

THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY

The City of **Thunder Bay** is located in the **centre of Canada** and enjoys access to both eastern and western markets, as well as the American Upper Midwest. Thunder Bay (Census Metropolitan Area or CMA) is **Ontario's twelfth largest city** and **Canada's twenty-ninth largest**.¹ The City features a **highly-skilled industrial workforce** and **excellent educational and technical facilities**. Thunder Bay also offers the prospective investor access to a metro population of more than **121,986** and a regional trading area population exceeding a quarter of a million.

The City was developed from an amalgamation of the former Cities of **Port Arthur (incorporated 1907)** and **Fort William (incorporated 1907)**² and parts of the adjacent municipalities of Neebing and McIntyre Townships, in 1970. Today, Thunder Bay is a **transportation hub**, featuring one of Canada's **largest port facilities**, both major **railways** and the junction of the Trans-Canada Highway with the principal north-south routes from the Upper Midwest to the Gulf of Mexico. **Natural resources** provide the other major generator of local growth, primarily the forest industry, with growing significance in the value and range of mineral extraction activities in the region.

You may also hear about the "**Thunder Bay District**" or "**Thunder Bay Metro**". For clarification, the District of Thunder Bay includes other towns such as: Dorion, Geraldton, Kakabeka Falls, Kaministikwia, Longlac, Manitouwadge, Marathon, Murillo, Nipigon, Nolalu, Pass Lake, Red Rock and Terrace Bay. Metro Thunder Bay is considered the actual City of Thunder Bay, plus the seven outlying areas including the Townships of Conmee, Gillies, Neebing, O'Connor, Oliver & Paipoonge, Fort William First Nations and Shuniah.³

A distinctly multi-cultural community, Thunder Bay features a **rich ethnic mosaic** with strong roots in Europe. As a **major regional centre**, Thunder Bay offers a **unique and rewarding lifestyle** for both the resident and visitor. The City features better-than-average sports and recreational facilities and one of the continent's finest aquatic sports facilities. With its long history of **affordable and high-quality housing**, Thunder Bay consistently ranks among the Canadian cities with the highest percentage of single-detached home ownership in Canada. Also, housing prices in the City have consistently grown at below the national average.

¹ Updated January 31, 2003, 2001 Census- Areas and Census Agglomerations.

² Joanne Anderson, City of Thunder Bay Archives, 2001

³ [Statistics Canada](#) Catalogue No. 93-303

ABOUT THUNDER BAY

Thunder Bay has the resources, the services, the facilities and the infrastructure to ensure a **successful investment**. As the regional growth centre for Northwestern Ontario, our City invites you to take advantage of Thunder Bay's "**Superior Opportunities**".

PORT ARTHUR & FORT WILLIAM

In October 1968 the population of Port Arthur was 48,778 and in Fort William 49,121.¹ There were two daily newspapers, two transit systems, two police departments, two fire departments, and of course two mayors who presided over two separate Councils. For as long as anyone could remember, Fort William and Port Arthur had existed side-by-side.

On April 16, 1968 in a lecture hall at Lakehead University, one hundred and fifty area residents heard Provincial Municipal Affairs' Minister Darcy McKeough outline major recommendations contained in the Lakehead Local Government Review Report. In the report, Commissioner Eric Hardy wrote, as the number one recommendation, "**I strongly urge that the cities of Fort William and Port Arthur and adjacent territories from the Municipalities of Shuniah and Neebing be joined to form a single Lakehead city.**"

The next day, a News-Chronicle editorial noted, "Perhaps the one dismaying feature of the report is that it turns thumbs down on a referendum..." A telephone survey conducted by the News-Chronicle was published days later. Seventy-nine percent of the people polled said they favoured amalgamation; 86 percent of those same people wanted to vote on the question.

There was more controversy over the selection of a name for the amalgamated city. A vocal majority of the population preferred "The Lakehead". But when the polls opened Monday, June 23rd, 1969 the three names on the referendum ballot were "Lakehead", "The Lakehead", and "Thunder Bay". The final vote count was:

"Thunder Bay" - 15, 870, "Lakehead" - 15, 302, "The Lakehead" - 8,377.

Port Arthur Mayor Saul Laskin defeated Fort William mayor Ernie Reed in the Mayoralty contest. Twelve Aldermen were elected from among 41 candidates. 1970 marked the beginning of a new year and the birth of a new city. People cheered and the sign on the arch at Intercity flashed "Happy Birthday Thunder Bay".

¹ Joanne Anderson, City of Thunder Bay Archives, 2001.

ABOUT THUNDER BAY

In his inaugural address, January 3rd, Mayor Laskin said **"We can look forward to a future of progress, a future which will see the City of Thunder Bay as the hub of the development already occurring in our area."**

For more information about our history, you may wish to visit our [Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society](#) on Donald Street.

Adapted from: The Golden Gateway of the Great Northwest - Thunder Bay - A History

HIGHLIGHTS OF THUNDER BAY

2001 Demographic Profile			
Canada's twenty-ninth largest city (CMA)			
Ontario's twelfth largest city (CMA)			
Population		Working Age Population	
Metro	121,986	(Ages 15-64)	81,355
City	109,016		
Number of Families	34,300	Total Private Dwellings	
		Metro	54,090
		City	47,889

Source: Statistics Canada 2001 census

Update: February 9, 2004

Geographic Profile			
Geographic Centre of Canada			
City Land Area	328.5 km ² (128.3 miles ²)	Elevation:	183.3 m above sea level 601.4 feet
Population Density	331.9 persons per km ² 47.9 CMA	Latitude:	48 degrees 22min 30 sec North
		Longitude:	89 degrees 19 min. 00 sec. West

Accessibility	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TransCanada Highway (11/17) & Highway 61 • Thunder Bay International Airport (Domestic & International) • Served by both major railways (Canadian National Railway, Canadian Pacific Railway) • Port of Thunder Bay 	
Surface Distance From	
Toronto	1,387 km (862 miles)
Winnipeg	700 km (435 miles)
Minneapolis	581 km (361 miles)
Chicago	1,047 km (651 miles)

Source: [Statistics Canada](#), Catalogue No: 93-303; 93-312

Update: February 13, 2004

FACTS ABOUT THUNDER BAY

- The **Forest Sector** is important to the economic foundation of Thunder Bay as it employs 7.7% of the local workforce.
- Some **1.4 million visitors** generate \$350 million for the local economy every year.
- Thunder Bay is Northwestern Ontario's **health care centre**.
- Some of Confederation College's **numerous programs of study** include: Aviation, Multimedia, Health Sciences, International Business, and Aboriginal Studies.
- Lakehead University's Engineering Program is **unique in Canada**, combining a diploma program in Engineering Technology with a Bachelor of Engineering degree program.
- The **Canada/United States border** is 32 miles south of the city. Minneapolis, Minnesota is the closest major U.S. Centre
- Thunder Bay International Airport serves over **half a million passengers** every year.
- The Port of Thunder Bay is one of the **largest grain-handling ports** in the world - its towering elevators have 2 million tonnes of storage capacity.
- Thunder Bay Telephone is the **largest independent** telephone system in Canada, offering some of the lowest rates in the country.
- Within a 500-mile radius of Thunder Bay, the market area population is an **astounding** 23.8 million people.

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey; Lakehead University; Census 2000

Update: June 2004



ABOUT THUNDER BAY

CITY COUNCIL (three-year terms)

December 2003 - November 2006

The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay
500 East Donald Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7E 5V3

(807) 625-2110

Mayor Lynn Peterson 625-3600

Current River Ward

Councillor Dick Waddington 683-8652

McIntyre Ward

Councillor Trevor Giertuga 683-8041

McKellar Ward

Councillor Robert Tuchenhagen 622-0002

Neebing Ward

Councillor Linda Rydholm 577-9260

Northwood Ward

Councillor Mark Bentz 577-8226

Red River Ward

Councillor Alan Laakkonen 345-6707

Westfort Ward

Councillor Joe Virdiramo 625-5547

Councillors At Large

Councillor Ian Angus 474-0926

Councillor Lawrence Timko 622-4962

Councillor Rebecca Johnson 577-2807

Councillor Bill Scollie 475-7913

Councillor Joe Vanderwees 767-7033

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES

	Population	Area (Hectares)
<u>Township of Conmee</u> Reeve: Robert Rydholm Office: 475-5229 Clerk-Treasurer: Patricia Maxwell Township of Conmee R.R#1, 19 Holland Road West Kakabeka Falls, ON P0T 1W0 www.conmee.com	748	17,042
Municipality of Gillies Reeve: Rudolph Buitenhuis – Office 475-3185 Clerk: Karen Roche RR#1 South Gillies, ON P0T 2V0	522	9,272
<u>Municipality of Neebing</u> Mayor Steven Harasen – Office: 474-5331 Clerk-Treasurer: Rodney Z. Quarrell R.R#7, Thunder Bay, ON P7C 5V5	2,049	64,103
<u>Township of O'Connor</u> Mayor Ron Nelson – Office: 475-4761 Clerk-Treasurer: Lorna Buob R.R#1, Kakabeka Falls, ON P0T 1W0	724	10,826
<u>Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge</u> (Amalgamated: 1998) Mayor: Lucy Kloosterhuis – Office 935-2613 Clerk/CAO: <u>Sharron Martyn</u> Box 10, 4569 Oliver Road, Murillo, ON P0T 2G0	5,862	34,900
<u>Township of Shuniah</u> Reeve: Maria Harding – Office: 683-3611 Administrator/Treasurer Claudette Levac 420 Leslie Avenue, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 1X8	2,466	55,343
Fort William First Nations 52 Indian Reserve Chief Peter Collins – Office: 623-9543 R.R#4, Mission Road Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4Z2	599	5,754
Total	12,970	197,240/Hectares 487,388.66/Acres

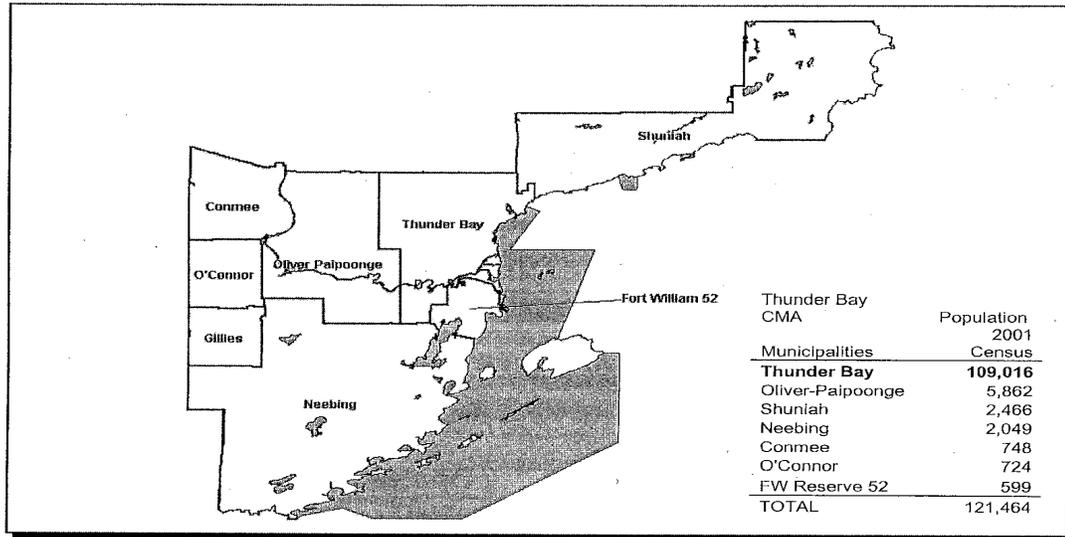
Source: Personal Communication Tourism & Economic Development Division

Statistics Canada: www.statcan.ca

Update: May 05, 2004

ABOUT THUNDER BAY

Thunder Bay
Census Metropolitan Area - Région métropolitaine de recensement



Source: 2001 Census of Canada - Recensement du Canada 2001.
Produced by Advisory Services Division, Statistics Canada, 2002.
Préparé par la Division des services consultatifs, Statistique Canada, 2002.



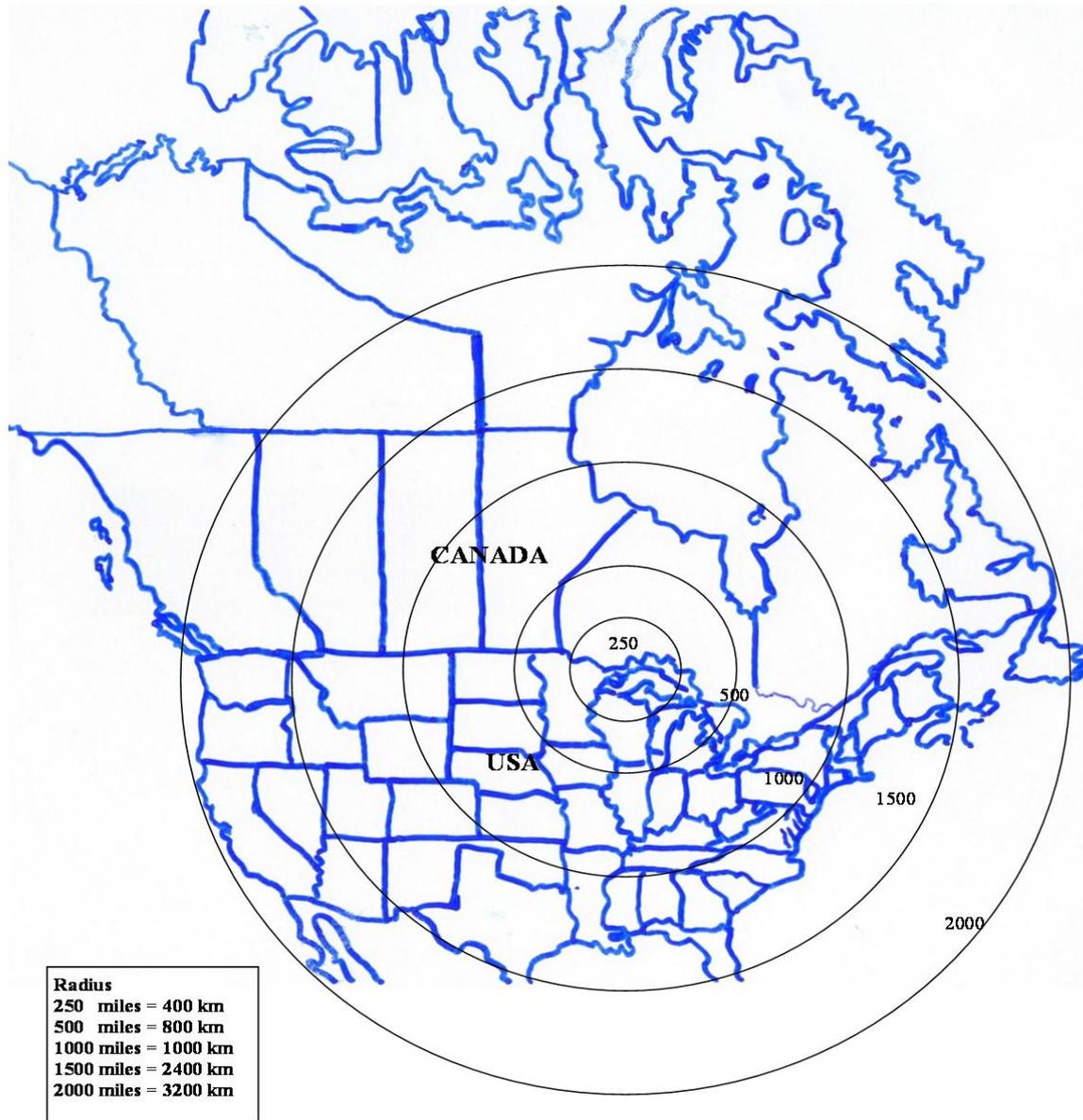
CONTINENTAL MARKET AREA: OUR STRATEGIC LOCATION

Market Area	Estimated Population	
250 Miles/400 Kilometres	Canada	253,540
	U.S.A.	88,270
	Total	341,810
500 Miles/800 Kilometres	Canada	14,675,100
	U.S.A.	11,620,390
	Total	26,295,490
1,000 Miles/1,600 Kilometres	Canada	17,675,600
	U.S.A.	106,823,560
	Total	124,499,160
1,500 Miles/2,400 Kilometres	Canada	25,714,600
	U.S.A.	227,634,650
	Total	253,349,250
2,000 Miles/3,600 Kilometres	Canada	29,544,500
	U.S.A.	292,588,900
	Total	322,133,400

Statistics Canada 2001, Census 2000 United States of America.

*Radius in Direct Air Miles - see map next page

**Radial Map of North
America**



ECONOMIC OVERVIEW (1999-2006)

The following is a brief overview of major developments and events in the Thunder Bay economy. Major investments for the 2005 calendar year are currently listed as 'Proposed and/or Underway' to reflect their status as developments in progress.

2005 PROPOSED/UNDERWAY/COMPLETED

INVESTOR	Estimated Investment
StarTek Call Centre	\$ 8,900,000
SynFuel Co-Generation Plants (Cascades and Valley Camp Terminal Locations) Not feasible at this time	\$ 335,000,000
Ministry of Correctional Services: Thunder Bay Correctional Centre (currently on hold)	\$ 18,000,000
Pinewood Court Home for the Aged	\$ 9,600,000
North American Palladium Mine	\$ 7,500,000
Retirement Residence - 770 Arundel St.	\$ 7,300,000
Lakehead University Medical School Building	\$ 5,600,000
Valford Retirement Home - Seniors Facility	\$ 5,000,000
Sterling Pulp Chemicals ERCO Worldwide (New sodium chlorite facility)	\$ 4,000,000
Heritage Manor Condominiums	\$ 3,500,000
Lakehead University Recreational Facility	\$ 2,900,000
Home Outfitters	\$ 2,500,000
Apartment Complex - 620 Red River Rd.	\$ 2,400,000
Strip Mall - 379 Main St.	\$ 1,900,000
Vanderwees Home & Garden - Expansion	\$ 1,800,000
Dr. Jessiman Chiropractic	\$ 1,000,000
GRK Canada Ltd	\$ 1,000,000
3 Storey Residential/Commercial Building - 2813 Arthur St.	\$ 950,000
2005 Proposed/Underway/Completed (to date)	\$ 418,850,000

2004 COMPLETIONS (by size of investment)

INVESTOR	Estimated Investment
Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre	\$ 249,000,000
Bowater Softwood Sawmill (Joint Thunder Bay and Ignace operations)	\$ 85,000,000
City of Thunder Bay Secondary Sewer Plant	\$ 42,000,000
City of Thunder Bay - Bare Point Water System Rationalization	\$ 35,000,000
Whitewater Golf Club	\$ 25,000,000
TbayTel (infrastructure investment)	\$ 24,500,000
City of Thunder Bay - Sewer and Water	\$ 16,400,000
Hogarth Riverview Manor	\$ 14,400,000
Lakehead University Residence Building	\$ 10,600,000
Hilldale Gardens Condominiums (2 phases of construction)	\$ 10,000,000
Heath Centre (adjacent to TBRHSC)	\$ 9,800,000
CSDCAB new French-lanuguage Catholic High School	\$ 7,500,000
Pioneer Ridge Repairs	\$ 6,200,000
Contact North Videoconference Centre	\$ 5,900,000
Lakehead University CJ Saunders Fieldhouse	\$ 5,000,000
City of Thunder Bay Roads	\$ 4,500,000
The Athletic Club	\$ 4,000,000
Canada Games Complex - Renovations	\$ 2,400,000
Pier 1 Imports	\$ 1,810,000
Mark's Work Warehouse	\$ 1,320,000
Central Avenue Overpass	\$ 1,300,000
Days Inn - Addition	\$ 1,000,000
Westburn Electric Supply	\$ 700,000
LCBO	\$ 550,000
Old Navy	\$ 360,000
Granite Tops Inc.	\$ 250,000
Fountain Tire Corporation	\$ 150,000
2004 COMPLETIONS	\$ 564,640,000

2003 COMPLETIONS (by size of investment)

INVESTOR	Estimated Investment
Lakehead University – ATAC building	\$ 44,000,000
TBayTel	\$ 25,090,000
Confederation College - Aviation Centre of Excellence	\$ 17,000,000
Home Depot	\$ 6,500,000
City of Thunder Bay - Simpson St. Bridge Replacement	\$ 2,300,000
Thunder Bay District Health Unit - Expansion	\$ 2,200,000
PUSH Fitness Centre	\$ 1,650,000
Thunder Bay Inn	\$ 700,000
2003 COMPLETIONS	\$ 99,440,000

2002 COMPLETIONS (by size of investment)

INVESTOR	Estimated Investment
TBayTel	\$ 25,110,000
City of Thunder Bay Causeway (McKeller and Mission Islands)	\$ 10,000,000
Roseview Manor Nursing Home	\$ 10,000,000
Canadian Tire Store - West Arthur Street	\$ 9,700,000
Northco Group of Companies (Days Inn & Suites Hotel and Montana's Cookhouse Saloon)	\$ 5,000,000
YA Canada	\$ 5,000,000
Real Canadian Superstore - Expansion	\$ 4,000,000
Alert Care Corporation (The Glacier Ridge Retirement Home)	\$ 3,700,000
Porto Divino Restaurant & The Marina Inn Luxury Suites	\$ 750,000
Thunder Bay Inn	\$ 700,000
Aurora Grill Restaurant	\$ 300,000
Value Village	\$ 200,000
2002 COMPLETIONS	\$ 74,460,000

2001 COMPLETIONS (by size of investment)

INVESTOR	Estimated Investment
North American Palladium Expansion	\$ 220,000,000
Bowater - Recovery Boiler	\$ 125,000,000
Thunder Bay Telephone	\$ 26,680,000
Canadian Tire Store - Thunder Centre	\$ 10,300,000
North American Palladium Exploration	\$ 7,500,000
Magnus theatre	\$ 5,500,000
A&P Expansion - River Street	\$ 1,500,000
Buchanan Lumber Sales Call Centre	\$ 1,200,000
CP Intermodal Rail Facility	\$ 1,000,000
Pioneer Ridge - Repairs	\$ 500,000
A&P Expansion - Arthur Street	\$ 400,000
Jean Warehouse	\$ 400,000
2001 COMPLETIONS	\$ 399,980,000

2000 COMPLETIONS (by size of investment)

INVESTOR	Estimated Investment
Charity Casino	\$ 44,000,000
Bowater Plant Upgrade	\$ 23,000,000
Thunder Bay Telephone	\$ 21,980,000
Call Centres (Superior Telecom, RMG, RMH, Union Gas)	\$ 8,550,000
Marina Park Place - condominiums	\$ 6,000,000
Italian Cultural Centre	\$ 2,500,000
Badanai Chev/Olds	\$ 1,000,000
Craig Plumbing Centre	\$ 1,000,000
CN Transload	\$ 400,000
North Country Cycle & Sports	\$ 300,000
Wardrop Engineering	\$ 200,000
2000 COMPLETIONS	\$ 108,930,000

1999 COMPLETIONS (by size of investment)

INVESTOR	Estimated Investment
Thunder Bay Telephone	\$ 24,200,000
Bowater Plant Upgrade	\$ 22,500,000
Investors Group Building	\$ 6,500,000
Abitibi Woodroom	\$ 5,000,000
Northwestern Ontario Technology Centre	\$ 4,000,000
Arthur Street Marketplace	\$ 2,500,000
V Kelner ilatus Centre	\$ 2,000,000
Silver City	\$ 13,000,000
County Fair Plaza	\$ 1,000,000
Mission Terminals Inc.	\$ 1,000,000
SportMart	\$ 500,000
East Side Mario's	\$ 300,000
Travelodge	\$ 300,000
1999 COMPLETIONS	\$ 82,800,000

SUMMARY

PROJECTS	ESTIMATED INVESTMENT
1999 Completions	\$ 82,800,000
2000 Completions	\$ 108,930,000
2001 Completions	\$ 399,980,000
2002 Completions	\$ 74,460,000
2003 Completions	\$ 99,440,000
2004 Completions	\$ 569,640,000
2005 Completed/Underway/Proposed (to date)	\$ 418,850,000
Total Completed, Underway & Proposed (1999-2005)	\$ 1,754,100,000
Avg. Annual Investment (1999-2005)	\$ 250,585,710

THUNDER BAY AND AREA ECONOMIC NOTES

Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas:

- Superior Thermowood, is a Kakabeka Falls company, is introducing a process developed in Finland for converting softwood into hardwood. The process involves and EcoDryer that incorporates heat, steam and air flow to increase the strength and durability of the raw lumber. They are hoping to start production in January and create 12 to 30 jobs with their goal being 3 EcoDryers and 85 new jobs in the future. (source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th quarter 2005)
- Federal Aid Package was announced and is being monitored by 5 different federal agencies. It provides loan guarantees, funds to develop new technologies, retain workers and find new energy resources. The largest portion of the funding, \$900 million is for loan guarantee and for support for the lumber exporters who have struggled through the softwood lumber dispute. The US government is criticizing the package as they feel it is a subsidy for the lumber industry. (source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th quarter 2005)
- In late September 2005, David Ramsay the Minister of Natural Resources, announced the Government Aid Program to assist the forestry industry. The package includes a \$150 million Forestry Sector Prosperity Fund which provides grants over three years for investing in energy efficiency and co-generation projects as well as wood fibre efficiency and environmental upgrades. Also included is \$140 million over 5 years for building and maintaining roads, \$37.5 million over 4 years for forest resource planning and \$4 million for promotion of value-added wood manufacturing. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – Thunder Bay Third Quarter 2005)
- North American Palladium – Lac Des Illes Mine is undergoing an expansion of its underground operations with production expected to begin early in the New Year. The expansion will increase the work force by 40 to 50 new workers and is expected to operate until 2011. The huge drop in the price of palladium last year from \$325.00 per ounce to \$180.00 per ounce has not affected the company's desire to carry out the expansion. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – Thunder Bay, Third Quarter 2005)
- Bowater – Thunder Bay Sawmill officially opened on September 18, 2005. The Operations which began on May 12, 2003 has 2 shifts running and employs 150 employees. The sawmill produces 1x3, 2x3, 2x4 and 2x6 lumber in 6 to 10 foot lengths and has an annual capacity of 180,000,000 board feet while the planer facility has an annual capacity of 265,000,000. The United States imports 90% of

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its production while the remaining 10% is consumed in Canada. The estimated investment for the building and equipment is \$85 million. (Source: *Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal & City of Thunder Bay Tourism & Economic Development Division*)

- Pele Mountain Resources has new partners in its search for gold in the Shebandowan greenbelt area west of Thunder Bay. An option agreement has been signed on the company's 100-per-cent owned Ardeen gold project with Maple Minerals Corporation and East West Resource Corporation. East West Resource and Maple Minerals can earn up to a 60 per cent interest (30 per cent each) in Ardeen from Pele's wholly-owned subsidiary, Pele Gold Corporation, by spending \$2.5 million on exploration activities; paying Pele \$140,000 in cash and issuing 700,000 common shares of East West; and delivering a feasibility study by 2012. (Source: *Chronicle Journal July 11, 2005*)
- Platinum Group Metals Ltd (PTM) is investing \$7.5 million in exploration of a potential palladium-platinum deposit north of Thunder Bay. Even though the new deposit is only 50 kilometres from the existing North American Palladium mine, PTM intends to build a stand-alone mine if it decides to go ahead with its development. (Source: *Labour Market Bulletin; 1st Quarter 2005; HRSDC*)
- DeBeers has plans for a diamond mine near the Attawapiskat First Nation on James Bay. Thunder Bay could be the staging centre for the mine, as is the case with the Musselwhite Mine. The company hopes to begin construction in the Fall of 2005. (Source: *Labour Market Bulletin; 1st Quarter 2005; HRSDC*)
- Natural Resources Minister David Ramsey announced the creation of a Council on Forest Sector Competitiveness, comprised of representatives from industry, labour, environmental groups and municipal governments who will develop recommendations for strengthening the sector. A report from the Council is expected by April, 2005. (Source: *Labour Market Bulletin; 4th Quarter 2004*)
- Metalcorp Ltd. has discovered new copper-nickel-platinum-palladium mineralization near Marathon. The company will continue exploration on the site and, if results are positive, will initiate a further phase of drilling. [Source: *Labour Market Bulletin; 4th Quarter 2004*]
- Pele Mountain Resources announced that Goldcorp is drilling for gold at the Ardeen mine about 110 kilometres west of Thunder Bay. The original Ardeen mine was Northern Ontario's first producing gold mine, and produced 30,000 ounces of gold and 175,000 ounces of silver from a 200-tonne per day mill until the mid-thirties. Pele Mountain has an agreement with Goldcorp to mine the Ardeen property. (Source: *Labour Market Bulletin; 4th Quarter 2004*)

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- In July 2003, Bowater completed plans for a major new sawmill to be located in the city. The project represented an estimated investment of \$80-90 million and 158 mill-related jobs, with 55 additional jobs created in woodlands and transportation activities. The sawmill occupies 39 acres and produces 2 x 4 inch and 2 x 6 inch softwood lumber and will have an annual capacity of 180 million board feet.
- In 2000 Bowater completed an investment of \$23 million in its Thunder Bay paper mill operations for upgrades to the recycling plant 2000. The capital improvements enable the mill to produce newsprint with a higher content of recycled fibre.

Utilities:

- Union Gas is spearheading a project to develop long term solutions to the workforce skills shortfalls in Northern Ontario. There are several partners in this initiative with FedNor, Northern Ontario Heritage Fund and both school boards focussing on youth through Energy Connections which will provide opportunities for education and skill development in the energy sector. This is the first stage of a two stage initiative. .
(Source: Labour Market Bulletin – Thunder Bay, 4th Quarter 2005)
- Ventus Energy has begun an environmental assessment for a wind farm in Shuniah Township. The proposed 100-megawatt generation facility; if approved will have 65 wind power turbines set up on both Township and private lands. The turbines will each produce approximately 1.5 to 2 megawatts of electricity. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – Thunder Bay, Third Quarter 2005)

Manufacturing:

- Bombardier has a new contract to build 20 bi-level commuter rail cars for GO Transit in southern Ontario. The contract is worth \$ 56 million dollars and this will alleviate layoffs that were expected in the spring. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin fourth quarter 2005)
- Bombardier Transportation announced the order of 12 bi-level commuter rail vehicles for the Utah Transit Authority; the \$29 million US order includes an option for up to 23 additional cars. The contract is expected to fill the void in the plant's workload during the first half of 2006. (Source: Chronicle Journal August 3 & 4, 2005)
- Bombardier has been awarded three new contracts that are expected to provide work through 2005 – 30 light rail cars for South Korea – 10 bi-level cars for Go Transit – 10 bi-level cars for New Mexico. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 4th Quarter 2004)

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- Bombardier Transportation received a new contract from GO Transit to build ten bi-level commuter train cars, for use in southern Ontario. A \$20 million dollar deal.
(Source: The Chronicle-Journal March 12, 2004)
- Erco WorldWide has invested \$4 million on an additional plant that produces chemicals for use in water treatment plants. This new sodium chlorite facility, to be located inside an existing chemical building at Bowater's pulp and paper complex, is expected to be operational early in 2003. The plant will produce 5,000 tonnes of sodium chlorite annually which can be converted into sodium dioxide, a common disinfectant used to disinfect drinking water. The plant is expected to create 10 full-time jobs. (Source: Chronicle-Journal November 10, 2002)

Health Care/Life Sciences Sector:

- St. Joseph's Hospital will be the home of the new Mental Health Unit which will be built on the site of the drug and alcohol rehabilitation, which is being demolished and relocated. The 38 bed facility is scheduled for construction in 2007 and is totally funded by the Province. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th Quarter 2005– Thunder Bay)
- St. Joseph's Hospital has been designated as a Multiple Sclerosis Clinic, which will allow it to develop a clinical research program and possibly a trial drug testing facility. This will alleviate travel to Toronto for patients in Northern Ontario. The future plan is to have a travelling clinic to assist MS patients in Northern Ontario. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th Quarter 2005– Thunder Bay)
- Shelter House has began construction on the new facility which will be located on George Street. It is expected to take on year to complete at a cost of \$2 million. Funding will come from the Federal, Provincial, and Municipal Governments as well as donations and fundraisers. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th Quarter 2005 – Thunder Bay)
- **Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) Grand Opening Held on September 13, 2005.**
With this being the inaugural year for the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, 24 students entered the facility of Lakehead University, and 32 entered Laurentian University. The Northern Ontario School of Medicine is a joint initiative of Thunder Bay and Sudbury with the students attending several sites throughout Northern Ontario for both teaching and research opportunities.

The four year MD program boasts being a world class program based on small classes and patient centered core base learning. They also provide opportunities encompassing whole groups and clinical learning. The five themes the school offers

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include: Northern and Rural Health, Personal and Professional Aspects of Medical Practice, Social Population Health, The Foundations of Medicine and Clinical Skills in Healthcare. Residency programs are offered through both Northwestern Ontario Medical Programs (NOMP) and Northwestern Ontario Medical Education Corporation (NOMEC) in collaboration with McMaster University and the University of Ottawa respectively. An aboriginal blessing was given by NAN Elder of the year for 2005, Louis Waswa from Eabametoong First Nation (Fort Hope).

The dignitaries in attendance included:

His Excellency John Ralston Saul
Lieutenant Governor James K. Bartleman
Premiere Dalton McGuinty
Ministers Rick Bartolucci, Andy Mitchell, George Smitherman, Dr. Carolyn Bennet
Elijah Harper Assembly of First Nations
Dr. Dyane Adam Commissioner of Official Languages
Mayor David Courtemanche Sudbury
Mayor Lynn Peterson Thunder Bay
Dr. Roger Strausser Founding Dean
Louis Waswa Eabametoong Elder

(Source Northern Ontario School of Medicine Media Kit for Grand Opening, September 13, 2005)

- **Medical School Helps Bring Northern Ontario to the Global Research Stage.**

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) hosted a media conference on November 15, 2005 that was video linked between six municipalities across the North, as well as Toronto. Founding Dean Dr. Roger Strasser, Associate Dean of Research Dr. Greg Ross, and NOSM partners launched a report which sets the stage for Northern Ontario to become internationally recognized in health and medical research. The key theme of the "Creating a Sustainable Health Research Industry in Northern Ontario" study was the research initiatives will be tackling the questions of importance to improving the health of the people of Northern Ontario include such areas as: biomedical, educational, clinical, public health, epidemiological, psychological and social sciences and health services research.

The City of Thunder Bay contributed \$35,000 towards the study. The economic spin-off's resulting from the industrialization and commercialization of research activities could amount to \$150 million for Northern Ontario. Economic forecasting suggests that by 2015 up to 2,600 new jobs will be created in Northern Ontario as a direct result of the school and a potential additional 1,600 jobs will be created by 2015 due to the new health research activities associated with the school.

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- The Lake Superior Centre for Regenerative Medicine will receive almost \$400,000 from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund to set up a bone and tissue bank for patient transplants at Canadian hospitals. The tissue bank is the first phase in a very ambitious plan that is expected to see research into regenerative medicine, including stem cell research begin within the next 2-3 years. (Source: Chronicle Journal June 21, 2005)
- In June 2004, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held with Dalton McGuinty Provincial Premier, and George Smitherman Ontario's Finance Minister for the new Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre located on property donated by Lakehead University. The cost of the project was approximately \$249 million. The 657,000 square foot facility contains 375 acute care beds. The new facility is one of the largest public sector projects ever constructed in Northwestern Ontario.
- The Northern Ontario Medical School has constructed a new building at Lakehead University at a cost of \$5.6 million. The new school will feature a full campus at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay and another at Laurentian University in Sudbury. Plans are for the first class of medical students at Lakehead University to start in September 2005.
- A health care centre – professional building – is nearing completion adjacent to the new Thunder Bay Regional Hospital. The new centre will provide space for physicians, offices and a wide range of other medical services including the new medical school. The facility will also include a Native healing centre and an 85 room accommodation centre to house guests and patients of the hospital and university. Construction began in November 2002 on this \$25 million, with completion expected in 2004.
- Central Care Corporation (Versa Care Group) has constructed a new facility, Roseview Manor Nursing Home, on Shuniah Street. The 157 bed long-term care facility, representing an investment of \$10 million, was completed during the summer of 2002. Residents commenced occupying this new facility on August 28, 2002. (Source: Chronicle-Journal August 11, 2002 and Telephone Survey August 22, 2002)

Business & IT Services:

- Startek Inc. is locating a new call centre in Victoriaville Mall. They are negotiating with the city for the cost of the repairs and renovations to the site in the mall that they are hoping to rent. (source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th Quarter 2005)

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- Multichannel Communications Inc. (MCCI) has increased its hours to 24 hours a day, 7 days of the week due to an increase in the contracts awarded to the company. This increase in contracts will increase the staff positions from the original 200 employees to between 300 and 350 employees. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – Thunder Bay, Third Quarter 2005)
- Multichannel Communications Inc. (MCCI) will be opening a new call centre in Thunder Bay. The facility will initially employ 200 workers and it is expected to generate 400 positions when fully operational. (Source: Chronicle Journal June 8, 2005)
- On March 4, 2002, TNS FACTS held the grand opening of their new telephone interviewing call centre in Thunder Bay located in the Bell Building at 1001 William Street. The call centre will begin with 64 stations and increase to 112 stations within two months. Over 100 part-time positions will be created when the facility opens, eventually rising to 240 part-time jobs when full capacity is reached. (Source: Company press release January 31, 2002 and the Chronicle-Journal March 2, 2002)
- In October 2002, YA Canada opened a new 352 seat in-bound call centre with 465+ employees. The centre is located in Northwood Plaza in the City of Thunder Bay. The project represents a total investment of approximately \$4 million dollars. (Source: Development Department - Tourism & Economic Development Division)

Retail/Trade Sector:

- Saan Stores are re-opening in Northwestern Ontario and in Thunder Bay. The company stock is emerging from insolvency. Stores will be stocked with merchandise as the re-openings occur. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 2nd Quarter 2005; HRSDC)
- Intercity Mall is undergoing an expansion which will include the expansion of the existing Zellers store to over 100,000 square feet. There are plans for renovations and re-merchandising. The new store will include groceries and furniture by The Bay. The planned opening will be in the fall of 2005. The other part of the expansion includes the opening of a Home Sense store in the south end of the mall. HomeSense will offer 23,000 square feet of brand name and designer home décor from around the world with the best prices offered. This expansion is expected to take 12 months, so completion is expected in the spring of 2006. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 2nd Quarter 2005; HRSDC)
- Vanderwees Greenhouses has completed a \$1.8-million expansion. The operation expanded the facility from 30,000 to 50,000 square feet. The property now includes a retail store and Tulips Café as well as a state-of-the-art greenhouse. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 2nd Quarter 2005; HRSDC)

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- Thunder Bay's first Mitsubishi dealership has opened. The business currently has five people employed but hopes to expand its workforce to 15-20 positions once it is fully operations. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 2nd Quarter 2005; HRSDC)
- The LCBO opened a new 5,400 square foot store in the Thunder Centre in February. The LCBO has spent \$1.4-million in renovations to its Thunder Bay stores over the last two years. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 1st Quarter 2005; HRSDC)
- The Salvation Army has opened a new store at the former Marks Work Warehouse location on Memorial Avenue. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 1st Quarter 2005; HRSDC)
- Two Thunder Bay malls have new tenants. In November 2004, Victoriaville Mall welcomed a new clothing store and two new restaurants as well as a Resource Centre and Martial Arts studio. At the same time, the new Thunder Centre saw Old Navy and Pier 1 Imports open their doors. The Centre is expecting an LCBO, a shoe store, and a discount store to open in the near future. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 4th Quarter 2004; HRSDC)
- WalMart has completed their store expansion, increasing their retail space by 30,000 sq. ft.
- Home Depot has completed the construction of their new 95,000 square foot store to be located at the Thunder Bay Centre. The new store is opened in November 2003 and created approximately 150 full and part-time positions with an investment of approximately \$6.5 million.
- Canadian Tire Corporation has constructed two new stores in the community. The company built a new \$10.3 million intercity area store (107,000 sq ft) located on the Camrose site on Fort William Road. This store opened in November 2001. On February 13, 2002 Canadian Tire opened a new \$9.7 million (85,000 square foot) store and garden centre on property across Parkdale Boulevard from its current store location on Arthur Street. (Source: Chronicle-Journal February 13, 2002)

Transportation & Warehousing:

- North American Charters 2000 is expanding its services to include Norway House in Manitoba. This brings the total number of communities serviced to 15. The First nation owned airline has a fleet of seven nine-seat planes. NAC is also looking to

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the future construction of a hangar at the Thunder Bay Airport. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – Thunder Bay, Third Quarter 2005)

- A report from the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) shows that Thunder Bay Transit had an increase in riders from 2002 to 2003. Thunder Bay also received word that it would be receiving \$4.5-million in gas tax funding over the next three years. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin; 4th Quarter 2004; HRSDC)

Thunder Bay Port Authority:

- **2004 Cargo Statistics:**
 - Total shipments through the port were 8.6 million metric tones in 2004, compared to 8.3 million tones in 2003; first increase in tonnages in three years.
 - Shipments in 2004 were 3.5% above 2003 and 1.4% over 2002.
 - Grain remains the major port commodity accounting for 68% of total shipments. In 2004, 5.8 million tones were shipped, compared to 5.6 million tones in 2003, a 3.8% increase.
 - Coal is the next largest commodity at 19% of shipments, followed by potash at 8%.
 - There were 418 vessel calls in 2004, including 121 foreign vessel calls.
 - Thunder Bay remains the largest grain port and the only potash load point on the Great Lakes.
- Construction has been completed on a new 57,000 sq. ft. heated building at a cost of \$3.8 million. (Source: Thunder Bay Port Authority Annual Report Year 2003)
- Construction of Canadian Pacific's new intermodal rail facility located on Port of Thunder Bay lands was completed in mid 2001. The facility represents an investment of \$1 million. (Source: Thunder Bay Port Authority Annual Report Year 2003)

Public Administration:

- The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund announced six new programs designed to revitalize Northern Ontario. The programs have an emphasis on youth entrepreneurship and internship, and the development of jobs and economic growth through technology and infrastructure improvements.

Education:

- Ecole Catholique Franco-Superieur will be expanding its facilities due to the increase in enrolment over the last 5 years to 230 students. The \$1.5 million expansion will add four more classrooms and will accommodate an additional 80 students. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th Quarter 2005– Thunder Bay)
- The Aviation Centre of Excellence (ACE) is Confederation College's new state-of-the-art, world-class facility. Located at Thunder Bay International Airport (CYQT), the 59,000 square foot ACE brings the four programs of Confederation's School of Aviation all under one roof. (Source: Confederation College)
- Lakehead University has completed an expansion of the CJ Saunders Fieldhouse; a project estimated at \$5-million. The addition includes a rock-climbing wall and a track surround a multi-purpose artificial turf allowing field sports to be played 12 months a year. It will also house a student lounge, aerobic and yoga studio. Completion is expected by September 2004.
- Lakehead University built a second new residence in time for the double cohort of September 2003. Another three-storey, 144 bed apartment style residence was approved by the LU Board of Governors. The University borrowed about \$5 million to build the new residence (Source: Chronicle-Journal , March 11, 2003)
- The Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Aurores boreales (CSDCAB) has been completed construction of a French-language Catholic high school. The school will house between 125 and 150 students in grades 7-12. The school has been constructed on the premises of the former Prospect Avenue School. The value of this project is approximately \$7.5 million. (Source: Chronicle-Journal June 26, 2002 and October 10, 2002, and the CSDCAB November 27, 2002)

Hospitality, Entertainment & Travel Services:

- The Aurora Gille re-opened for business in December with the owners of the White Fox Inn taking it over. They have completed some renovations which include a Banquet room and a larger restaurant area. (Source: Labour Market Bulletin – 4th Quarter 2005 – Thunder Bay)
- Whitewater Golf Club is Thunder Bay's newest golfing facility. The par-72 Forest and River courses span some 7,300 yards, lie on the majestic 550-acre Whitewater

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property and represent an investment of approximately \$25 million. Construction of a third nine holes, to be called the Sand Barren course, is expected to start within the next 18 months.

- The Travelodge Airline has completed multi-million dollar renovations to both the interior and exterior of the hotel. (Source: The Chronicle-Journal November 14, 2002)
- Northco Group of Companies completed construction of a new 96 room Days Inn & Suites Hotel along with a new 5,800 square foot restaurant, Montana's Cookhouse Saloon, at the intersection of Harbour Expressway and Balmoral Street. Construction began in the spring of 2002. The restaurant opened on November 4, 2002 and the hotel opened on November 11, 2002. The value of this project is estimated to be approximately \$5-6 million dollars. And estimated to have created approximately 25 jobs for the hotel and 100 part-time positions for the restaurant. (Source: Chronicle-Journal December 12, 2001 and November 4, 2002, and the Northco Group of Companies May 2002)
- Magnus Theatre has renovated the former Central school site to create a new 250-seat theatre with an extra large stage. The value of this project is \$5.5 million dollars.
- A new Italian restaurant, Porto Divino, at the corner of Pearl and Cumberland Streets (55 South Cumberland Street) opened on June 12, 2002.
- The Marina Inn Luxury Suites, also located at the corner of Pearl and Cumberland Streets (55 South Cumberland Street), opened on June 12, 2002. There are 7 luxury suites available including amenities (dishes, glassware, etc.).
- Total investment for both projects, Porto Divino Restaurant and The Marina Inn Luxury Suites is approximately \$.75 million. (Source: Porto Divino Restaurant and The Marina Luxury Suites May, 2002)
- A new 17 unit motel, The Thunder Bay Inn, located at 1460 Dawson Road/Highway 102, opened on December 13, 2002. The project represents an investment of approximately \$700,000.00 (Source: The Thunder Bay Inn)
- The completion of the Mink Mountain Resort occurred in 2002, located off of Highway 61 on Mink Mountain Drive. Carved out of the Canadian Shield between the Nor'Wester Mountains and Lake Superior, lies a scenic pastoral landscape unlike any other. It is here you'll find Mink Mountain Resort, a resort development with Cottage and Lodge Unit rentals, hiking trails and easy water access nestled in the Northshore wilderness of the Lakehead in Northwestern Ontario. (Development Department - Tourism & Economic Development Division and www.SuperiorNorth.com)

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- The Mackenzie Inn has completed renovations to the Inn, Bar & Grill and dining facilities. Located 13 miles east on highway 11/17 the Inn has well appointed suites containing hot tubs, fireplaces, & saunas. (Source: Yellow Pages)
- The Prince Arthur Hotel was acquired in early 2001 by a group of investors from Thunder Bay and England. Renovations are on-going at the Prince Arthur Hotel. Major upgrades to the rooms and accommodation facilities have occurred.

BUSINESS PROFILE

Manufacturing Companies/Industries	Number of Companies
Agriculture/Farming	27
Agriculture Services	21
Beverage Industries	7
Chemicals & products	9
Clothing Industries	7
Electrical & Electronic Products	7
Fabricated Metal Products	43
Fishing & Trapping	2
Food Industries	22
Forestry Services	8
Furniture & Fixture	10
Logging Industry	8
Machinery Industry	14
Mining	3
Mining Services	12
Non-Metallic Mineral Products	10
Paper & Allied Products	6
Plastic & Fibreglass	4
Printing & Publishing	26
Quarry Sand & Gravel	4
Refined Petroleum & Coal Products	1
Textile Products	6
Transportation Equipment	12
Wood Industries	32
Other Manufacturing Industries	19
Services Incidental to Mineral Extraction	4
Rubber Products Industries	1
Plastic Products Industries	4
TOTAL	329

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Transportation/Communication/Utility/Storage	
Communication Industries	40
Pipeline Transport	1
Storage & Warehousing	17
Transportation Industries	104
Other Utility Industries	10
TOTAL	172
Wholesale	
Apparel & Dry Goods	7
Construction Materials	69
Farm Products	3
Food, Beverage, Drug, & Tobacco	30
Household Goods	4
Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	131
Motor Vehicles, Parts & Accessories	27
Petroleum Products	18
Other Wholesale Products	69
TOTAL	358
Retail	
Automotive Sales & Service	267
Department Stores	38
Direct & Mail Order Stores	22
Food, Beverages & Drugs	178
Furniture & Appliances	128
Shoes, Apparel, Fabrics, & Yarn	71
Other Retail & Speciality Stores	363
General Retail	40
TOTAL	1107
Recreation & Leisure	
Amusement & Recreational Services	150
Restaurants, Bars, & Clubs	198
Tourist Accommodation Facilities	93
TOTAL	441
Public/Community Services	
Education Services	126
Federal Government Services	43
Health & Social Services (Doctors, etc.)	546

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International Government Services	1
Local Government Services	53
Provincial Government Services	64
TOTAL	833
Business/Personal Services	
Banks, Trust Companies, Credit Unions	62
Business Services	578
Construction Services	12
Developers & General Contractors	143
Industrial & Heavy Construction	14
Insurance Industries	27
Insurance & Real Estate Agents	92
Investment, Mortgage, & Pension Funds	26
Loan & Venture Capital Companies	9
Membership Associations	251
Personal & Household Services	233
Real Estate Operators	74
Security Brokers & Investment Dealers	7
Trade Contracting Firms	358
Other Service Industries	256
Churches	95
TOTAL	2237
TOTAL COMPANIES/OFFICES	5478

* Figures taken from the Area Trade Index 2004
Update: October, 2004

THUNDER BAY MAJOR EMPLOYERS LIST

Thunder Bay Major Employers

To view the list click www.thunderbay.ca

Source: Thunder Bay Major Employers List prepared by Tourism & Economic Development, Nov 2005