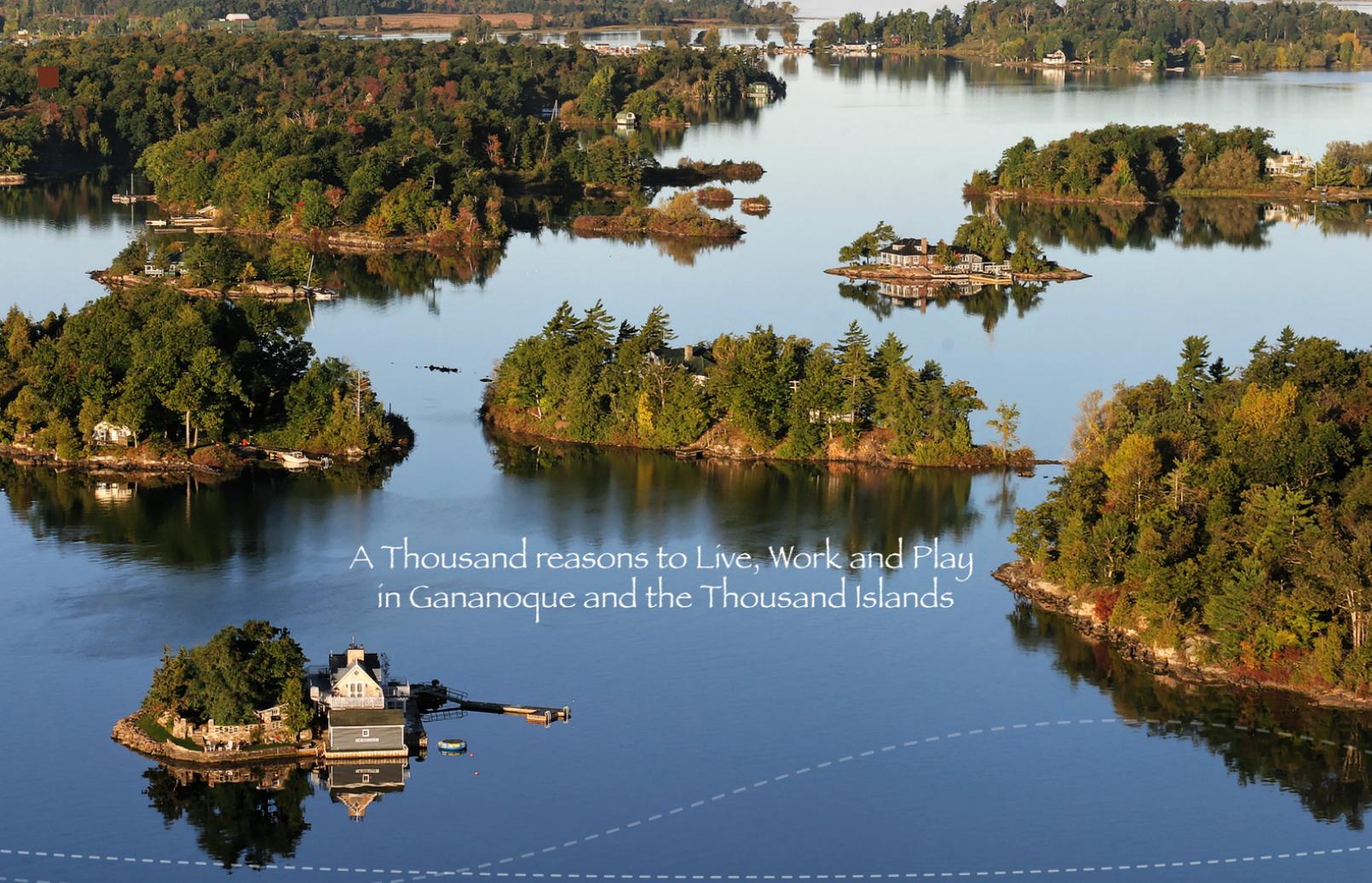
A serene sunset scene over a calm lake. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, shimmering reflection on the water's surface. The sky is a warm, golden-orange color. In the foreground, the dark, pointed prow of a canoe is visible, partially obscuring the bottom right corner. The background shows a dark silhouette of a forest along the shoreline. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Rush Hour ...



A Thousand reasons to Live, Work and Play
in Gananoque and the Thousand Islands



WELCOME TO GANANOQUE AND THE THOUSAND ISLANDS

The Town of Gananoque is internationally recognized as Eastern Ontario's most stunning waterfront community. It has truly developed into a world-class destination for visitors, residents and businesses. Strategically situated on the Hwy 401 corridor and near the U.S border, Gananoque is centrally located between major urban centres including, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Syracuse.

GANANOQUE AND THE THOUSAND ISLANDS

This rural region offers a variety of unique attractions, including a scenic cycling path along Thousand Island Parkway, a captivating waterfront trail, beautiful beaches, a Heritage Museum, an OLG Casino, outstanding performances at the Thousand Islands Playhouse and one of the most prominent golf courses in Ontario, Smuggler's Glen.

With its unbeatable quality of life and convenient access to larger centres, Gananoque and the Thousand Islands is an ideal region to locate your business.



STRATEGICALLY POSITIONED FOR DEVELOPMENT AND AN UNBEATABLE QUALITY OF LIFE

15 km (9 mi) to the U.S Interstate-81
280 km (174 mi) to Toronto, ON
150 km (93 mi) to Ottawa, ON
250 km (155 mi) to Montreal, QC
30 km (18 mi) to Kingston, ON

- Located on the Highway 401 Detroit/Windsor-Montreal corridor
- Centre of 120 million consumers
- Over half of North American industry is within a day's travel
- 1000 Islands International Bridge connecting Hwy 401 to U.S. Interstate 81
- Via Rail Station with scheduled stops at the Gananoque station





■ TOURISM

Gananoque and the Thousand Islands is the perfect four season location for your business. Breathe in the fresh air as you take in the beauty of the world's ninth geo-tourism site. Whether you are discovering the many talented artists, unique shops and restaurants, taking in a play or stepping back in time with a historical walking tour, you will be experiencing some of the most intriguing and charming heritage sites in eastern Ontario. Capture the opportunity to live, work and play in the world's finest backyard.

Tourism spending per year in Gananoque and Thousand Islands

Visitors/Year	66% Overnight Visitors	Total Spent (\$193/person)
500 000	330 000	\$64 million
Visitors/Year	34% Day Visitors	Total Spent (\$117/person)
500 000	170 000	\$24 million

SOURCE: Ministry of Tourism's Regional Tourism Profiles for Leeds & Grenville United Counties 2011 and for Regional Tourist Area #9 Visitor Tracking and Performance Measures 2011.

■ NATURALLY CREATIVE

There are incredible business opportunities to expand upon the existing cultural, heritage and tourism market. The community boasts over 700 accommodation rooms in the heart of the stunning Thousand Islands on the St. Lawrence River. Support from existing attraction businesses such as the Gananoque Boat Lines and 1000 Islands Playhouse, strengthens the tourism experience and increases the quantity of visitors to the area.



In 1982, Greg Wanless partnered with a passionate group of community members to turn a vintage building into a theatre, creating the first season of the Thousand Islands Playhouse. Two subsequent renovations of the original theatre enabled the company to produce larger musicals, by giving maximum space for sets and lighting, while enhancing audience comfort. The Firehall Theatre was added as a second space in 2004. Today the company attracts 40,000 audience members annually.



Gananoque Boat Line
1000 Islands Cruises

Although there are varying stories on the early history of the Gananoque Boat Line, it is known that the first tour boat operator in Gananoque was a local mailman who delivered mail to the island residents and took passengers as a sideline to his delivery business. Soon the sideline outgrew the mail route and he started what is now the Gananoque Boat Line. Today the Gananoque Boat Line operates five triple-decker vessels. Tour boats run from April to November, attracting approximately 200,000 visitors annually.



1000 ISLANDS
KAYAKING
ADVENTURE OF THE ISLANDS

The 1000 Islands Kayaking Company is nationally certified, offering unique paddling adventures in the 1000 Islands. In 2005, Scott Ewart started the company which is centrally located at the waterfront in Gananoque. He also has two satellite locations in Kingston and Brockville. The company continually works to meet market demands by offering expert guided full-day and half-day trips, recreational paddling clubs, fitness programs, kid's camps and skills improvement courses.



Arthur Child Heritage
Museum of the 1000 Islands

The site on which the Heritage Museum now stands was originally the main station for the Thousand Islands Railway. The Museum is dedicated to creating exhibits and archives, as well as collecting and preserving artifacts that interpret the unique history, life and times of the Thousand Islands region and its communities. They welcome over 30,000 local, regional and international visitors annually to enjoy this popular waterfront attraction.



Straddling the historic communities of Leeds, Thousand Islands and Gananoque, OLG Casino Thousand Islands is a first-class gaming experience in a magnificent natural setting. The Casino is located just 20 minutes east of Kingston and 10 minutes from the U.S. border. There are over 500 slot machines, ranging from 1¢ to \$5 and numerous table games. Each year approximately 800,000 people visit the Thousand Island Casino. The casino is Gananoque's second largest employer with over 400 employees.



The Ribfest is held over the Canada Day long weekend in the Town Hall Park. Now in its 7th year, this popular event is jointly organized and hosted by the Rotary Club and the Lions Club of Gananoque. Attracting 20,000 visitors annually, people come to enjoy live music, great food and some fantastic deals. All of the money raised goes through the Rotary Club and the Lions Club of Gananoque into supporting community activities.



Located in front of Gananoque's lovely Town Hall, the Gananoque Farmer's Market runs Thursdays from 4 to 7 pm, June through October. The market features fresh locally grown produce, meats, baked goods, fresh-cut flowers and more! Meet your farmers and neighbours, enjoy a picnic supper in the park and live music from the bandstand. Our market is proud to offer only locally produced goods, for sale by the hands that made and grew them!



The 1000 Islands Big Bass Challenge is an annual fishing derby that takes place in July. Each year over 300 local and regional anglers participate in the tournament. In 2013, the event was featured on the World Fishing Network WFN.



In 2013 Gananoque was voted No. 1 by the World Fishing Network. Gananoque was the perfect choice, the committee says, because the town offers a "virtual smorgasbord of sport fish available to anglers."



■ CELEBRATING OUR ENTREPRENEURS

The Town of Gananoque has a rich culture of entrepreneurship that is continually growing. All of our businesses come from different backgrounds and offer an incredible array of products and services. The business community prides itself on excellent customer service, which is one of the key elements that makes Gananoque a unique and inviting shopping district. The businesses continually go above and beyond to meet the needs of each individual client.

Meet some of our businesses and keep reading to learn more about their unique stories.





THE PURPLE HOUSE CAFÉ

“Fresh & simple food with a creative flair”

Opened in 2012, The Purple House Café has already earned the reputation as being one of the hidden gems of Gananoque. True to its name, the café is located in a bright purple house, surrounded by beautiful gardens and within sight of the waterfront, giving it that “east coast” feel. After years of living on the west coast, Kerry Coyle and her husband, Aaron decided it was time to move home. Although not culinary trained, (Kerry’s background is in education and Aaron is a professional landscaper) Kerry had come to realize that her true passion was in the kitchen. With her experience working in the hospitality industry, and their strong desire to raise their family in a small town, they purchased the purple house (although it was not purple at the time), and began the journey of building their dreams. Having been raised in the area (across the street in fact),

165 Main St. Gananoque

Kerry knew that Gananoque offered the small town lifestyle they were looking for, but also had the market potential to support creative business endeavors. After years of renovating and innovating, with lots of help from friends and family, The Purple House Café was opened in the spring of 2012. After only two seasons, The Purple House Café’s reputation for delicious food and its creative atmosphere has gathered a strong local following and caught the eye of many tourists. Since moving back, Kerry has seen a huge change in the town, and with new developments on the way, she is very excited to be a part of Gananoque’s growth.





MAGNOLIA FLOWERS

"Trendy vintage flower studio"

Located in a refurbished old bakery in the heart of Gananoque, Magnolia Flowers is a creative florist shop that also sells rustic and trendy décor. After building a successful career as a financial analyst in the bustling city of Toronto, Natasha Lux decided she was in a need of a lifestyle change. Natasha had always known she wanted to raise her family in a small community, and with strong ties to "the river" (the locals' term for the St. Lawrence Seaway), Gananoque was a natural choice. Upon her arrival in Gananoque, Natasha picked up a job at a local greenhouse; it was here she discovered her true career passion. When the greenhouse closed down a few years later, Natasha decided to put her creativity and accounting background to use and started her own business.

192 King St E, Gananoque
613-382-8181
www.magnoliaflowers.ca

As Magnolia Flowers enters into its fourth year, Natasha is proud of the business and life she has built in Gananoque. Natasha loves the fact that after a day at work, she can pack up the family and go for a boat ride or hit the trails on the snowmobile. Living in Gananoque has allowed her the ability to "maintain a better balance in life".





AXLEWORKS

“Eclectic mix of food, fashion, and decor, that is set to inspire”

“It’s about providing experience”, says Zach Treanor.

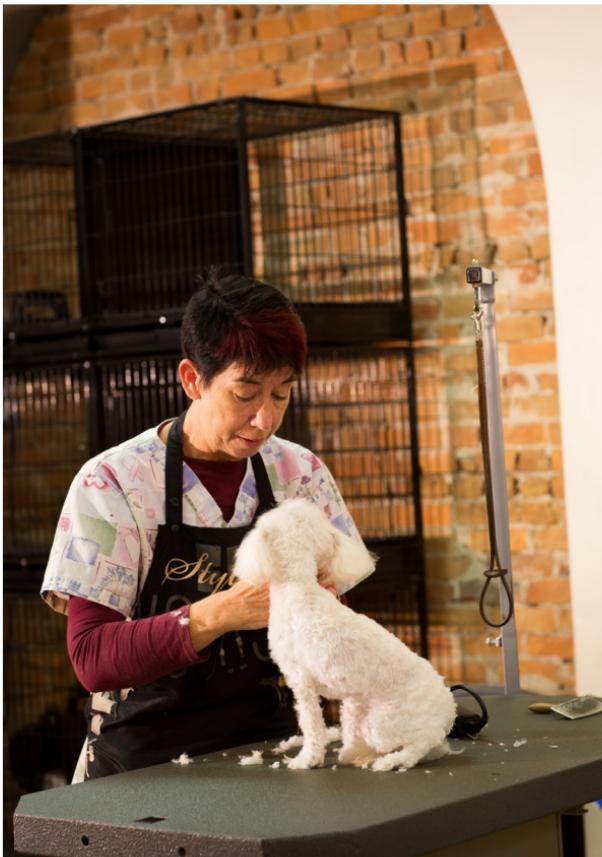
“I want to create places that will excite and inspire... where people can experience new ideas, new foods, and new ways of living and working.” When Shannon Yates and Zach Treanor purchased the 180-year-old stone building, it was collapsing. It had no plumbing or heating, and had been stripped of interior walls and architectural accents; when asked what they would do with the building, Treanor said, “Build something beautiful... the town has unbelievable potential,... most things do – if looked at in the right manner.” Extensive renovations using materials salvaged from the property produced a stunning coffeehouse restaurant, clothing boutique, design gallery, and residential lofts.

The purchase, and decision to invest in Gananoque, was a move predicated by community, family, economic viability, and quality of life. Yates says she is thrilled to be in Gananoque. “We are very excited to be here.” “I am fortunate to be involved with such a strong team, and to have been welcomed with such wide arms by everyone in Gananoque”, said Zach Treanor. “The sense of community is astonishing.”

21 King Street East
www.axleworks.ca

A local favourite, and popular shopping and dining destination, AxleWorks is a cultural experience and unique destination in Eastern Ontario. Each venue was designed through a collaborative process of artistic minds. Everything is salvaged or reclaimed. You will find many fascinating design details, such as: the incredible coffeehouse counter, built with more than 1,000 books and reclaimed hickory timber from an 1810 blacksmith shop; shelving made from 100 year old basement stairs; displays made from furniture carts, wrought iron heating grates, original copper and steel plumbing pipes, and found objects on-premise.





KLIPS PET GROOMING & BOUTIQUE

"Treating the owner as well as the pet"

With their personal approach, knowledgeable staff and years of experience, Klips has become a highly sought-after pet destination in the Thousand Islands. When deciding to get back into the pet industry, Becky had the option of opening her business in a large centre such as Kingston, but instead opted for Gananoque. As a resident of Seeley's Bay, Becky was familiar with the area and was drawn to the character of the people here. It didn't take long for her to make a connection to the town, and gain loyal clientele. There are very few clients that come through the door whom she doesn't know by name (dog and owner).

176 King St E, Gananoque
613-382-9696
www.klipsboutique.ca

Going into their ninth year, Klips has earned a reputation that draws customers from as far away as Ottawa and Toronto. When asked if she was happy with the progress of their business, Becky responded; "Had someone told me the success I would have in Gananoque, I would have done it here a long time ago".



GANANOQUE CHEVROLET BUICK GMC CADILLAC

"You'll appreciate the difference..."

As a family run operation, Gananoque Chevrolet has been servicing the community with innovative General Motors products and quality service for almost 40 years. Despite already having a reputation for excellent customer service, general manager Jamie Hall is always looking to take it to the next level with continuous training for his employees and investment in the latest customer conveniences. It is this type of dedication that has allowed a high profile business to succeed in a small town. Not only did GanChev survive the market fall and the downgrade of dealerships in 2008, but they have since refocused the service in all departments and have been climbing to new heights.

439 King St E, Gananoque
613-382-2168
www.getgm.com

As local business owners, with a loyal customer base and dedicated staff (over half of which have been there for 15+ years), the Hall family is proud to call Gananoque home. With an unwavering commitment to community involvement, Jamie says they are always looking for ways to "support the people who support us". Even after vacationing, Jamie says there is no place he'd rather be, as nothing compares to the scenery of the St. Lawrence and Thousand Islands.



WE ARE READY FOR YOU

The Town of Gananoque is here to help entrepreneurs and businesses who are interested in locating, growing or starting a business in our region. We have answers to your questions, know the latest trends and will provide you with the right resources.

What we have to offer:

- Single point of contact for businesses interested in locating to Gananoque
- Confidential information source for businesses, site selectors and consultants
- Current economic data, demographics, statistics and information on the region
- Strong partnerships that work to promote, support and sustain economic prosperity
- Resources and networks to help your business start, grow and expand



QUICK FACTS

	Town of Gananoque	Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands	Region 50km radius
Population	5200	9300	220 000
Land (km ²)	7	607	2500
Number of Households	2453	4731	
Average Income	\$59,224	\$67,366	\$69,908
Commercial tax rate	0.0215	0.0235	
Industrial tax rate	0.0298	0.0282	
Local labour force	2750	5200	112 000
Tourist per year	500 000		4,250 000

SOURCE: Statistic Canada 2011, Regional Tourist Area #9 Visitor Tracking and Performance Measures 2011

WORK FORCE

Gananoque and the surrounding region is home to educated, skilled and highly motivated people that will be perfect for your business needs. The community prides itself on its excellent work ethic and the resources and training available to support business. Based on 2011 occupations, this region has a strong labour force in manufacturing, management, business & finance and sales & service. If you still can't find the perfect fit, today's technology enables you to access and work closely with people from around the globe while enjoying the beauty of the 1000 Islands.

Gananoque's Largest Private Sector Employers

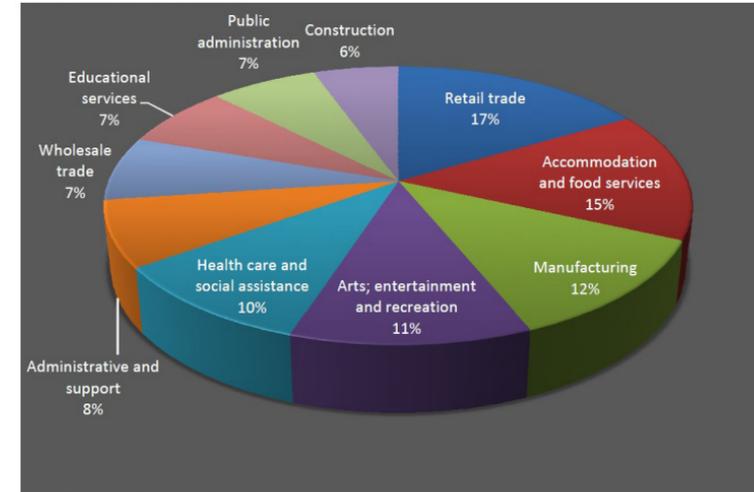
Covidien	450
Thousand Islands OLG Casino Gananoque	419
Home Hardware	127
Canada Border Service Agency	120
Glen House /Smugglers Glen Golf Course	120
Metro	100
Gananoque Boat Line	95
Rockport Boat Lines	80

*Data verified as of May 20/ 2013



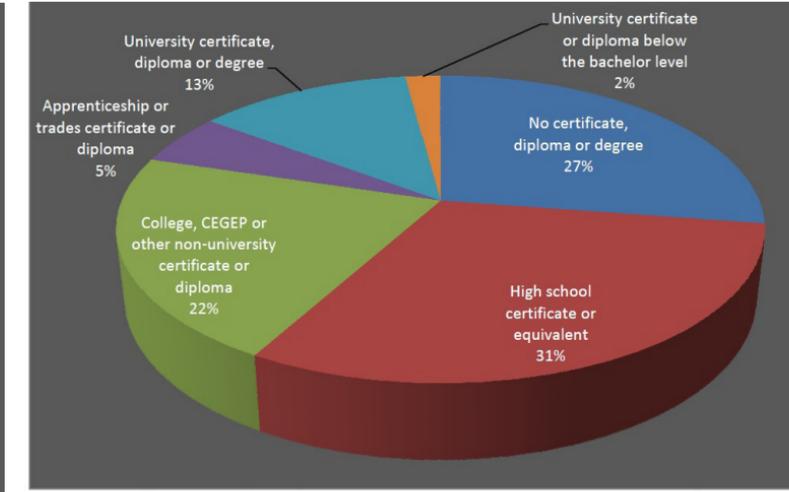
LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS

Top 10 Sectors by Employment



Statistics Canada, Census 2011

Educational Attainment



Statistics Canada, Census 2011

OUR COMMUNITY

This dynamic rural community offers a variety of activities unique to the region including a scenic cycling path along a captivating waterfront trail, beautiful beaches, museum, galleries, casino, kayaking, golfing, fishing and outstanding performances at one of the most recognized regional theatres.



Town Statistics, Stats Canada 2011
Number of Households 2453
Average Income \$59,224
Average Housing price \$265,000
Commercial Tax Rate 0.0215 (2012)

Municipal Marina
340 seasonal, transient and deep water slips
30 amp and 50 amp electrical service
Washrooms and newly renovated showers
Laundry facilities on site

EDUCATION

Ontario East universities, community colleges of applied arts and technology, and private post-secondary training schools prepare graduates for roles that foster the development of a wide range of businesses. Currently, more than 102,000 students are enrolled full time at our regional universities and colleges.

Although some of Ontario East's qualities can be better appreciated if experienced, our educational talents are a matter of public record. More than 54% of Ontario's 6.5 million workers have completed post-secondary education, a higher percentage than that of any other industrialized country.

Regional universities include:

Carleton University
Queen's University
Royal Military College of Canada
St. Paul University
Trent University
University of Ottawa

Regional community colleges include:

Algonquin College
Collège d'Alfred de l'Université de Guelph
Kemptville College (University of Guelph)
La Cité collégiale
Loyalist College
St. Lawrence College
Sir Sanford Fleming College

Many people in Ontario East are life-long learners. Their engagement in continuous personal development and improvement contributes significantly to their abilities to innovate.

RESOURCES TO HELP BUSINESS GROW

- The Economic Development Department for the Town of Gananoque will work with existing and new businesses to assist in whatever capacity is necessary. Please contact the office for the full listing of funding opportunities or visit www.gananoque.ca/investinggananoque

Town of Gananoque

Community Improvement Program – Downtown

The intent of the Downtown CIP is to encourage and provide funding for design changes to stimulate redevelopment and revitalization of the downtown core. Below are grants and programs available:

Facade Improvement Grant	50% up to \$3000
Interior Improvement Residential Grant	50% up to \$1000
Interior Improvement Commercial Grant	50% up to \$2000
Accessibility Improvement Grant	50% up to \$3000
Business Improvement Loan	0% interest loan up to \$10,000
Permit/Application Fee Grant	\$500

Community Improvement Program – Brownfield Sites

The intent of the Brownfield CIP program is to encourage reuse, rehabilitation and redevelopment of brownfield properties.

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Grant	50% up to \$5000
Phase II Environmental Site Assessment Grant	50% up to \$10,000
Brownfield Development Tax Cancellation Program	up to 3 years
Brownfield Development Tax Assistance Program	escalating scale over 4 years
Permit/Application Fee Grant	\$500

- 1000 Islands Community Development Corporation- www.ticdc.ca
- The Thousand Islands Community Futures Development Corporation is dedicated to helping small and medium-sized businesses by providing resources, business counselling, advisory services and access to capital through loans, equity investment and loan guarantees.
[Commercial loans - up to \\$150,000](#)
[Business Counselling](#)

Eastern Ontario Development Program

A multi-million dollar initiative from the Government of Canada that promotes rural, socioeconomic development in Eastern Ontario with the intent to lead a more competitive and diversified regional economy.

[Project specific see website for details - www.ticdc.ca](#)

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food - www.omafra.gov.on.ca

Eastern Ontario Development Fund

The Eastern Ontario Economic Development Fund is a four year, \$80 million fund designed to help businesses create new jobs, and invest in new technologies, equipment or skills training for workers.

[Individual businesses up to 15% to a maximum of \\$1.5 million.](#)

KEYS Job Centre - www.keys.ca

[Skills Training, Wage Incentive Programs, Employer/Job Seeker Services](#)

TOWN'S CONTINUED INVESTMENT

The Town understands that continued investment is required to support and grow the community. The Town continues to invest in infrastructure, recreation, economic development, culture and community. Some of the latest investments include:

- Joel Stone Park
- Splash Pad
- Expansion at the Marina
- Custom Dock
- Roads
- Pumping Station



THE LAST WORD

"Ontario East represents over two million people, over 200-plus communities and more than 1000 businesses."
Ontario East Economic Development

"There are so many fantastic places in this area -especially since you have two UNESCO sites right in this area. Anything that's good for the Gananoque area is good for the Kingston area and good for eastern Ontario."
current Attorney General, John Gerretsen





BRING YOUR IDEAS TO LIFE

Have an idea?
Need more information?
Chat over coffee?

Call the Economic Development Department
Shelley Hirstwood, Economic Development Manager: 613 382 2149 ext 1127
or
Brenda Guy, Community Development: 613 382 2149 1126

Corporation of the Town of Gananoque
PO Box 100, 30 King St E Gananoque, ON K7G 2T6
(p) 613-382-2149
(f) 613-382-8587
www.gananoque.ca



Thank you to Lauren Kaufmann Photography, 1000 Island Kayaking (cover picture) , Gananoque Inn, Klips,
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