

WELCOME TO

# Cape Breton





# WELCOME TO Cape Breton



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**"I have travelled around the globe. I have seen the Canadian and American Rockies, the Andes, the Alps and the Highlands of Scotland, but for simple beauty, Cape Breton outrivals them all!"**

**ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL**



# Why Cape Breton?

## Cape Breton Island welcomes you!

We're so glad you found us! We have developed this e-book to help share with you the beauty and opportunities available in Cape Breton. Our majestic island, located in Eastern Canada, is home to some of the world's most beautiful landscapes. Our inviting culture and warm people will make you feel at home from the moment you step foot on our land.

A magnet for creators... Cape Breton Island is a place where culture and economy meet ...where lifestyle and innovation don't co-exist, but are engrained in everything we do.

People from around the globe have been inspired by our breathtaking Island.

Let Cape Breton inspire you!

Skyline Trail ►





# History & Culture

A rich history and culture inspire today's unmatched lifestyle.



Cape Breton Island is home to four national historic sites, and the world-famous Cabot Trail

▲ The Cabot Trail

**CAPE BRETON IS WORLD-RENOWNED FOR ITS BREATHTAKING NATURAL LANDSCAPE AND SAFE, FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES.** People are drawn to the region's living culture – and its Celtic, Acadian and Mi'kmaq history and traditions. International festivals, museums, national historic sites, and major cultural events contribute to the richness of life on the Island. The beauty of Cape Breton is displayed in every season, with warm summers, spectacular autumns, crisp winters and pleasant springs.

Cape Breton has a diverse cultural background with a unique ancestry of over 30 cultures including Acadian, Scottish, Mi'kmaq, African, Irish and more.

The island is home to an extensive network of national heritage sites, museums and experiential-based tourism assets, as well as one of Canada's most economically successful First Nation communities, Membertou, and the world's largest Mi'kmaq community, Eskasoni.

With a proud Scottish heritage, many institutions on the Island such as The Gaelic College/Colaisde na Gàidhlig, located in St. Ann's, have been developed to celebrate, honour and teach cultural expressions including the performing arts, language and production of traditional crafts and tools.

Known for its unique music, languages, cuisine and the visual arts, Cape Breton and the people of the Island continue to honour age-old traditions while going out-of-way to welcome new migrants from across the country and around the world.



There are 5 Mi'kmaw First Nation Communities on Cape Breton Island



Cape Breton Island has a population of 132,010



# Lifestyle

## Four Seasons of Adventure Await!

Cape Breton Island offers endless possibilities for year-round enjoyment. Whether you like hiking, beachcombing, golfing or just unwinding alongside the ocean, it is a perfect place for relaxation, adventure and inspiration.

### 80+ BEACHES TO ENJOY!

Some of the most popular include:

- Inverness Beach
- Point Michaud
- Ingonish Beach
- Margaree
- Kennington Cove
- Chimney Corner
- West Mabou
- Cheticamp Gypsum Mines
- Mira Gut
- Whale Cove
- Pollett's Cove



▲ Kayaking in Bay St. Lawrence



▲ Inverness Beach

## Winter

- Snowshoe through the many trails and scenic routes
- Take in one of the many multi-purpose trails, like Celtic Shores Cabot Trail with ATV/Walking/Biking, etc
- Ski or snowboard at Ski Ben Eoin
- Take a sleigh ride at Two Rivers Wildlife Park
- Snowmobile along the world-famous Cabot Trail, Ski-Tuonela or Ski Ben Eoin

## Spring

- Fly fish one of the many rivers throughout the Island in areas such as Margaree or Baddeck
- Take a puffin-watching tour in Englishtown
- Enjoy a traditional Gaelic Ceilidh
- Check out a whale-watching excursion
- Travel along the Cabot Trail and explore the artistic community of leather makers, glass blowers, pewter-smiths and more

## Summer

- Sunbathe and swim at one of the 80+ beaches located on Cape Breton Island
- Golf at one of eight premier golf courses along the Island, including Cabot Links and Cabot Cliffs
- Sail along the renowned Bras d'Or Lakes
- Sea-kayak and breathe in fresh salt air
- Attend festivals all over the island, all summer long
- Crack a lobster alongside the water's edge of the Bras D'Or Lakes or the Atlantic Ocean

## Fall

- Hike the Highlands and experience panoramic views of breathtaking scenery
- Enjoy the Celtic Colours International Festival and be delighted by the music and entertainment
- Over 300 community music experiences around the island to explore
- Take in the amazing fall colours throughout the Cabot Trail



# Four National Historic Sites



## FORTRESS OF LOUISBOURG NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Mingle with Louisbourg's lively 18th century citizens, hearing their stories and tasting their food while soldiers march, cannons blast, children play and women mend clothes on a typical 1740s day in the French fortified town.



## ST. PETER'S CANAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Located in one of Canada's oldest European settlements, the St. Peter's Canal links the Atlantic Ocean with the Bras d'Or Lakes as well as Canada's historic trading past to Cape Breton Island's vibrant future.



## MARCONI NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Discover how the wireless age began at a museum chronicling inventor Guglielmo Marconi's achievements in carrying out the world's first transatlantic wireless telegraph experiments in Nova Scotia at the turn of the 20th century.

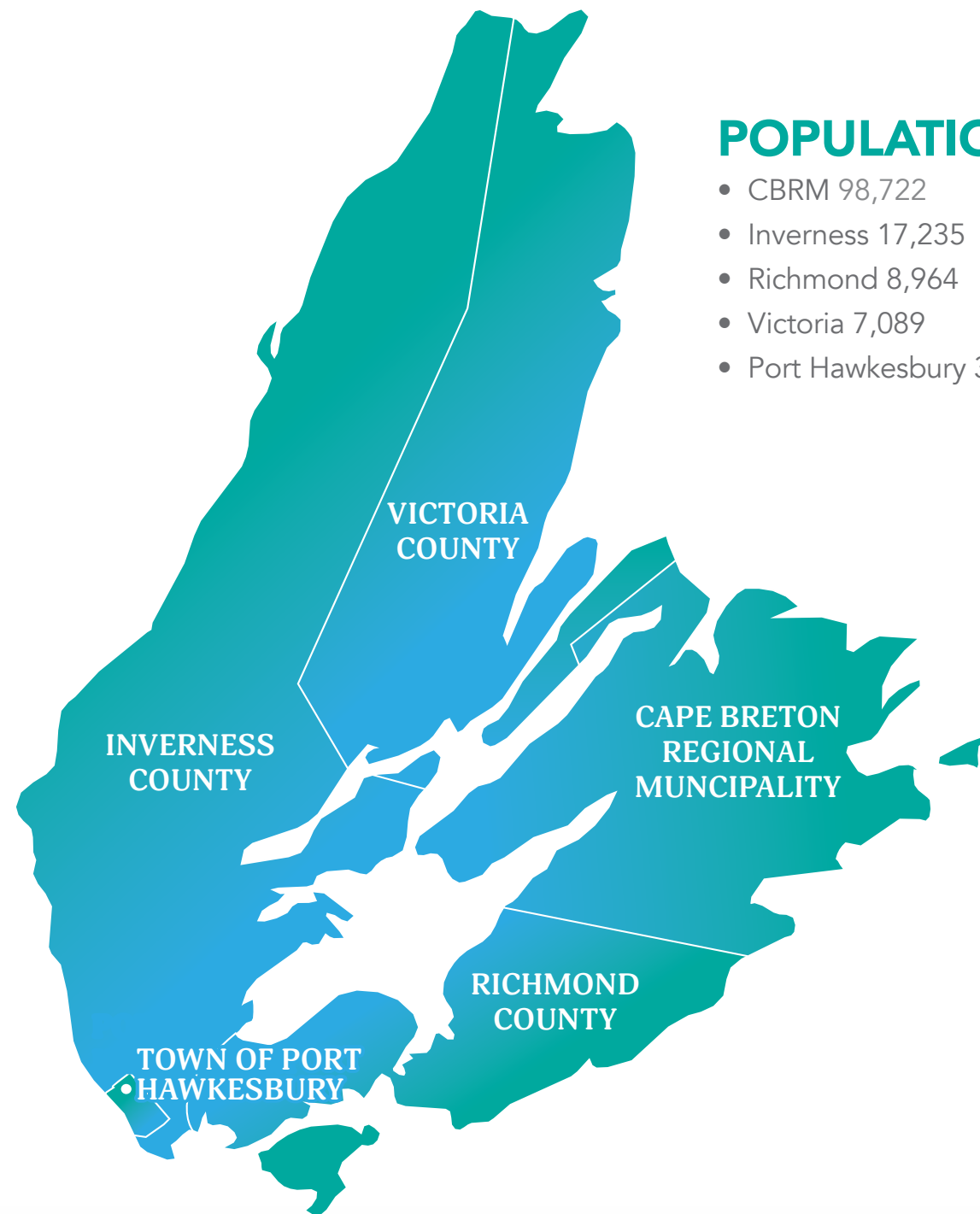


## ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Meet the man who would forever transform the modern world. Feel Alexander Graham Bell's remarkable legend come to life while touring full-scale replicas, viewing his personal artifacts and taking part in exhilarating behind-the-scenes tours.

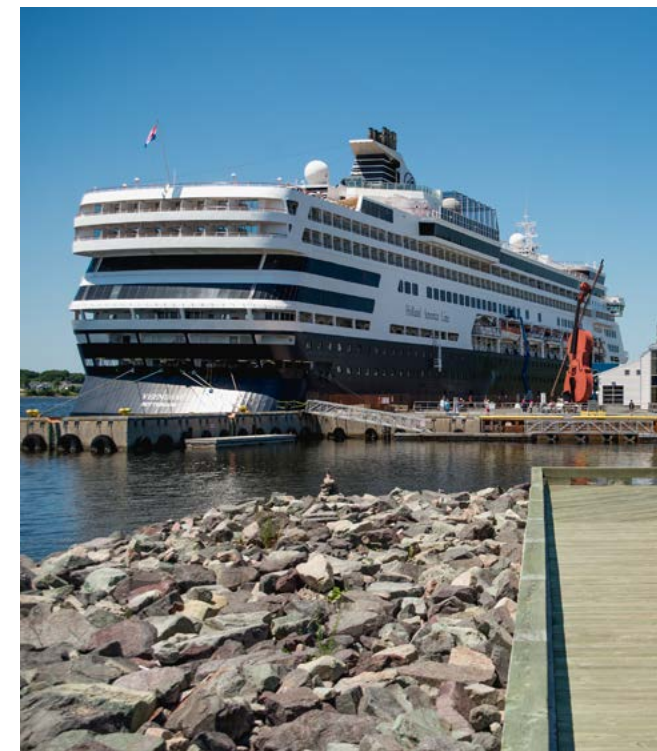


# 5 Municipal Units



## POPULATION

- CBRM 98,722
- Inverness 17,235
- Richmond 8,964
- Victoria 7,089
- Port Hawkesbury 3,214



## COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS:

- Population – 98,722
- Average Age – 45.3
- Average total income per person (aged 15 and over) - 36,566

(2016 Canadian Census Data)

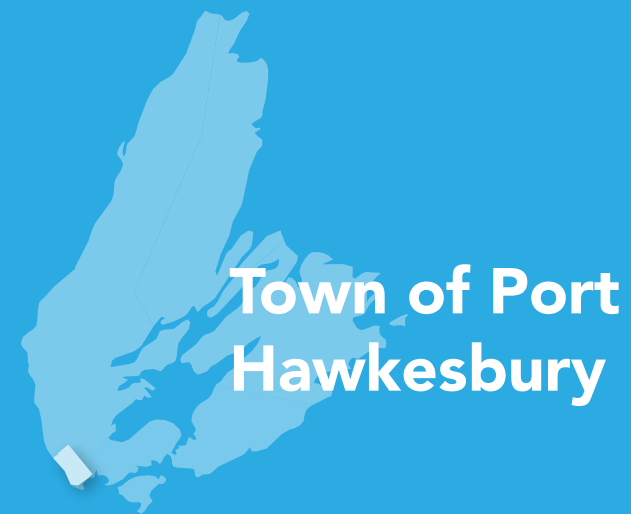
## Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM)



The Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) was created in 1995 through the amalgamation of eight municipalities in Cape Breton County. As a result, CBRM accounts for 74% of Cape Breton's population. CBRM is home to Sydney, the second largest urban area in the province and the largest in Cape Breton. There are also two First Nation Communities within the CBRM—Membertou and Eskasoni.

The CBRM is home to some of Cape Breton's largest institutions, including Cape Breton University, the Nova Scotia Community College Marconi Campus, and the Canadian Coast Guard College. Rural areas of CBRM host resource industries such as agriculture, fishing, and industrial production. In the CBRM, you will find downtowns in the midst of transformation, infrastructure that offers businesses a competitive edge and a warm welcoming community ready to embrace you and your family. Connected to the world by road, water and air, the CBRM offers easy access to national and international markets. The J.A. Douglas McCurdy Airport is located just a 15 minute drive away from downtown Sydney and is equipped with two Instrument Landing System (ILS) runways allowing the airport to handle most commercial jet traffic.





## Town of Port Hawkesbury

The Town of Port Hawkesbury is located on the west coast of Cape Breton Island, bordered by the Strait of Canso as well as both Richmond and Inverness Counties. The town offers a unique blend of economic, cultural, and lifestyle opportunities and hosts many businesses and services that serve all communities of the Strait Area both on Cape Breton Island and mainland Nova Scotia.

The Town is home to one of the Island's two NSCC Campuses and includes the Nautical Institute, a Transport Canada approved marine training program for students who want to start or advance their career at sea. The Strait Area has substantial development potential with growth opportunities in manufacturing, technology, transportation/distribution, energy, and the oceans industries.

Port Hawkesbury is connected to the world via road, rail, water, and air. Located in nearby Port Hastings, the Allan J. MacEachen Port Hawkesbury Airport is a full service fixed-base operator and offers concierge and aircraft services, as well as helicopter tours, through Celtic Air Services.



### TOWN BY THE NUMBERS:

- Population – 3,214
- Average age – 44.6
- Average Total Income per person (aged 15 and over) - 40,169

(2016 Canadian Census Data)



### COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS:

- Population – 8,964
- Average Age – 48.2
- Average Income per person (aged 15 and over) - \$35,687

(2016 Canadian Census Data)



## Richmond County

Located on the Cape Breton side of the Strait of Canso, adjacent to international shipping lanes, the Municipality of the County of Richmond is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the south and by the Bras d'Or Lakes on the north.

Shaped by the sea and proud of its past, Richmond County blends traditional industry with a laid-back lifestyle. Deeply rooted in the fishing and shipbuilding industries, this land of 1,000 coves is home to a rich fishing ground, producing some of the world's best lobsters and exquisite mussels, scallops, and oysters.

Approximately one-third of Richmond's residents speak both French and English, since the county is home to several vibrant Acadian communities. The county is also home to thriving Gaelic and Mi'kmaq cultures, including Potlotek First Nation, contributing to the area's rich history - a history which is celebrated during numerous festivals and events held around the county throughout the year.



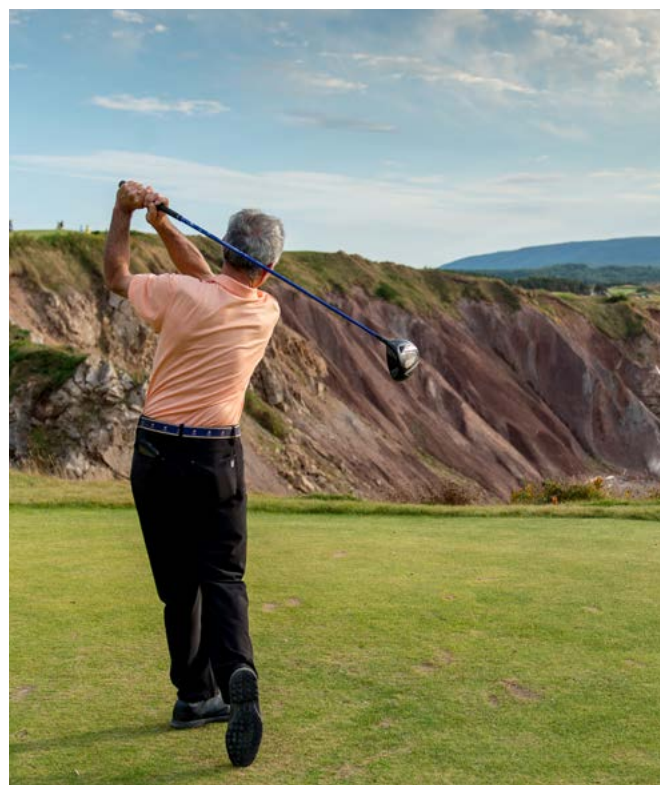


# Inverness County

The Municipality of the County of Inverness comprises most of the western coastline of Cape Breton Island and reaches inland as far as the beautiful Bras d'Or Lakes.

A mix of unspoiled beauty and warm welcoming communities, Inverness County is home to several thriving and vibrant cultures, including Acadian, Scottish, and home to a Mi'kmaq community, We'koqma'q First Nation. Many residents of the county identify as bilingual, thanks to local francophone and Mi'kmaq-led educational centres, as well as a satellite location for the Gaelic College (Colaisde na Gàidhlig), North America's only year-round Gaelic-language educational non-profit institution.

The county boasts a number of popular recreational and tourism attractions, including several maintained beaches, the Inverness County Centre for the Arts, the Celtic Shores Coastal Multi-Use Trails, the Cabot Trail, the Cape Breton Highlands National Park, and a number of golf courses, including world-class Cabot Links and Cabot Cliffs Golf Courses.



## COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS:

- Population – 17,235
- Average Age – 46.2
- Average Income per person (aged 15 and over) - \$38,191

(2016 Canadian Census Data)



The Municipality of the County of Victoria is located in the heart of Cape Breton. From the highlands of Ingonish to the shores of the Bras d'Or Lakes, this area is as rich in history as it is in beauty. As the part-time residence to world-renowned inventors Alexander Graham Bell and his wife Mabel Hubbard-Bell, Beinn Breagh estate across the bay from the village of Baddeck has been called one of the world's first "innovation hubs" by former Governor General David Johnston.

## COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS:

- Population – 7,089
- Average Age – 46.7
- Average Income - \$38,023

(2016 Canadian Census Data)



# Victoria County

Breathtaking vistas and tight-knit communities make Victoria County a welcoming place and like other areas of Cape Breton, there is a rich mix of cultures including Scottish, Irish, and Mi'kmaq, such as Wagmatcook First Nation. Contributing to Victoria County's vibrant cultural landscape is the Gaelic College (Colaisde na Gàidhlig), North America's only year-round Gaelic language educational non-profit institution.

With the highest number of businesses per capita in the province, Victoria County is poised as the entrepreneurship capital of Nova Scotia. Fisheries and tourism are the key economic drivers of this area, fueled by an energetic group of entrepreneurs. Victoria County is home to a number of long-standing tourism operators and attractions, including the world famous Cabot Trail, the Cape Breton Highlands National Park, the Keltic Lodge at the Highlands, and world-class Highlands Links and Bell Bay Golf Courses.



# 5 Mi'kmaw First Nation Communities

Cape Breton Island is home to five Mi'kmaw First Nation communities: Eskasoni, We'koqma'q, Wagmatcook, Membertou, and Potlotek. Membertou is recognized as a leader in economic development across the world and Eskasoni is the largest Mi'kmaq community in the world. All five communities have a tremendous impact on Cape Breton Island.



▲ Membertou Pow Wow



## Community by the Numbers:

### Membertou

- Population – 1,015
- Average Age – 29.8

### Eskasoni

- Population – 3,422
- Average Age – 27.9

### Wagmatcook

- Population – 537
- Average Age – 29.5

### We'koqma'q

- Population – 831
- Average Age – 27

### Potlotek

- Population – 506
- Average Age – 29.3



# Cape Breton's Climate

The beauty of Cape Breton is displayed in every season. Cape Breton enjoys warm summers, breathtaking autumns, crisp, snowy winters and pleasant springs.



## January

Daily Maximum  
32°F/0°C

Daily Minimum  
16°F/-9°C

Rainfall  
3in/75mm

Snowfall  
31in/90cm



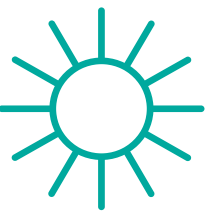
## April

Daily Maximum  
43°F/6°C

Daily Minimum  
30°F/-1°C

Rainfall  
4in/97mm

Snowfall  
10in/26cm



## July

Daily Maximum  
73°F/23°C

Daily Minimum  
54°F/12°C

Rainfall  
4in/86mm

Snowfall  
0in/0cm



## October

Daily Maximum  
55°F/12°C

Daily Minimum  
39°F/4°C

Rainfall  
5in/135mm

Snowfall  
1in/3cm





**Cape Breton ranked in the top third of "Canada's Best Places to Live" based on crime rate\***

\*Source: Canadian Business, 2008

## Safety

All Emergency Services are controlled through the Enhanced Emergency 911 system.

### Police

Two police services offered in Cape Breton

- Cape Breton Regional Police Service and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Approximately eight locations throughout the region

### Fire Services

- 53 registered volunteer fire departments and municipal fire services in the CBRM
- All volunteer fire fighters receive in-depth mandatory training

## Healthcare

The Nova Scotia Health Authority – Eastern Zone is responsible for:

- 11 hospitals in Cape Breton
- Seven community Health Boards
- More than 4,100 healthcare employees
- Approximately 281,600 patient visits through emergency, ambulatory care and admissions every year.

Notable specialized areas of care include:

- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Pediatrics
- Cape Breton Cancer Centre
- Renal Dialysis
- Palliative Care

## Education

The Cape Breton-Victoria Regional Centre for Education is comprised of more than 56 elementary, junior high and high schools, as well as 185 adult education centres.

The Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial is the francophone school board in Nova Scotia. There are three francophone schools in Cape Breton: Centre Scolaire Etoile de L'Acadie in Sydney, Ecole NDA in Arichat and Ecole Beau-Port in Cheticamp.

In addition to the schools that are included in the provincial network, each of the five First Nation communities have their own schools and Boards.



### POST SECONDARY

Cape Breton University:

- Known for small class sizes, unique course offerings, adaptable programming and research capacity
- Atlantic Canada's leader in Indigenous post-secondary education
- Recruits students from more than 50 international countries

Nova Scotia Community College

- Two campuses in Cape Breton
- 3,400 students
- Offers high quality education and real-world training for students entering the workforce, including the Nautical Institute

Cape Breton is also home to:

- Canadian Coast Guard College
- Université Sainte-Anne
- Numerous private career colleges and training institutes





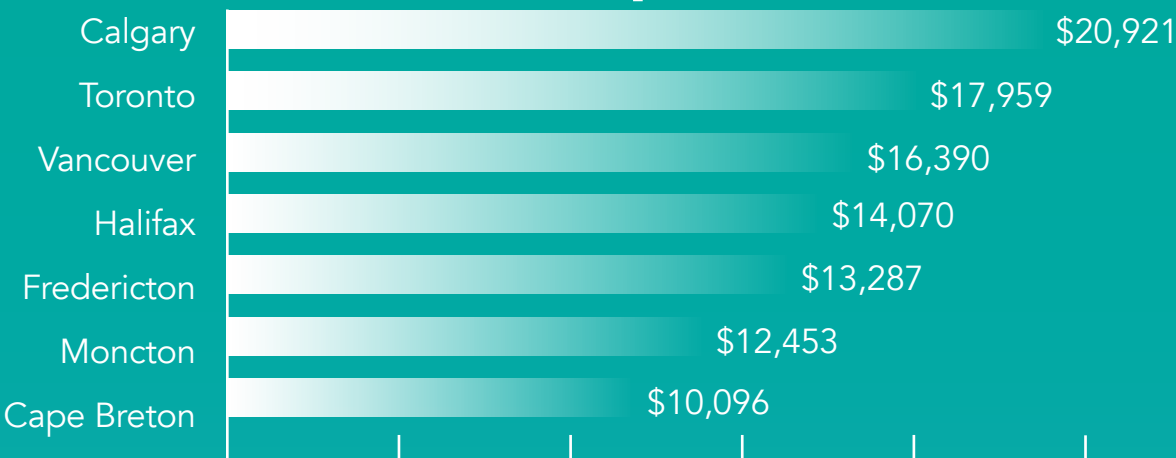
# Housing

Lowest average house price among 180 municipalities across Canada\*

## Median House Cost for Single Detached Homes



## Shelter Costs Comparison





\* Source: MoneySense Magazine \*\* Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 2012



# Getting Here



## Travel Times

	Drive from Halifax to Cape Breton	2hr 39min
	Ferry from Newfoundland to Cape Breton, NS	8hr 34min
	Non-Stop Flight from Toronto to J.A. Douglas McCurdy Sydney Airport (YQY)	2hr 20min

## GETTING HERE IS AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3.

By air: there are direct flights into Sydney from Toronto, Halifax and Montreal. By car: the Trans-Canada Highway 104 leads to Cape Breton Island. By water: there are two ferries from Newfoundland, cruiselines dock at various ports on the island, or boaters may chart their own course. If you fly into Sydney, car rentals are plentiful. You can also hire a taxi, take a shuttle or a bus tour.

Cape Breton has a full-service airport—the JA Douglas McCurdy Sydney Airport—with direct flights from Toronto and Montreal and numerous connections via the Halifax Stanfield International Airport. In addition, Celtic Air Services, a full service Fixed-Based Operator at the Alan J MacEachen Airport, provides another fly-in option when visiting Cape Breton by air. **Bonus:** Nova Scotia is located two hours closer to Europe than any other North American destination, and Halifax is closer to Boston and New York than any other Canadian city via air.

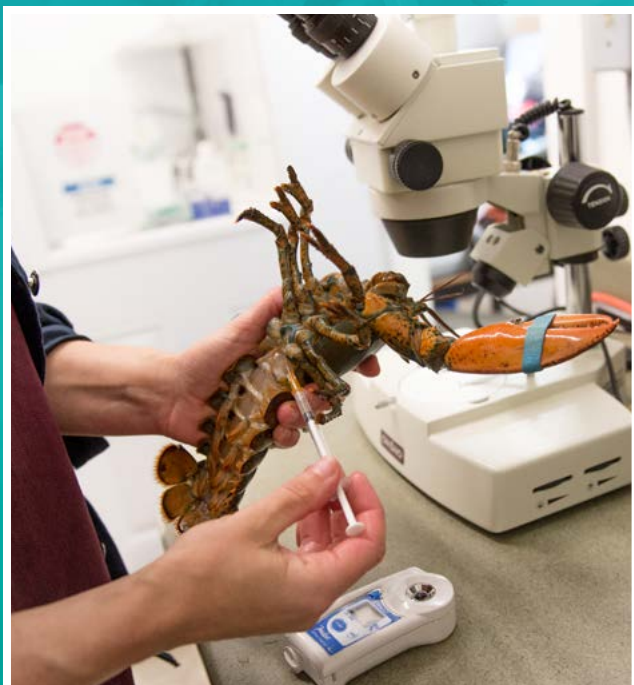


# Thrive

## CAPE BRETON ISLAND IS ATTRACTIVE FOR PEOPLE LOOKING FOR A PRISTINE, FRIENDLY AND SAFE LOCATION TO WORK.

Short commute times to employment means more time to spend with family and friends. Accessibility to various unlimited outdoor recreational activities on land and to the ocean is a great complement to any industry and the personal lives of workers.

Many of Cape Breton's top companies have attracted senior management, researchers and other specialized workers from around the world by promoting the region's unique quality of life.



## TRANSPORTATION

Cape Breton is your gateway hub to North America. With some of the world's deepest waters and direct shipping routes to Europe, the United States, South America and Asia, it is the first port of call on mainland North America for vessels transiting the Suez Canal.

## SEAFOOD, AQUACULTURE & AGRI-FOOD

Seafood, aquaculture and agriculture sectors have been inextricably linked to Cape Breton's history for centuries and are deeply woven throughout the fabric of the Island's culture.

Cape Breton is home to a diverse range of premium quality seafood and value added products, particularly our world famous lobster and crab. Nova Scotia is Canada's number one exporter of seafood and approximately 35% of Canada's shellfish comes from the province. The United States, China, and the European Union are Nova Scotia's three largest seafood export markets.

The Island offers affordable, high quality land and boasts a stable growing climate with very low risk of drought that is well suited for vegetable growing and biomass production.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY

As the world looks to reduce carbon emissions and build a more sustainable economic foundation, the investment climate for alternatives in renewable energy production is stronger than ever

before. Cape Breton Island has the optimal climate and spaces for renewable energy production.

## TOURISM

Tourism is one of the key industries in Cape Breton with over 6,000 people employed in 600+ tourism-related businesses. With icons like the Cabot Trail and the Fortress of Louisbourg, world-class events like the Celtic Colours International Festival, and a flourishing reputation as one of the world's finest golf destinations, visitors continue to demand growth in the desirable tourism sector on the island.

## TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Few places in the world provide such strong support to bring an idea from the concept stage to the commercialization stage. With a growing cluster of over 40 firms involved in various IT-related activities, Cape Breton is an ideal place for companies looking to establish or grow operations. Innovative businesses create products and services in such diverse fields as medical devices, nutraceuticals, gaming and music production.

## ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Cape Breton has proven to be an excellent location for firms that manufacture niche, high-value products and offer unique services to a range of manufacturing clients. Manufacturers producing products as diverse as medical imaging technology, high tensile synthetic rope and large cloud-based storage servers have selected Cape Breton as their base of operations due to skilled

and loyal workforces, low turnover rates, quick turnaround production times and the low cost of business.

## EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Cape Breton has a vast network of educational institutions, research facilities and economic development partners that can help to build your business from conceptualization through to commercialization and value-added product development. We have a history of sharing our expertise with others and this bodes well for start-up companies seeking out innovative partnerships.

## ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The Sydney Tar Ponds Project is considered the most significant environmental remediation project in Canada. Combined with the closure and remediation of dozens of former Cape Breton Development Corporation (DEVCO) coal mine sites, over \$1 billion in remediation projects have been carried out over the past decade in Cape Breton. This work has created a formidable depth and breadth of engineering and environmental talent in the area.

## MINERALS

Cape Breton is rich in minerals. From centuries of coal mining to the current exploration of rare earth metals, mineral resources have attracted diverse investment in the region. Our mining track record has led to the development of one of the most skilled mining workforces in Canada.



# Top Employers

The Canada's Top 100 Employers project is a national competition to determine which employers lead their industries in offering exceptional workplaces for their employees. There are also separate competitions recognizing Atlantic Canadian and Nova Scotian employers. The following are some of the current Best Employers operating on Cape Breton Island:

- CBCL LIMITED
- CLEARWATER SEAFOOD'S LP
- MARITIME TRAVEL
- WORKERS COMPENSATION BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA



The Best Places to Work in Atlantic Canada project is a regional program managed by the Best Companies Group in partnership with Progress magazine. It is dedicated to finding and recognizing Atlantic Canada's best employers. To be eligible, companies must have a facility in the Atlantic Canada region with a minimum workforce of 20 employees. The following are some Best Places to Work currently in operation on Cape Breton Island:

- EAST COAST CREDIT UNION
- STANTEC
- KILLAM PROPERTIES

Other Major employers on the Island:

- Nova Scotia Health Authority
- Cape Breton University
- Membertou Corporate
- Shannex
- Cape Breton Regional Municipality

# Employment Support Professionals

## NOVA SCOTIA WORKS

Island Employment offers a wide range of services to support professionals looking to re-enter the workforce. The organization is designed to assist individuals to find a job or explore career possibilities in a field of their interest. The organization links potential employees and employers to assist employers in finding qualified and dependable employees.

Island Employment also facilitates clients to access government-sponsored programs intended to assist with skill development for employment, training, and support.

## SOME OF THE SERVICES OFFERED INCLUDE:

- Job search assistance
- Career counselling
- Help with resume development, cover letter writing, and interview skills
- Workshops
- Assistance accessing and understanding Employment Nova Scotia funding programs
- Access to the latest labour market information
- Job coaching
- Case management
- Career development assistive technology assessment and planning
- Referrals to other programs
- Access to wireless Internet, computers and software



# Invest

## WHY DO BUSINESS IN CAPE BRETON?

Located on one of the most beautiful places on earth, Cape Breton Island offers a competitive environment for businesses to thrive.

With more than 8,400 businesses, Cape Breton Island is home to a vibrant, innovative and diverse business community.

A pro-business environment with access to research and development, tax incentives and financing make Cape Breton Island an ideal location for your investment.



**UNTOUCHED  
LAND READY FOR  
DEVELOPMENT**



**LOW BUSINESS COST**



**SKILLED AND  
DEDICATED  
WORKFORCE**



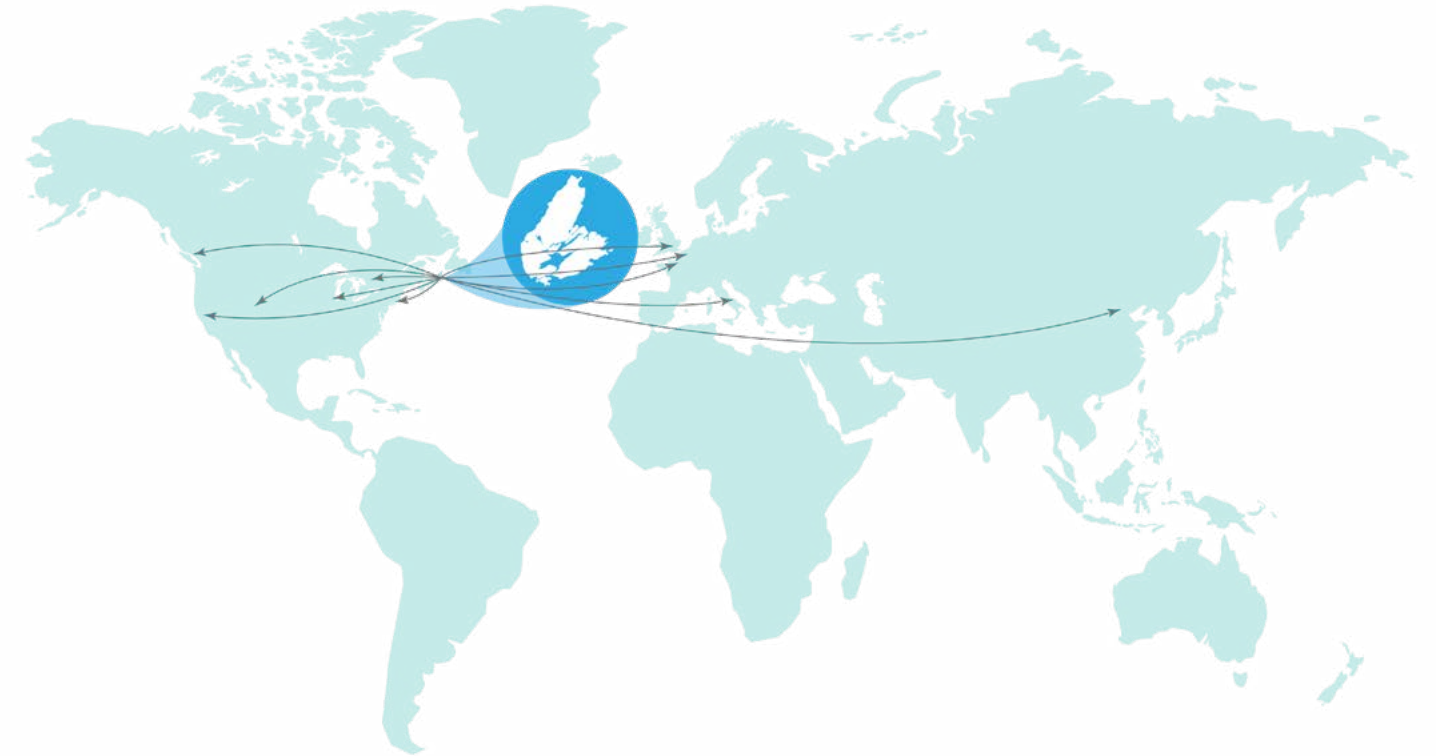
**UNMATCHED  
QUALITY OF LIFE**



**STRATEGICALLY  
LOCATED**



**READY FOR BUSINESS**



**Cape Breton  
Island offers many  
geographical  
advantages for  
businesses seeking  
global opportunities.**

- Accessible, strategic location to world markets
- Direct shipping routes to Europe, the United States, South America and Asia
- Sea, road, rail and air transportation options
- Home to some of the world's deepest waters for shipping via sea
- Favourable time zone for international business communications



# Business Costs

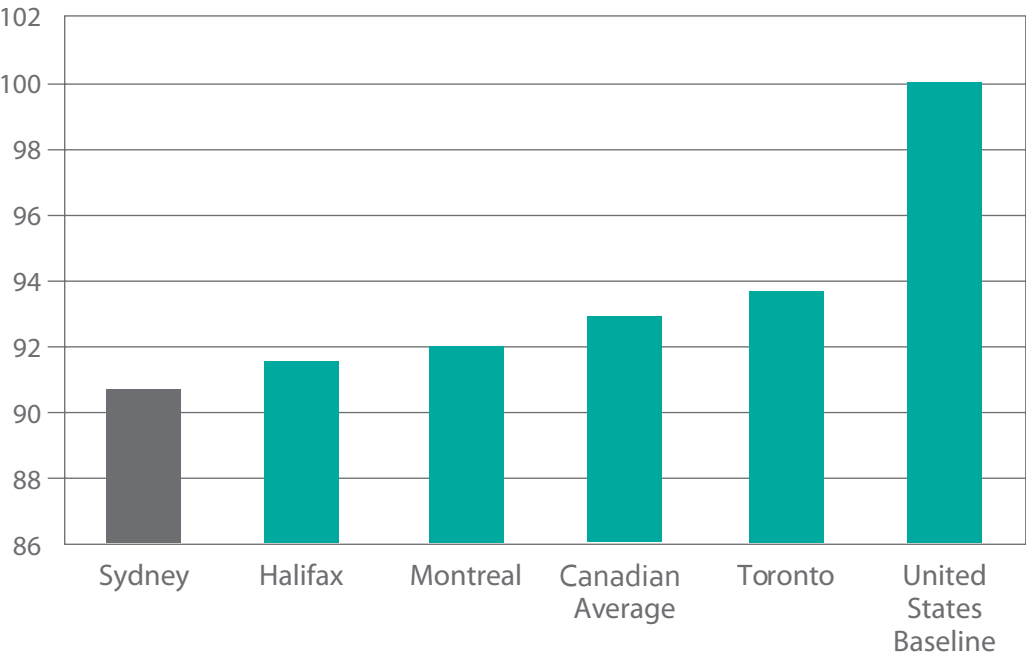
Cape Breton Island offers companies one of the lowest business-cost locations within the G8 countries.

Whether you are a manufacturer of products selling into US or European markets, Cape Breton is one of the best locations in North America from a business-cost perspective. This cost advantage was confirmed by the KPMG Competitive Alternatives 2014 – Special Report which looked at the costs for

17 different industries across over 100 jurisdictions in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

According to the report, Canada is the cost-leader with business-costs five percent below the US. Sydney, Cape Breton was found to be one of most cost-competitive regions of Canada when compared to other major centres. The table below displays Sydney's index ranking compared to Canada's major centres.

## BUSINESS LOCATION COST



Note: Cost Index representing business costs percentage relative to the US baseline of 100.0. The US baseline represents the average of business costs in the four largest US cities: New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Dallas-Fort Worth.

The Sydney, Cape Breton cost advantage was based on:

- A low business tax environment
- Lower wage, benefits and taxes
- Low cost of land, construction and real estate
- Competitive utility costs
- Some of the world's most generous research and development incentives
- Competitively priced transportation costs



### DID YOU KNOW?

That the Cape Breton Partnership has a land and asset database to help you find the right property for your business? Check it out at [welcometocapebreton.ca/invest](http://welcometocapebreton.ca/invest)



### Why am I in Cape Breton?

Simply stated: we came for the music and stayed for the people! My family moved to Inverness County in 2010, after many years of extended summer visits. We felt more comfortable and welcomed here than any place we've ever lived, both as visitors and permanent residents. My wife and I are both self-employed and our businesses require access to reliable broadband Internet. Once this service arrived in the rural Mabou area, we pulled up stakes in Alberta and set up our businesses here. It has been the best move we've ever made – personally and professionally. It is incredibly gratifying to give back to the community through volunteerism and supporting local businesses. Our neighbours are our friends and our community is our home.

**DAVID GREENWELL**

Principal, M3D DesignWorks  
Mabou, Inverness County



# Labour Force

Cape Breton Island is known for its loyal and skilled workforce. With a robust post-secondary education system, the Island's residents are some of the most employable people in our country.

- 60,000 people in the workforce
- Known for dedication, skill and work ethic
- 27% of workforce holds university certificate, diploma or a degree
- 14% of workforce has a trades certificate (well above the national and provincial rates)



**Being born and raised in Cape Breton, it was natural for me to want to return to my roots after my studies.**

This island is culturally vibrant and it deserves more recognition than some might give it. I am proud to be able to share my culture with our visitors, but mostly with our youth and community members. As a music and dance teacher, I get to do what I love most while sharing my passion with the wonderful people of my community. The support here is a true and solid one and I'm proud to call Cape Breton my home."

**NICOLE LEBLANC**

Cheticamp, Inverness County  
Owner and Instructor, École de Musique Raveston

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Atlantic Immigration Pilot is an innovative program to grow Atlantic Canada. For more information visit [capebretonpartnership.com](http://capebretonpartnership.com)





# Infrastructure

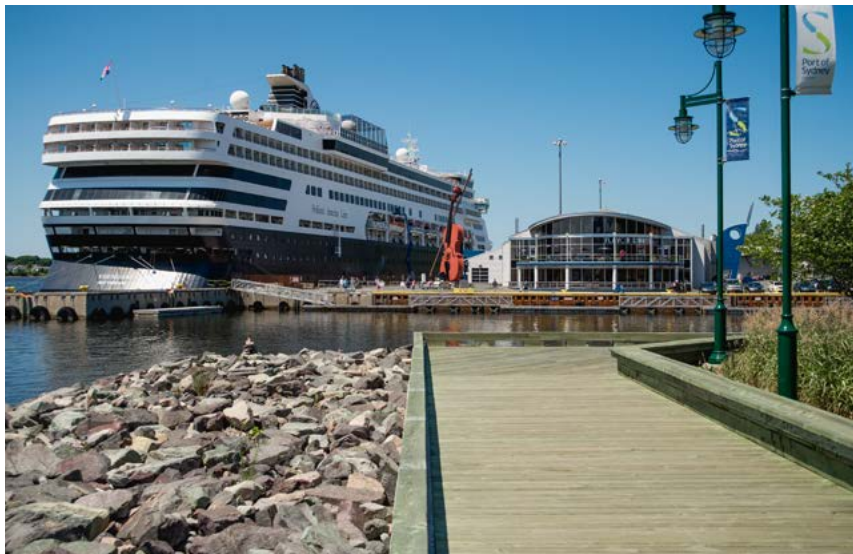
## Transportation Infrastructure

### SEA

**PORT OF SYDNEY** - Located on the northeastern shore of Cape Breton Island, and featuring a 17m (56 ft) draft, the Sydney Port offers a full range of services. Federal, provincial and municipal governments, along with the private sector, have invested \$38 million to dredge the harbour to deepen the access channel allowing post-panamax ships access into the Port of Sydney.

The cruise ship industry has become a key part of Cape Breton's tourism sector with over 100 ships per year docking in the Port of Sydney while smaller cruise ships regularly access the ports of Louisbourg and Baddeck.

**STRAIT OF CANSO** – Located between mainland Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island, the Strait of Canso is the deepest harbour on the North American East Coast. It is 20 km long (12.42 mi), up to 1.5 km wide (.93 mi) with a depth of 27 m (89 ft) that can handle vessels up to 500,000 dwt. It has two public harbours, Port Hawkesbury and Mulgrave, and five private terminals.



### AIR

**THE J.A. DOUGLAS MCCURDY SYDNEY AIRPORT** provides multiple flights per day to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport, Toronto Pearson International Airport and seasonal direct flights to Montréal-Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport. Air Canada and WestJet also offer direct flights from Sydney to Toronto. The airport's main runway is 7,070 ft (2,155 m).

**THE ALAN J. MACEACHEN AIRPORT** provides corporate and charter aircraft services. Located approximately 8 kms (4.9 mi) from the Port Hawkesbury town limits, the paved runway is 1,524 m (5,000 ft) long by 46 m (150 ft) wide, with radio-controlled lighting for night operations.

### ROAD

There are three 100-series highways in Cape Breton (Highway 104, Highway 105 Trans Canada Highway, and Highway 125) totalling 211 km (131 mi) of roadway. Visitors can access Cape Breton via the Canso Causeway on mainland Nova Scotia. A full range of services from large fleet operations to small niche trucking companies are available for the shipment of cargo. Cape Breton is also the transshipment point for all truck cargo to and from Newfoundland and Labrador.

### FERRY

**MARINE ATLANTIC FERRY** provides the vital service linking automobile and cargo traffic from Newfoundland and Labrador via North Sydney to the rest of Canada.

## Telecommunications Infrastructure

Cape Breton is connected to the world with telecommunications infrastructures and internet networks from Bell Aliant, Rogers Internet Communications, Eastlink, Seaside Communications, and MTS/Allstream. These networks hub through Cape Breton and the main fibre optic networks connect through Sydney and on to Newfoundland and Labrador. Seaside Communications & Eastlink also provide state of the art wireless broadband to rural areas.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Cape Breton produces more than 80% of Nova Scotia's electricity!

## Energy Infrastructure

Cape Breton is the energy hub for Nova Scotia, producing more than 80% of Nova Scotia's electricity at coal generating power plants, a variety of wind farms and a hydro-electric facility at Wreck Cove.

The Island also provides unique opportunities for global companies to take advantage of the many renewable and/or alternative energy sources available. Companies may want to develop other opportunities to meet their energy needs, which could include exploring:

- their ability to leverage the new hydro-electric energy corridor;
- the vast tracks of land available for biomass growth and bioenergy production;
- the Island's favourable wind regime;
- the fast-flowing waters for tidal energy;
- the potential for geothermal or coal bed methane energy from the Island's immense coal mining sites; and
- the oil and natural gas resources available in the region.





# Sectors

Cape Breton Island provides numerous opportunities for companies to participate in fast-growing and sustainable sectors.



**TRANSPORTATION**



**TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**



**RENEWABLE ENERGY**



**SEAFOOD & AGRI-FOOD**



**TOURISM**



**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING**



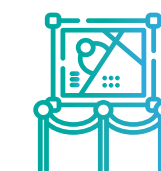
**EDUCATION & RESEARCH**



**ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**



**FORESTRY/MINERALS**



**ARTS & CULTURE**

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Cape Breton Partnership strives to help companies of all sizes maximize the benefits of our business in environment. Connect with us [capebretonpartnership.com](http://capebretonpartnership.com)

# The Basics

## Opening and Operating a Business in Cape Breton

From start-up to operation, there are resources available to help you get your business up and running smoothly.

### First Steps to Starting a Business

- Understand and research your industry
- Consult with a local municipal office
- Consult your legal and accounting advisors
- Choose a legal structure in Nova Scotia. Your business can be incorporated or unincorporated and take one of the following legal structures:
  - Sole proprietorship
  - Partnership
  - Corporation
  - Co-operative
  - Society
- Plan for workplace health and safety and determine if mandatory workplace injury insurance is required
- Reserve your business name
- Register your business

The Province of Nova Scotia offers step-by-step assistance with their Business Planning Tool. Get government information to help you start or grow a business, including:

- Business registration process
- License and permit applications
- Tax information
- Inspection requirements
- Funding opportunities
- Workplace safety requirements

[capebretonbusiness.com](http://capebretonbusiness.com)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Each of the 5 municipal units in Cape Breton Island have their own rules and tax rates. Consult your municipal office early-on when starting a business.



# Study

## UNIVERSITIES AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Cape Breton is home to a variety of post-secondary and cultural learning centres. They offer a wide variety of degree and diploma granting programs.



## CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY

Wonderfully diverse. Incredibly close-knit. Join a community of students from more than 40 countries.

Currently home to approximately 4,900 students from more than 40 countries, Cape Breton University (CBU) offers an inclusive and diverse learning environment where you will experience the best of Cape Breton while making friends with people from around the globe.

At CBU, students study in an environment that balances the supports needed to excel inside of the classroom. Students have the opportunities they seek to live a vibrant life outside of their studies. With more than 60 areas of study, you'll earn a world-class education in a field that ignites your passion. But most importantly, you'll find your path to success.

I'm from the most populated city in Nigeria, 70 million people.

After high school, I was trying to find what next, looking for something in the health field. There was an educational fair and one of the schools was CBU, so I went to talk with them. The representative told me about the smaller class sizes, and everything he said made me say, 'yes that's the school for me', which my mom agreed. So I applied and was accepted. When I got to CBU it was even better than expected. People were really friendly to me when I got here and I didn't have a hard time adjusting at all. I was 17 when I left and my parents were worried that I would have a hard time, but people made it easy for me to transition.

**LOUISA ESANGBEDO**

Legal Assistant  
Sampson McPhee



## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM OPTIONS

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Arts, Community Studies
- Bachelor of Arts & Science in Environment
- Bachelor of Business Administration
- Bachelor of Education
- Bachelor of Emergency Management
- Bachelor of Engineering Technology
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Public Health)
- Bachelor of Hospitality and Tourism Management
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Science, Nursing

For full program details, visit [CBU.ca/programs](https://www.cbu.ca/programs).



# NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Cape Breton has two Nova Scotia Community College campuses providing high quality education and training for the local workforce in the skills needed by local industry. Combined, the two campuses have 3,400 students enrolled in full and part time programs. The campuses are: [Marconi Campus – Sydney](#) and [Strait Area Campus – Port Hawkesbury](#)



## DID YOU KNOW?

Cape Breton is home to a number of vocational and business training facilities spread across the island.



# DIPLOMA PROGRAM OPTIONS

NSCC offers one- and two-year diploma options. Some of the two-year diploma options in Cape Breton are:

### Marconi Campus

- Business Administration
- Carpentry - Diploma
- Culinary Management
- Disability Supports and Services
- Early Childhood Education
- Electronic Engineering Technician
- Industrial Instrumentation
- IT Web Programming
- Metal Fabrication
- Practical Nursing
- ... and more

### Strait Area Campus

- Business Administration
- Marine Engineering Technology - Diploma
- Marine Navigation Technology – Diploma
- IT Generalist
- Mi'kmaw Early Childhood Education (Poqji-kina'masulti'kw tel-kina'mujik mijua'ji'jk)
- Natural Resources Environmental Technology
- Power Engineering Technology
- Practical Nursing
- Social Services
- Welding – Diploma
- ... and more

For more information on programs and courses, visit: [NSCC's website](#)





# Immigrate

## Immigration 101

Immigration information presented in this booklet is subject to change by both provincial and federal governments; please refer to the [Nova Scotia Office of Immigration and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada](#) for the most up to date information, procedures and applications.



### THERE ARE TWO MAIN PATHS TO START YOUR JOURNEY TOWARDS IMMIGRATION:

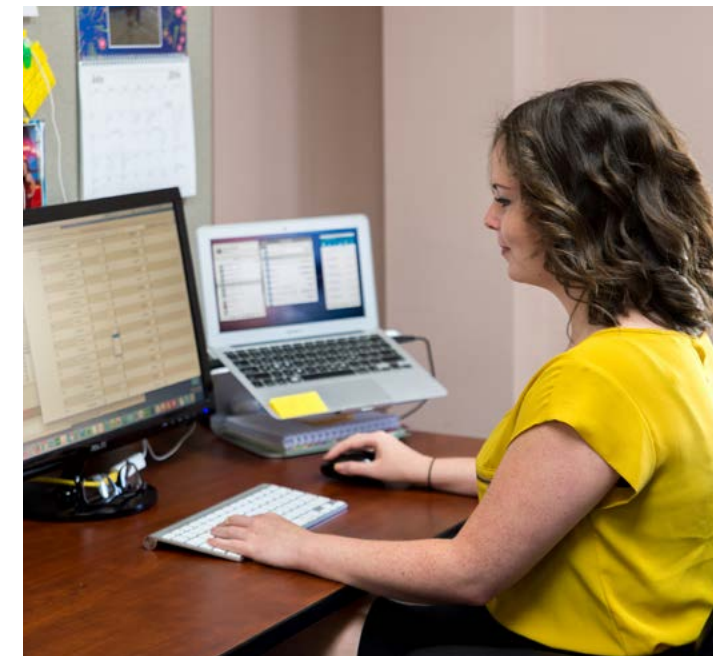
1. Acquiring a Work Permit or a Post Graduate Work Permit (if you graduate from a recognized publicly-funded educational institution in Canada).
2. Acquiring permanent residency gives you the same rights and obligations as a Canadian citizen, however:
  - You may not vote in elections;
  - You may not run for public office;
  - You will need to have lived in Canada a minimum of 2 years in every 5-year period to maintain the PR status; and
  - In the case of a serious offence, you may be deported and have your permanent residency status revoked.

Immigration in Canada is a shared responsibility between both the federal and provincial governments. There are a number of immigration pathways for you to consider.

After 3 years of Canadian residency (with permanent residency status) you may apply for Citizenship. Canada allows dual citizenship, as such, you will not be required to give up your current nationality to obtain Canadian Citizenship.

# The National Occupation Classification System

*The National Occupation Classification (NOC) System is the classification system used to identify the skill level and educational requirements needed to perform a certain job. The NOC system is used for various purposes, one of which is immigration - as it sets the standards for the Canadian Labour Market.*



## NOC Groups

- 1. NOC 0:**  
(also considered Skill Level A): Top-level management positions.
- 2. NOC A:**  
Occupations that usually require university level education.
- 3. NOC B:**  
Occupations that usually require college education or apprenticeship training.
- 4. NOC C:**  
Occupations that usually require secondary school and or Occupation Specific Training.
- 5. NOC D:**  
Occupations that only require on the job training.

To find your NOC Code, please visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada/express-entry/eligibility/find-national-occupation-code.html>.



## My favorite thing about Cape Breton is the Cabot Trail, it is really nice.

But what I really like about Cape Breton is the friendliness of the people. As an immigrant, when you come to a foreign country you don't know what to expect. When I arrived in Whycomagh the people were so welcoming and shared their culture, which was really nice.

**JOSEPH CHATINDO**

House Assistant at L'Arche Cape Breton



# Immigration Categories

**IMMIGRATION TO CANADA CAN BE EASILY CLASSIFIED UNDER FOUR CLASSES:**

- 1. Economic Class
- 2. Family Class
- 3. Protected Persons Class
- 4. Other (Humanitarian & Compassionate)

**THERE ARE 8 MAIN CATEGORIES OF CANADIAN IMMIGRATION THAT FALL UNDER THESE 4 CLASSES:**

- 1. Express Entry
- 2. Provincial nominees
- 3. Atlantic Immigration Pilot
- 4. Start-Up Visa
- 5. Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot
- 6. Family Sponsorship
- 7. Quebec-selected Skilled Workers
- 8. Self-employed

**ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE CATEGORIES INCLUDE:**

- 1. The Caregivers Program
- 2. Refugees & Asylum Program

Each stream has different criteria, so interested individuals should review the requirements for each stream carefully.

## HOW PROGRAM & STREAM CRITERIA WORK:

- You may qualify for the Provincial Nominee Program or Skilled Worker if you have a post-secondary education and/or at least one year of skilled work experience outside Canada (NOC 0, A or B). Some streams under the Provincial Nominee Program do not require post-secondary education.
- You may qualify for the Provincial Nominee Program or the Atlantic Immigration Pilot (in Atlantic Canada) if you have a valid Canadian job offer that meets certain conditions, depending on the immigration program.
- You may qualify under the Family Class Program if you have close relatives in Canada.
- You may qualify under the Canadian Experience Class or Quebec Experience Class if you have already studied and/or worked in Canada.
- You may qualify under the Business Investor/Entrepreneur immigration programs or the Provincial Nominee Program if you have a high net worth or significant financial resources.

The economic class generally refers to a direct economic contribution by the person immigrating to Canada, with the following as the most common pathways:

- Provincial Nominee Program
- The Atlantic Immigration Pilot
- High Skilled Economic (Skilled Trades & Workers, Canadian Experience)
- Business Immigrants (Start-up Visa & Caregivers)





# The Atlantic Immigration Pilot (AIP)

The Atlantic Immigration Pilot is a collaborative partnership between the Government of Canada and the four Atlantic Provinces; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador, to augment the number of immigrants being accepted through existing federal and provincial programs in the Atlantic region.

Originally launched as a three-year pilot in January 2017 under the Atlantic Growth Strategy, the AIP has been extended to December 2021 giving Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and the provinces more time to assess the efficacy of this innovative, employer-driven immigration program.

Unlike other immigration pathways, the pilot is employer driven. An employer must become designated by the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration to participate in the pilot. Each program has different eligibility criteria which are verified with the employer.

The pilot offers three different programs under the Atlantic Immigration Pilot. Based on their work experience, education and job offer, candidates can apply under one of the following:

1. [Atlantic Intermediate Skilled Program](#)  
NOC 0, A, B and C
2. [Atlantic High-Skilled Program](#)  
NOC 0, A and B
3. [Atlantic International Graduate Program](#)  
NOC 0, A, B and C

Under this pilot, every principal applicant will come to Atlantic Canada with a job offer and an individualized settlement plan for themselves and their family.

# Provincial Economic Class



## THE PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM

The Provincial Nominee Program allows the province to select individuals to nominate to the federal government who will contribute to the Nova Scotia labour market and economy.

### THERE ARE 8 STREAMS UNDER THE NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM.

#### SKILLED WORKER: (NOC 0, A, B)

(Also includes NOC and NOC D).

To apply you must:

- Have a full-time permanent job offer from a Nova Scotia employer;
- Have 1 year of work experience related to the job. (Semi-skilled and low-skilled workers must already have six months' experience with the employer.);
- Be 21 to 55 years old;
- Have a high school diploma;
- Have the appropriate training, skills and/or accreditation for the job;

- Prove language ability equal to Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) Level 5 if you are a skilled worker. If your first language is English or French, that is enough proof. Semi-skilled and low-skilled workers must have test results to prove they meet CLB 4 even if their first language is English or French;
- Show enough financial resources to successfully settle in Nova Scotia

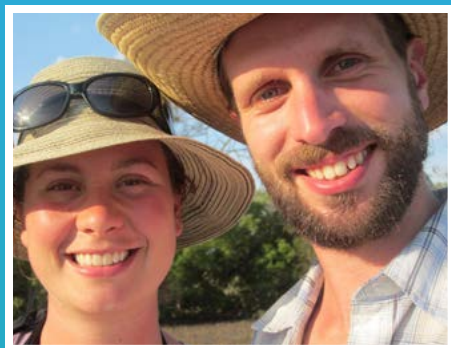
#### NOVA SCOTIA DEMAND: EXPRESS ENTRY: (NOC 0, A, B)

The Nova Scotia Demand: Express Entry stream selects highly skilled individuals who wish to live in Nova Scotia permanently. Applicants must have a good chance of quickly finding a job in Nova Scotia's labour market.

The Nova Scotia Office of Immigration reserves the right to consider only certain types of occupations for nomination, depending on current labour market needs.

Applications will only be accepted online.





We moved to Cape Breton from Andy's native New Zealand in 2014.

Before making the move, we spent a great deal of time considering the characteristics we valued most in a future home. They included access to services and market potential, but mostly revolved around community and environment. We wanted to live in a place where neighbours depended on each other. Where we might spot a moose from our living room window. Where a day in the garden could be followed by sunset on the beach. We found what we were looking for in Cape Breton - and much more. Four years later, we'd choose it again in a heartbeat!

**Kailea and Andy Pedley**  
Farmers, Patchwood Farm  
Pipers Glen, Inverness  
County

### THERE ARE TWO CATEGORIES FOR NOVA SCOTIA DEMAND: EXPRESS ENTRY

**CATEGORY A** (for applicants with a job offer) will remain open.

**CATEGORY B** (for applicants with experience in an opportunity occupation) is expected to open and close throughout the year. Controlling intake will allow us to process applications more efficiently.

#### ELIGIBILITY

To apply under **CATEGORY A**, you must:

- Have a profile registered in Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's Express Entry system;
- Score 67 points or more on the stream's six selection factors;
- Have a job offer from a Nova Scotia employer for full-time skilled work that lasts at least one year after your permanent resident visa is issued. For a job offer to be valid in Express Entry and receive points, employers will usually need an LMIA from ESDC. There are a few exceptions: [cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/skilled/exempt.asp](http://cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/skilled/exempt.asp);
- Have 1 year of skilled work experience related to the job;
- Have a Canadian high school credential or equivalent;
- Prove language ability in English or French at Canadian Language Benchmark 7;
- Show enough financial resources to successfully settle in Nova Scotia.

To apply under **CATEGORY B**, you must:

- Be in one of the target occupations as identified in the Nova Scotia Demand: Express Entry guide;
- Have a profile registered in Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's Express Entry system;

- Score 67 points or more on the stream's six selection factors;
- Have at least 1 year of skilled work experience in one of our target occupations;
- Have a Canadian high school credential or equivalent.

### NOVA SCOTIA EXPERIENCE: EXPRESS ENTRY STREAM

The Nova Scotia Experience: Express Entry stream selects highly skilled individuals who wish to live in Nova Scotia permanently. Applicants must have at least one year of experience working in Nova Scotia in a high skilled occupation (NOC 0, A, or B).

#### ELIGIBILITY

To apply you must:

- Have at least 1 year of work experience in Nova Scotia;
- be 21 to 55 years old;
- have a Canadian high school credential or equivalent;
- prove language ability in English or French on the Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB). You need CLB 7 for skilled work in the National Occupational Classification (NOC) 0 and A. You need CLB 5 for NOC B positions;
- Have a profile registered in Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's Express Entry system.

The number one reason for us to be here in Cape Breton is quality of life. We've lived all over Canada, in big cities and small, and even spent 15 years abroad, but nothing ever compared to what we found here in Cape Breton. We actually traveled to the Island on our honeymoon, and were hooked immediately, so we bought a farm in Nyanza nine years ago, sight-unseen. We knew there was work to be done, but no paradise can come without its hard work and compromise. My husband had been making plans to start a brewery for some time and fate even provided a water source nearby with the perfect conditions for what we wanted to do. It's been almost a decade and Cape Breton is still our slice of paradise for both our family and business.

**MELANIE BOCK-WHITE**  
Co-Owner, Big Spruce Brewing  
Nyanza, Victoria County





**NOVA SCOTIA LABOUR MARKET PRIORITIES STREAM**

The Nova Scotia Labour Market Priorities Stream selects candidates in the federal Express Entry system who meet provincial labour market needs to apply for nomination. Only candidates who receive a Letter of Interest from the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration may apply.

**ELIGIBILITY**

To apply you must:

- Receive a Letter of Interest from the Nova Scotia Nominee Program within the Express Entry system;
- Submit your application within 30 calendar days of the date on which your letter of interest was issued;
- Meet the minimum work experience requirements of the Express Entry stream for which you have qualified;
- Demonstrate sufficient funds to successfully establish yourself and your family in Nova Scotia and to pay your immigration costs and travel expenses;
- Have legal status in your current country of residence; and
- Meet eligibility criteria in place at the time you are issued a Letter of Interest.

**HOW TO APPLY**

If you have received a Letter of Interest, complete the online application form and include all required information and attachments.



**OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND STREAM**

The Occupations in Demand Stream targets specific NOC C, intermediate-skilled occupations that are in high labour market demand in Nova Scotia. The Office of Immigration identifies occupations in demand based on labour market information and eligible occupations are subject to change.

**ELIGIBILITY**

To apply you must:

- Have a full-time permanent job offer from a Nova Scotia employer in either NOC 3413 (Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates) or NOC 7511 (Transport truck drivers);

- Have 1 year of work experience related to the job;
- Be 21 to 55 years old;
- Have a high school diploma;
- Have the appropriate training, skills and/or accreditation for the job;
- Prove language ability equal to Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) Level 4 even if your first language is English or French;
- Show enough financial resources to successfully settle in Nova Scotia.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Complete the online application form and include all required information and attachments.





## PHYSICIAN STREAM

The Physician Stream assists Nova Scotia's public health authorities – the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) and the Izaak Walton Killam Health Centre (IWK) – to hire general practitioners, family physicians, and specialist physicians to work in Nova Scotia. The stream helps the NSHA and IWK to recruit and retain physicians with the required skills for positions that they have been unable to fill with a permanent resident or Canadian citizen.

### ELIGIBILITY

The Physician Stream is only open to general practitioners and family physicians (NOC 3112) and specialist physicians (NOC 3111) with signed approved opportunities with the Nova Scotia Health Authority or the IWK Health Centre.

- The approved opportunity must be on official NSHA or IWK letterhead and must:

- Be signed and dated by a person authorized to hire physicians at the NSHA or IWK
- Be signed and dated by the applicant who is accepting the opportunity
- Indicate eligibility for licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of NS
- Indicate that the applicant is eligible to apply for privileges and credentials with NSHA and the IWK

### HOW TO APPLY

Gather all supporting documentation required for your application.

Complete the online application form.

## ENTREPRENEUR STREAM

The Entrepreneur Stream is for experienced business owners or senior business managers who want to live in Nova Scotia. They must start a new business or buy an existing business and must actively participate in the day-to-day management of the business. After operating the business for a year, the entrepreneur may be nominated for permanent resident status. Interested individuals are encouraged to read the guide on the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration's website and submit an Expression of Interest (EOI).

### ELIGIBILITY – CANDIDATES MUST:

- Be 21 years of age or older
- Want to live permanently in Nova Scotia while owning and actively managing a Nova Scotia business
- Have a net worth of at least \$600,000 CAD
- Be able to invest at least \$150,000 CAD of your own money to establish a business in Nova Scotia
- Have at least 3 years' experience actively managing and owning a business (1/3 ownership minimum) OR more than 5 years' experience in a senior business management role
- Have a score of at least 5 on the Canadian Language Benchmark in speaking, listening, reading and writing in English or French
- Complete an online Expression of Interest
- Receive an Invitation to apply from the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration



For us this place is magnetic, and though we have both lived off island, we always find ourselves drawn back. We dreamed for years of opening a business here together and now that little dream has come to reality. We love the unique culture, hospitality, and community that exists here and we feel excited about the opportunities and potential that are continually developing.

## SARABETH DROVER AND CAITLYN PURCELL

Salty Rose's and the Periwinkle Cafe  
Ingonish, Victoria County





### INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE ENTREPRENEUR

The International Graduate Entrepreneur Stream is for recent graduates of a Nova Scotia university or the Nova Scotia Community College. They must have already started or bought a Nova Scotia business and operated it for at least a year. If they intend to settle in Nova Scotia, the graduate may be nominated for permanent resident status. Interested individuals are encouraged to read the guide on the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration's website and submit an Expression of Interest (EOI).

#### ELIGIBILITY – CANDIDATES MUST:

- Be at least 21 years old
- Want to live permanently in Nova Scotia while owning and actively managing a Nova Scotia business
- Have at least one year's continuous experience actively managing and owning your current Nova Scotia business (33.3% ownership minimum)

- Have completed a degree or diploma after at least 2 academic years of full-time, in-person study at a university in Nova Scotia or the Nova Scotia Community College
- Have a valid post-graduation work permit
- Have a score of at least 7 on the Canadian Language Benchmark in speaking, listening, reading and writing in English or French
- Complete an online Expression of Interest
- Receive an Invitation to apply from the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration
- Have a valid post-grad work permit at the time of application
- Demonstrate intention to settle

# Federal Economic Class

## EXPRESS ENTRY

The application process for skilled immigrants who want to settle in Canada permanently and take part in our economy.

Express Entry is used to manage applications for permanent residence under these federal economic immigration programs:

1. Federal Skilled Worker
2. Federal Skilled Trades Program
3. Canadian Experience Class

### THERE ARE FOUR STEPS TO APPLY TO THE EXPRESS ENTRY SYSTEM:

#### STEP 1: FIND OUT IF YOU'RE ELIGIBLE

There are two ways to find out if you're eligible for a program that is part of Express Entry:

- answer a few questions to see if you meet the minimum requirements
- read the detailed requirements for each program

#### STEP 2: GET YOUR DOCUMENTS READY

You need documents, such as language test results, to show that you're eligible for Express Entry. Some documents take a long time to get, so you should get them ready now.

- Get the documents you need

#### STEP 3: SUBMIT YOUR PROFILE

Your Express Entry profile is where you give us information about yourself.

If you're eligible, Immigration, Citizenship, and Refugees Canada will accept you into their pool of candidates.

You'll be ranked in the Express Entry pool using a points-based system. Your score is based on the information in your profile.

- Check your score
- Submit your profile





**STEP 4: RECEIVE AN INVITATION  
AND APPLY FOR PERMANENT  
RESIDENCE**

Immigration, Citizenship, and Refugees Canada send invitations to apply to the candidates with the highest scores in the pool. If Immigration, Citizenship, and Refugees Canada invite you to apply, you'll have 60 days to submit your application for permanent residence.

Immigration, Citizenship, and Refugees Canada process most complete applications that have all the supporting documents in 6 months or less.

Apply for permanent residence.



# Start-up Visa

Find out how to immigrate to Canada by starting a business and creating jobs, or support innovative entrepreneurs.

Canada's Start-up Visa Program targets immigrant entrepreneurs with the skills and potential to build businesses in Canada that:

- are innovative
- can create jobs for Canadians
- can compete on a global scale

Do you have an innovative business idea? If you can get support for your idea from one of the designated organizations, you may be able to immigrate to Canada.

**WHO CAN APPLY**

- To be eligible for the Start-up Visa Program, you must:
- have a qualifying business
- get a letter of support from a designated organization
- meet the language requirements
- bring enough money to settle





# Settlement Service Organizations

## PRE-ARRIVAL

If you have been selected to immigrate to Canada, you and your family can find services to help before you immigrate. There are free in-person and online services that Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada funds to help you better prepare and adjust to life in Canada. These services can help you with:

- Living and working in Canada
- Getting your education, work experience and professional licenses/certificates recognized in Canada
- Connecting with employers and with free support services when you arrive in Canada

## POST-ARRIVAL

Once you arrive in Canada, friendly and experienced settlement professionals can help you:

- Look for a job
- Receive a language assessment
- Register for language classes
- Find a place to live
- Fill out forms and applications
- Register your children for school
- Learn about community services





**We can't wait for you to get here!**

For more information, contact the Cape Breton Partnership  
**Email:** [info@capebretonpartnership.com](mailto:info@capebretonpartnership.com) | **Phone:** 1-844-868-0967



CBPartnership



@cbpartnership



cape-breton-partnership



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