Top 10

Reasons to invest Stratford



Stratford offers world-leading digital infrastructure with smart technologies that advance industry and business innovation.

Home to the Stratford Festival, the University of Waterloo Stratford School of Interaction Design and Business and a wide range of global industries, Stratford is ideally located within Ontario's largest information technology cluster and North America's largest automotive cluster. Directly connected to the Toronto-Waterloo Region Innovation Corridor, Stratford offers access to advanced innovation, talent and growth potential.



City-wide Wifi and Fibre Optic Broadband Connectivity: Stratford's advanced infrastructure of integrated broadband fibre and highspeed Wifi platform provides internet connectivity throughout Stratford. The municipally-owned Rhyzome Network's underground fibre-optic grid combines with a city-wide Wi-Fi mesh network to provide internet connectivity anywhere in the City.



Internationally Renowned for Culture: Stratford is an international destination with a thriving cultural economy. The world famous Stratford Festival is one of Canada's leading tourist attractions generating \$140 million in economic activity, \$65 million in taxes and 3,000 direct and indirect jobs.



Secure Power Supply: Stratford's unique "self-healing" power grid delivers a 99.98% reliable power supply that automatically reconfigures routing within 30 seconds of a power outage. Energy services are managed and delivered by municipally-owned Festival Hydro. The City's redundant supply runs through two transmission sources and two power transformers.



Higher Education and Skills Training: Stratford has the University of Waterloo School of Interaction Design & Business, a Conestoga College campus and four other universities located within an hour drive to educate the community and attract skilled labour to our area.



Innovation Ecosystem: Repeatedly ranked as among World's Top Smart Cities by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF), and home to the University of Waterloo Stratford School of Interaction Design and Business, Stratford presents competitive advantages in the Broadband Economy through entrepreneurship, technology, collaboration, innovation and leadership.



Available Business Expansion Lands: Stratford's two progressive Business Parks, Crane Avenue West and Wright Boulevard, offer premium development ready lands at competitive rates. Businesses can access government funding programs, loans, tax incentives, local energy efficiency and environmental programs.



International Transportation Corridors and Innovation Clusters: Stratford offers easy central access to several of the world's fastest growing markets including the Toronto-Waterloo Region Innovation Corridor. With connected access routes to Highway 401, the City is less than a three-hour drive from over 6 million customers and five major border crossings to the United States.



Progressive Municipal Leadership: Stratford's City leadership has strategically invested in infrastructure and services that support innovation and economic growth. Large and small businesses benefit from numerous ongoing initiatives that sustain Stratford's ongoing growth and development.



High Quality of Life: Stratford offers state of the art medical and recreation facilities, an abundance of natural surroundings, walkable parks, quality schools, shopping, dining and leisure options. It is ranked in the Top 15 Best Places to Live in Canada and 4th Best Place to Retire in Canada by MoneySense Magazine (2016).



Global Business Initiatives: Stratford's digital infrastructure advances industry and business innovation. Exciting new initiatives benefit from a strategic location within Ontario's largest Information Technology cluster and North America's largest Automotive cluster. Stratford is home to international manufacturers such as Aisin, Dynamig, FIO andSchaeffler Aerospace.

Contact us for:

- Development approvals process assistance
- Connections to local, provincial and federal governments
- Information on government funding programs, loans, tax incentives
- Local energy efficiency and environmental programs