



2019

GO TO THUNDERBAY

**HEALTH SCIENCES
REPORT**

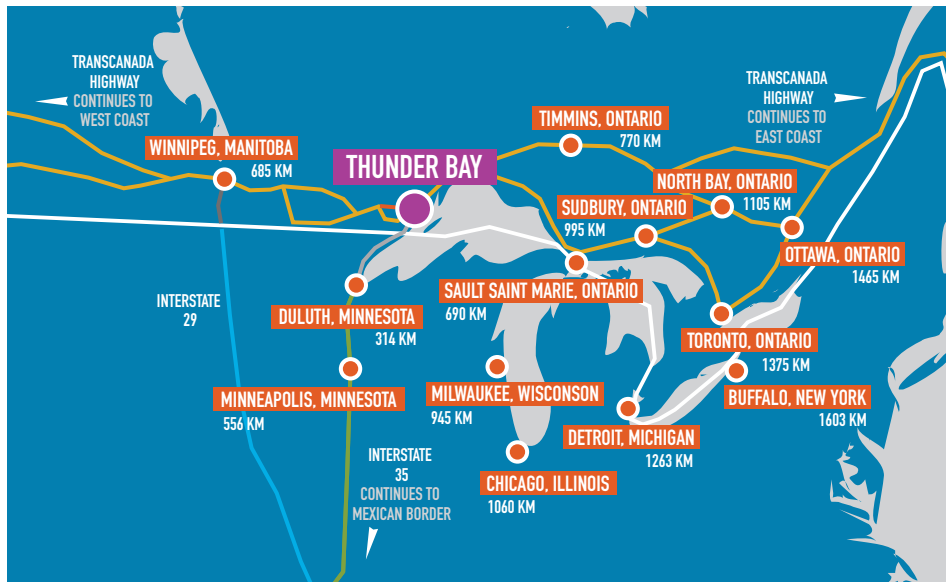


www.gotothunderbay.ca

Why Thunder Bay

Strong Health Sciences Sector

Known as the centre for learning for researchers, students, teachers, and other healthcare professionals in Northwestern Ontario, Thunder Bay boasts a strong and deep health sciences sector, including patient care centres, a local medical school, and a renowned research institute. Ground-breaking health research and innovation is also driving the Life Sciences Manufacturing and Biotechnology industries in Thunder Bay.



Research & Innovation

Research and Development Institutes as well as private labs are supporting exploration across many industries in Thunder Bay. Lakehead University and Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre recently received recognition of their leading research in the 2018 Research Infosource rankings.

Life Sciences Manufacturing

Life Sciences Manufacturing is a growing sector of Health Sciences being driven by medical research. Recent breast cancer research is driving companies such as Radialis Medical to develop Positron Emission Mammography (PEM), a breast imaging alternative to mammography.

“The Government of Canada, Province of Ontario, City of Thunder Bay and Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation’s Exceptional Cancer Care Campaign funded a cyclotron that will produce medical isotopes that will allow for cutting-edge research that works to find new, more efficient, ways of diagnosing and treating cancers.”

**THUNDER BAY REGIONAL
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE**

2,800

employees, making them one of Thunder Bay’s largest employers.

**NORTHERN ONTARIO
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

\$100m

per year of new economic activity in Northern Ontario.

**ST. JOSEPH’S
CARE GROUP**

2,200+

employees focusing on care, compassion, and commitment.

Location/Transportation Network

70

kilometers from the
Pigeon River crossing
to the US market

Road

300 km/186 mi to
Interstate 35 linking to
to the US-Mexico border.

346 km/215 mi from the
Fort Frances/International
Falls border crossing.

20,000

kilometers of CN Rail track
through Canada & US

Rail

Access to 2 major railways,
Canadian National (CN) &
Canadian Pacific (CP).

Provides access across
Canada, through the US, and
ports on 3 coasts.

6th

largest
port in
Canada

Water

Largest outbound port on the
Great Lakes-St. Lawrence
Seaway System.

One of Canada's largest
warehousing and trans-
shipment complexes.

3rd

busiest
airport in
Ontario

Air

2 hour flight from
major centres in the
US and Canada.

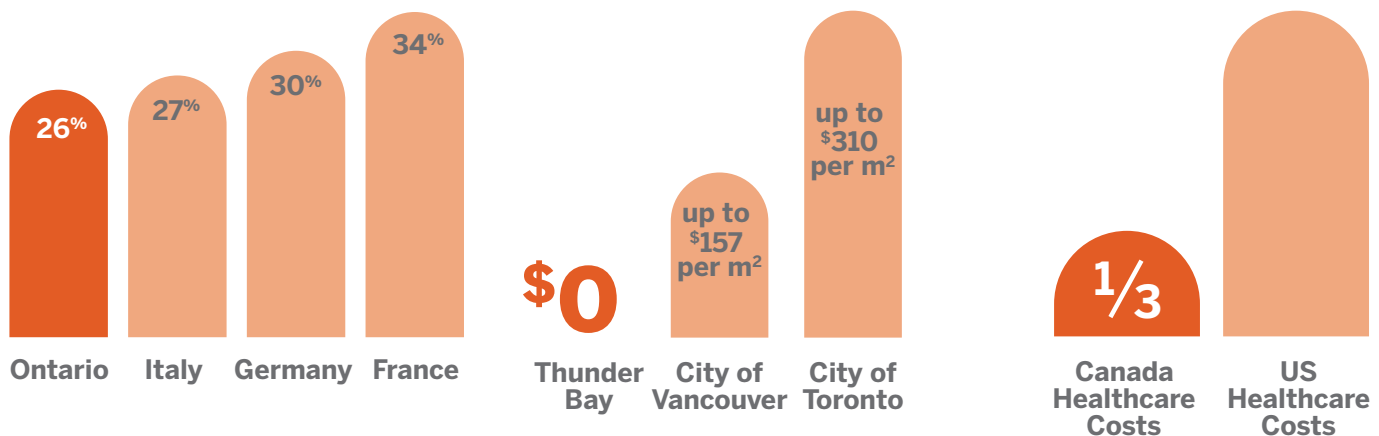
Airport moves over 800,000
passengers per year.

Supply Chain

Thunder Bay is centrally located in Canada; the gateway to Ontario's Northwest; and is extremely close (70km, 43.5mi) to a major US border crossing. With an extensive transportation network, businesses can optimize their shipping options based on the final destination of their goods by utilizing a mixture of air, sea, rail, and road transportation. Businesses in Thunder Bay benefit from this network which allows easy access for importing raw materials and delivering final products internationally. Thunder Bay's location and existing supply chain infrastructure is ideal for businesses that need to access not only North America, but a global market.

Telecommunications

With 5 major national fibre optic cables going through Thunder Bay, the city is well serviced by most national communications companies as well as TBaytel, which is owned by the City of Thunder Bay. The multiple fibre trunks run through the city and are connected to the largest data centre and carrier hotel in Toronto, Canada. TBaytel has a 110 year history in Thunder Bay and has grown to be the largest independently owned communications company in Canada. Tbaytel employs over 400 people in Thunder Bay and they provide the fastest internet connection in the city as well as reliable mobility, tv internet, telephone and security services for business clients.



Low Taxes

Ontario has a combined provincial (11.5%) and federal (15%) corporate income tax rate of 26.5%, making Ontario's combined general federal-provincial CIT rate lower than the average of G20 countries and lower than the average federal plus state CIT rate in the United States.

Low Site and Building Costs

Thunder Bay offers extremely competitive land costs, construction costs, and zero development charges, making it an ideal location for expansion and new construction. Thunder Bay has a large amount of land zoned for new development, offering commercial, industrial, and aviation space.

Low Healthcare Costs

One area in which Canadian companies are much more competitive than their US counterparts is healthcare. Ontario has a universal healthcare system, which means that average employer health costs per year for companies based in Ontario are 1/3 of the cost of the US average.

Cost Overview

When compared to US cities such as Minneapolis, Thunder Bay has 22% lower costs for digital industries, 20.8% lower R&D costs, and 21.8% lower costs for corporate services (such as international financial services and shared services centres). (Source: KPMG Competitive Alternatives 2016).

Thunder Bay has zero development charges, affordable cost of land and buildings, and competitive construction costs, giving businesses superior opportunities for development. Thunder Bay is well serviced by TBAYTEL as well as national communications providers enabling worldwide connection at an affordable rate.

Thunder Bay enjoys a central location within Canada, close proximity to the US and a well developed transportation network. This thriving city is surrounded by breathtaking landscapes, features a superior quality of life and a lower cost of living for its residents.

Leading The Way in Health Sciences

11

years of regional health care research by the **Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute**

526

MDs have graduated from the **Northern Ontario School of Medicine**

94%

employment rate within 2 years of graduation from **Lakehead University**

375

beds at the **Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre**

20

years of research at **St. Joseph's Care Group**

\$1.85 million

The Government of Canada invested \$1.85 million to enable the Thunder Bay Regional Health Research Institute to purchase equipment and implement new technologies in the area of probe development and bio-marker exploration (PD&BE).

\$5 million

The Government of Ontario invested \$5 million in Lakehead University to create the Centre for Advanced Studies in Engineering and Sciences. A 42,000 square foot facility with new laboratories and equipment to support research and training.

\$9.5 million

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine has received more than \$9.5 million for their clinical faculty to conduct health research focused on improving the health for the North.

Industry Leading Research

Dr. Ingeborg Zehbe's research focuses on the relationship between HPV and cancer, covering the entire cancer continuum: including basic research, non-invasive therapies as well as prevention and screening.

Dr. Mitchell S. Albert's laboratory focuses on using hyperpolarized (HP) noble gas MRI, an innovative technology that significantly improves diagnosis and treatment of a variety of diseases, including lung diseases, stroke, and cancer.

Dr. Kathryn Sinden's research is being conducted in partnership between Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters Association and the School of Kinesiology at Lakehead University. This research will allow development of measurement strategies that will improve identification of the relationship between injury risk factors and firefighting that will be used to inform injury management strategies.



Incentives / Funding Programs

Thunder Bay is committed to supporting the advancement of the mining industry in Northwestern Ontario. There are numerous incentives and funding programs for new and expanding businesses to offset costs and encourage research and innovation. These opportunities have been organized by municipal, provincial, and federal programs.

35%

Refundable Investment Tax Credit offered to Canadian Controlled Private Corporations on qualified expenses



SR&ED

This federal program supports businesses that are investing in innovation. Companies that complete scientific research and experimental development in Canada may qualify for tax rebates through the SR&ED program.

Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation

The Applied Research & Technology Development Projects program of NOHFC provides financial assistance to health sciences projects pursuing research or pre-commercialization activities to further develop new technology for the market.



50%

Funding up to 50% on eligible project costs

\$260M

Has been invested through FedNor since 2011



FedNor

Focused on supporting businesses in the North, FedNor provides funding assistance for community projects as well as private sector initiatives designed to improve the economic and social well-being of the North. FedNor also offers internship programs.

Health Sciences Labour Force

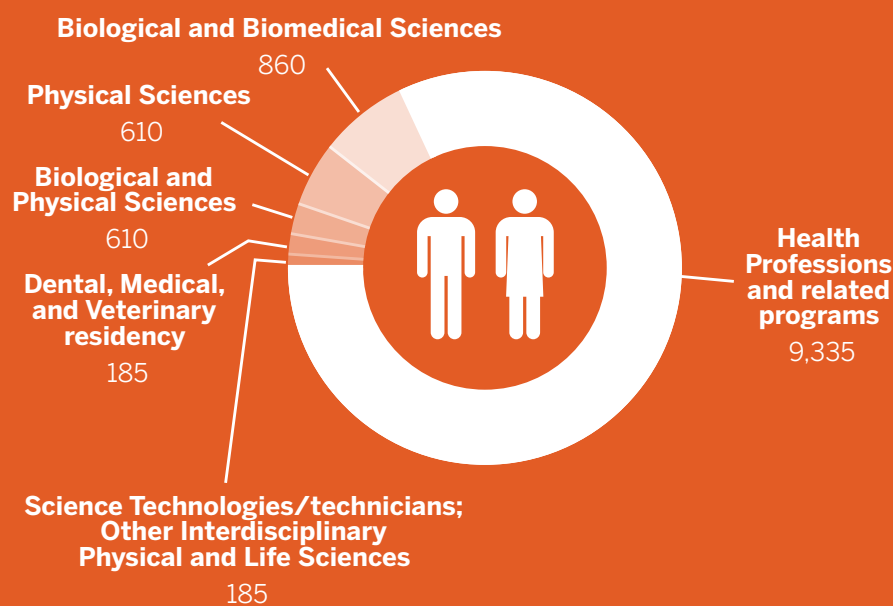
“18% of Thunder Bay’s labour force is dedicated to the Health Sciences Sector.”

Thunder Bay has a labour force of 61,690 people. The Knowledge Sector has been growing and now makes a large portion of the current labour force. Thunder Bay’s labour force is highly educated. 61% of adults in Thunder Bay possess a post-secondary education which is a higher rate than any other OECD country. (Source: Statistics Canada, 2016; OECD, 2016)

Thunder Bay’s skilled labour force includes 10,775 people in the Health Care Sector representing 18% of the labour force. Thunder Bay is committed to research and innovation which is demonstrated through numerous research institutes, innovation centres, and laboratories. Investments in health and education have drawn interest and attracted new talent to Thunder Bay.

Lakehead University offers five undergraduate programs, four master’s programs and one doctoral program for students pursuing careers in Health Sciences. Confederation College offers 22 different programs dedicated to Health Sciences. The Northern Ontario School of Medicine has 7 distinct program streams as well as continuing education for health professionals. Finally Oshki- Pimache-O-Wine Education and Training Institute delivers 3 programs for students focused on careers in Health Sciences.

Academic Strengths of Thunder Bay District Workforce



4 
Research Institutes

3 
Health Sciences Laboratories

3 
Innovation and Outreach centers

Thunder Bay CEDC

Thunder Bay's CEDC Team is here to support you while you start, or expand your business in Thunder Bay. Our dedicated Development Officers are local experts that can connect you with other leaders to learn more about the business environment in Thunder Bay. We also assist with: discussing opportunities or available sites, collection of statistics, financial or legal options, booking site visits, providing referrals, and acting as a liaison.

Thunder Bay Community Economic
Development Commission (CEDC)

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