

Energizing Innovation



 Durham Region, Greater Toronto Area, Canada

A map of Eastern Canada with a dark blue background. The Durham Region is highlighted in a lighter blue. A red star with a white outline marks the location of Toronto. Other cities are marked with white dots: Niagara Falls, Ottawa, and Montreal. The text labels are in white.

**Durham
Region**

Toronto •
Niagara Falls •

• **Ottawa**

• **Montreal**

Canada is open for business and welcomes foreign investment, offering one of the most generous Research & Development (R&D) incentives to businesses in the G7.

The Greater Toronto Area (GTA) consistently tops global rankings for livability, safety, and the best and easiest places to do business.

Durham Region's location offers access to Canada's largest consumer market of more than five million people, and 135 million more Canadian and American consumers within 800 kilometers.



Durham Region, Greater Toronto Area, Canada

Industry

- Durham Region is where clean energy and automotive innovation connect. As the Clean Energy Capital of Canada, Durham Region is home to the nation's leading cluster of energy sector businesses.
- Durham Region's on-campus research facilities include 30 labs dedicated to energy and automotive, featuring one of the most sophisticated wind tunnels of its kind in the world, hydrogen production, a small modular reactor simulator, clean energy, microgrids and more.
- Durham Region has a large agricultural sector and connects farm-to-table; is home to innovative agri-tech; and, is the Apple Capital of Canada.
- Durham Region's competitive advantage includes lower development charges compared to other locations in the GTA.

Growth and Innovation

- Durham Region offers world class R&D capabilities, abundant energy and fresh water, and serviced employment lands.
- Durham Region is experiencing booming growth and is forecast to grow from a population of nearly 770,000 to 1.3 million by the year 2051.
- Durham Region has been named one of the top 20 places in Canada to invest by Site Selection Magazine and is a Certified Intelligent Community.

Desirable Lifestyle

- Durham Region is where Toronto gets green. Nestled between three lakefronts, Durham Region is where the city and country connect. With lush forests and protected natural spaces, Durham's lifestyle offers ample parks, trails and community gardens, and activities like hiking, biking, skiing and golf.

Durham Region is made up of eight local municipalities, including:



Town of Ajax



Township of Brock



Municipality of Clarington



City of Oshawa



City of Pickering



Township of Scugog



Township of Uxbridge



Town of Whitby



The Durham Advantage

Invest Durham is here to assist you in navigating your business expansion, relocation, or creation in Durham Region, Ontario, Canada.

Employment Ready Land

- Significant availability of pre-serviced employment land, providing quick access to establish operations.
- More than 1,900 hectares of designated employment area land with a mix of built, vacant, and underutilized options to suit various business needs.

Fresh Water Access

- Access to high-quality drinking water from one of the largest fresh water sources in the world—the Great Lakes, ensuring a reliable supply for industrial and commercial use.
- Durham Region offers sophisticated water treatment systems, guaranteeing safe and clean water.

Affordable and Abundant Clean Power

- Canadian leader in clean energy, supporting renewable energy projects and sustainable practices.
- Competitive electricity rates compared to other G7 countries, alongside a commitment to reducing carbon footprints.

Talent Advantage

- Access to industry-specific talent and top post-secondary graduates; there are 30 university and college campuses within a one- to two-hour drive of Durham Region.
- Overall labour costs in Canada are among the lowest in the G7.

Collaborative Environment

- Various levels of government, Chambers of Commerce, academic partners, and others collaborate to ensure business success and investment support.



Durham College

Durham College (DC) offers responsive and future forward programming and services across two campuses in Durham Region. Investments in technology and continual innovation in industry-responsive programs make DC a valuable collaboration partner for institutions and companies.

- Industry-focused R&D centres specializing in AI, Cybersecurity, Mixed Reality Capture.
- State-of-the-art tech for AI, Cybersecurity, 3D Animation, Video Production, VR, EVs, Food Production and Processing, and Beverage Processing.
- Corporate Training Services (CTS) with a specialty in automotive industry training.

➤ DurhamCollege.ca

Strong partnerships with other Canadian research institutes, colleges, and universities.

EV Lab for training future EV technicians.

30 years of delivering in-person, virtual and hybrid training solutions to automotive OEMs.



Ontario Tech University

Ontario Tech University is a STEM-focused and research-intensive learning institute with students and facilities located across two campuses in Durham Region. Specialized in automotive, manufacturing, mechatronic and nuclear engineering programs, Ontario Tech consistently ranks among top engineering institutions in Canada.

- 11,000 graduate and undergraduate students across 90+ programs in areas of study such as Business, Energy Systems and Nuclear Science, Engineering, Information Technology, and Health Science and Science faculties.
- Canada's #1 Undergraduate Research University of the Year (2023 and 2024) and the national leader in applications of AI in advanced manufacturing.

**ACE Climatic
Aerodynamic Wind
Tunnel core research
and testing facility at
Ontario Tech supports
industry product
development globally.**

**80 specialized research
laboratories and facilities,
11 Canada Research
Chairs, and more than
300 industry partners.**

▶ OntarioTechU.ca



Trent University Durham GTA

Trent University Durham GTA has two campuses in Durham Region, and strong connections to Trent University's primary campus in nearby Peterborough. Specialized programs are industry-responsive and include degree, graduate programs, certificates and micro-credentials.

- Fast gaining a reputation for meaningful community-based research alongside programs in Entrepreneurship, Experiential Learning Opportunities, and Corporate and Community Partnerships.
- One of the top ranked Universities in Canada by reputation.
- 3,000 students studying within undergraduate and graduate programs in Durham Region.

**Research leader in
Healthy and Sustainable
Environments and
Communities.**

**Undergraduate
and postgraduate
programs include AI,
Management, Logistics
and Supply Chain.**

► TrentU.ca/durham



Project Arrow

The Automotive Parts Manufacturers’ Association (APMA) launched Canada’s first, original, full-build, zero-emission concept vehicle named Project Arrow in 2023. The vehicle was designed, engineered and built through the joint efforts of Durham Region’s world-class automotive supply sector and post-secondary institutions.

- Project Arrow brings together Canada’s best of the best electric-drive, alternative-fuel, connected, autonomous and light-weight technology companies.
- Engineered and built at ACE Climatic Aerodynamic Wind Tunnel—Ontario Tech University’s research facility—the project brings together innovation from 60 partners and suppliers, and 25 tech innovations.

The next phase, Project Arrow 2.0, will bring together more suppliers and produce a series of 10 to 20 vehicles.

Ontario Tech University has been announced as the Official Build Partner of Project Arrow 2.0.

▶ ProjectArrow.ca



Durham Region's Innovation Supports

Spark Centre is Durham's Regional Innovation Centre (RIC), a provincially-funded centre that provides resources and commercialization services to innovative technology entrepreneurs and businesses. Spark Centre offers local and international entrepreneurs an ecosystem of support to launch and scale their businesses or relocate their company to Durham Region.

Brilliant Catalyst at Ontario Tech University is an innovative tech incubator that accelerates the success of ventures—both student and entrepreneur led.

Angel Investors Durham is an investor group dedicated to empowering visionary entrepreneurs and maximizing returns for investors.

1855 Technology Accelerator supports high-potential technology companies during early growth stages.

Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) provides business support for individuals wanting to start or grow an existing business, including funding programs, mentorship and more.



Employment Ready Land

Durham Region's booming growth offers vast opportunity and competitive cost advantages to investors. Our Signature Sites package includes select industrial and commercial properties for sale or lease.

View it online:

➤ InvestDurham.ca/sites

Featured site: Clarington Energy Park

Durham Region is the Clean Energy Capital of Canada. Our business community is at the forefront of energy innovation with a vibrant cluster of future energy businesses—the strongest of its kind in Canada. This property is a 20-acre parcel available now. This prime real estate, for sale by Invest Durham, offers a range of potential development options, including a large fabrication facility or signature gateway office building.



Research and Development

Durham Region offers a collaborative innovation community where research and development facilities, academic institutions and industry work together to solve some of the world's greatest challenges. A partial list of R&D centres is below.



Ontario Tech University

- ACE Climatic Aerodynamic Wind Tunnel
- Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre
- Brilliant Energy Institute
- Brilliant Ventures Fund
- Centre for Small Modular Reactors
- Clean Energy Research Laboratory
- Energy Systems and Nuclear Science Research Centre
- Materials Characterization Facility
- Microgrid and Innovation Park
- Software and Informatics Research Centre
- Wind and Geothermal Laboratory



Durham College

- The AI/Hub
- Mixed Reality Capture Studio
- Centre for Cybersecurity Innovation
- Accelerating energy and automotive workforce training through CTS



Trent University Durham GTA

- Cognitive Health Aging Technology Lab
- Research areas including Artificial Intelligence, Business Administration, Communication, Computer Science



Next Generation Mobility

The GTA offers one of the most robust manufacturing supply chains in the world, where hundreds of parts suppliers and tech start-ups converge. Advanced infrastructure and market access, the availability of a high-quality workforce, and a dynamic R&D environment, are major characteristics that attract and support companies.

Durham Region is an important location for the interplay of energy innovation and advanced mobility through its:

- Strong talent pipeline; home to the only accredited Automotive Engineering Program of its kind in Canada;
- Durham Regional Technology Development Site (DRTDS), a program created to encourage collaboration of industry, academia and government;
- Strength in automotive development and testing;
- Available office and lab space for innovative R&D opportunities;
- EV charger testing facilities;
- Thriving autonomous technology startup ecosystem; and,
- Pipeline of innovative projects.

Invest Durham will support your business expansion in Canada.

Concierge Services to Support Investors:

- Coordinating with other levels of government;
- Connecting with experts for administrative services, such as bookkeeping, payroll, accounting, legal, and start-up;
- Identifying federal, provincial, or municipal financial incentives that may offset capital and development costs, and tax incentives for manufacturers and industrial corporations;
- Coordinating with a dedicated Immigration Referral Services Partner to assist with applications for Work Permits and Permanent Residence;
- Research for local evaluation and risk assessment, including commercial and industrial operation rates (utilities), real estate, labour index, and more; and,
- Resources available in the local ecosystem to support the facility and sector-specific economy.





Contact Us

We are confident our team can help you succeed in Canada.

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The Regional Municipality of Durham
🇨🇦 Durham Region, Ontario, Canada

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