BRANTFORD INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

ONTARIO, CANADA









CITY OF BRANTFORD

www.advantagebrantford.ca | 519-759-4150

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR





Brantford is a competitive and connected city driven by innovation, collaboration, and economic growth. Strategically located in the heart of southwestern Ontario, Canada, Brantford offers direct access to major highways, rail, and airports, offering easy connections to major North American and international markets.

Our proximity to 15+ post-secondary institutions provides access to a highly educated workforce and leading research facilities that help strengthen our local economy. Businesses benefit from a steady flow of skilled graduates and connections with top-tier research and innovation networks.

The City of Brantford, the Province of Ontario, and the Government of Canada actively support pro-business policies. Our streamlined municipal development processes make it easy to invest and expand here. Our business development team continually advocates for companies and ensure they are connected to the right public funding and programs to support their growth.

There is a strong spirit of togetherness and collaboration among Brantford's industrial businesses, making it easy for new companies to connect, expand, and thrive in this unique environment.

For the last 7 years, Site Selection Magazine has named Brantford as one of the top places in Canada for business investment based on corporate end-user facility investment and related job creation activity.

Come discover the advantage of doing business in Brantford.

Mayor Kevin Davis

ADVANTAGES

Discover why more companies choose to invest here.

Canada[1]

- The most educated workforce and skilled talent in the world
- Politically stable, economically secure, resource sustainable
- 15 free trade agreements representing access to 51 countries and 1.5 billion global consumers
- Canada remains a key U.S. trading partner and primary market gateway

Ontario[2]

- #2 food cluster in North America by employment
- 118,000 workers in food processing
- Low corporate tax rate of 25% for manufacturers
- 51% savings on health care costs compared to most parts of the U.S.



Brantford

- **Area Labour Force:**[3] 98,000 within 10 km and 1.23 million within 50 km
- **Proximity:** 1 day drive to 60% of all manufacturers in USA and Canada
- **Average Land:** $900,000 CAD / acre (industrial)
- **Average Lease:** $11 CAD / square foot (class "A" industrial)

2026 CANADA'S BEST LOCATIONS

Brantford is considered one of Canada's Best Locations for investment by Site Selection Magazine[4] for 7 years in a row.

1 https://www.investcanada.ca/why-canada
2 www.investontario.ca
3 July 2025, statcan.gc.ca
4 siteselection.com/2025-canadas-best-locations/

LOCATION

Situated in southwestern Ontario, Canada, Brantford is conveniently located along a major transportation corridor with proximity to key North American markets. Our thriving community offers the amenities of a large urban centre, while maintaining the charms of small-town living.

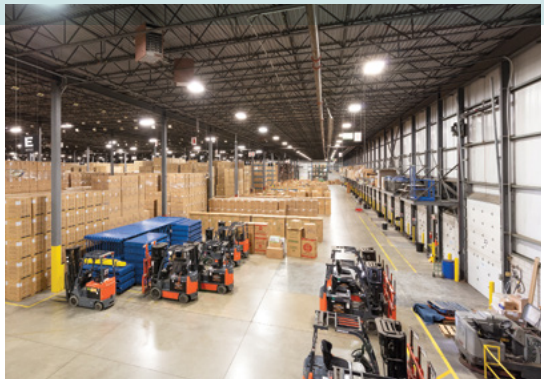


FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT SUCCESS

These significant FDI developments represent new builds and expansions that underscore business confidence in Brantford.

BUSINESS	SECTOR	VALUE ($CDN)
Ferrero Canada	Food Manufacturing	$445 million
Barry Callebaut	Food Manufacturing	$200 million
Hilton Foods	Food Manufacturing	$192 million
Mitsui Hi-tech (Canada) Inc.	Automotive / Advanced Manufacturing	$102 million
Hershey Canada	Logistics / Warehousing	$69 million
P&G Canada	Logistics / Warehousing	$50 million
Gizeh Canada	Plastics & Packaging	$2.1 million







INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Brantford has an array of industrial and commercial lands, design build opportunities, and available spaces.



Business Parks

- 1,500 acres (607 ha.) of zoned industrial land on the east side of the city
- 1,300 acres (526 ha.) of zoned industrial land on the west side of the city

Future Lands

- 2,000 acres (800 ha.) of new industrial lands zoned for development

LOCATION	GROSS SIZE	"SHOVEL READY" TIMELINES
473-474 Oak Park Road	423 acres (171 hectares)	2 to 5 years
Braneida East	430 acres (174 hectares)	2 to 5 years
Northwest Headwaters	1,200 acres (485 hectares)	3 to 8 years



LABOUR FORCE AND EDUCATION



Labour Force

Brantford's diverse labour force is experienced, skilled, and educated. Our central location allows companies to attract and retain talent from many surrounding communities.

RADIUS DISTANCE	CANADIAN POPULATION	CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE SIZE[1]
Brantford CMA	144,000	98,000
50 km (30 miles)	1,796,000	1,226,000
125 km (80 miles)	9,581,000	6,348,000

Education

The most important ingredient for business success is an educated and talented workforce. Ontario offers one of the best educated talent pools in the world, where nearly 70% of adults have completed post-secondary education, more than in any other Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) country[2].

- 365,000[3] students from 10 major universities within 125 km
- 229,000[4] students from 10 colleges offering 1,311 programs within 125 km



1 July 2025, statcan.gc.ca
2 heqco.ca and https://www.oecd.org/en/data/indicators/population-with-tertiary-education.html
3 2024, https://www.univcan.ca/universities/facts-and-stats/enrolment-by-university/
4 2024, https://data.ontario.ca/en/dataset/college-enrolment

TRANSPORTATION

Brantford's strategic location provides access to a superior transportation system including highways, internationally connected railways with advanced traffic management systems, worldwide cargo and passenger aviation systems and proximity to extensive inland and international marine shipping facilities.

US Border Crossings

- 115 km (70 mi) to Niagara Falls, New York
- 245 km (150 mi) to Detroit, Michigan

Airports

- Brantford Regional Airport
- 35 km (20 mi) to John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport
- 40 km (25 mi) to Region of Waterloo International Airport
- 95 km (60 mi) to Toronto Pearson International Airport

Port Authorities

- 55 km (35 mi) to Hamilton Port Authority
- 105 km (65 mi) to Toronto Port Authority
- 165 km (100 mi) to Oshawa Port Authority

Rail Intermodal Terminals

- 100 km (60 mi) to CN Intermodal in Brampton
- 115 km (70 mi) to CP Intermodal in Vaughan



SUPPORTS AND INCENTIVES

A variety of government grants, loans, tax credits and support services are available to ensure successful and sustainable operations. The team at the City of Brantford supports business investment by navigating the development process, finding local resources, and building relationships with federal and provincial governments. The City offers deferred payment options for development charges.

Highlighted Funding Programs

FUNDING PROGRAM	TYPE	SUMMARY
AMIC[1]	Provincial	Advanced manufacturing; discretionary; loans up to $5M CAD; grants up to $1.5M CAD; 60-90 days; extensive application.
BDC	Federal	Providing financing, capital, and advisory business expansion services.
CIP – Building Permit and Tax Support	Municipal	Offering a 50% reduction on building permit fees and an Industrial Tax Increment Grant (TIG) providing a 20% annual property tax rebate for 10 years on the value increase post-construction.
EDC	Federal	Providing credit, trade finance, insurance, bonding, and advisory export expansion services.
Global Skills[2] and ONIP	Federal and Provincial	Assists with expediting foreign talent permits for companies; as quick as 2 weeks.
SWODF[3]	Provincial	Multiple sectors; discretionary; loans up to $5M CAD; grants up to $1.5M CAD; 60-90 days; extensive application.
SIF[4]	Federal	Adapting to the knowledge based economy; research/development, innovation, large investments, network collaboration; amounts vary; time frames vary.

1 https://www.ontario.ca/page/regional-development-program-advanced-manufacturing-and-innovation-competitiveness-stream
2 https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/hire-temporary-foreign/global-skills-strategy.html
3 https://www.ontario.ca/page/southwestern-ontario-development-fund
4 https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/strategic-innovation-fund/en

KEY SECTORS

Brantford is home to an increasingly wide range of businesses. This diversification reflects the health of our local economy. Like every community, our economy is made up of key sectors that showcase its particular strengths and character. These central industries in Brantford are as follows.



SECTOR	WORKERS[1]	TOTAL FT² (M²)[2]	SECTOR STAT
Advanced Manufacturing	2,030	2,710,000 (252,000)	Brantford is at the centre of a 400 km corridor of the world's richest concentration of auto resources.[3]
Food and Beverage Manufacturing	3,090	2,950,000 (274,000)	200+ agricultural commodities are produced on over 11,000,000 acres (4,450,000 ha.) in Ontario.[4]
Plastics and Rubber Products	760	1,350,000 (125,000)	The plastics industry in Canada ships $24.3 billion in product and employs 82,000 people.[5]
Warehousing and Logistics	1,340	5,420,000 (504,000)	In Ontario, warehousing and transportation contributed $32.8 billion to the GPP in 2023.[6]



1 2026 Estimate. City of Brantford.
2 2026 Estimate. City of Brantford.
3 www.investincanada.ca
4 statcan.gc.ca and ontario.ca
5 ised-isde.canada.ca and occupations.esdc.gc.ca
6 jobbank.gc.ca

QUALITY OF LIFE

Brantford offers an exciting and enjoyable place to live, work, study and play. Strategically located in the heart of southwestern Ontario and situated along the scenic Grand River, Brantford's proximity to the larger consumer cities is ideal while still maintaining a small-town charm. Many people choose to live here because of our amenities and services, thriving arts and culture sector, natural features, access to healthcare, and overall affordability. In Brantford your workforce can:

- Capitalize on lower real estate costs with significantly better housing than surrounding markets and the Toronto area.
- Remain active with 70 km of pristine hiking and biking trails right at their doorstep.
- Connect with diverse multi-ethnic groups and experience tastes of other cultures.
- Thrive in a cultural hub boasting an active performing, literary, and visual arts scene.
- Access universal healthcare backed by expanding hospital and medical centre facilities, and a future state-of-the-art new hospital.
- Become part of legendary sports culture in the Tournament Capital of Ontario including the OHL Brantford Bulldogs and numerous annual events.
- Help propel your business ahead on the banks of the historic Grand River—where commerce meets culture and community.






WHY DO BUSINESSES CHOOSE BRANTFORD?



If you're looking for a driven, quality workforce with an incredible balance of life and the ability to scale to the moon, come to Brantford.

Vic Casasanta, Co-CEO,
Casasanta Baking Solutions



Brantford is a great place to do business and grow business. It offers all the advantages of the highest priced market at a much better economic base.

Garnet Lasby, President,
Massilly North America



Brantford gives us room to grow and is a great partner for Flora Food Group.

Jaclyn Sutton, General Manager Canada,
Flora Food Group

Explore video testimonials why Brantford is good for business:

CITY OF BRANTFORD

Welcome to your next location. Welcome home.