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PORT COLBORNE

Originally called Gravelly Bay, after the shallow, bedrock-floored bay upon which it sits, the modern City of Port Colborne traces its roots back to the United Empire Loyalist settlements that grew up in the area following the American Revolution. Growth became focused around the southern terminus of the Welland Canal after it was extended to reach Lake Erie in 1833. Gravelly Bay was renamed after Sir John Colborne, a British war hero and the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada at the time of the opening of the (new) southern terminus of the First Welland Canal in 1833. As the population rose, Port Colborne was incorporated as a village in 1870, became a town in 1918, merged with neighbouring Humberstone in 1952, and was re-incorporated as a city in 1966.

Maritime commerce, including supplying goods to the camps for the labourers who worked on the first canal, ship repair and the provisioning trade, was, and still is, an important part of Port Colborne's economy. Like other cities in the region, Port Colborne was a heavily industrial city throughout most of the early 20th century. A grain elevator, two modern flour mills, an INCO nickelrefinery, a cement plant operated by Port Colborne Canada Cement, and a blast furnace operated by Algoma Steel were all major employers. However, several of these operations have closed over the past thirty years while those companies that remain now employ significantly fewer residents due to modernization and cutbacks. In more recent years, Port Colborne has been successful attracting new industry, such as the agro-business operations of Casco Inc. and Jungbunzlauer, which process corn into products such as sweeteners and citric acid. However, the economy has gradually shifted towards tourism and recreation, taking advantage of the scenic beauty of the lakeshore.

.....from Wikipedia

Whether you are a cycling enthusiast, cross-country skier, or you love to fish, Port Colborne offers world-class facilities for your recreational hours including well-groomed golf courses, marinas, arenas, pools, and miles of sandy beaches. Nearby [Sherkston Shores](#), a family entertainment resort, boasts one of the longest beaches in the area with over 3 km of white, sandy beachfront to enjoy.

Port Colborne has a very active arts community with its own [Theatre](#), [Museum](#), and Art Galleries. Port Colborne is also less than a hour's drive to the Buffalo Philharmonic and Niagara's famous Shaw Festival Theatre. For the sports buff, the NHL Buffalo Sabres, CFL Hamilton Tiger Cats and NFL Buffalo Bills are all within a 30 minute drive.

Port Colborne is home to all the amenities to make your lifestyle comfortable such as a highly respected hospital, quality nursing homes, efficient community services, outstanding schools, churches, convenient shopping facilities and affordable homes.

Destination trips to cities such as Toronto, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Buffalo are within minutes away with a highway infrastructure which includes direct access to the QEW via Highways #140 and #406. Bus transportation is also available to other municipalities within the Niagara Region as well as to Hamilton, Toronto and Buffalo.

.....from portcolborne.ca









