



Township of
Oro Medonte
Proud Heritage, Exciting Future

Community Profile

ORO-MEDONTE.CA



On behalf of Council and Township staff, we welcome you to the Township of Oro-Medonte.

Oro-Medonte is a rural jewel located less than one hour north of Toronto, nestled between the cities of Barrie and Orillia, with direct access to Highways 11, 12 and 400, providing easy access for transportation of goods to the Greater Toronto Area and north. We are a convenient and short drive to the Cities of Barrie and Orillia, and the Town of Midland.

The Township is home to the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport; one of the newest and best positioned regional airport facilities in Canada, that is fully serviced by the Canada Border Service Agency.

Residents are within a short commute to access a variety of innovative educational opportunities offered by Georgian College and Lakehead University. Health care services that include modern hospitals are equally accessible in the surrounding cities.

Recreational opportunities are endless throughout the Township from the waters of Lake Simcoe on the south, to the scenic hills of the Oro-Moraine in the north. Whether you love to ski, boat, cycle, hike, visit unique artisan studios or enjoy easily accessible stunning scenery, Oro-Medonte truly is a four-season destination.

It is the people of this community that are our greatest asset, and that makes us unique.

Our business community, waiting to serve, looks forward to welcoming you to Oro-Medonte.

Mayor Randy Greenlaw



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Township of Oro-Medonte acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishnaabek people, and ancestral territory of the Huron-Wendat. The Anishnaabek include the Odawa, Ojibwe and Pottawatomi nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. It continues today as the home for diverse Indigenous Peoples including the historic Métis Community in Penetanguishene.

The Anishnaabek people continue to have an enduring relationship with this land, specifically the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, the Chippewa Tri-Council and the Williams Treaties First Nations. The Huron-Wendat Nation also continues to pay respect and protect their ancestors and heritage on this land. We honour the Indigenous history and culture that has thrived for millennia in this territory and the Treaties that bind us together as partners in the spirit of a shared sustainable and prosperous future. We are all Treaty People. Our commitment begins with acknowledging the Truth so that we can move forward together towards Reconciliation.



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CONTACT US

(705) 487-2171 | business@oro-medonte.ca

Oro-Medonte.ca

Township Administration Centre

148 Line 7 South, Oro-Medonte, Ontario L0L 2E0

 /OroMedonte

 @TwpOroMedonte

 oromedontetwp

 TownshipofOroMedonte

Photo Credits: Andrea Hamlin Photography, Eamonn O’Connell, Jennifer Whitley, Lynda J. Chan Photography, Jennifer Pike, Hillary Handy and Lakehead University Partnerships with Orillia & Lake Country Tourism, RTO7 & Tourism Simcoe County
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Why Oro-Medonte

The Township of Oro-Medonte covers 61,000 hectares of land, including picturesque landscapes with prominent rolling hills and nearly 40 kilometres of beautiful Lake Simcoe Shoreline. Located in Simcoe County between Barrie and Orillia, Oro-Medonte serves as the gateway that connects Northern and Southern Ontario. With a rich history, an abundance of outdoor recreational opportunities, a diverse business community, a strong agriculture sector and a flourishing arts and culture scene, Oro-Medonte offers a peaceful and serene environment away from the hustle and bustle of urban living. **The Township provides a quality of life that is truly unmatched.**

We are the Greater Toronto Area's (GTA) playground, we get to call this 4 season playground our home!

Strategic & Convenient Location

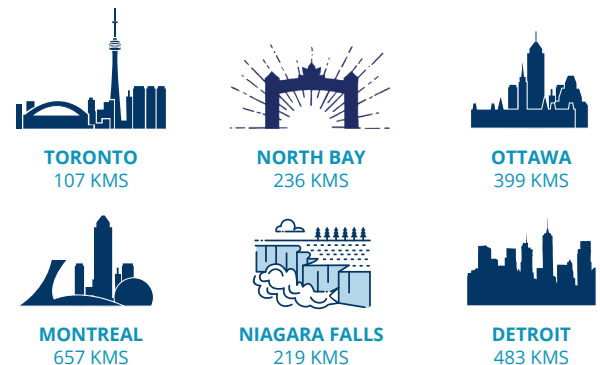
Oro-Medonte is the gateway to cottage country, within an hour of the GTA. The Township's convenient location along major highways, provides exceptional opportunities for businesses, tourists, and residents alike. Within 30 minutes or less there is access to urban amenities and services in the cities of Barrie and Orillia as well as the Town of Midland.

TRANSPORTATION

- Convenient access to highways 11, 400 and 12
- Within an hour of Toronto International Airport
- The Lake Simcoe Regional Airport is located in the heart of Oro-Medonte
- Two international border crossings are located within a reasonable driving distance from Oro-Medonte - Niagara Falls, a 2.5 hour drive, and Detroit, a 4.5 hour drive
- Nearby in Barrie there is access to the Go Station, providing train and bus services to Downtown Toronto and other parts of Ontario
- LINX, a regularly scheduled bus service, connects Simcoe County municipalities in addition to the Cities of Barrie and Orillia



DISTANCES FROM KEY CITIES



LESS CONGESTION



LOWER TRAFFIC VOLUMES



90.57% of the total population are vehicle drivers. Personal vehicles are the most used mode of transportation.



STRONG ROAD NETWORKS



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK



The majority of residents have a commute of only **15-29 minutes** to work.





POST SECONDARY

- Lakehead University
- Georgian College

HOSPITALS

- Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital
- Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre
- Georgian Bay General Hospital

INDUSTRIAL PARKS

- Forest Home
- Small Crescent
- Guthrie
- Oro Station
- Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Economic Development Area



Our Community

Oro-Medonte stands out as an ideal community to call home, offering numerous safe and welcoming neighborhoods along with an array of recreational activities. Whether your family is expanding or you're contemplating retirement, the township, situated as a lower-tier municipality in the County of Simcoe within the Greater Golden Horseshoe, provides an excellent living environment. Positioned at the gateway to cottage country, Oro-Medonte is renowned as a top-tier, four-season tourism destination. Residents and visitors alike relish the scenic rolling hills, breathtaking views, extensive recreation trails, facilities, and a thriving arts and culture scene.



The Township's Corporate Vision:

We are a progressive, collaborative, vibrant, environmentally conscious community where everyone can live, work, and play.



Lifestyle

LIVE. WORK. PLAY.

Oro-Medonte's lifestyle is about community connections and outdoor recreation that contribute to the health, wellness and happiness of our residents.

We are known for our four-season playground with scenic vistas and picturesque countryside views. Our Township is a great location for growing families as well as retirees and people looking to get away from the hustle and bustle of city life and a short commute for services and recreation opportunities.

The Township is home to world class tourism attractions and the training grounds for some professional athletes. We are a haven for year-round recreation enthusiasts, who enjoy the forests and rolling landscapes. Oro-Medonte is a draw for people from the city looking for healthy lifestyle choices including the attributes of nature, outdoor recreation and spaces and available wellness services. Within the borders of the Township there is a plethora of public and privately owned 4 season recreation opportunities to experience.

 <p>28.1 kms Multi Use Rail Trail</p>	 <p>4 season multi-use trails including the Copeland Forest</p>
 <p>7 Beautiful Golf Courses</p>	 <p>More than 6,296 acres across 39 tracts of Simcoe County Forest</p>
 <p>3 Ski Resorts with a combination of Alpine and Nordic trails</p>	 <p>40kms of Lake Simcoe Shoreline</p>
 <p>524 Acres of Parkland</p>	 <p>5 Boat launches/ docks/ wharfs</p>
 <p>Mecca for 4 seasons of cycling Road, trail, mountain, downhill and fat biking.</p>	 <p>14 parks with playgrounds</p>
<p>World Class Event Centre</p> 	 <p>1 Community Centre</p>
<p>8 Multi-use pads</p> 	<p>1 Nordic Spa</p> 



**INSPIRATIONAL & CREATIVE
ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR**

Oro-Medonte is home to a diverse selection of multi-media artists providing unique opportunities and experiences connecting with the local culture. The popular Thanksgiving Images Studio tour is held each fall. The juried show features exhibits from over thirty outstanding local artists and crafts people.



Explore the 30 Art_Trees of Oro-Medonte on a self guided public art tour. Each tree sculpture was designed by talented local artists, the trees depict scenes that reflect and tell the story of Oro-Medonte, showcasing the natural beauty, culture and history of the Township.

Dozens of painted Barn Quilts can be found throughout Oro-Medonte. This is part of the Simcoe County Barn Quilt Trail. Each quilt pattern is different, and many represent family traditions and local heritage.



Proud Heritage, Exciting Future



ORO-MEDONTE WAS NAMED AS A TOP 10 HIDDEN GEM IN CANADA.

The Township was featured in the Globe & Mail in 2022 as a hidden gem and a must visit destination. There is so much to discover in the space between Barrie & Orillia, offering four seasons of nature and recreation. Take a visit to Oro-Medonte to fall in love with nature, have a fun and relaxing experience, all served up with friendly and welcoming small-town feel.



Painting by: E. Bravo

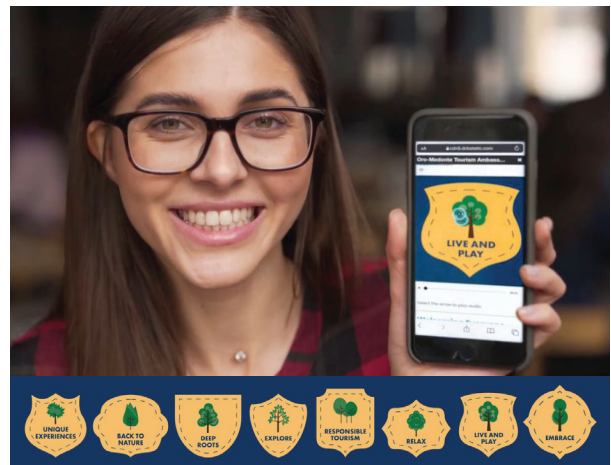
ORO AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Oro African Methodist Episcopal Church, a National Historic Site in Oro-Medonte, is one of the oldest African log churches still standing in North America. This Church stands as a testament to both the Black Settlers, who carefully crafted and cared for it for nearly 75 years, and a group of passionate community volunteers who worked diligently to preserve the church since its abandonment in the 1920's.

"I'm continually inspired by the beauty of the hills and forests throughout Oro-Medonte. Within the forest, there is a more intimate and small-scale environment that has its own beauty, whether spring wildflowers, fall mushrooms, flowing streams or vernal pools."



David Kennedy – Past President, Copeland Forest Friends Association



AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Township created an online Ambassador Certificate Program that features eLearning modules about the history, experiences and opportunities for locals and visitors. The Township encourages residents and businesses to participate in the certificate program to learn more about Oro-Medonte.



"Beyond the natural and rural environment we are in, it is the community that makes this a great place. I believe people care about this area and work hard to take care of it. Ensuring this continues for future generations will be key to maintaining this township's legacy."

Michelle Bloom – Local Ambassador

Health & Wellness

HEALTH

With convenient access to nearby Orillia Soldier's Memorial Hospital, Barrie's Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre and Midland's Georgian Bay Hospital, Oro-Medonte residents have access to exceptional care within close proximity to our rural community. A wide range of healthcare services are available in the Township including, but not limited to: a Nurse Practitioners Clinic, Physiotherapy, Chiropractor, Massage, Optometry, Dental, Pharmacy services, and Veterinarian clinics.

WELLNESS

Oro-Medonte is the perfect place to unwind and take care of your health and wellness. We are home to a Finnish Nordic Spa, several yoga studios, recreation outfitters and unique wellness opportunities. Embrace forest bathing, take a walk in the forest, wander, observe and immerse yourself in nature, allow your senses to guide you.



Farm Fresh Community



Oro-Medonte is a rural municipality, agriculture is an important part of our natural and cultural history, and our future. We are a Farm Fresh community with many different sizes of farm type operations including a seasonal farmers market and many road side stands offering farm fresh products. The growing trend of Agri-Tourism continues to increase in Oro-Medonte with many farms adding on-farm diversified uses to their property to provide additional income and opportunities. One can experience a taste of place right here in Oro-Medonte with farm fresh honey, craft beverages, chocolates, wine and much more. We take pride in the impressive and growing collection of local businesses and supporting local producers right here in our community.

- Farm Producers
- Locally Made Products
- Farmers Market
- Local Market Stores
- On Farm Activities
- Farm Stands
- Farm to Table Restaurants



#OroMedonteMade

Explore the variety of Agri-Tourism related products produced locally, right here in Oro-Medonte!

Demographics

With a land area of **586.90 square kilometres**, the township has a **population density of 39.2 people per square kilometre.**

TOTAL POPULATION
23,017¹



AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME



2015¹ | 2020¹
\$117,744 | \$139,400



The **MEDIAN AGE** for the township is **47.6 years old**

and the majority of households are composed of two people.²

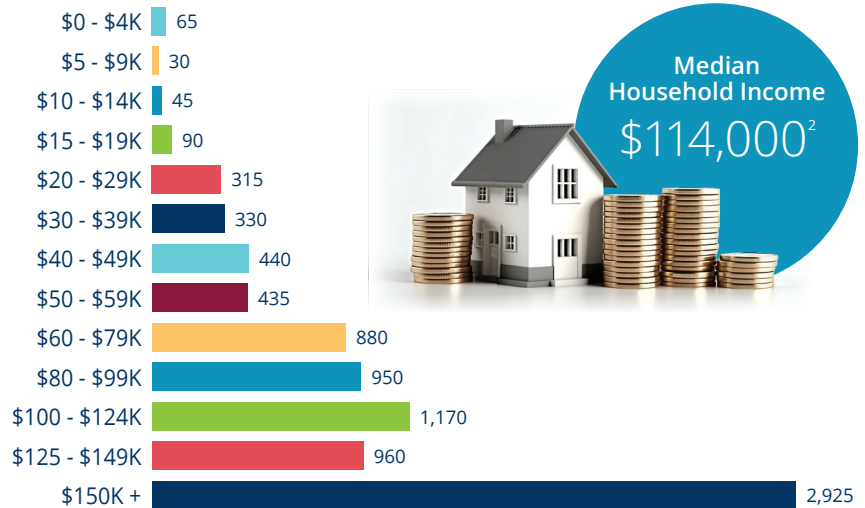
\$52,989³
AVERAGE WAGE 2019
(89% of national average)



Population by Age²

Ages 0-4	1,055
Ages 5-9	1,230
Ages 10-14	1,265
Ages 15-19	1,310
Ages 20-24	1,115
Ages 25-29	920
Ages 30-34	1,140
Ages 35-39	1,380
Ages 40-44	1,330
Ages 45-49	1,455
Ages 50-54	1,675
Ages 55-59	2,110
Ages 60-64	2,105
Ages 65-69	1,790
Ages 70-74	1,380
Ages 75-79	915
Ages 80-84	515
Ages 85+	325

Household Income²

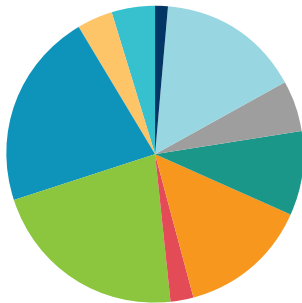


Workforce

LABOUR FORCE BY OCCUPATION & INDUSTRY

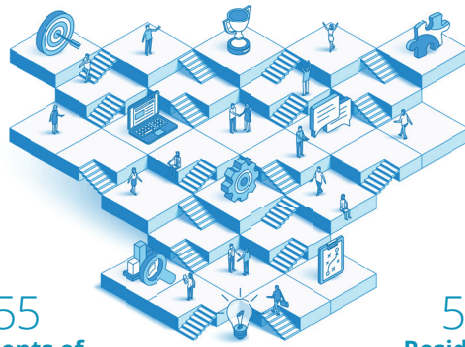


Labour Force by Occupation¹



Management	175
Business & Finance	1,905
Sciences	670
Health	1,110
Education, Law & Government	1,685
Art & Sports	310
Sales & Service	2,620
Trades & Transport	2,595
Natural Resources	470
Manufacturing	545

LABOUR FLOW



1,055 Residents of Oro-Medonte work within their own community⁵

5,465 Residents of Oro-Medonte leave their own community each day for work⁵

Labour Force by Industry¹

Agriculture	305
Mining	35
Utilities	135
Construction	1,385
Manufacturing	995
Wholesale	420
Retail	1,140
Transportation	505
Information	170
Finance	310
Real Estate	315
Professional Services	815
Management	35
Administration	465
Education	940
Health Care	1,715
Arts & Entertainment	320
Accommodation	645
Other	490
Public Administration	940

LABOUR FORCE

Oro-Medonte Residents active in the Labour Force¹
12,085

Self Employed¹
2,575

Employment Rate¹
56.4%

Unemployment Rate¹
10.9%



¹Source – Statistics Canada, 2022 Census.

⁵Source – Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population.

Data Limitation: These figures do not include persons who do not have a usual place of work.

As a result, persons who work from home, outside of Canada or that have no fixed workplace address are not included.

Employment Areas

LAKE SIMCOE REGIONAL AIRPORT (LSRA) - CYLS

Located in the Township of Oro-Medonte, the 595-acre Lake Simcoe Regional Airport (LSRA) is among the newest regional airport facilities in Canada. The airport serves an immediate catchment area of roughly 500,000 people and within a 90 kilometre distance of the airport, the regional catchment area grows to approximately 1.9 million people. The catchment area is a vibrant and rapidly expanding community with a strong and diverse employment base in key sectors such as manufacturing, public service, tourism and health and wellness.






The Airport's Strategic Plan proposes a vision for the long-term and phased-in, demand-based approach to development of LSRA. It provides a path into the future based on a range of business opportunities and industry trends that will benefit the communities surrounding the Airport in significant ways. It is fully serviced by the Canada Border Service Agency and maintains a Commercial Port-Of-Entry status, which allows the airport to accommodate both international passengers and freight.



ORO-MEDONTE EMPLOYMENT LANDS



Employment lands are a vital component of the Township's land-use and are an integral part of local economic development. The employment lands are also home to many of the Township's largest private-sector employers. It is important for the Township to consider a healthy balance between residential and non-residential development. While the Township's economic base is relatively small, it is diverse spanning a range of employment sectors as shown in the key industry sectors chart.

The Township of Oro-Medonte is home to 4 industrial parks + the airport economic employment area.

-  **Forest Home** – Line 15 S & Hwy 11 N
-  **Small Crescent** – 15/16 Sideroad E & Line 13N
-  **Guthrie** – Line 4 South & Highway 11 N
-  **Oro Station** – Line 7
-  **Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Economic Employment District** – Line 7 N

COMMERCIAL CLUSTERS

The Township is also home to commercial clusters concentrated in the following areas:

-  **Craighurst** – Horseshoe Valley Rd W (County Road 22) & Penetanguishene Rd (County Road 93)
-  **Highway 11 Commercial Corridor** –
3 main sections:
 - Highway 11 N & S between Line 1 S & Line 2 S
 - Highway 11 N & S around Line 7 N & S
 - Booth Street on Highway 11 N between Line 10 S & Line 11 S
 - Plus additional locations along highway 11

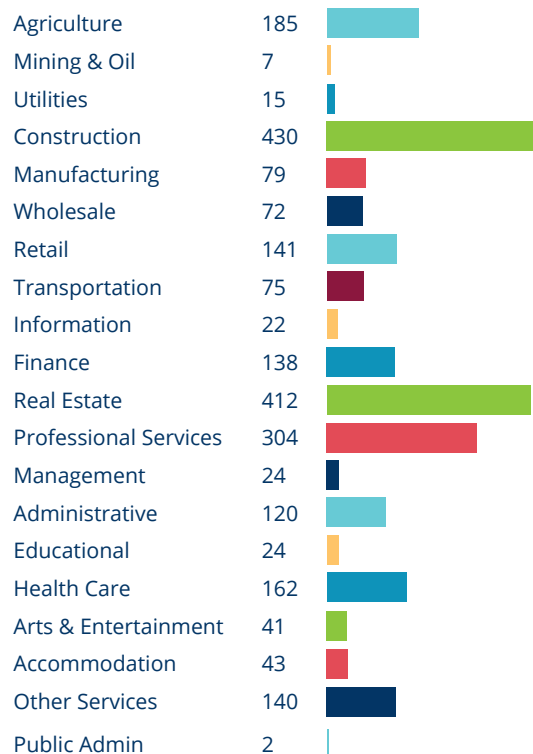
If you are looking for available properties or businesses for sale, please make sure to contact our staff and we would be happy to assist.

Key Industry Sectors

BUSINESSES

The business sector is vital for the Township's stability and growth. The Township is home to a wide variety of businesses including various types of industry and employment opportunities.

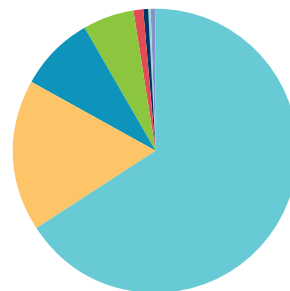
Business Industries⁴



"If we can partner with other people that are doing fantastic things in the community and support them that is a win for us, and it's a win for our customers, they love knowing that they are supporting individual families."

Megan - Chelsea Chocolates

Business Sizes⁴ Number of Employees



1-4	528
5-9	140
10-19	68
20-49	46
50-99	11
100-199	4
200-499	1
500-999	4
Above 1,000	0

MOST POPULAR BUSINESS SIZE
is 1-4 employees

THERE IS 5,759 Jobs
IN ORO-MEDONTE⁵



4 KEY SECTORS

Oro-Medonte is focusing on developing key sectors that leverage the region's strengths and opportunities. These sectors were identified through the Township's Economic Development Strategy.



AGRICULTURE



MANUFACTURING



SERVICE BASED SECTORS



TOURISM

⁴Source - Statistics Canada. Business Register 2022 stats.

⁵Source - EMSI Analyst, Dataset 2022. 3, Industry Overview, Employees stat.

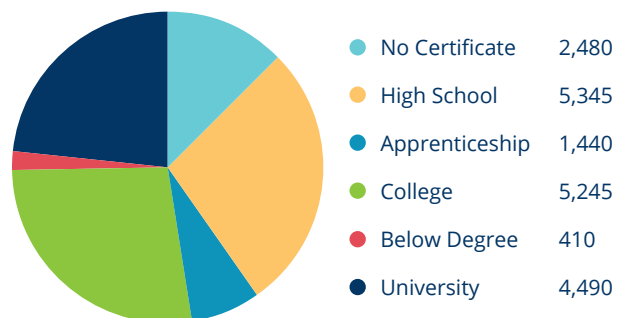


Education



Four school boards provide a variety of private, public, Catholic, and French educational opportunities for residents in the Township. Oro-Medonte is home to 6 public elementary and 1 catholic elementary schools that are spread out across the municipality in the small communities that make up our Township. Currently, there are no secondary schools located in the Township, students are bussed into the neighbouring cities and towns. Quality post-secondary education is available within close proximity, Lakehead University in the City of Orillia and Georgian College which has campuses in Orillia, Barrie and Midland.

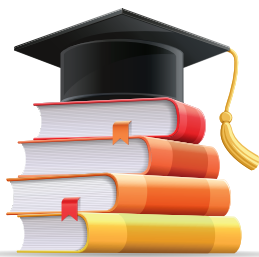
Resident's Educational Attainment²



Educational attainment refers to the highest degree of education an individual has completed, and this chart shows the number of residents for each level of education.

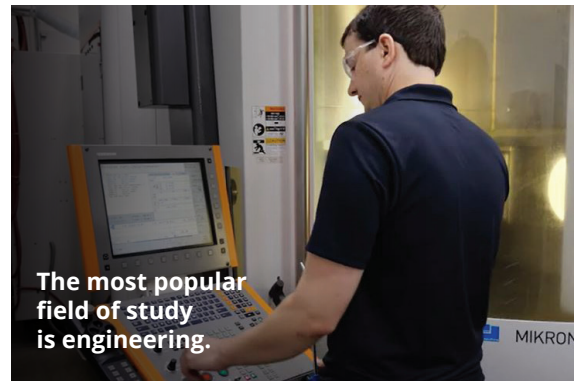


The Township of Oro-Medonte has a highly educated workforce.



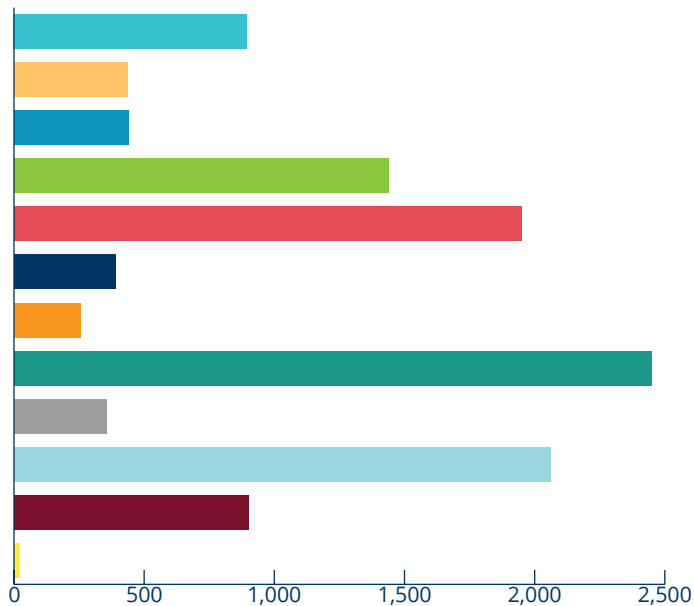
87% of workers have an education equivalent or higher than a high school diploma.²

Over 11,000 residents possess a degree in post-secondary education.²



The most popular field of study is engineering.

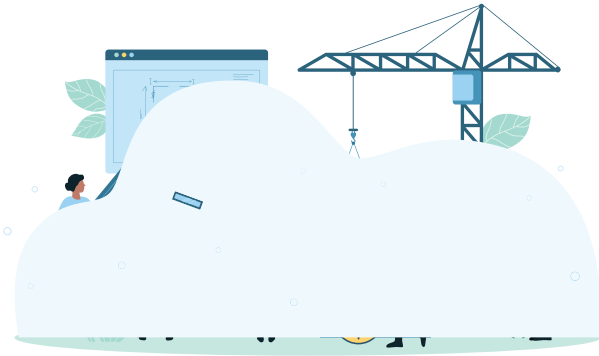
Residents Major Fields of Study²



Education	895
Visual & Performing Arts	435
Humanities	440
Social Sciences & Law	1,440
Business, Management & Public Administration	1,950
Life Sciences & Technology	390
Mathematics & Information Science	255
Engineering & Related Technology	2,450
Agriculture & Natural Resources	355
Health & Related Fields	2,060
Protective & Transportation Services	900
Other	20

²Source - Stats Canada 2022

Infrastructure, Building & Real Estate



UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

- **Hydro One** services the Township
- **Enbridge Gas** is available in some areas of the Township
- Oro-Medonte is a rural municipality that has seen an increase in fibre and wireless connection options in the last few years. There are currently plans and programs available from upper tier government and internet service providers that will see increased connectivity options by the end of 2025 connecting Oro-Medonte globally.

REAL ESTATE



There are **8,150** homeowners in Oro-Medonte.

The most popular dwelling size is **three bedrooms**



485 residents are renters.

BUILDING PERMIT VALUES⁶



RESIDENTIAL VALUE
\$143,384,684
(137 new homes)



COMMERCIAL VALUE
\$800,000



INDUSTRIAL VALUE
\$805,000



INSTITUTIONAL VALUE
\$3,832,600

The average housing price is **\$904,000²**



There are **9,510²** private dwellings in total.



Business Resources

Open for Business

The Township of Oro-Medonte Council supports sustainable economic development. The Township has an approved Economic Development Strategy and staff provide an annual workplan for approval by Council. Our staff work closely together on business inquiries, depending on the inquiry, this can include a streamlined pre-consultation process.

We are happy to provide information, support and connections including but not limited to:

- Business Resources
- Community Information
- Connections to local landowners, developers and others in the community
- Pre-Consultation opportunities with internal departments and outside agencies
- Available properties



Assistance for Small Businesses

There are several organizations in the surrounding communities that provide small business supports including:

- Guidance
- Financing
- Training
- Resources
- Workshops
- Networking

The Township has established strong networks and relationships with various business service organizations, enabling the municipality to capitalize on funding for projects that benefit and support Oro-Medonte businesses.

Township staff are available to help your businesses make these important connections. We invite you to connect with our staff through the contact information provided.

We would be happy to provide you with guidance and connections in and around the Township and greater community.

Reach out to our staff.



Economic Development Vision

The Township of Oro-Medonte will use a balanced approach to economic development, focused on growing and attracting business, tourism development, and residential growth while being responsive to the needs of the community.

The Township has completed a number of strategies and plans that support business growth and economic development initiatives examples include:

- Corporate Strategy
- Economic Development Strategy
- Updated Official Plan
- Employment Land Strategy
- Tourism Action Plan
- Tourism Gap Analysis & Policy Recommendations



CONTACT US

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148 Line 7 South, Oro-Medonte, Ontario L0L 2E0

 /OroMedonte

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