## St.Thomas

ONTARIO, CANADA

# where possibility lives









Brain in Bloom - Megan Claire Kehoe

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### From our President

Economic development is at the heart of community building, and cultivating lasting relationships with business enterprises offering meaningful employment is paramount for our collective success.

When we foster a healthy environment for interested businesses to relocate, for existing ones to remain, and for entrepreneurs to launch their new ventures, we also enable our residents to provide for themselves and their loved ones.

Our dedicated team at the St. Thomas EDC believes in building for more than provision.

With a passionate, yet strategic, approach to growth – one which supports small business development, industrial/commercial/retail expansion, workforce development and tourism, we remain focused on building a comprehensive and diverse community which thrives alongside our citizens.

Just as the needs of business are constantly evolving, we continue to adapt and innovate. By identifying emerging trends across a broad spectrum of commerce, we remain in tune with the needs of current and future employers.

St. Thomas is a community originally built by the railroad – full of expectation and opportunity. That 'iron spirit' hasn't diminished ... and the heartbeat you hear may just be your 'new place to grow'.

I'm extremely proud of the accomplishments of our award-winning EDC team, and welcome you to explore what our unique Railway City has to offer!

Robert Furneaux

President of the Board

St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation

#### 05 WHY ST. THOMAS

There are lots of incredible reasons to make St. Thomas home but we'll start with a brief overview

#### 10 TRANSPORTATION

Once you are here, you'll want to know how to get your product around

#### 13 COMMUNITY

Because choosing a location is about more than work - it's about building a life

#### 16 WORKFORCE

Skilled and engaged, you'll find an overview of what the St. Thomas and area workforce has to offer

#### 21 INFRASTRUCTURE

Working together to keep your business in motion.

#### 25 HOUSING

So Much More Life to offer

#### 29 CONTACT



Joe Preston, Mayor - City of St. Thomas

On behalf of the Corporation of the City of St. Thomas, I am pleased to welcome you to the Railway City! Located in the heart of Canada's industrial heartland. St. Thomas strategically positioned businesses can access and serve the global community. We are home to the St. Thomas Municipal Airport and have convenient rail and highway transportation options.

The City of St. Thomas is positioned for unprecedented growth and our City Council has a determined focus on attracting and supporting this growth we are anticipating.

We are committed through our service delivery, community partnerships, and regional collaboration efforts support a positive business climate to help position our community for long-term success.

St. Thomas City Council and our Economic Development Corporation work in concert to make it easy for small and medium-sized businesses, as well as large companies, to discover our local resources establish and healthy foundations so that they can succeed.

The City of St. Thomas is always changing. With change comes opportunities, that is why our City Council focuses on service excellence. We're continually investing in our infrastructure and ensuring that we reduce red tape wherever possible to make sure our business community can thrive.

As Mayor, I am always here to assist residents and members of our business community. I welcome the opportunity to further discuss with you all the great things that the City of St. Thomas has to offer.

## Why St. Thomas?

In St. Thomas, we are a small city in between big places. We are not Toronto or Niagara Falls. What we are is authentic. Our heritage laces everything we do. Our industrious spirit moves us forward.

We are colourful, our stories are real, but most of all we are friendly as heck.

You're invited to stay awhile and journey with us through the farmland and forests of Ontario's Southwest to the historic and vibrant Railway City.

Welcome to St. Thomas – where the tracks meet and possibility awaits.

#### **Advantages**

Key advantages to calling St. Thomas home include:

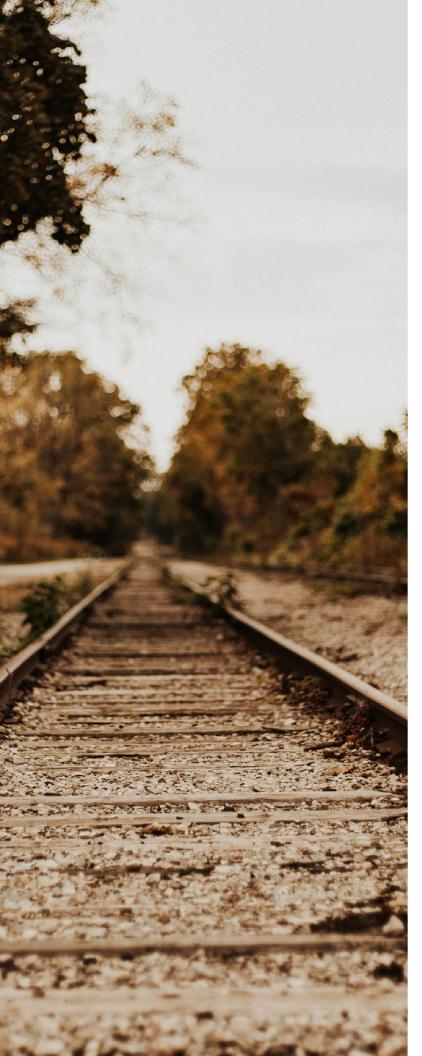
- A well-trained and experienced regional workforce with a traditional work ethic consistent with the City's agricultural and manufacturing history and wellaccustomed to working in a variety of processing, manufacturing, and office environments.
- A central location in the heart of Ontario's manufacturing corridor, approximately 15km (10 miles) from both Highway 401 and Lake Erie.
- Connected to the world via Highways 401, 402 & 403, along with quick connections to sea and airports alike.
- Easy access to a number of key post-secondary institutions, including Western University in London and local campuses of Fanshawe College.
- Costs that are significantly lower than those in larger centres for over a decade, a popular advertising campaign has stated that there is "25% More Life in St. Thomas".







5



## **Our Region**

#### **Coastal Living**

St. Thomas is located in the heart of a much larger community. The city enjoys one of the most moderate climates in Canada. The effect of proximity to Lake Erie helps to avoid extreme temperature fluctuations that are often common occurrences in other parts of Ontario. This allows residents to fully enjoy the many recreational opportunities in the area. The beaches on Lake Erie's north shore offer the perfect place to relax in the summer, while the city's extensive parks and trails system allows residents and visitors to remain active and enjoy nature.

#### **Agriculture**

The temperate climate makes for one of the most fertile agricultural regions around. The contribution of our local farmers draws culinary artists from across the globe to create diverse and flavourful dining and shopping opportunities. Our Horton Farmers' Market has been a tradition 140 years in the making.

#### Lifestyle

Local residents enjoy an unsurpassed quality of life with affordable homes in safe communities, a rich cultural heritage, and a small-city lifestyle with easy access to several large urban centres.

There are a number of excellent golf courses in the area, ranging in beauty and difficulty. At more than 120 years old, the Stanley Thompson-designed St. Thomas Golf and Country Club has recently been ranked in the top 40 courses in Canada by Score Golf Magazine. The exclusive Redtail Golf Club, located just outside the City, was ranked in the top 20 on the same list.

Big City Amenities -Community Atmosphere

#### Geography

St. Thomas was built as a transportation hub with 8 railways operating over 100 trains a day by 1914. The passenger trains may be gone, but nestled equidistant between Toronto and Detroit, we remain in a strong position to keep your supply chain in motion.









#### **Central Location**

St. Thomas is located in the middle of everywhere while still being a place all its own. Located midway between Toronto and Detroit with easy access to major highway networks, International Airports and more - we are a gem of a location for your next big move.

Why St. Thomas? Because you can't be everywhere, but you can be at the centre of everything to enjoy city life, country drives, and one of the best coastlines on the Great Lakes.

#### Climate

Lush rolling landscapes and fertile soil surround the City in an area boasting temperate weather. The Climate, moderated by the Great Lakes, creates an unparalleled opportunity for agriculture and food production.

And if food isn't your business, it means fresh easy access for your family to high-quality produce and a growing season that can extend from May – October. The changing seasons provide for body and soul. Sweater weather arrives on cue. When just one more snowfall might be too much, the winds change; the sun's warm glow starts things growing once again.

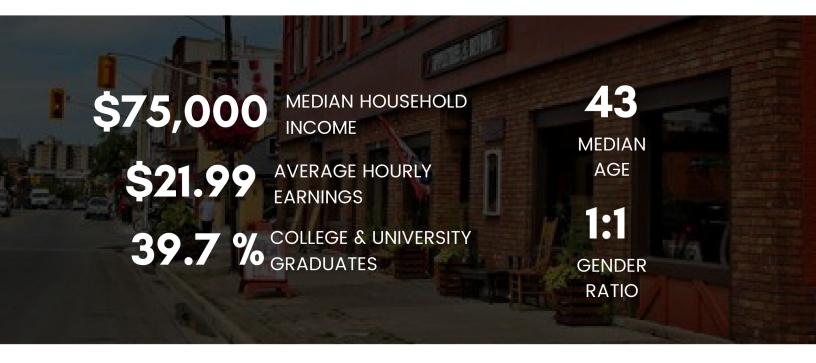
The pleasant climate is characterized by four distinct seasons. The average summer temperature is 77.5°F/ 25.3°C and the average winter temperature is 35.6°F/ 2.°C. Winter temperatures generally arrive in December with summer weather from June through September.





#### **Who We Are**

Perseverance - Scott McKay





### **Transportation**

The City of St. Thomas is connected to Highway 401, 15km away, through three major interchanges and is at the centre of Ontario's manufacturing corridor, where Highway 401 meets Highways 402 and 403. This central location places our industrial area in close proximity to major centres such as London, Detroit, Toronto, and Buffalo and only a short drive to multiple U.S. border crossings at Windsor/Detroit, Sarnia/Port Huron, and Fort Erie/Buffalo. This easy access to U.S. and Canadian markets allows St. Thomas businesses to compete internationally while maintaining a budget that would be unattainable in a larger city.

#### Sea & Air Links

Great Lakes ports are located approximately 1.5 hours to the east in the City of Hamilton, one hour to the northwest in the City of Sarnia and two hours to the west in the City of Windsor. Port Stanley Harbour, located approximately 20 minutes from the subject site, is currently in the development stage and may one day be in a position to handle freight.

The St. Thomas Airport offers 3 runways, with a main runway length of approximately 1,540m (1 mile) and a width of about 30m (100 feet). It also has full fuel service, single and multi-engine charters, aircraft maintenance and repair facilities, Canada Customs and Immigration Services. A new terminal building and hangar were recently completed at the St. Thomas Airport and provide excellent services and amenities for our corporate clients.

St. Thomas is less than 30 minutes from the London International Airport, less than two hours from Toronto's Lester B. Pearson International Airport and approximately 2.5 hours from Detroit's Metro Airport.







#### **Rail Links**

St. Thomas is known as the Railway Capital of Canada. Rail services in the City are offered through Messenger Freight Systems and provided by Ontario Southland Railways (OSR), which facilitates rail shipping to virtually any North or South American market.

#### **Rail Services**

Ontario Southland Railways 519.471.9606 47 - 101 Southgate Parkway osrinc.ca St. Thomas, ON N5R 6L5

Messenger Freight Systems 519.631.6904
150 Dennis Road messengerfreight.ca
St. Thomas, ON N5P 0B6



Local supports for your business are right at your fingertips, whether you are moving products across the country or around the world.

#### **Canada Customs Border Services**

Automated Customs Information System 1.800.461.9999 cbsa-asfc.gc.ca

#### **Customs Brokers & Highway Sufferance Warehousing**

Buckland Customs Brokers Limited 519.631.4944
73 Gaylord Road buckland.com
St. Thomas, ON N5P 3X1

#### Warehousing

Messenger Freight Systems 519.631.6904
150 Dennis Road messengerfreight.ca
St. Thomas, ON N5P 0B6











## Much More Life

#### **Community**

Our history may connect us, but our shared future drives cooperation and combined responsibility for the well-being of our community.

Local neighbourhoods provide vibrant opportunities to find a place to call home amongst people who are welcoming. From heritage homes to green builds - single-family homes to luxury condos - your small community in a growing and vivacious City awaits.

The opportunity for connection is limited only by your imagination. Explore and find the little free library in your new neighbourhood. Stroll through extensive parklands and forest trails that wind through the city. Uncover the gems of our downtown and experience the freshness of the surrounding farmland influenced by global flavours.

#### Culture

The railway and industrial past has left a lasting impact on St. Thomas. But at sites like the Elgin County Railway Museum, you can catch glimpses of that history merging with the creative culture that drives us forward.

Art provides an opportunity for self-expression and we embrace the ability to share our history and changing culture through an extensive mural project and public art across the city. Many of our small businesses are based in the creative industry from working studios to galleries and an abundance of local artists and makers to discover and enjoy.

We welcome you to share your story and become a part of ours too.

## We are for you

#### **Industry Support**

The City of St. Thomas and the St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation are committed to doing whatever it takes to ensure that local industry remains competitive and prospers in our City. welcome you to come and see for yourself why so many leading industries have chosen the City of St. Thomas.

#### Incentives

While the Municipal Act of the Province of Ontario prohibits municipalities from offering direct financial incentives, there are other forms of assistance that the St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and the City of St. Thomas can provide to add value to a decision to locate here. This value-added includes:

- 1. A supportive industrial taxation policy
- 2. No Development Charges or site plan control
- 3. A proactive fast-tracked building permit process

#### Fair Taxation on Industrial Property New Construction Projects (2019)

As shown in the chart below, the City of St. Thomas compares very favourably to other communities, resulting in notable annual tax savings.

#### Relative Industrial Property Tax Comparison (taxes per square foot)

Industrial Taxes per Square Foot	Annual Taxes Payable on a 250,000 sq.ft. building	Annual Taxation Savings in St. Thomas
\$1.01	\$252,500	n/a
\$2.42	\$605,000	\$352,500
\$1.44	\$360,000	\$107,500
\$1.73	\$432,500	\$180,000
\$2.13	\$532,500	\$280,000
\$2.72	\$680,000	\$427,500
\$2.52	\$630,000	\$377,500
	per Square Foot \$1.01 \$2.42 \$1.44 \$1.73 \$2.13 \$2.72	per Square Foot         Annual Taxes Payable on a 250,000 sq.ft. building           \$1.01         \$252,500           \$2.42         \$605,000           \$1.44         \$360,000           \$1.73         \$432,500           \$2.13         \$532,500           \$2.72         \$680,000



#### **Industry Support**

#### No Development Charges or Site Plan Control

In order to show our commitment and to promote the growth of industry in St. Thomas, the City does not have any Development Charges for industrial construction or renovation. For the same reason, most of the St. Thomas industrial area does not fall under Site Plan Control, which helps to speed up the building permit process for new construction, additions and renovations.

#### Proactive Building Permit Process - The TOP GEAR Program

TOP GEAR is a fast track / fast response set of relationships and responses to all the questions that arise as the client's team chooses a new community. The City's Environmental Services Department, along with the EDC, will work with all those involved to ensure a smooth and quick building permit process, eliminating much of the red tape found in larger centres. In the past, building permits have been issued in less than 5 business days following the submission of acceptable plans.

#### Free Employment Assistance

St. Thomas is pleased to provide the services of Employment Services Elgin and Fanshawe Employment Services.

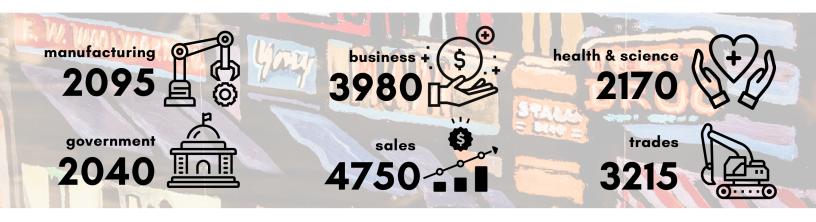
Both of these organizations assist new companies with many of the administrative tasks associated with start-up and staffing.

Services include the pre-screening of potential employees, the use of computers, office space, and other communications equipment, recruiting services, aptitude testing, and the provision of labour market information.

They are pleased to provide information on funding programs for employers and can offer new companies an extensive knowledge of the local labour market and access to a national database of qualified candidates.



#### **Industry Workforce**



#### Labour

Over the past decade, St. Thomas has been one of the fastest-growing cities in Southwestern Ontario. The 2020 census showed that the City had grown to about 43,000 people. Since then, over 350 new homes have been constructed and growth has continued in the City.

The labour shed for St. Thomas extends well beyond the corporate limits of the City. In many instances, workers commute between 30 minutes and one hour to work in St. Thomas. Based on this, we have included demographic information for both the City of St. Thomas and the London Economic Region, which represents the City's larger labour shed and includes a population of over 500,000 people.

#### **Higher Labour Availability**

The unemployment rate in the London Economic Region has remained within 5.5% – 6.5% over the past year. During the 2008 – 2010 economic downturn, the City lost over 5,000 jobs to layoffs and plant closures. Much of this available labour is well-trained, has a College or University education, has experience working in a team environment, has worked in numerous industries and would be adaptable to the manufacturing and assembly of a variety of products.





#### HISTORY IN MOTION

FORWARD HAS ALWAYS BEEN WHERE WE ARE HEADED



St. Thomas was an important railway town as a hub for a multitude of prominent railways and served as the primary stop on the Canadian shortcut between Detroit and Buffalo.

To be sure, there were major cities in Canada that also served as booming railway centres. But the railways transformed St. Thomas from a town of just 1700 people in 1860 to a city of more than 40,000 people today. The railways brought St. Thomas jobs and prosperity.

We celebrate where we came from, it's part of our identity. But forward momentum is the most important thing the railways brought to St. Thomas. While we may no longer have 100 trains coming and going every day, that momentum hasn't slowed. It shaped us into the resilient and authentic people we are today – ready to roll up our sleeves and show the world the industrial grit and creative spirit we are made of.

St. Thomas became known internationally, though the incident that made St. Thomas a household name was an unfortunate one. On September 15, 1885, Jumbo the elephant, star of the Barnum and Bailey Circus, was struck and killed in St. Thomas by a Grand Trunk locomotive. On the one-hundredth anniversary of Jumbo's death, the city dedicated a monument to Jumbo.

Magnificent in its heyday, the Canada Southern Railway Station is an incredible Italianate-style building – unusual for its day when Romanesque (Montreal's Windsor Station,) Beaux-Arts (Ottawa and Toronto's Union Stations,) or Second Empire (Montreal's Bonaventure) styles were much more common. Other local railway attractions include the Elgin County Railway Museum and the St. Thomas Elevated Park – the first elevated park in Canada.

### **Small Business Development**







small business is the heart of our community - it builds a stronger local economy where more people thrive.

Our <u>SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CENTRE</u> fields thousands of small business questions and provides direct support for hundreds of diverse local small and micro businesses in St. Thomas and the surrounding county. The centre offers youth-specific programs, business growth and start-up support, education, mentoring and more.

Our local <u>Horton Farmers' Market</u> is operated through the SBEC and hosts an average of 40 small businesses weekly from May - October - the economic spinoff is estimated over \$500,000 making it no small potatoes for our community.

Market Table - Emily Jacques-Hawco





## **Explore Railway City**

There is something to discover around every corner from specialty shops downtown to hidden treasures tucked away and **Railway City Tourism** offers a variety of ways to discover your new home or make new discoveries in your hometown.

We hesitate to say "something for everyone" but we just may be darn close.

The tasters can sip from several craft breweries and local wineries. Enjoy a locally roasted, hand-crafted coffee or tea from herbs grown just down the way. We've got **more pizza per capita than NYC** and so many opportunities to get a taste of local while sampling the globe.

Historians can tour epic neighbourhoods and explore railyards, museums, and more.

Enjoy the Great Outdoors? We've got trails for days, 43 parks spread over 700 acres and Canada's First Elevated Park.

A full and growing calendar of events will keep you entertained but you can stroll the city-wide outdoor gallery of murals anytime you are in need of a little creative inspiration.

Something else float your boat? There are Blue Flag Beaches less than 15 minutes away with a place for that too.

Staycation takes on a whole new meaning in St. Thomas because you won't want to leave.



7900<sup>+</sup>

ANNUAL
POST- SECONDARY
GRADUATES

WESTERN UNIVERSITY

CONESTOGA COLLEGE FOOD PROCESSING

NORTH AMERICAN
TRADE SCHOOLS

2934

STREAMS
AVAILABLE

1007

**9** ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

4 SECONDARY SCHOOLS

<u>Fanshawe College</u> is one of Ontario's largest colleges and provides an exceptional education with flexible options. Full-time and part-time program options to earn a degree, diploma and graduate programs.

<u>Western University</u> is ranked among the top 1 percent of universities in the world, recognized for leadership in education, research and healthcare.

<u>Conestoga College</u> unlike any facility in Canada, the Institute of Food Processing Technology (IFPT) meets the needs of the food and beverage manufacturing industry by providing education, training, research and technical expertise.

**North American Trade Schools** provides post-secondary education in a private career college setting to students. These training programs are practical, intense and result oriented.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD - <u>Thames Valley District School Board</u>
CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD - London District Catholic School Board



#### INFRASTRUCTURE

#### **Health Care**

The St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital consistently receives numerous awards for quality and patient care, matched only by Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital in those regards. The hospital has recently undergone a major expansion and has the lowest ER wait times in Ontario.

The St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital provides comprehensive 24-hour coverage in Medicine, Surgery, OB, Pediatrics, Anesthesia, Emergency and Family Medicine. Regular updating of medical equipment has helped to make the hospital one of the most advanced in the region. With an excellent regional health network, which includes the highly-rated facilities in the City of London, St. Thomas residents have access to some of the nation's best medical centres.

#### **Emergency Services**

The St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital provides a full-service Emergency Department to meet the unscheduled and emergency needs of patients. Our hospital is one of the best-performing hospitals in Ontario for ED wait times. With improvements to the waiting area, triage, and specialized zones where less urgent patients can be served, we provide faster service and improved care for our patients. With state-of-the-art equipment and nurses and physicians with advanced skills in emergency medicine.

#### **Fire Services**

Firefighters working for the St. Thomas Fire Department receive excellent training and professional development at all levels including: recruit firefighter training, firefighter training and officer/supervisor level training. personnel are encouraged to become life-long learners, must attain certain NFPA certifications and must maintain their competencies in: firefighting, medical response, water/ice rescue, motor vehicle rescue, confined space rescue, and hazardous materials response, in addition to completing their regular training and other additional courses.

#### **Police Services**

The St. Thomas Police Service is one of the most progressive and dedicated services in Canada. Community Services Officers are a dedicated visible presence in the downtown core of the City of St. Thomas. This Beat Patrol Unit is often walking or cycling through the downtown or monitoring city parks and pathways.

This close-up and in-person opportunity to interact with residents, merchants and visitors enhance community/police relations, fosters effective partnerships and develops a feeling of shared responsibility with the community.

The addition of a K9 Unit in 2013 provided increased support on the job as well as further strengthen community relationships for the Force.

Our Mobile Outreach and Support Team (MOST) is an example of a tiered policing partnership, where STPS and the Canadian Mental Health Association work together to deploy social workers to mental health/substance use disorder calls alongside officers.

This cost-effective policing program includes Community Peace Officers, Community Resources Officers and Special Constables, assisting sworn members in areas such as foot patrol, community service, special events, bylaws, traffic enforcement and other non-safety related incidents.

It offers the type of support required to support the most vulnerable members of our community.

#### **Community Supports**

The <u>local immigration partnership</u> is available to support newcomers to Canada with a collaborative community initiative that aims to build a welcoming, caring, and inclusive community by supporting immigrants' integration and promoting diversity.

For employees relocating to our community, a variety of service clubs and organizations are available to help folks build new community connections. **Railway City Tourism** is an incredible resource to build familiarly and discover all that St. Thomas has to offer for lifestyle and entertainment.



# UTILITIES

#### **Energy Supply**

Each year, St. Thomas earns some of the highest reliability ratings in the Province and around the world. The major transformer station, located adjacent to the subject site, directly services the City's industrial area and is generally not affected by service interruptions that may occur in residential or commercial areas. Fibre optic service is also supplied by Entegrus and is readily available in the City.

Information: <a href="https://stthomas.entegrus.com/#a">https://stthomas.entegrus.com/#a</a>

#### **Water and Sewer**

The City's Environmental Services Department provides water and sewer services to businesses and residents in the City. There is a nearly unlimited supply of clean, potable water available, supplied via pipeline from Lake Erie, which is located only 14 km (8.7 miles) away.

#### **Natural Gas**

Engridge Gas Inc. is a major Canadian natural gas utility, which provides gas delivery to residents and businesses in the St. Thomas area. Enbridge Gas also provides natural gas storage and transportation services for other utilities and energy market participants. Because of deregulation in the Ontario energy industry, the option now exists to purchase natural gas from other suppliers, to be delivered through the Enbridge Gas System.

Information: www.enbridgegas.com

#### **Communications**

Our region is a 5G service area for mobile devices from a variety of service providers. With High-Speed internet access available to all locations and Fiber rolling out across the city - your business won't need to slow down!

Local radio, newspaper, and magazines as well as your local Economic Development Office can support building community communications around your business launch, hiring, and growth needs.







The St. Thomas and area housing market has experienced exceptional growth in recent years. This growth is the result of three key features; strong industrial growth, attractive housing prices, and a low comparative cost of living.

Ranked 3rd by McLean's Magazine as one of the best places to live and work in Canada, your employees and their families can experience so much more life in St. Thomas.

St. Thomas boasts a variety of housing types to suit a variety of lifestyles from detached family homes to luxury condo developments, backyard getaways, to low maintenance lots. Whatever your team is looking for in a place to call home - the 2200 Realtors represented by the London & St. Thomas Association of Realtors can help them find it.

#### St. Thomas Realtors

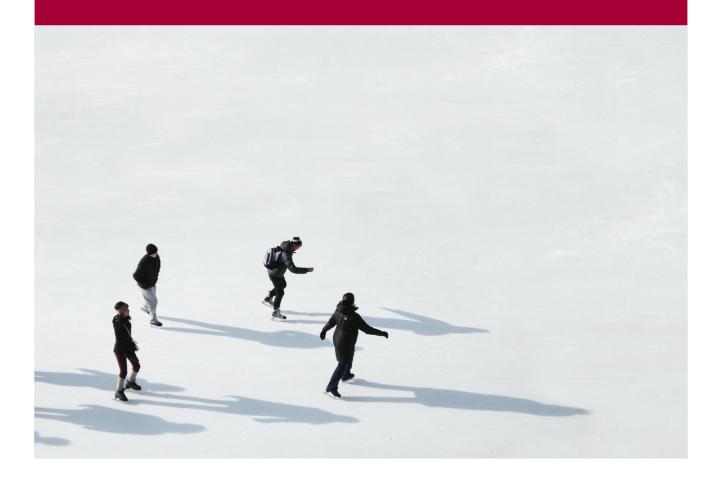
<u>Century 21</u> <u>Heritage House</u>	Coldwell Banker at Success Realty	<u>Elgin Realty (1991) Ltd.</u>	Re/Max Centre City Realty Inc.	Royal LePage Triland Realty
669 Talbot St.	566 Talbot St.	527 Talbot St.	36 First Ave.	808 Talbot St.
519.633.5900	519.633.5570	519.637.2300	519.633.1000	519.633.0600



## 2021 Tax Rates

1.4002 - 3.7935%

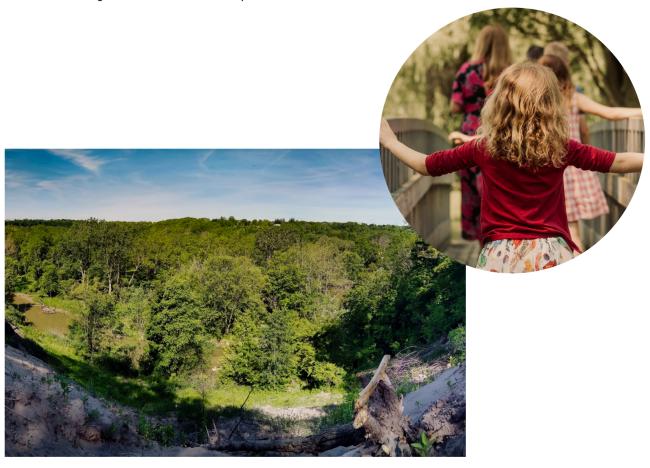
residential - large industrial



## **Green & Growing**

The City of St. Thomas has one of the most outstanding parks systems for a city its size with 43 parks spread over 700 acres.

- Pinafore Park, in the southwest section of the city, offers 111 acres, including a beautiful woodlot, Lake Margaret addition and numerous walking trails with major events drawing thousands of visitors each year.
- Waterworks Park, at the northern city limits, is 100 acres, (40 hectares), of recreational trails and naturalized areas and ranks among the top beauty spots of Southern Ontario. 35 acres of managed parklands consisting of beautifully manicured gardens, pavilions, playground and splash pad.
- 1Password Park, in the north/east section of the city, boasts a splash pad, playground, walking trails, basketball courts, pavilion, turf field and 33 soccer fields.
- Kilometres of trail wind in and around <u>St. Thomas</u> range from paved multi-use paths to the Trans Canada Trail with various points of interest including the Elevated Park.
- Several local conservation areas offer opportunities to explore the Carolinian Forest Zone through trails and waterways.





## Sports & Rec

A full life is one where you can invest time in your interests and ensure those you love can too! St. Thomas boasts a range of opportunities to tap into a variety of sports for you and the family with world-class facilities.

- 1Password Park, in the north/east section of the city, boasts a splash pad, playground, walking trails, basketball courts, turf field and 33 soccer fields.
- Joe Thornton Community Centre is a modern two-rink facility with NHL-sized pads, plenty of parking also includes an indoor walking track.
- Seasonal aquatics programming is available outdoors at Jaycees Pool facility in the City which offers swimming lessons, recreational swim opportunities and even pool rentals.
- Splash pads located conveniently at several city parks help keep the family cool on the hottest days of the year. Splash pads are open daily from 10 am to 8 pm from June until September (weather permitting).
- Pinafore Park has eight tennis courts and eight pickleball courts available for public use.
- Two Disc Golf courses offer a total of 45 holes to enjoy.



- From historic diamonds to state-of-the-art practice facilities Baseball in St. Thomas is a home run.
- Set on one of the most spectacular pieces of land in southwestern Ontario, St. Thomas Golf and Country Club is a Stanley Thompson masterpiece. Designed by Thompson in 1922 and later altered by Robbie Robinson, the course has truly withstood the test of time and continues to provide a stern challenge today.
- Proximity to Lake Erie offers additional opportunities like boating, surfing, paddle boarding and more.
- Other ways to stay active locally include, fitness centres, curling, bowling, and even a cornhole league!

# You are welcome here.

#### **Mandate**

The St. Thomas EDC is here to promote the City of St. Thomas and area as an attractive place to invest and conduct business. The Corporation does this through a number of means, including external marketing, trade show activity, company visitations, as well s work with various prospect generators. In addition, the Corporation works closely with existing businesses to ensure that the local business environment is a healthy one which encourages the prosperity and expansion of all those companies which call St. Thomas home.

#### Services Available

To support our mandate, the St. Thomas EDC team is available to assist in the following ways:

- Non-Monetary assistance to business, industry, and local institutions
- Promotional programs including advertising, trade shows, and travel to target market areas
- Assistance with expansion and modernization programs
- · The sale of City and EDC-owned land
- Collection of statistical and market data
- Product sourcing information and potential market identification
- Assistance with business start-ups
- Liaison with Provincial and Federal governments regarding investment and business opportunities
- Advice and referrals to appropriate civic officials, government offices, institutions, and local businesses
- Consultation and networking with local businesses and industry

#### We are here for you

Sean Dyke	Mike Kerkvliet	Sarah Noble
CEO - St. Thomas	Manager of Business	Manager of Marketing
Economic	Development &	& Communications
Development	Entrepreneurship	
519.631-1680 ext. 4104	226.377.0064	226.545.0520
sdyke@stthomas.ca	mkerkvliet@stthomas.ca	snoble@stthomas.ca

## The choice destination for companies like yours







## MAGNA









545 Talbot St. St. Thomas, ON CANADA N5P 3V7

519.631.1680 x 4104 sdyke@stthomas.ca

st-thomas.org

Greetings From St. Thomas - Blazeworks

