



**INVEST
PICKERING**

2024-2025

COMMUNITY PROFILE

City of
PICKERING



Located at the intersection of the City of Toronto, York Region and Durham Region, the City of Pickering is slated for significant economic and residential growth. Recognized as a Smart21 Community, Pickering continues to undertake transformational projects and initiatives to support economic development, job creation, innovation, and sustainability as one of the fastest-growing municipalities in Ontario.



“Recognized by the Globe and Mail as one of the ‘Most Livable Cities in Canada,’ Pickering is developing a strong reputation as a preferred destination for both new residents and businesses alike. Committed to economic development and job creation, we are building not just a modern city, but a dynamic and thriving hub where residents can live, work, and play in a community they proudly call home. Join us in shaping the future of Pickering, where innovation meets livability, and success is woven into the fabric of our connected and complete community.”

Mayor Kevin Ashe
City of Pickering



“Pickering is on the cusp of significant growth through revitalization and intensification developments, all of which will exponentially increase Pickering’s population and make it one of the largest municipalities in Durham Region. With new residents coming to Pickering, it is our responsibility to develop work programs to attract and retain businesses to Pickering that will create jobs for our existing and new residents. We continue to attract large scale investments that are a testament to the boundless opportunities, resources and talent that Pickering provides.”

Fiaz Jadoon
Director, Economic Development & Strategic Projects

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Economic development remains one of our key Corporate Strategic Plan priorities, and we commit to working with you to make your startup, expansion or relocation to Pickering as effortless and profitable as possible.



A CONNECTED CITY

Pickering offers excellent access to an integrated transportation network, and a high speed telecommunication systems keep you connected to the global economy.

Integrated Transportation Infrastructure

Pickering offers excellent access to a reliable transportation network of high capacity roads, railways, a seaport and proximity to three airports. Businesses can easily transport their products on a regional, national and global scale.

High Frequency Rail

VIA Rail Canada is proposing a High Frequency Rail (HFR) line between the Toronto and Quebec City Corridor. The service will help reduce passenger and freight train delays, provide faster service, broaden connectivity across eastern Ontario, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs and opportunities. The City, in partnership with Durham Region, has proposed a stop in Pickering. As of 2023, proposal of a conceptual design of an HFR station and the surrounding development is in progress.

Fibre Optic Broadband Network

Pickering is committed to intelligent community development to create a connected city. Advancing broadband accessibility and information and communications technologies across the city will play a critical role in generating economic growth. The Region of Durham's broadband project allows smaller internet service providers to connect to rural areas in Pickering.



Highways 401, 407, 7, 412



CN Rail, CP Rail, GO Transit,
Durham Rapid Transit



Toronto Pearson International
Airport, Billy Bishop Toronto City
Airport, Oshawa Municipal Airport



4.4M

people reside within 50 km
(30 miles) of Pickering

100+

languages spoken by
Pickering's diverse population

Border Crossing	Distance From Pickering
Buffalo, NY	168 km / 104 miles
Gananoque, ON	251 km / 156 miles
Niagara Falls, ON	169 km / 105 miles
Sarnia, ON	317 km / 197 miles
Detroit, MI	399 km / 248 miles

Explore neighbourhood parks and hike an extensive network of trails such as the Rouge National Park, Seaton Trail and the Waterfront Trail.

The Pickering Pedestrian Bridge holds the official Guinness World Record for the longest enclosed pedestrian bridge in the world, spanning Highway 401, and linking the GO Station to Pickering's downtown.

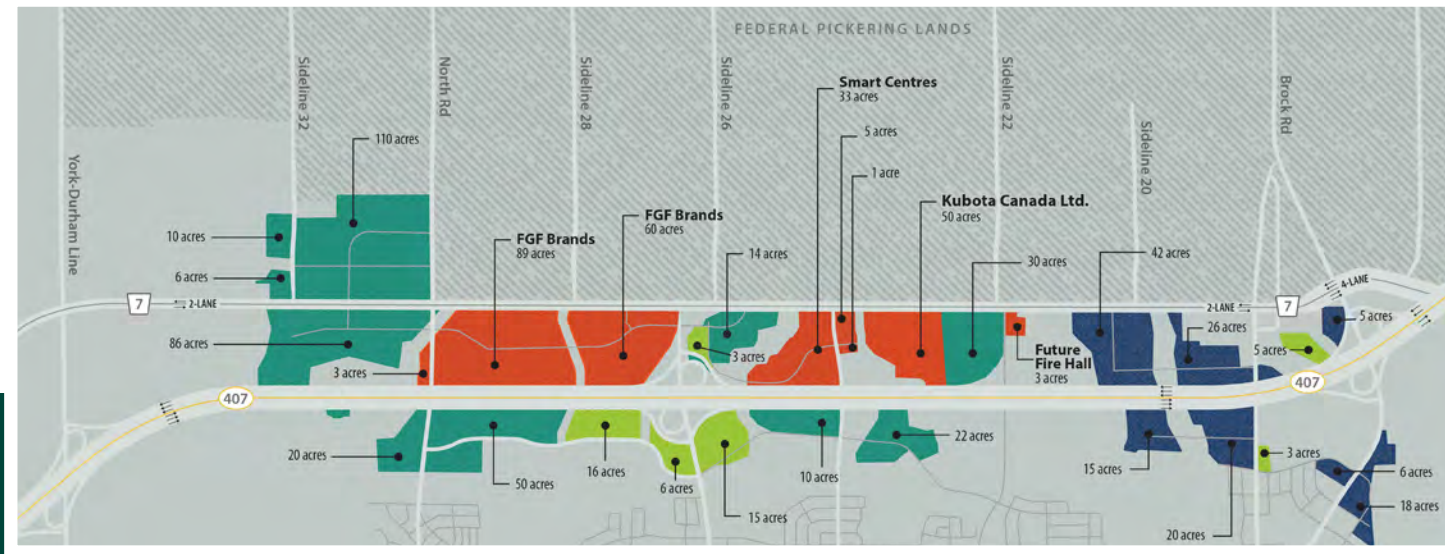
Pickering is home to a number of on-road bike lanes and off-road bike paths, where you can commute to work or take a leisurely ride.

Access To Major Markets

Pickering is located at the heart of Canada's largest labour and business market. Served by an integrated transportation network, Pickering provides time-saving access to major markets across North America. Five U.S. border crossings are located within less than a day's journey.

BOUNDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

Pickering is home to a variety of national and international companies. Key industry sectors include energy, advanced manufacturing, logistics, and information technology. Business costs are among the lowest in the Greater Toronto Area and are very competitive globally.



Pickering Innovation Corridor

The Innovation Corridor is located in central Pickering on Highway 407 and includes over 800 acres of prestige employment land ready for development. The vision for the corridor is to support the creation of high-tech jobs in a variety of industry sectors.

FGF Brands, a technology company that bakes, is developing their new campus facility in Pickering, opening phase one in 2024. It will include manufacturing plants, a distribution centre, a learning centre, and more.

Kubota Canada Ltd., a Japanese manufacturer of construction equipment, developed their new Canadian headquarters in Pickering, bringing over 200 jobs to the City.

SmartCentres has developed a 233,000 square foot, multi-unit, industrial complex.

The Ontario government is investing \$12 million to support the widening of Highway 7 from Reesor Road in Markham to Brock Road in Pickering. The expansion from two to four lanes will help drivers spend less time in traffic and support the area's growing manufacturing, life sciences and agricultural sectors.



Brock Industrial Business Park

South of Highway 401, along Brock Road, is Pickering's industrial hub. With thousands of jobs located in and around the area, it provides the perfect opportunity for businesses to grow and have access to resources such as transportation and labour.

TRIOVEST Construction is underway for a new 270,152 square foot warehouse and associated offices. The development includes the construction of an extension to Clements Road to the site from Dillingham Road. Triovest is also conveying the natural area portion of the site to the City for long term protection.

Diverse Workforce

The population of Pickering is over 100,000 and has grown 8.1% over the last 5 years compared to a 3% growth rate in Toronto. Pickering businesses attract talent from across the Region of Durham, York Region, and the City of Toronto.



50,000+

of Pickering residents are active in labour force



56%

of Pickering's population over the age of 15 have a post-secondary education

Education and Talent

A continuous flow of graduates from 11 local universities and colleges gives businesses access to the best and brightest talent in the region. Pickering businesses are in close proximity to Ontario Tech University, Trent University, University of Toronto, Durham College and Centennial College.



\$853M

construction value of the 1,933 building permits issued in 2023



3000+

diverse businesses



ENERGIZING THE COMMUNITY

Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Pickering Nuclear Generating Station has provided Ontario with safe, clean, and reliable nuclear power for over 50 years. The refurbishment phase will create investment opportunities within the energy sector, highly skilled jobs and economic growth.

Pickering Nuclear Generating Station Refurbishment

The Ontario government is supporting Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) plan to proceed with the next steps toward refurbishing Pickering Nuclear Generating Station's "B" units. Once refurbished, Pickering would produce a total of 2,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity, equivalent to powering two million homes, helping to meet increasing demand for electrification and fueling the province's economic growth.

Companies located in Pickering that are part of the local energy sector:

RCM Technologies provides solutions that enhance the operational performance of its customers through the deployment of advanced information technology and engineering services.

Kinectrics provides qualified technical support for nuclear generation infrastructure in Pickering and Darlington, ensuring that the facilities perform safely, reliably, and efficiently.

AtkinsRéalis is at the forefront of innovation for brand-new nuclear builds; offering top-tier consulting, design, and engineering services. Their new Pickering office space is focused on nuclear engineering and project development.

INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABILITY

We support local industries as they prioritize sustainable practices and leverage emerging trends to create more green jobs. Pickering is home to innovative companies embracing new technologies that make a big impact to the local economy and the people who live here.

Community Climate Adaptation Plan

The City of Pickering is developing its first Community Climate Adaptation Plan (CCAP) to address climate change risks and to help the community adapt to extreme weather-related issues. The City has been proactively integrating climate resiliency through existing programs, plans, and policies. By expanding on these initiatives through the development of a CCAP, the City can work towards preparing and adapting to extreme weather-related events.

Sustainable Development in Pickering

In 2023, Integrated Sustainable Design Standards (ISDS) became a mandatory requirement for the planning, development, and construction industry. Builders, such as Chestnut Hill Developments, Daniels Corporation, and Mattamy Homes have already incorporated many of the ISDS performance measures into their projects. The ISDS showcases Pickering's commitment to being at the forefront of sustainable development practices and promoting green business.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations were recently installed at the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex to encourage the use of electric vehicles. This move is a step towards a cleaner, more sustainable future, as the community aims to reduce carbon emissions. These charging stations are easily accessible, and residents and visitors can charge their electric vehicles while they enjoy the recreational facilities.



Pickering Urban Agriculture Project

The Pickering Urban Agriculture Project aims to promote sustainable practices through various means such as weekly farmers' markets, community gardens, workshops, webinars, grant funding for school gardens, and the 55+ Plot to Plate Community Garden Program. Recently, the Pickering Public Library launched the Seed Library program to promote food literacy, and encourage sustainable practices.

GROWING NEIGHBOURHOODS

Residents are attracted to Pickering for its attainable housing and cost of living. The City's continued progress in revitalizing and building residential communities and commercial areas keep our diverse population happy to live and work in Pickering.

Northeast Pickering

City of Pickering, in partnership with Northeast Pickering Landowners group, has initiated a secondary plan for a 1,600 hectare proposed community. Pickering currently faces a growing housing crisis due to the limited supply, out pricing current residents out of home ownership. The planned community of Northeast Pickering, located west of Brooklin, would provide thousands of new homes along with community and recreational facilities, commercial, retail and employment opportunities and schools.

Seaton Community

Development is well underway for the Seaton Community, as one of Canada's largest combined residential, employment and commercial developments. Seaton is designed to develop a complete community, offering a range of housing types, employment lands and land densities. The first phase of Seaton saw residents move in and a commercial plaza built. Over the next 20 years, the Seaton community is set to welcome 70,000 new residents and 35,000 new jobs.



155,000
estimated population in 2040



7,000
number of acres the
Seaton Community spans

Kingston Road Corridor Intensification Plan

The City is aiming to improve the social, economic, and environmental health of Pickering through the amendment of its Official Plan for neighbourhoods located along Kingston Road and east of Brock Road. Our vision is to create a livable, walkable, transit-supportive community that is both a destination for shopping and a place of employment, with retail, commercial services and offices within mixed-use buildings or on mixed-use sites.



Jerry Coughlan Health & Wellness Centre

The Jerry Coughlan Health & Wellness Centre, Lakeridge Health's new state-of-the-art Surgical Centre and health-care facility is now open. The centre offers day surgery procedures among other services, diagnostic and laboratory tests, an urgent care clinic, physicians' offices and a pharmacy.

City Centre

Pickering City Centre is one of the largest and most ambitious mixed-use development projects in Canada. Led by CentreCourt, this 55-acre masterplan community, located adjacent to the Pickering Town Centre, is set to transform Downtown Pickering and will include 6,000 condo residences and a one-and-a-half-acre park. The goal is to create a walkable, sustainable, and connected destination that will become a bustling downtown node, welcoming visitors, commuters, and residents alike.



ENTERTAINMENT HUBS

Pickering has many distinct areas with their own charm and attractions. Get a feel for the City and experience the laid-back vibes by the beach, explore the bustling shopping and dining areas or enjoy a night out at the casino.

Dynamic Downtown

Pickering's downtown area has been designated by the Province of Ontario as both an Urban Growth Centre and Mobility Hub, and continues to evolve as a preferred destination for memorable events, dining, shopping and unique experiences at the heart of a vibrant community.

Pickering Town Centre

Pickering Town Centre offers a unique shopping and dining experience for everyone and is at the heart of the future plans for City Centre expansion.

Nautical Village

Discover quaint shops and cafes and the aromas of fresh baking. Enjoy a leisurely stroll or bike along the Waterfront Trail or bring a chair and take in a sunset concert at Millennium Square. Pick up a paddle and launch your canoe, kayak or wind sail and enjoy the breeze on Lake Ontario.

Durham Live

Durham Live is a 240-acre entertainment hub underway in Pickering. The vision is for the area to become the premier entertainment district east of Toronto. The Pickering Casino Resort opened in July 2021, and the Hotel in 2023. The site also features the PIK, a space open to conventions and events, and The Arena has already hosted such acts as Bryan Adams, Jann Arden, and several United Boxing Promotions Fight Night events. Future plans include office buildings, cinemas, restaurants, shops, and the Porsche Experience Centre.



Porsche Experience Centre

Only the third of its kind in North America, the future Porsche Experience Centre (PEC) Toronto will be located on a 20-acre site at the Durham Live development. The PEC Toronto is slated to open by late 2024. The site will include a driving circuit over 2 kilometres in length, to highlight the prowess of the two and four-door sports cars in their ideal playground. Moreover, visitors will also be able to admire current and historic exhibition vehicles, stop by the café, and browse the Porsche shop.

FILM & TELEVISION INDUSTRY

As part of Ontario's \$3.15 billion film and television production sector, Pickering is quickly becoming a major player in the industry. Productions can contact our dedicated staff to facilitate permitting, including expedited permits.



Recent Productions Filmed in Pickering:

- Jack Reacher
- Murdoch Mysteries
- The Boys
- Umbrella Academy

Studios are also available for smaller projects and are regularly booked for shooting commercials for high profile brands as well as music videos.

William F. White

William F. White International Inc. has leased 90 acres of land, which is used as a movie and television filming backlot. It is the largest backlot of its kind in Canada and offers innumerable options. The backlot features a small town, with facade streetscapes, a town square and a variety of interior sets.

TriBro Studios

TriBro Studios recently opened Sandy Beach Studios. Located within Zone 1, this studio is just a 40-minute drive from downtown Toronto and 35 minutes from Toronto Pearson International Airport. The facility is 180,000 sf with 22 ft ceiling heights and has ample parking for crew and trailers. Its features include a 150,000 sf stage area, a mill shop, paint area, lock-ups, 30,000 sf production offices and ancillary space, 3 stages (18,000 sf each) and 4,000 amp. service.

TOP 5 REASONS

to Film in Pickering

- 1** A film-friendly community with sprawling rural landscapes, picturesque towns, urban cityscapes and the spectacular Petticoat Creek Conservation Park.
- 2** Access to graduates from Durham College, Ontario Tech University and Trent University specializing in video production, animation and interactive media
- 3** Many unique locations including Pickering Museum Village, Nautical Village and the heritage hamlets.
- 4** Access to a large creative workforce and skilled trades.
- 5** Pickering is in the Ontario ACTRA Zone I. Eligible productions have access to potential Ontario Film and Television Tax credit ranging from 35%-45% of labour costs.

CELEBRATING CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

With so much to offer, Pickering is a dynamic hub for art, culture and tourism. Explore our heritage houses, or register for one of our many programs and events. From live music to parades to ghost walks and more, there's something for every season.

Cultural Fusion Fair

Pickering hosts many exciting events throughout the year, including the Cultural Fusion Fair in September. This unique event allows attendees to celebrate and immerse themselves in the diverse array of culture and traditions that make Pickering such a vibrant city.

Public Art Installations

While exploring the City, keep an eye open for numerous public art installations and appreciate different art forms in everyday life.



75,000

visitors attended City of
Pickering in-person events
in 2023

Summer Concerts

You'll find us rocking out all summer long down at the waterfront and Esplanade Park. Enjoy a new concert each week in July and August.

Artfest

Every spring, Esplanade Park comes alive with art, music and dance. This event showcases artists from across the province who show and sell a variety of original work.

Winter Nights, City Lights

In winter, brave the colder weather for the annual Winter Nights, City Lights experience at Esplanade Park – the perfect place to experience the magic of the holiday season.

Farmers' Markets

The Pickering City Centre Farmers' Market continues its tradition of running a unique outdoor community market from June to October. Enjoy fresh produce, baked goods, meats and more in the heart of our city.



Pickering Heritage & Community Centre (PHCC)

The PHCC will bring Museum, Library, and Community Centre into one dynamic facility - offering year-round access to arts, heritage, and culture. Construction on the 44,000 square-foot facility, currently underway, is expected to be complete by early 2026.

Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex

Pickering's Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex provides high quality services and programs for the whole family. You will find something for every age, interest and ability in this family-friendly facility. The Recreation Complex offers unique rental spaces for large events, galas, tradeshows, meetings and more.

Pickering Public Library

Pickering Public Library is an award-winning library. The Library has a "Maker Space" for anyone who wants to build, innovate, or create. The Pickering Local History Collection tells the story of our local community from its earliest residents to today's growing City.

Millenium Square Events

Located in the beautiful Nautical Village, the **Fall Fling and Winter Wonderland** events bring exciting seasonal activities as well as a robust vendor market. Enjoy family-friendly fun all along Pickering's waterfront.





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**INVEST
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Economic Development & Strategic Projects
invest@pickering.ca
905.420.4625

investinpickering.ca