

Great Reasons to Choose St. Thomas

- 1 Close to your Market:** More than 150 million people are located within one day's drive and there are five border crossings within a two-hour drive.
- 2 Excellent Transportation Links:** Major NAFTA highway routes (including Highways 401 and 402), national rail lines, air and seaport facilities are all available in and around the City.
- 3 Proactive Industrial Development Policies:** There are no Industrial Development Charges and there is a cap on building permit fees. In addition, the City's Rapid Response Team is always available to assist with any project needs.
- 4 Abundant Skilled Labour:** Evolving from an agricultural heritage, the St. Thomas labour force features an exceptionally healthy and stable work ethic.
- 5 An Educated Population:** More than 50% of the City population over the age of 20 possess a University or College education. There is a Community College located in the City and there are several other institutions of higher education located within a short driving distance.
- 6 A Community Dedicated to Business:** The St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation, along with its partners, works to ensure competitiveness in a variety of areas, including tax rates and bottom line costs.
- 7 Affordable Living:** There is 25% more life in St. Thomas. From housing to recreation, St. Thomas is more affordable than its surrounding communities.
- 8 Chosen by Many Industry Leaders:** Magna International, Ford Motor Company, Sterling Trucks, Canadian Timken, Gorman-Rupp, Marconi Communications, A. Schulman, ZF Heavy Duty Steering, Tru-Die, Amino North America Corporation, and many other industry leaders all call St. Thomas home.
- 9 An Unsurpassed Quality of Life:** Residents of St. Thomas enjoy affordable homes in safe communities, a rich cultural heritage, active living, and one of the most moderate climates in the country.
- 10 Room for Growth:** St. Thomas offers more than 200 acres of serviced industrial land that is ready for development.



The St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation promotes the City of St. Thomas and the adjacent Municipalities of Central Elgin and Southwold Township as an attractive area in which to invest and conduct business. We work with existing businesses to ensure that the local business environment is a healthy one that encourages the prosperity and expansion of all companies that call St. Thomas home.

Visit our website to find out how to be a part of our success

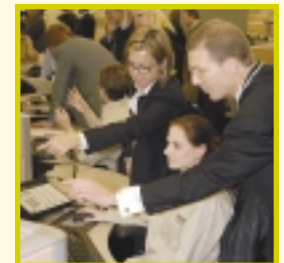
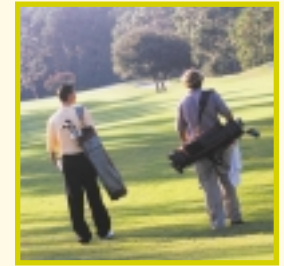


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St. Thomas

ONTARIO, CANADA



Centred in the Heart of Southwestern Ontario

The City of St. Thomas is in the heart of Southwestern Ontario. Halfway between Toronto and Detroit and just minutes south of London, St. Thomas has long been the commercial / industrial centre of Elgin County.

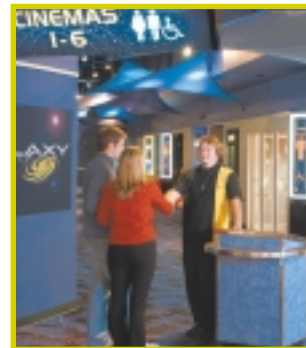
Well Educated Labour Force

The St. Thomas/Elgin labour force features an exceptionally healthy and stable work ethic. Our labour force and business community benefit from a close proximity to the University of Western Ontario and the main campus of Fanshawe College. A St. Thomas campus of Fanshawe College supports our immediate educational needs by working closely with area businesses to provide customized training to ensure the continuance of a skilled labour force.

St. Thomas is an Advocate for Businesses

The area's dynamic economy has enjoyed considerable success in recent years, as many site selectors and industry leaders chose St. Thomas as the first choice on the "short list" for their business location.

The City boasts a well-educated and productive labour force, low industrial land costs and wage rates, and an unsurpassed quality of life. St. Thomas enjoys the amenities of small town living while benefiting from an available area labour force of more than 225,000.



Open for Business

The St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation (EDC) prides itself on its "open for business" attitude. The EDC works with business and industry to ensure that development opportunities in the City are maximized.

Services available through the Corporation to assist Industry and Business include:

- Confidential site selection assistance
- Collection of statistical, market, and competitive data
- The sale of City and EDC owned land
- Assistance with business start-ups
- Product sourcing information and potential market identification
- Consultation and networking with local business and industry
- Liaise with Provincial and Federal governments regarding investment and business opportunities
- Advice and referrals to civic officials, government offices, institutions, and local businesses

Contact the St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation today, and let us help you make the best site selection decision.
www.st-thomasedc.on.ca

