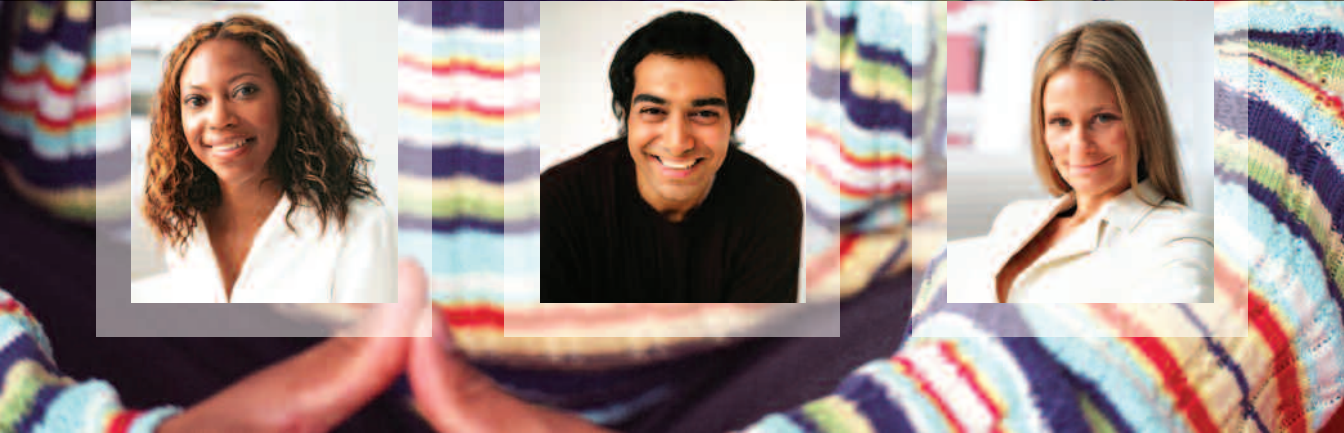




live the Kitchener lifestyle – live well



Where Are We?



Kitchener is a city of vibrancy and vision that only a great past can inspire. From its humble beginnings in the mid-1800s as an industrial town, Kitchener has emerged as an innovative, creative and culturally diverse city that has a cosmopolitan feel, and yet easily maintains that appealing sense of friendliness and cohesiveness more often associated with smaller towns.

Kitchener is an increasingly popular destination for thousands of people looking for all of the opportunities of a larger metropolitan area without the traffic headaches or crowds. We're part of a region of almost half a million people that is growing at twice the rate of both Ontario and Canada.

You'll find unparalleled opportunities here - and you'll also find a superior quality of life, with great schools, friendly neighbourhoods, lots of parks and recreation opportunities, vibrant culture, an affordable real estate market, and excellent health care.

Kitchener really is the place to be.

Kitchener is centrally located in Waterloo Region, in the heart of southwestern Ontario. It's just one hour from Toronto and a couple of hours from the borders at Buffalo and Detroit. We are within two hours' driving distance of some 10 million people.

Travelling to and from Kitchener is easy and convenient. Kitchener is just 45 minutes from Pearson International Airport and 40 minutes from Hamilton International Airport. The Region of Waterloo International Airport, which offers scheduled and charter service, is just a few kilometres away.

The city is well-served by convenient, efficient rail and bus service. Highway 401, the province's major highway network, is minutes away.

Locally, convenient and efficient bus transit throughout the cities of Kitchener, Cambridge and Waterloo is provided by Grand River Transit (GRT). GRT's I-Xpress service allows you to travel between the three cities in minutes. An efficient, well-maintained network of highways and roads provides easy travel within the region.

Enviably Economy



Kitchener has one of the best employment markets in the country.

Part of Canada's Technology Triangle, Kitchener boasts an exciting mix of traditional and new economy businesses. Diverse industry clusters - including an emerging world-class downtown Education and Knowledge Creation Cluster - industrial business parks, ongoing downtown revitalization, rapidly growing high-tech enterprises, provide a wealth of opportunities.

According to a CIBC World Markets Report (May 2005):

- Kitchener CMA* had above average growth in population and employment as compared with 25 other Canadian cities.
- Unemployment rate dipped to one of the lowest in all of Canada.
- Second strongest housing resale market in the country.
- Kitchener CMA is among the fastest growing destinations in the country for employment

* Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area includes the Cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge and the Townships of Woolwich and North Dumfries.



Great Places to Live



Sports & Recreation



Residents here enjoy more programs and resources than residents in any other city in Waterloo Region, including 12 community centres, four indoor pools, three outdoor pools, two municipally-owned golf courses, nine ice pads, a premier sports and entertainment complex called The Aud, and recreational programming for everyone from toddlers to seniors.

Kitchener has 304 parks, 115 playgrounds, 208 kilometres of community trails, and thousands of acres of groomed and natural green spaces. The nearby Grand River, a Canadian heritage river, is ideal for canoeing and kayaking, with both tranquil and white-water stretches, and fishing.

Many sports organizations in Kitchener organize affordable, instructional and competitive programs, from local to international calibre. From basketball to water polo, track and field to swimming, golf and hockey to downhill skiing, there are activities to suit every sports enthusiast's needs.



Kitchener's housing prices were among the lowest of 25 major Canadian cities surveyed by CIBC World Markets in 2005, yet we have one of the strongest resale housing markets in the country.

Whether you're a busy professional, a parent with a young family, or a retiree, Kitchener has neighbourhoods to suit your taste, style and way of life. Find the home of your dreams, whether it's a rambling century home on a tree-lined street or a luxury condo or loft in the heart of downtown.

If it's renting you prefer, Kitchener has what you're looking for. Lofts, highrises, duplexes, an entire floor of a Victorian house – the options are all here.



Arts, Culture & Entertainment



Kitchener offers the best in theatre, music, galleries, great book stores, and festivals.

The city is home to a diverse artistic community celebrated for everything from historic crafts to innovative contemporary art, including that found at the K-W Art Gallery, Contemporary Art Forum Kitchener and Area (CAFKA) and Globe Studios. As well, theatre companies - like Theatre and Company, Lost and Found Theatre Company and MT Space - abound in Kitchener.

And don't forget the music. The beauty and clarity of the acoustics at Centre in the Square, Kitchener's world-class concert hall, make it the perfect setting for the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. It's also a frequent stop for internationally acclaimed recording artists, musical productions and classical musicians. A number of more intimate live music venues in the city host major artists as well as a vibrant local music scene. World-class festivals such as the Kitchener Blues Festival bring the whole community together.

Food lovers will revel in the array of restaurants serving cuisine from around the globe. From elegant bistros to sidewalk cafés, Kitchener has it all.

Additional cultural and entertainment options are easily accessible by a quick trip out of town. A 60-minute trip will take you to Toronto for shopping, theatre, or to catch a Leafs', Raptors' or Jays' game. And Kitchener is just minutes away from quaint, historic small towns and idyllic countryside.



Schools/Education



Wilfrid Laurier
University



Kitchener offers a range of public, Catholic, and private elementary and secondary schools where innovative programming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments, and a healthy complement of parent and community involvement enable students to reach their potential both academically and socially. Excellent facilities – many modern and contemporary and others in quaint, historic buildings amid shaded schoolyards – provide the backdrop against which dynamic teaching strategies come alive.

The city is minutes from the main campuses of two outstanding universities – the University of Waterloo (UW) and Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU). WLU recently opened a satellite campus, home to its Faculty of Social Work, in downtown Kitchener. Just a couple of blocks away, UW is constructing its new School of Pharmacy, the first phase of a Downtown Kitchener Health Sciences Campus.

Kitchener is also home to the widely-respected Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, consistently ranked as the number one college in Ontario by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.



Health Care



Kitchener's two hospitals provide state-of-the-art medical technology including an enhanced cardiac care centre, maternity ward and oncology unit. A Centre for Family Medicine houses a family health team, including family physicians, nurse practitioners, and other health professionals.

By 2008, Kitchener's ability to offer access to family doctors will be significantly enhanced through the opening of the University of Waterloo's anticipated Integrated Primary Care Clinic, in conjunction with its Downtown Kitchener School of Pharmacy facility. The anticipated clinic will employ as many as 14 new doctors and many more will be educated there.





For more information visit:

www.kitchener.ca
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