



brantford



The city of Brantford, with its population of more than 70,500, is located on the broad, sweeping bends of the Grand River, in some of the finest rolling landscape in Southern Ontario.

This picturesque rural setting belies the city's geographical location as the centre of a vast area of economic strength and dynamic growth, providing home and work for more than one-fifth

of the entire population of Canada.

Only 60 miles (96 kilometres) to the east of Brantford is this continent's fastest developing city, Toronto. Equidistant to the west lies London and the gateway to the major markets of the U.S. mid-west, Detroit and Chicago.

New highways have brought Brantford to within 25 minutes drive of "steel city" Hamilton and its population of one-third of a

million. Its major harbour on Lake Ontario can lead through the St. Lawrence Seaway to overseas markets.

In spite of its significance as a central hub in this industrial and economic complex, Brantford is rooted in the calm but prosperous and fertile countryside noted for its tobacco fields, dairy farming, vineyards, and fruit orchards of the Niagara Peninsula. Unspoiled

sandy coves, dotting the northern shores of Lake Erie, are only short drives out of the city.

Summer tourist routes to the natural magnificence of Niagara Falls or to the cultural excitement of the internationally renowned Stratford Festival also pass through Brantford.

Our citizens are indeed fortunate to be able to truly enjoy "the best of both worlds".



History:

The legendary Mohawk Chieftain Joseph Brant was responsible for the first permanent settlement on the site of the present city, and incidentally, its name,...a contraction of "Brant's Ford".

The British Crown had become indebted to Brant and his Iroquois Confederacy for their military support in the war of 1776, and subsequently granted the entire Grand river basin to the tribe in compensation for lands lost in the Mohawk Valley of Upper New York State.

Although one John Stalts constructed a log cabin on the river bank in 1805, it was not until 1830 that the Crown purchased a square mile of land from the Six Nations Confederacy and established a "white" settlement at Brant's Ford.

Being situated on the Grand river provided opportunity and impetus for economic growth, and by 1840, barges were being navigated down the river to the Great Lakes.

Industrialization initially evolved with the coming of the Great Western Railway, and for a time, Brantford was a centre for both repairing and manufacturing railway equipment and rolling stock. This skilled labour force, combined with local inventions, soon developed into a major industry, the production of farm implements, which was to predominate the economy of Brantford for more than half a century.

A thread of Indian culture and heritage has been proudly woven into the history of Brantford. Names and places preserve the dignity and significance of its origin; places like Her Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks, the oldest Protestant place of worship in Ontario; and names like Pauline Johnson, the renowned poetess. But perhaps the most publicized contribution to this city's history would be the invention of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell in August of 1874.

Leisure



Every season of the year offers an almost unlimited variety of leisure-time opportunities. An ideal geographical location places Brantfordians within minutes of most recreational pursuits and an hour or two of the remainder.

Although Brantford experiences a relatively moderate winter, it is situated less than ninety minutes from the heart of the Ontario snow belt and some of the finest ski resorts in the Province.

In summer months, the Muskoka, Georgian Bay, Haliburton, and Kawartha districts attract cottage owners and vacationers to deep sparkling lakes, rugged rock outcroppings and evergreen forests.

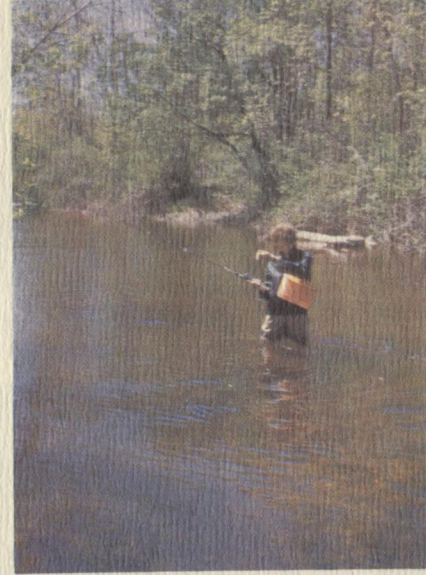
For those who prefer white sand beaches and big-water sailing, Lakes Erie and Ontario are a half-hour away and Lake Huron about ninety minutes.

Outdoor enthusiasts may wish to hike along the 385 mile (620 kilometers) Bruce Trail, or pitch tents in any of the nearby excellent camping sites developed by the Grand River Conservation Authority, one of these being the 425 acres (172 hectares) Brant Park, which is adjacent to the city limits, and which recently hosted as many as 30,000 campers and hikers at one time.

Fishermen and hunters live in a virtual paradise with an infinite assortment of game within three hours drive. Pheasant and duck hunting are only minutes from downtown Brantford. Youngsters enjoy an almost guaranteed catch at stocked trout ponds in Mount Pleasant, only six minutes away. Bass, pike, pickerel, perch, rainbow, speckled and lake trout are all to be found within the radius of a one-day fishing trip.



and Recreation:



Brantford offers four lush golf courses for leisurely enjoyment, as well as lawn bowling, tennis, badminton, curling and skating clubs for respective enthusiasts.

Over 70 parks covering 890 acres (360 hectares) are maintained by the City, incorporating recreational facilities for skating, hockey, lacrosse, baseball, football, and track and field, including the 3,000 seat Civic Centre Arena and the Brant Aquatic Centre which contains an olympic-size indoor pool, diving towers, gymnasium, saunas and a heated whirlpool. This Aquatic Centre hosts numerous national and international events.

The Board of Park Management and Recreation Commission administers a year-round program for all minor league sports.

The avid spectator can follow his favourite team in Brantford, and also follow N.H.L. hockey or major league football in Hamilton, Toronto and Buffalo.

Automobile racing and pari-mutuel tracks are also within easy driving distance.

The confirmed "arm-chair" sports fan has a range of eleven networks on twenty-one TV channels from which to select and follow his favourite sports activities.

From skin-diving to sky-diving; from riding to roller skating; from weight-lifting to woodworking; there is every possible opportunity to pursue your favourite leisure-time pastime. The difference in Brantford is...it will cost less and take half the time to get there.

People and Traditions:

Glenhyrst Gardens Community Art Centre



History slumbers peacefully in Brantford while tradition abounds. Evident everywhere from the fusion of Gothic church steeples with contemporary high-rise apartment buildings, to the tranquility of paddling a canoe down the Grand River or a fierce rough and tumble game of lacrosse, the fortunate Brantfordian chooses his own pace, and enjoys all of the advantages proffered by this particular size of city in this kind of setting.

Every element of mood or interest is available within the city or nearby.

Glenhyrst for example, a charming estate home located in a sixteen acre estate of park and natural woodland, serves as an art gallery and focal point for a continuous calendar of activities related to the visual arts.

The seventy-two piece Brantford Symphony Orchestra presents an annual series of concerts of such professional quality that the subscription is quickly sold out each year.

The performing arts are well represented by talented and enthusiastic amateur "little theatre" groups. Professional theatre is also available in less than an hour's drive to the renowned Stratford Festival Theatre, or to Toronto.

Our rich North American Indian heritage is well documented in the Brant Museum, Woodland Indian Cultural and Educational Centre, Mohawk Chapel and Chiefswood, but comes to life in a variety of annual events including the "Indian John" international archery competition, the Six Nations fall fair, or the open-air theatre Indian Pageant depicting the long and eventful history of the Six Nations Confederacy.

Bagpipes skirling, caber tossing and highland dancing remind many of us of our Scottish ancestry at the annual Highland Games.

The Downtown Core is poised on the threshold of major urban redevelopment that will project a vitality and variety for decades to come.

Religious affiliation is maintained at a high level, with the spiritual needs of the community being fulfilled by sixty churches and synagogues.

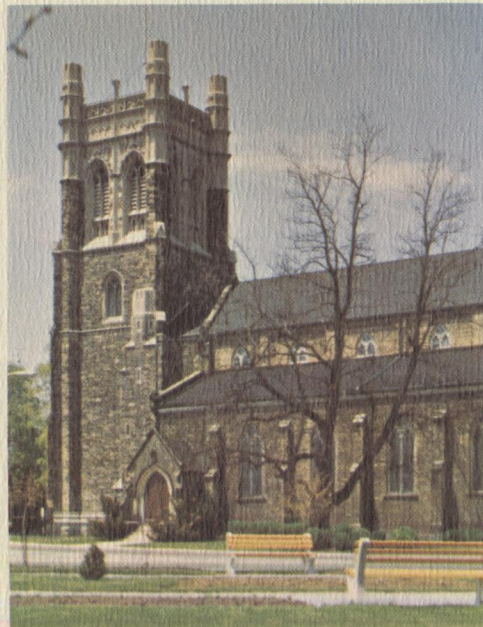
Health services are modern and efficient with the 463 bed Brantford General and 138 bed St. Joseph's providing excellent hospital facilities and service.

Education has traditionally commanded a high priority in our excellent primary and secondary systems that include academic and vocational courses of study.

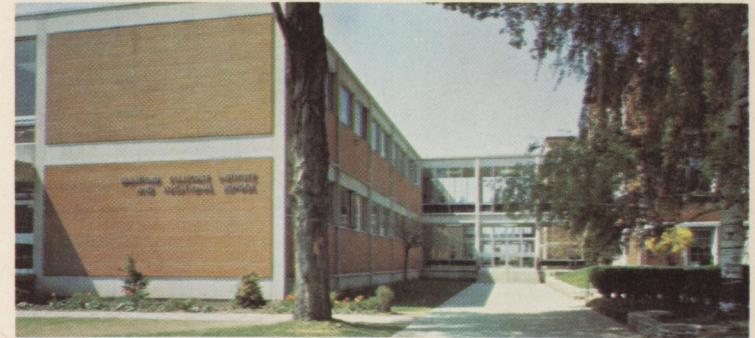
Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology operates both the Brantford Campus and the Brantford General Hospital Nursing Campus in the community. Other post-secondary education is available at eight surrounding universities within a 60 mile (96 kilometer) radius.

Our senior citizens benefit in many ways from a grateful and concerned community; facilities include the John Noble Home, 547 subsidized modern apartment units, planned recreational activities and excellent private nursing homes.

Brantford enjoys an abundance of community resources such as first class libraries, the Community Welfare Council, the Brantford Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Jane Laycock School for retarded children, the W. Ross Macdonald School for the visually-handicapped, which has been established for over 100 years, a variety of Service Clubs, and so on. However, neither time nor space will permit the complete story, and we respectfully suggest that only a visit to our hospitable City would adequately provide a true perspective of what it would be like to live and work in such charming and delightful community.



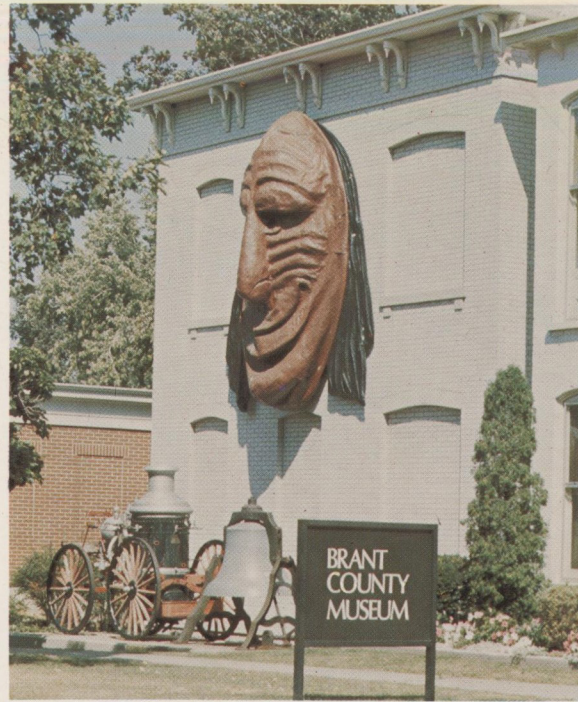
Her Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks



Alexander
Graham Bell
Homestead



The picturesque
Grand River
valley.



Brant County Museum



The Brantford Civic Centre.



The Brantford Regional Chamber of Commerce



The Brant Aquatic Centre