

North Bay Construction & Manufacturing Sector

Industry Background

The construction and manufacturing industries in North Bay are highly diversified. Successful manufacturers in North Bay are generally characterized by five pillars of business practices that make them competitive in the marketplace, creating products that are:

- Highly engineered
- Low volume
- High margin
- Highly diversified by sector
- Global mandate

North Bay has implemented a successful strategy for these sectors based on attracting and retaining a broad spectrum of complimentary companies that engineer products for the global market.

A diverse variety of products are manufactured in North Bay ranging from the world's first fuel-cell powered locomotive, to construction consumables, drill rigs, peddle boats, servo-writers, and more. The construction industry employs over 2,000 people, with over \$84 million in construction values for 2008.

Both new and existing manufacturers are eligible for generous financial support in the Northern Ontario region, from both the provincial and federal governments. Financial support includes wage subsidies, research and development grants, tax credits and incentive term loans for capital projects.

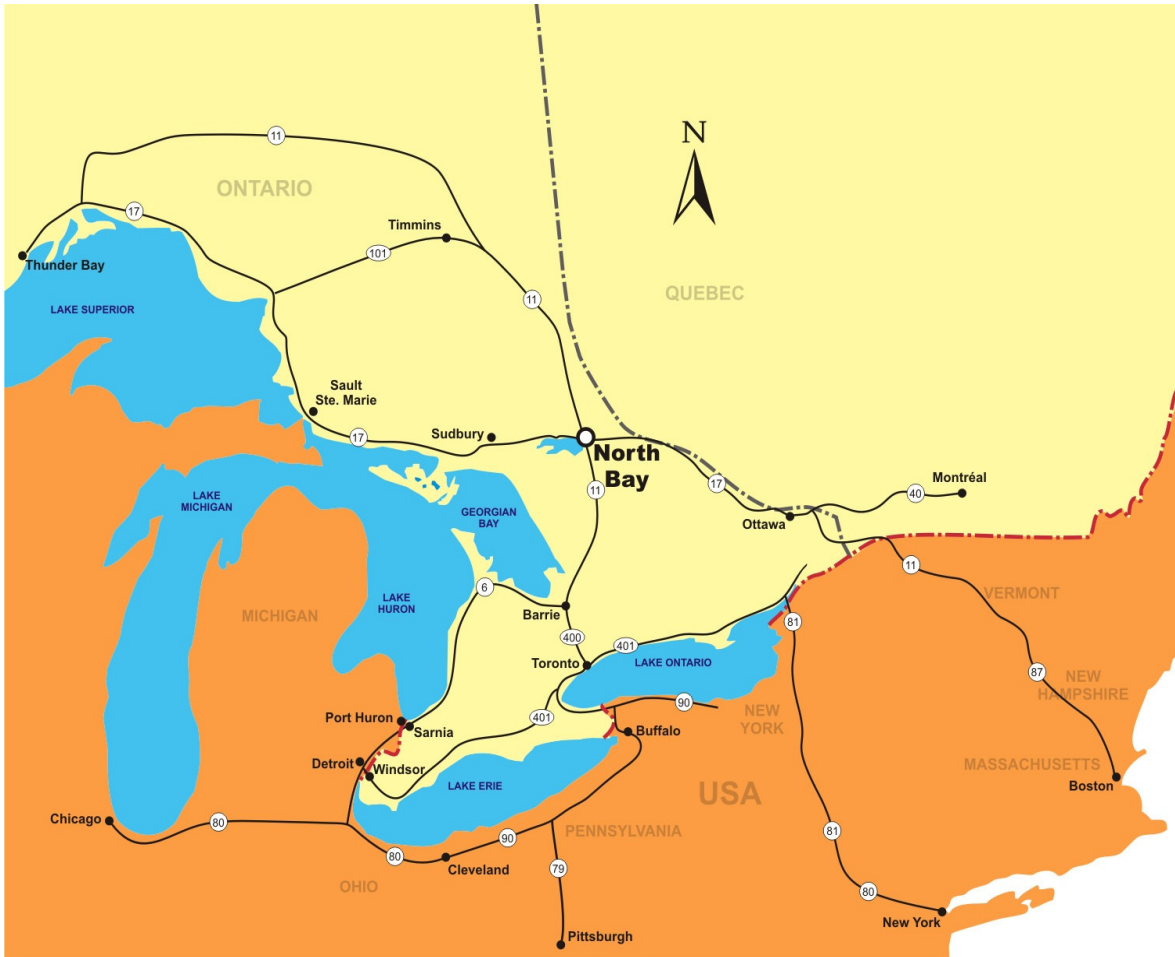
North Bay's municipal government has reduced industrial taxes by 66%, to one of the lowest rates in Ontario, making the city extremely competitive with most United States communities. They also eliminated development charges for industrial projects and made municipally-serviced industrial land available for \$14,000 - \$20,000 per acre.

Over 75% of North Bay's workforce has completed high school and over 50% have graduated from a trade school, technical college, or university. North Bay firms have turnover rates of less than 5%.

Attractive incentives and a diversified industry create an expansion friendly environment where recent levels of construction have been record-breaking, across the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors.

North Bay's Strategic Location

North Bay is a three-hour drive north of Canada's largest city, Toronto, and also a three-hour drive west of Ottawa, our nation's capital. North Bay's well-developed rail, air, and road transportation infrastructure enables local companies to easily ship and receive goods to cities throughout Ontario, Canada, the United States and the rest of the world.



Average Wage Rates for the Construction Industry

The following chart highlights the wages for various occupations within the construction and manufacturing industry.

NOC Code	Description	Average Wage Rate
1471	Shippers & Receivers	\$11.41
1472	Parts Clerks	\$12.43
2132	Mechanical Engineers	\$28.98*
2133	Electrical & Electronics Engineers	\$36.75
2232	Mechanical Engineering Technologists/Technicians	\$25.29*
2241	Electrical & Electronics Technologists/Technicians	\$25.20
7212	Contractors/Supervisors - Electrical Trades	\$31.21
7215	Contractors/Supervisors - Carpentry Trades	\$18.50
7217	Contractors/Supervisors - Heavy Construction	\$18.67
7219	Contractors/Supervisors - Other Trades, Installers	\$17.22
7231	Machinists, Machining & Tool Inspectors	\$15.30
7232	Tool & Die Makers	\$23.78*
7241	Electricians	\$22.75
7242	Industrial Electricians	\$23.94
7251	Plumbers	\$19.87
7252	Pipe fitters & Sprinkler System Installers	\$ 27.15
7261	Sheet Metal Workers	\$19.16
7262	Boilermakers	\$22.22
7264	Iron Workers	\$28.55
7265	Welders	\$17.90
7271	Carpenters	\$18.20
7281	Bricklayers	\$20.75
7282	Concrete/Cement Finishers	\$15.99*
7284	Plasterers, Drywall Installers	\$20.10

7291	Roofers & Shinglers	\$15.75
7294	Painters	\$14.04
7311	Construction Millwrights	\$21.40
7335	Small Engine & Equipment Mechanics	\$10.10
7372	Drillers & Blasters	\$19.04
7421	Heavy Equipment Operators	\$17.60
7452	Material Handlers	\$12.55
7611	Construction Trade Helpers & Labourers	\$14.70
9513	Woodworking Machine Operators	\$18.77
9612	Labourers in Metal Fabrication	\$10.17
9619	Labourers in Processing, Manufacturing & Utilities	\$11.57

*Derived from Statistics Canada, October 22, 2003. 2001 Census of Canada. Catalogue number 97F0019XCB2001060

Source: Local Labour Market Data from Service Canada

Key Reasons for Construction and Manufacturing Businesses to Locate in North Bay

#1. Industrial Incentives

- Industrial taxes in North Bay have been reduced by 66% and are now one of the lowest rates in Ontario.
- Both new and existing manufacturers are eligible for generous financial support in the Northern Ontario region, including wage subsidies, R&D grants, tax credits, and incentive loans for capital projects.

#2. Location

- North Bay is a transportation hub. It is well connected to major American and Canadian urban markets via a network of transportation options that include a system of highways, railways, ports, and an airport.
- Trans-Canada Highway 17; Canada's east/west artery passes through North Bay and connects it with the Highway 11 link to Toronto, making transportation quick and affordable to many urban centres in both the United States and Canada.
- North Bay is home to one of only four civilian airports in Ontario with a runway of 10,000 feet or more. The runway has been constructed to comply with military standards and, as such, is an ideal location for heavy-lift cargo airplanes.

#3. Availability of a Highly Trained, Skilled Workforce

- Northern Ontario's post-secondary educational institutions have steadily expanded their role in the development of highly qualified human resources for the construction and manufacturing sectors over the past few years.
- Classes at Canadore College are attended by over 3,000 full-time and 3,000 part-time students each year, with classes at Nipissing University attended by over 4,000 students.
- Canadore College offers a wide array of apprenticeship programs (millwrighting, machining, welding, and many others) available through both traditional and alternative delivery models, affording the maximum amount of flexibility to employers.
- Over 75% of North Bay's workforce has completed high school and over 50% have graduated from a trade school, technical college, or university.

#4. Access to a Large, Growing Base of Customers

- North Bay services an immediate regional market with a population of approximately 110,000 people.
- Visitors to the area contribute over \$95 million into the economy each year.
- North Bay is within one day's drive of 100 million consumers throughout Canada and the United States.

#5. Quality of Life

- A large portion of our health care costs are publicly funded and North Bay is on the forefront of technology in the health care field and is home to the successful completion of the first telerobotic surgery performed. A \$500 million regional health care facility is under construction, with completion expected in the summer of 2010.
- Situated on a beautiful 720-acre campus, Nipissing University is ranked #1 among students by *MacLean's Magazine*, and Canadore College is the fastest growing college in Ontario.
- From condo-by-the-lake living, to modern executive-style dwellings, to old-world Victorian housing, living in North Bay is both safe and affordable.
- North Bay's waterfront, on Lake Nipissing, is the heartbeat of the city, featuring a magnificent walkway, beautiful gardens, a museum, and a public marina.