

# Information Technology

Information Technology is a rapidly growing sector in Oshawa. With strong post-secondary institutional programming and research in IT security, adaptive technology and big data, Oshawa is seeing the emergence of start-up technology enabled companies and is recognized as a start-up community. Oshawa offers direct **access** to the world's marketplace, a **talent** pipeline of college and university graduates and great business cost **value**.

## Access

Oshawa is the largest municipality within the Region of Durham and the eastern gateway to the Greater Toronto Area. Oshawa businesses enjoy direct access to Canada's largest market through a connected and integrated transportation system, offering all modes of transportation.

## Distance to Markets and Borders

### Downtown Toronto, ON

60 km / 37 mi

### Toronto Pearson International Airport

70 km / 43 mi

### Queenston, ON / Lewiston, NY (border)

184 km / 114 mi

### Fort Erie, ON / Buffalo, NY (border)

218 km / 136 mi

### Windsor, ON / Detroit, MI (border)

424 km / 263 mi

### Montreal, QC

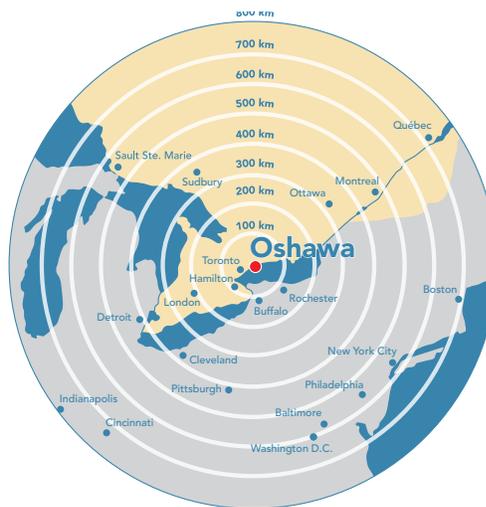
485 km / 301 mi

### New York City, NY

804 km / 500 mi

### Chicago, IL

865 km / 537 mi



## Durham Region Educational Attainment



Total Population  
Aged 25-64  
**349,954**



College or equivalent  
**95,549**



University  
**79,925**



Bachelors Degree  
**44,415**



Above Bachelors  
Degree  
**20,833**



Graduates of Durham College's Media, Art and Design programs worked on Harry Potter: Order of the Phoenix, Assassins Creed & Splinter Cell.

UOIT students are listed in the credits of James Cameron's Avatar: The Game, developed by Ubisoft.

In 2016, Oshawa was named one of the world's **Top 21 Smart Communities** by the Intelligent Community Forum based on 6 indicators: Broadband Connectivity, Knowledge Workforce, Innovation, Digital Inclusion, Sustainability and Advocacy.

## Talent

Oshawa has a creative talent pool with 8,700 local residents working in the information technology sector and 9,000 people in the Durham Region. Within a one hour commute, the City of Toronto has a labour force of over 3 million people with 89,080 people working in the IT sector. Oshawa is located within the academic powerhouse of the Greater Toronto Area with a total of 10 post-secondary institutions within a 60 minute commute that offer IT programs.

### Information Technologies Workforce Stats [Oshawa 2014]

Description	# of Jobs
Administrative and Support Services	4,445
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3,810
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	445
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,700</b>

Source: Statistics Canada provided by the Durham Workforce Authority

## Local Post-Secondary Programs Supporting Information Technology Sector

### University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)

- Adult Education and Digital Technology
- Applied and Industrial Mathematics
- Computing Science
- Computing Science with Digital Media specialization (a core course of this program is Ontario's first Mobile Devices course, funded in part by the Mobile Experience Innovation Centre, to meet the demand for graduates trained in the smart phone applications sector )
- Game Development and Entrepreneurship specialization
- Information Technology
- Networking and IT Security specialization (Canada's only graduate program)
- Software Engineering / Software Engineering and Management

### Durham College

- Animation – Digital
- Animation – Digital Production
- Computer Programmer
- Computer Programmer Analyst
- Computer Systems Technician
- Computer Systems Technology
- Contemporary Web Design
- Digital Video Production
- Game Development
- Graphic Design
- Information Systems Security
- VFX and Digital Cinema

## Talent Recruitment

Resources are available to assist companies accessing skilled professionals – from candidate pre-screening, job fairs, links to specialized training and training cost incentives. [www.DITP.ca](http://www.DITP.ca)

## Value

Oshawa companies enjoy the benefits associated with doing business in Ontario, Canada. Canada offers a lower cost environment for Information Technology companies than the USA, Germany, Italy, Australia or Japan, according to KPMG's Competitive Alternatives 2014. Canada has been globally recognized for its stable and sound banking system. Locally, Oshawa offers development incentives, affordable real estate and business-friendly services.

Oshawa Companies	Durham Region Companies
Blanlink (Carpooling App)	RBRO Solutions (Content Management Solutions)
Conpute (IT Services & Solutions)	360 Incentives (Channel Marketing)
IFTech (Wireless gaming multi-sensory suit)	Bykart Software Ltd (Healthcare – scheduling)
Minacs (Call Centre)*	Search Engine People (Marketing Software)
Mojility (Application Development)	Nessis (Automation Software)
National Prostaff (Anglers App)	Kela Medical (Healthcare ERM – medical records)
Resource Software International (Application Development)	Keyscan (Access control solutions)

\*Denotes Corporate Head Office

## Incentives for Growth

- Investment Accelerator Fund (IAF)
- New Exporters to Border States Program (NEBS)
- NRC Industrial Research Assistance Program
- Ontario Computer Animation & Special Effects Tax Credit
- Ontario Emerging Technologies Fund
- Ontario Innovation Tax Credit (OITC)
- Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit (OIDMTC)
- Ontario Production Service Tax Credit
- Ontario Research and Development Tax Credit (ORDTC)
- Ontario Research Fund (ORF)

## Innovative Start Up Ecosystem

Spark Centre helps entrepreneurs start and grow innovative, technology based businesses. Executive coaching, functional advisory, co-location, incubation and day to day operational support are just a few of the services available. Spark Centre is one of 18 not-for-profit Regional Innovation Centres that form part of the Ontario Network of Entrepreneurs (ONE). The centre works to improve competitiveness and visibility of Durham Region as a world-class innovation cluster.

[www.sparkcentre.org](http://www.sparkcentre.org)

## Co-Working Environment

CORE21 offers hot desks, vibrant offices, meeting rooms, and creative co-working spaces to entrepreneurs, small businesses and innovative organizations. In 2015, CORE21 expanded, opening an entire new second floor of co-working space.

[www.core21.ca](http://www.core21.ca)



## Business Testimonial Minacs

Minacs was founded in 1981 by Elaine Minacs, an intrepid Oshawa entrepreneur, providing outsourced business solutions to the world's largest automaker. Over the past decade, our business services and geographic coverage have increased exponentially, with 35 global locations, specializing in CRM, Marketing optimization and Telematics solutions. Our first client at Oshawa, continues to be our premier client today, a resounding validation of our strong relationship, built and strengthened in Oshawa. Minacs is defined by its association with the city of Oshawa and the Durham region. The well-established ecosystem of infrastructure and service providers, and the diversity of businesses based in this region, has been the key enabler of our business success. Most importantly for Minacs, this city and the region has provided us with a consistent supply of qualified candidates for both technology and marketing services. This availability of talent has given us the ability to scale up to more than 1,300 employees at our Colonel Sam Drive location, also home to our Corporate Headquarters.

**Anil Bhalla**

CEO, Minacs

[www.minacs.com](http://www.minacs.com)



The GM Canadian Engineering Centre in Oshawa recently won significant new R&D mandates for work related to “The Connected Car” and “Green Technology” which are critical for the future of the auto industry.



### Lower Wage Rates

On average, Oshawa’s IT wage rates are lower than Toronto’s, Ontario’s and Canada’s.



Within a one hour commute, the City of Toronto has a labour force of over **3 million** people with **89,080** people working in the IT Sector.



## Connect With Us...

Oshawa’s Economic Development Office provides information and services to help business grow and prosper. From real estate professionals and site selectors to business owners both large and small, our team can help facilitate your project and expedite the site selection process.

Whether you are just starting out, expanding, consolidating or relocating your company, you can rely on our team of professionals to help make your decisions easier, faster and more effective. We have the connections to help you with:

- site location assistance
- information and statistics
- streamlining the development approvals process
- business problem-solving
- business and community contacts
- industry and business networks
- access to community improvement incentives

We know that each client is unique and we tailor our services to meet your specific business needs.

## Economic Development Services

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Oshawa ON L1H 3Z7  
[www.oshawa.ca](http://www.oshawa.ca)

 [business@oshawa.ca](mailto:business@oshawa.ca)

 [@investoshawa](https://twitter.com/investoshawa)

## Oshawa’s 5 Key Sectors

