dedicated skilled workforce and passionate entrepreneurial spirit. Our robust, diversified economy has competitive advantages in manufacturing, agriculture, food processing, metal fabrication and tourism.

Our residents take pride in our unparalleled quality of life. Not only is Perth County a great place to invest, it is a great place to live!

TOP 10 REASONS TO LOCATE IN PERTH COUNTY



1. Economic Diversity

We are a dynamic, economically vibrant region that celebrates a diversity of businesses in agriculture, manufacturing, healthcare, professional services, construction, retail and tourism.

2. Business Opportunities

Over the past two years we have welcomed over 1,000 new businesses to our community.

3. Work-Life Balance

Our residents have time for life! They enjoy an average commute of 11 minutes vs. the Canadian average of 25 minutes.

4. Quality of Life

Over 90% of local businesses rate Perth County's quality of life as good or excellent!

5. Talented Workers

Our businesses tell us the top reasons to locate here are business environment, quality of life and our dedicated, skilled workforce.

6. Modern Infrastructure

We have an extensive modern telecommunications, hydro and natural gas infrastructure supported by strong local and national companies.

7. Strategic Location

Our location provides access to major Canadian and US markets including Toronto, Detroit, Buffalo and Port Huron, as well as an abundance of trade opportunities.

8. Competitive Cost of Doing Business

Perth County offers competitive land prices, development charges and municipal tax rates.

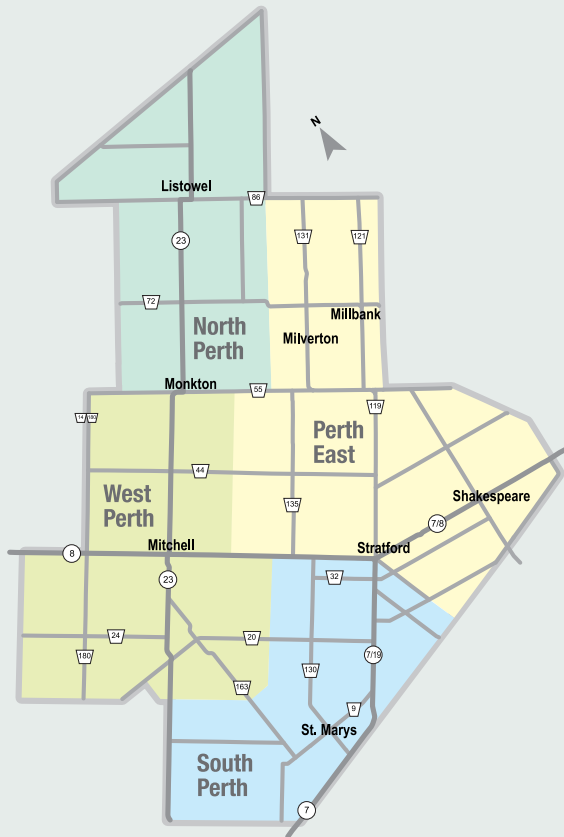
9. Booming Tourism

We welcome over 1.3 million visitors per year to our world class theatres, and to enjoy our cultural and culinary delights!

10. Environment of Innovation

We are doing amazing things with technology in agriculture and manufacturing, and winning global recognition for our innovation.





From Perth County	KM	Miles
Windsor	250	155
Alliston	152	94
Sarnia	150	93
Toronto	150	93
Mississauga	123	76
Hamilton	110	68
Kitchener/Waterloo	45	27
Buffalo	210	130
Detroit	244	152

*Perth County is centrally located and globally connected to serve your business!
Our offices will provide assistance based on sound information for you to make a
well-informed business decision.*

Strategic Access

With a regional population of 75,000, Perth County is conveniently situated in the heart of Southwestern Ontario with the North American Market at our doorstep.

The County's neighbouring regions of Waterloo, Oxford and London-Middlesex represent some of the fastest growing areas in the Province. They are home to over 500,000 people, leading Colleges, Universities and research institutes that represent a substantial market for labour, goods and services. Perth County offers industrial and business parks of various sizes and service requirements, in a range of locations to accommodate your expansion or new build.

Perth County is home to over 180 professional transportation and logistics companies to efficiently move your goods and products to local, regional and international markets, as well as access to superior supply chain solutions.

Highway 401 is the largest highway in Ontario and provides access to over half of Canada's population and the US border. Connected by Provincial Highways to Highway 401, we have access to over half of Canada's population and seamless integration with the U.S. transportation system, allowing you to reach important markets in North America and beyond.

Rail, Port & Air

Perth County is well served by both passenger and freight rail services and located within close proximity of international shipping ports.



Three carriers provide daily freight rail service to Perth County.



Perth County is conveniently located within a 1.5 hour drive of five international shipping ports.



There are five international airports that serve the region (all located within a 1.5 hour drive), including Stratford Municipal Airport, equipped to handle corporate, freight and recreational flights.



Rail Services	Info	Carrying
Via Rail Canada	www.viarail.ca	Passenger
Canadian Pacific Rail	www.cpr.ca	Goods
Canadian National Railway	www.cn.ca	Goods
Goderich-Exeter Railway Co.	www.gwrr.com	Goods

Airport Facilities
Toronto Pearson International Airport www.torontopearson.com
London International Airport www.flylondon.ca
Region of Waterloo International Airport www.waterlooairport.ca
Hamilton International Airport www.flyhi.ca
Stratford Municipal Airport www.stratfordcanada.ca

Port Facilities
Port of Goderich www.goderichport.ca
Sarnia www.sarnialambton.on.ca
Hamilton Port Authority www.hamiltonport.ca
Port Stanley www.centralelgin.org/content/port-stanley-harbour
Toronto Port Authority www.torontoport.com



OPPORTUNITY LIVES HERE

Perth County offers all the benefits of a small town lifestyle, without sacrificing any amenities. Explore the opportunities for building your life here!

We perfectly blend tradition with small town sincerity and our communities balance historic culture with modern amenities and progressive, forward thinking approaches.

Over 90% of local businesses rate Perth County's quality of life as excellent/good!

Local Food

Experience the flavours of Perth County. Home grown, fresh and tasty local delights, restaurants, shops and farmers' markets – we celebrate everything there is to love about food.

Perth County offers authentic culinary experiences: strawberry picking, farm fresh stands, six farmers markets, local cheese and food festivals. With Stratford at the culinary heart, our quality produce is the highlight of the authentic Stratford culinary experience that sets this region apart and attracts over a million visitors each year!

Orchestrated by world-class chefs, Perth County's fresh quality pork, beef, dairy and organic produce are showcased as the best in the Province.

Culture & Recreation

Perth County serves up a diverse range of memorable experiences for visitors and residents alike.

A study in contrasts: lush, rural farmland and backcountry roads intersect with historic architecture and vibrant downtowns. Seven golf courses, acres of parkland and natural areas take centre stage along side theatre, music, art and food. Local Amish and Mennonite populations showcase their fresh produce, baked goods, flowers and handcrafted furniture in local stores and at the farmgate.

Perth County has hundreds of kilometres of trails and 65 acres of wetlands, offering outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels a myriad of fitness and photography opportunities.

Recreation Facilities Include



8
Ice pads/
Arenas



10
Community
Centres



6
Swimming
Pools



26
Baseball
Diamonds



16
Soccer
Pitches



50km
of Hiking
Trails



262km
of Cycling
Trails



7
Tennis
Courts



7
Golf
Courses



Housing

Perth County offers historic charm and a range of community amenities for our happy residents. Our diversity in lifestyle opportunities has something for everyone. Choose from farm and rural living or more urban lifestyles in our 17 towns and villages.

Communities rich in architecture and culture provide a home base to build a life, offering a range of housing to suit any style and budget. Starter homes and executive upgrades are available within our vibrant, liveable communities.

Housing in our communities is among the most affordable in South-western Ontario. The average sale price of a single-detached dwelling in the County is \$237,288¹.

2013 Average House Price (Single Detached)	
Perth County Average	\$249,700
St. Marys	\$250,160
London-St. Thomas	\$261,051
Stratford	\$263,116
Guelph	\$322,949
Kitchener-Waterloo	\$387,130
Provincial Average	\$394,248
National Average	\$398,894
Greater Toronto Area Average	\$683,468

¹ Huron Perth Real Estate Board, 2013 YTD

Source: Homeprice Index, Huron-Perth Real Estate Board



INFRASTRUCTURE

Perth County offers modern infrastructure, extensive supply chain and competitive business costs to support your business success.

Our office is here to help you identify locations and opportunities for realizing success in Perth County!

Telecom

Perth County enjoys a rural lifestyle while being globally connected. The availability of high-speed wireless and broadband service is available to over 99% of residents in both rural and urban centres.

Ongoing investments in fibre infrastructure are being made by a number of progressive regional and national telecommunications companies to ensure Perth County is connected to global markets.

Hydro and Natural Gas

Reliable consistent energy sources are a strength for Ontario, including the most affordable natural gas rates in North America and a commitment to clean and renewable hydro.

You will get more for your money in Perth County where labour, corporate income tax rates and property taxes are among the most competitive in North America.





Education

Perth County leads the Province in delivering high quality education!

Two progressive school boards are cultivating the potential of our future generation. The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board is one of the highest achieving boards in Ontario and the Avon Maitland School Board delivers unique Distance and International Education Programs.

The University of Waterloo Stratford Campus challenges students to create, examine and commercialise opportunities in the digital media space, and their graduates are being recruited internationally by well-known leading companies.

The Stratford Chef's School has been producing the next generation of world class chefs for 30 years.

High quality trades programs are ensuring that a skilled workforce is available to serve our local industry.

Health Care

With hospitals in Listowel, Stratford and St. Mary's, offering emergency, surgical, paediatrics and medical imaging, the region benefits from high quality, patient-centred care.

Large regional health care centres in London and Kitchener further support core programs offered in Perth County's area hospitals.

Family practice teams and general physicians are located in most communities, supported by other practitioners such as dentists, physiotherapists, nutritionists and a wide range of holistic care professionals.

Extensive Supply Chain Support

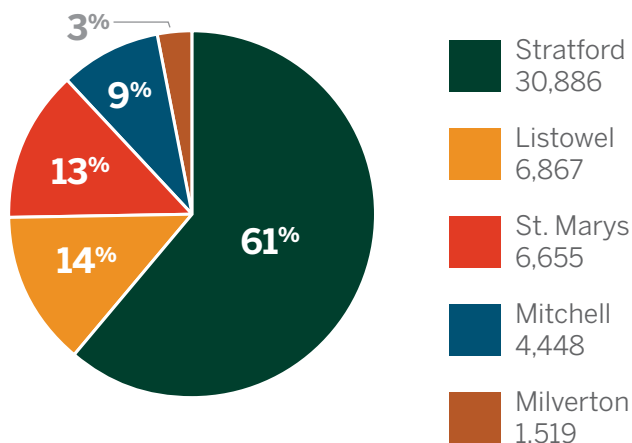
Our region has proven strengths in serving industry including over 180 firms with supply chain solutions including processors, warehousing, equipment, distribution, storage and transportation.



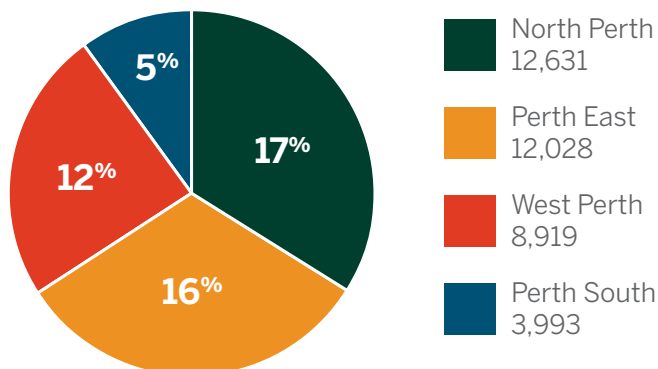
DEMOGRAPHICS

Perth County has the talented workers you need to power your business, providing a higher proportion of workers with trades and college certificates than the Ontario average.

Most Populated Urban Areas



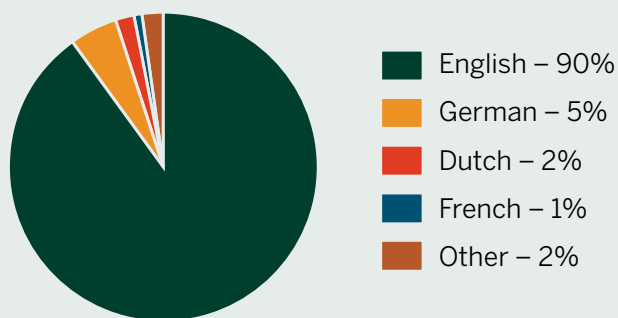
Perth County Population Distribution



Source: Canada Census data 2011

PERTH COUNTY POPULATION: QUICK STATS

Mother Tongue Languages



56% of the population is in the labour force

Since 1996, the population has grown by **4%**

62% of the labour force has a post-secondary education

Source: Canada Census data 2011

Population

Perth County's regional population in 2011 was 75,112. Approximately 50% of which reside in Stratford and St. Marys. The remaining 50% resides in the other four municipalities that comprise Perth County and include the urban areas of Listowel, Milverton, Atwood, Monkton, Shakespeare and Mitchell.

The County consists of a diverse multicultural make up with English constituting the majority group, followed by German, Dutch and French natives. More recently, the region has been welcoming an increasing number of new Canadians seeking the quality lifestyle offered in this region.

Our communities are making consistent investments to ensure we remain attractive places to live. We are investing in new recreational facilities, downtown beautification and new infrastructure to remain competitive.

Labour Force

A hardworking, dedicated and skilled workforce is at the heart of Perth County and is a differentiating factor, ensuring the County remains competitive within local and global markets.

Overall, Perth County enjoys higher participation and employment rates than the Province of Ontario as a whole. Employers in Perth County regard the work ethic of their staff as being a critical factor to their success.

Agriculture, professional services, health care and social services represent the sectors with the highest growth rates locally.

The manufacturing sector is the largest employer in the region, employing 30% more people than health care and social services.

There are 8,500 jobs in green and technology-based manufacturing in the region.

Labour Force by Occupation, Perth County

Occupation	# Employed	% of Workforce
Sales and Service	8,840	21.1%
Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators	7,620	18.2
Business, Finance and Administration	5,600	13.4
Management Occupations	5,130	12.2
Manufacturing and Utilities	4,065	9.7
Education, Law, Social, Government & Community Services	3,560	8.5
Health Occupations	2,805	6.7
Natural Resources, Agriculture & Related Occupations	1,660	4.0
Natural and Applied Sciences	1,525	3.6
Art, Culture, Recreation & Sport	1,075	2.6
Total	41,880	100.0%

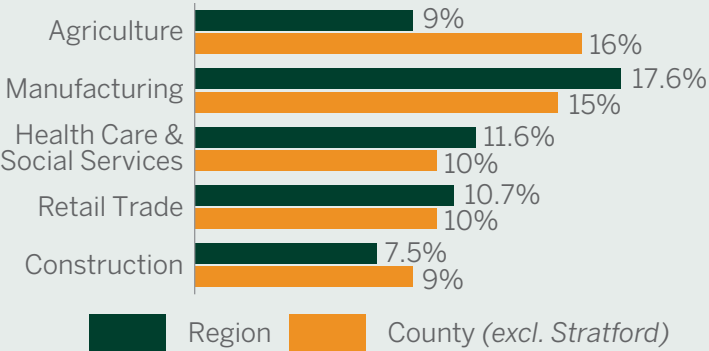
Canada NHS, 2011 for Perth County Census Division

Labour Force Participation Rates

	Perth County, CD	Ontario
In the Labour Force	42,455	6,864,990
Participation Rate	71%	65.5%
Employment Rate	67.1%	60.1%
Unemployment Rate	5.5%	8.3%

Source: Canada NHS data 2011

Labour Force by Industry (Top 5)



Source: Canada NHS data 2011



Perth County is home to over 7,000 businesses. In the past two years we have welcomed over 1,000 new and start-up businesses.

Our diverse economy is comprised of agriculture, manufacturing, construction, retail and healthcare.

Within these sectors we have strong competitive advantages in advanced manufacturing, metal fabricating, food processing and green products.

Perth County businesses are leaders, using technology and innovation to make global impacts on the world stage.

Agri-Business

Perth County is one of Ontario's most productive agricultural regions and home to world leading farm production, food processing and agri-business.

With a rich agricultural tradition stretching back over 170 years, Perth County is a prime location to establish or invest in an agri-business. Surrounded by 200,000 hectares of prime agricultural land, the County produces over \$730 million in cash farm receipts². This history of tradition blends with a culture of innovation, producing high quality outputs utilising progressive, sustainable practices.

The County has proudly sprouted numerous winners of the Ontario Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence.

Perth County's vast opportunities for value-added agriculture and agri-business include:

- Food processing and handling facilities
- Farm equipment and parts manufacturing
- Green energy and bio-crops
- Bio-based materials & product manufacturing
- Genetics and research facilities

Agriculture and Agri-food sector employs over 4,000 people and is 16% of the County's labour force.



Manufacturing

Perth County's manufacturing sector produces quality products in a range of industries. Their success results from a commitment to quality, on-time delivery and exemplary customer service in Ontario and Global markets.

Seventeen percent of the regional labour force is employed in the manufacturing sector in over 300 small, medium and large businesses.

Proximity to the United States and key Ontario markets, the adoption of advanced capabilities and a dedicated labour force are driving factors of success in Perth County.



MADE IN PERTH COUNTY

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ● Automotive components and parts | ● Precision and custom metal fabrication |
| ● Feed and animal pharmaceuticals | ● Engineering & Machining |
| ● Food processing | ● Green products and technology |
| ● Architectural and structural metals | ● Agri-food products |
| ● Concrete | ● Textiles |

² OMAFRA Census of Agriculture, 2012

Arts, Culture & Tourism

Perth County and Stratford attract over one million visitors each year, contributing millions of dollars to the local economy.

Our visitors enjoy exploring the quaint shops of our historic downtowns while sampling our local culinary delights. Local festivals, fairs and markets are popular destinations for visitors to take in our small town charm and fresh local flavours.

Perth County's eco-minded communities have worked hard to preserve the natural state of their magnificent

parks, trails and wetlands, ensuring ample recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels.

Arts and Culture is a foundational base for tourism in Perth County. Home to talented visual artists, writers, actors, music and film production companies, as well as Canada's most famous Shakespearean theatre in Stratford. Collectively, we serve up a diverse range of memorable experiences and opportunities for tourism and recreation-based business investment.



Arts, culture and tourism represent 4,000 jobs in the regional economy.

Construction

Perth County's vibrant construction industry is home to over 600 specialised trade and construction companies offering quality experience in residential, commercial, agriculture, industrial, institutional, civil and roadway construction.

A progressive, dedicated construction sector supports growth in the region with yearly construction values for industrial, commercial and institutional projects in the County exceeding \$30 million each of the past three years.

Major specialised industrial and commercial contractors in Perth County include:

- Looby Construction (Ellis Don)
- McLean Taylor Construction
- Iron Bridge
- FGC Construction
- Finnbilt Contracting
- Van Pelt Construction
- Gaffney Construction

Over time, Perth County has built the corporate capacity and the skilled workforce in order to meet the challenges of a strong construction sector.





Freelance Professionals

The quality infrastructure and unparalleled lifestyle in Perth County allows you the flexibility to live locally and work globally.

Illustrators, writers, analysts, artists, accountants, trainers, consultants and a host of other professionals call Perth County their home and embrace the exciting lifestyle opportunities that the County offers.

Wake up in a historical home and breathe clean air; walk out one's front door and grab a latte without fighting through traffic congestion; wave to a neighbour and

be greeted by name in return. Build your life in a region that others choose as an escape from crowded cities.

Freelance Professionals will find:

- Lifestyle and local amenities
- Quality telecommunications services
- Progressive local education
- A safe place to live
- Thriving arts and local food culture
- Rail service
- Diverse housing options at affordable prices

*Over the past two years we welcomed
1,000 new and start-up businesses.*



Services Sector

While Perth County's economy has strong roots in agriculture and manufacturing, we continue to experience growth in our creative and cultural industries.

Perth County has representation of all major financial banks with local branches located in the communities that comprise Perth. North Perth is home to the head office for Trillium Mutual Insurance and large centres for RBC and Scotiabank are located in Stratford.

Over 1,700 service-based businesses provide the integral services needed to support the industries and residents of Perth County, including:

- Finance
- Technology and digital media
- Transportation
- Warehousing and logistics
- Hospitality
- Professional services



OUR BUSINESSES



Perth County prides itself on the quality leadership demonstrated by our business community. Many of our companies have enjoyed success here for generations and are undertaking ground breaking new developments to secure their future.

Our businesses in all sectors continue to set themselves apart from the competition. From robotics to animal pharmaceuticals, auto parts to farm equipment, our businesses have adopted technology and positioned themselves as community leaders. They adhere to rigorous customer service and quality standards.

Proud of their roots, our businesses invite you to find out why they choose to remain planted here and to continue to grow their businesses in Perth County.

Friendly Business Climate

The County of Perth offers a competitive, vibrant environment to promote growth and investment. Over 90% of businesses rate Perth County's quality of life as excellent/good. Similarly, our businesses consistently rate Perth County as a favourable place to run a business.

You get more for your money in Perth County with affordable property tax rates, support for new and expanding businesses, competitive lease rates and land prices.

Our business environment is as progressive as it is diverse, with companies in manufacturing, agriculture,

food processing, construction, information, telecommunications, tourism, business services and cultural sectors.

In addition, we have a wide range of retail services forming the foundation of Perth County's economy.

Perth County enjoys a diversified economy that has seen consistent growth. Between 2013 and 2014, Perth County grew by over 1,000 new businesses!

The initial investment costs to locate here are highly affordable and competitive.

Tax Rate Comparison Data (2013)

Region	Industrial	New Construction (Industrial)
Perth County- North Perth	1.35%	1.35%
Goderich	2.82	2.82
Perth County - Milverton	3.06	3.06
Perth County - South Perth	3.14	2.80
Perth County - West Perth	3.24	2.90
Waterloo	3.46	3.12
Kitchener	3.51	3.17
London	4.15	3.81
Woodstock	5.00	4.66
Stratford	5.02	4.68
Ingersoll	5.12	4.78

Source: Municipal Websites

Business Opportunities

Perth County Council, our communities and economic development staff are committed to fostering a strong infrastructure for sustainable economic growth.

Perth County's dedicated skilled labour force, healthcare and leisure services, expanding housing sector, competitive business environment and readily available amenities are just a few of the reasons why our business enjoy success.

We are honoured to be the ambassadors of economic development within the County, creating the jobs that establish legacies, which in turn helps our County to climb to the top of the list of leaders in a wide range of industries.

We invite you to explore the reasons our local businesses have achieved success. Our office is here to provide you with the right amount of guidance you need to start from scratch or continue to grow from what you've already achieved within our community.

Reach out to us for any work-related needs and see how we cultivate opportunities. Your business is our pleasure.

Find out more about some of the companies that chose to move to or start their business in Perth County.



Top Employers

Employers	# of Employees
Maple Leaf Foods	550
Listowel Technology Inc.	450
Spinrite Inc.	430
Cooper Standard Automotive	280
Erie Meat Products Ltd.	250
Parmalat	180
Armtech-Durisol	150
Ideal Supply Company Ltd. head office	115
McLean Taylor Construction	110
FGC Construction	100





TESTIMONIALS

Listowel Technology, Inc.

Listowel Technology, Inc. (LTI) is a world-class manufacturer of automotive parts. Manufacturing plastic components exclusively for Honda, they serve a North American market from Perth County.

"North Perth was a natural fit with our industry. Perth County has great infrastructure provided by the municipality, is close to transportation corridors, offers good working relationships with local government officials and, most importantly, has a qualified and educated labour force with great work ethics. These are the factors that have contributed to our very competitive situation, ensuring a successful business for our shareholders." says Blair Burns, Manager of Human Resources.

Since its inception, LTI has experienced steady growth and success over the past 18 years.

The company's success is also driven by progressive commitment to provide safe, quality working conditions for its employees. LTI has achieved 1.1 million hours without a lost time accident. LTI's combined commitment to innovation, the community, as well as the environment contributes to their competitive strength as an industry leader.

Nuhn Industries Ltd.

Nuhn Industries Ltd. is a third generation, family-owned business in Perth East. Founded in 1902 by Ian's grandfather as a blacksmith shop, Nuhn industries has emerged as a leading edge developer of farm equipment. Their lagoon crawler has won awards in two subsequent years at the North American farm show. And they don't plan to stop there. The company is currently planning a 30,000 square foot additon to their 66,000 square foot facility in Perth East.

Dennis continually redesigns his products to maintain Nuhn Industries Ltd.'s reputation as a leading innovator in the industry. He strives to provide today's farmers with the largest capacity, most efficient and most reliable equipment. Today, Nuhn Industries Ltd. continues to expand and increase its market share throughout North America, Latin America, Japan and Africa.

"Being in this area is a huge benefit for the field of work we're in. The strong tech-push at the highschoools ensures that we have access to the very high skilled welders, machinists and workers we need. Because it is a small community we can go to town hall meetings to move things ahead." says Ian Nuhn, Vice-President of Nuhn Industries. "It helps to know people. The municipality puts a high value on having business in the area."



BioAgriMix

Located in Mitchell Ontario, BioAgriMix has grown considerably from the 500 square feet they started out in thirty years ago. Now ISO 9001 certified and recognised by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Health Canada and the United States Federal Drug Administration (FDA), BioAgriMix is Canada's largest producer of Animal Pharmaceutical products.

Their commitment to quality, leading edge research, ethical business practices and location in the heart of farming-country has contributed to their success. Keeping ahead of industry trends is in their culture and BioAgriMix holds the safety of animals, workers and consumers of highest importance. The passion of the team at BioAgriMix is a key factor in their success.

"The Work ethic is very strong. A lot of our people have been with us a long time, which provides a strong base from which to grow." says Paul Lake, President of BioAgriMix. "Perhaps the biggest plus of being located in Perth County is the working relationship with the municipality and the willingness of their staff to work with you. There is a "Can Do" approach to help you with any issues you run up against."

Quadro Communications Co-operative Inc.

In Perth South, Quadro Communications Co-operative Inc. is stepping up to help make sure local communities are connected and competitive. Their mandate is to reinvest into the community, removing the profit driven pressures of larger communications companies. Its traditional roots haven't held Quadro back from becoming one of the leaders of modern fibre and wireless infrastructure in Ontario.

Over the past 8 years, Quadro has worked to lay fibre throughout Perth South. This investment has come with a cost of approximately \$10 million, resulting in a connected rural area that is unrivalled in most parts of Ontario.

Quadro's General Manager – John DeHeer identifies some of their competitive advantages. Their use of state of the art construction equipment allows for a "barely there" footprint when laying the fibre to the home and business.

"A commitment to exceptional customer service is top of the list for Quadro" says John DeHeer, and is essential to success in small communities. Companies like Quadro are leading the way, ensuring Perth County is a connected community... one sideroad at a time.



Iron Bridge Fabrication

With over 17 years of experience in creating durable bridges and custom fabrications, Iron Bridge Fabrication chose to relocate its business to Perth County. Attracted by affordable low tax rates, available real estate and an eager skilled work force, owner Mike Haid made the decision to establish roots here.

"One of the benefits of being in Perth County for my company is the strong work ethic and commitment to the job of the local workforce" says Mike Haid, owner of Iron Bridgeworks Fabrication.

According to Mike, being in a rural environment is perfect for his company and has never been an obstacle to growth. With projects as far away as Edmonton and a staff of thirty, Perth County definitely suits this young, rapidly growing company.

Iron Bridge has plans to grow its staff, including adding to its team of skilled metal fabricators to meet growing demand. The company's home-grown entrepreneurial spirit and quality products have made a mark on landscapes across Canada.

Goettler's Fine Furniture

The Goettler family, from Dublin, Ontario, has been successfully keeping ahead of retail trends since 1952, growing Goettler's Fine Furniture from a grass roots furniture store to an ecommerce-preneur.

G.G. Goettler of Dublin began as a Red & White grocery store. Seeing an opportunity to fill a local need, they began to sell La-Z-Boy chairs and took the leap from groceries to fine furniture.

Today Goettlers continues to grow and thrive in "Ontario's Furniture Village". The brand strives to firmly position a small village of approximately 350 people in the Ontario retail furniture landscape. The 30,000 square foot store currently showcases over forty major brands. The launch of new online stores pushes the business in a new direction once again and a prolific social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Houzz, Pinterest and Vine drives new customers to discover their quality products.

"I was pleased with the local availability of technology and talent needed to take Goettler's online." says Steve Goettler, President of Goettler's Fine Furniture. "I plan to increase our online offerings to continue to grow the Goettler brand right here in Perth County."



EFS plastics Inc.

EFS plastics Inc. is a post-consumer plastic recycling and reprocessing company, specialising in mixed plastic and film (shopping bag) recycling. EFS produces high quality pellets which can replace virgin plastic by up to 100% in the manufacture of plastic bags, tool boxes, piping and other consumer products. This diverts over 12,000 metric tons/year of mixed plastics and shopping bags from landfills.

EFS does their part for the environment by saving the energy of more than 1,500 4-person households every year! EFS was one of the first businesses to locate in the North Perth business park.

Lower taxes in North Perth was one factor for choosing the new location, but there were other considerations as well. These include the availability of wastewater treatment facilities and fiber optic internet connections, which are important both for the process as well as their daily business needs.

"The location is central for many of our employees. As well the Municipality was very helpful and quick in assisting us. The taxes are competitive and we got a good deal for the land" says Martin Vogt, President of EFS plastics.

Gildale Farms

Innovation isn't new to Perth County businesses and Gildale farms is leading the way. Serving an Ontario market from their location in Perth South, this multi-generation business is an innovator in developing bio-mass and green energy products. The company produces wood pellets and animal bedding from sawdust by-products from timber mills and furniture manufacturing, creating quality energy-efficient fuel products.

Located within 30 minutes of London and 2 hours from the Greater Toronto Area, "Perth County provides a secure base for our operations with a diverse and comprehensive supportive business community" says Scott Abercrombie, President of Gildale Farms.

Driven by a commitment to customer service and environmental sustainability, Gildale farms produces 5,000 tons of wood pellets each year. They have seen rapid growth over the past nine years and they don't have plans to stop. Gildale is committed to the future and is seeking to explore new sustainable products and opportunities that might arise with Biomass crops. "There is no doubt that the future is exciting for our company. We are proud to be located in Perth south and there is no doubt that this has contributed to our company's success" says Scott.





OUR COMMUNITIES

North Perth

Whether a sports enthusiast, supporter of the arts, history buff or someone that loves to shop, North Perth offers something for everyone!

North Perth is home to 12,600 residents and is the fastest growing community in Perth County. The major urban centre in North Perth is Listowel, which has a thriving, active downtown and diverse retail offerings as well as being a regional commercial and service hub for nearby communities in Huron and Wellington Counties.

North Perth is home to companies such as Trillium Mutual Head office, Listowel Technologies, Erie Meats, Spinrite Yarns and large national retailers.

Creative cultural industries contribute greatly to Listowel's success, as it is home to many talented visual artists who are showcased annually as part of the region's Studio Tour. Theatre 311 is a well-respected venue for live theatre, drawing on local talent and actors from surrounding cities.

With a range of commercial and industrial locations available, North Perth is ready to welcome new business. Their 57 acre business park is attracting new industries from across the region.

Perth East

Whatever one's business interests are, Perth East has something for everyone.

With a population of 12,000 people, Perth East is a geographically large and diverse area, known for their unique Amish and Mennonite communities.

Metal fabrication businesses dot the landscape of Perth East and innovative leading companies include Nuhn Industries, Iron Bridge Fabrication, Quality Fertilizers and Mornington Communications.

Each of the communities that comprise Perth East offers their own unique character. The bustling shops of Milverton, Millbank, Sebringville and Shakespeare feature specialty foods, antiques, unique clothing and gifts as well as charming restaurants; all in close proximity to the tourist delights of Stratford.

Perth East is home to Anna Mae's Restaurant and Bakery, a family run business that takes pride in offering homemade meals, fresh pies and various baked goods. Anna Mae's produces over 80,000 pies a year from its rural location in Millbank, and has recently been featured on the 'You Gotta Eat Here!' TV show.



West Perth

Opportunities are endless in West Perth where one can find the perfect location for their business within a close distance to all major markets.

With a population of just under 10,000, West Perth is located within 40 minutes of London and an easy commute to Stratford. West Perth has a market trade area of over 40,000 people located within 15 minutes. A vibrant community with commercial and industrial locations available for one's business needs, including space in the quaint and historic downtowns of Mitchell and Dublin.

West Perth is home to numerous industries that include Cooper Standard Automotive, Armtec Durisol, Parmalat, Sofina and leading Animal Pharmaceutical producer BioAgriMix.

Mitchell's small town ambience plays host to a unique selection of everything from designer clothing to home decor, pet supplies to hardware supplies and bicycles to motorcycles.

West Perth celebrates its natural wetlands and trails offering birding and recreational opportunities.

Perth South

With the highest average household income in Perth County, Perth South residents enjoy a high standard of living.

Being the smallest municipality in Perth County (population of 3,993 people) doesn't mean that Perth South doesn't have a great deal to offer its residents and businesses.

Innovation abounds in the entrepreneurs that call Perth South home and who have started businesses to serve the region. With proximity to London and Ingersoll, businesses such as Maple Leaf Foods, Klomps Nursery, McCully's Hill Farms, C'est Bon Cheese, McLean Taylor Construction and Hoffmeyers Mill have made a name for themselves well beyond Perth County.

Smaller innovative food and agri-businesses produce artisanal cheeses and biofuels that serve larger Ontario markets. A largely rural community, Perth South has a broad base of fibre available to homes and businesses, provided by community-owned Quadro Communications, connecting these successful businesses to their worldwide customers.





Perth County's member municipalities strive to provide policy and regulations that are supportive of business investment. Councils at the Municipal and County levels work closely with staff to ensure that a seamless development processes, reasonable development charges and competitive tax rates are in place.

Perth County has competitive land costs and minimal to no development charges. Connection to municipal services is available in our larger urban areas, as well as key services such as hydro, natural gas and modern telecommunications.

This results in competitive advantages when developing a commercial or industrial project in Perth County.

Strategic Partnerships

Our office works with a number of Strategic Partners to provide customized relevant support to industry and business, including:

Perth Community Futures Development Corporation
Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce
North Perth Chamber of Commerce
Perth County Visitors Association
Stratford Perth Centre for Business
Stratford Accelerator Centre:
SWEA – Southwest Economic Alliance
Technical Training Group
Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs
Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Affairs
Invest in Ontario

Total Number of Businesses Per Sector

Sector	# of Businesses
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	2,330
Construction	773
Real estate and rental and leasing	692
Retail trade	640
Other services (except public administration)	462
Professional, scientific and technical services	452
Health care and social assistance	342
Finance and insurance	331
Manufacturing	310
Transportation and warehousing	285
Accommodation and food services	265
Wholesale trade	248
Arts, entertainment and recreation	172
Management of companies and enterprises	166
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	166
Educational services	52
Information and cultural industries	43
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	14
Utilities	12
Public administration	8

Source: Canada NHS data 2011



The Economic Development Office provides a responsive service and develops programs and policy to support the viability and economic growth of the communities in Perth County.

Our office is honored to be the ambassador of economic development within the County, creating the jobs that establish legacies, which in turn help our County climb to the top of the list of leaders in a wide range of industries.

Our office works in partnership with a number of local and provincial organizations to connect you with local services and resources.

We invite you to contact us. We're here to provide the guidance you need to locate and grow in Perth County.

Collectively we're here to support you with:

- Site selection and location
- Access to grant and loan programs
- Statistics, maps, demographic and community information
- Connections to local landowners, developers, municipal officials and real estate
- Business start-up and expansion resources
- Stratford Accelerator Centre
- Labour strategies
- Training providers







YOUR BUSINESS IS OUR PLEASURE

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