

## OFFICE, CREATIVE & CONTACT CENTRES:

*Hamilton offers a skilled workforce, low operating costs, redevelopment options complemented by financial incentive programs, shorter commute times, built and natural amenities to enhance the live, work, play, learn and invest opportunities for existing and new office, creative and contact centre businesses.*

- Trained and ready workforce with a strong work ethic
- Access to skilled labour of over 750,000 people who live within a short commute to Hamilton
- Committed employment, education and training partners including Service Canada, Ontario Works, Mohawk College and private Colleges
- Lower lease rates, land prices and development charges complemented by a variety of office spaces including “brick and beam” options
- Multi-cultural, skilled and educated workforce with an exceptional work ethic and low turnover rate
- Hamilton receives 3,000 to 4,000 new immigrants annually and has more than 5,000 international students living and studying in Hamilton
- City of Hamilton Planning and Economic Development’s Friendly Ambassador Program
- Strong bilingual presence compared to neighbouring areas

## HIRING & TRAINING & BUSINESS START-UP INCENTIVES/RESOURCES:

*Hamilton has a suite of incentives to encourage employee training such as:*

- Ontario Works Employment Placement Services
- Co-op Education Tax Credit
- Work Experience For Students
- ACFO (French Canadian Association of Ontario) services
- Job Matching, Placement & Incentives through Mohawk College, YMCA, Employment Hamilton, Goodwill The Amity Group, Wesley Urban Ministries, VPI Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit
- Call Centre Apprentice Employer Signing Bonus
- Hamilton Technology Centre
- Small Business Enterprise Centre’s Mentoring Programs including Access To Banking, Accountant, Marketing, Insurance, Lawyer, 10 Steps To Starting A Business, Business Planning, Marketing Strategies & Social Media, Bookkeeping & Taxation Basics

## EDUCATION:

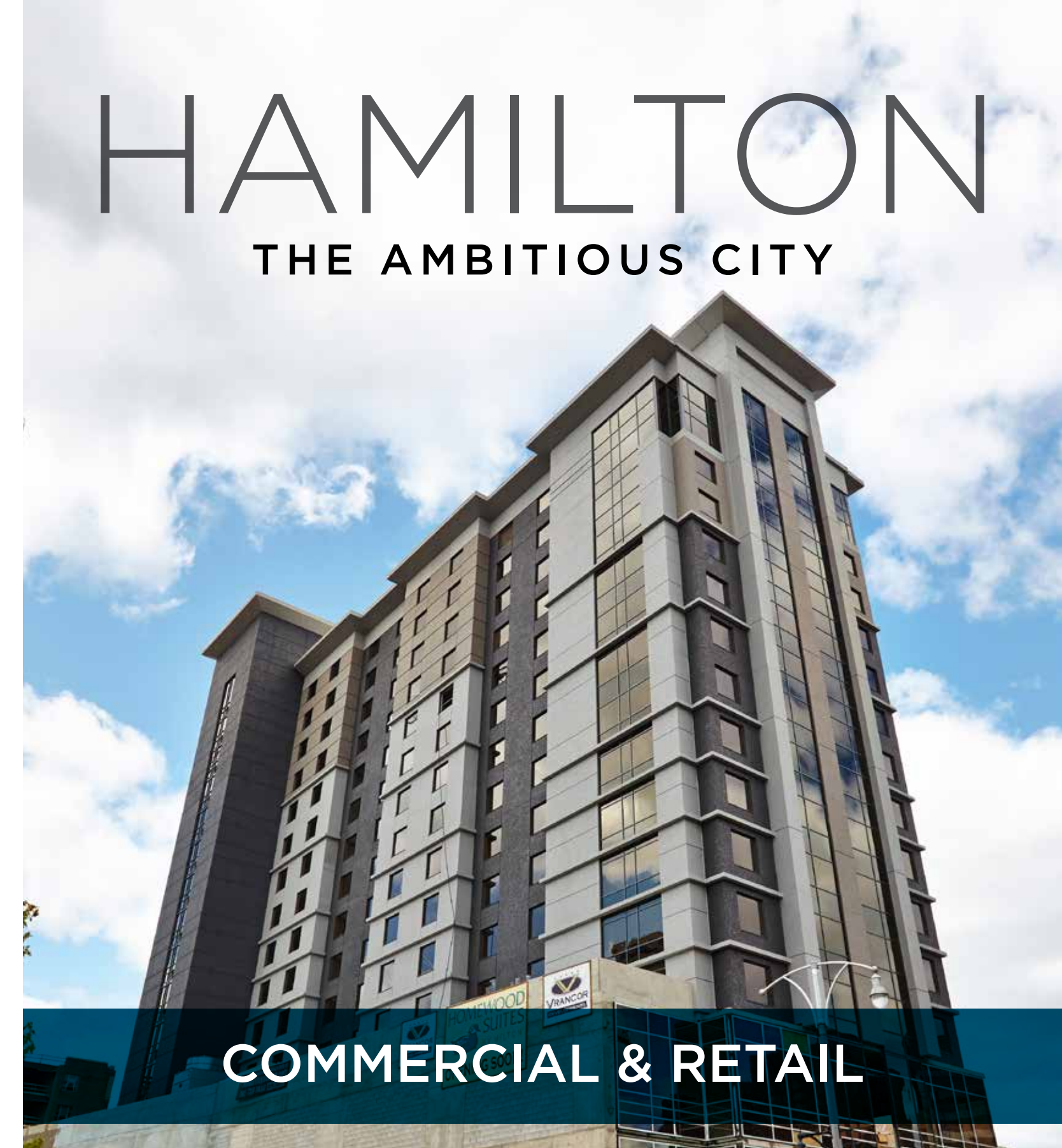
Hamilton’s education system is one of the most comprehensive in Canada, with leaders such as Mohawk College of Applied Arts & Technology, McMaster University, McMaster University’s Continuing Education Program, Michael DeGroot School of Business, Redeemer University College, Brock University and bilingual College Boreal, that provide a well-educated and skilled workforce for all commercial businesses. CDI College, Pathway Training Centre, Trios College, Business Skills College, Metropolitan College of Travel, National Academy of Health & Business private career colleges, and Columbia International College complement Hamilton’s educational offerings.

## NATURAL AND BUILT AMENITIES:

Hamilton is home to over 120 waterfalls, 4 shorelines, 10 conservation areas, City parkland at 394 locations, 50 shared School Board parks, over 49 kilometres of City-owned trails and 2850 acres of open space property at 116 locations, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, 39 recreation centres/pools/arenas, 39 outdoor rinks, 11 Senior Centres & Clubs, 23 libraries, 10 outdoor pools, 7 wading pools/splash pads, 3 City-owned golf courses complemented by numerous golf courses including private membership courses, 88 Summer Supie Program locations across the City, 8 Museums, Dundurn Castle, many art galleries including the Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton Place, Theatre Aquarius & community theatres, First Ontario Centre, 27 City/Hamilton Conservation Authority trail systems, multiple sports & entertainment venues, affordable housing mix, connected transit, bike/car share programs, GO service, recently announced \$1B new LRT service and rail-highway-marine services, to make Hamilton the best place to open a business and raise a child.



*BankoMedia office space, 27 John Street North*



# HAMILTON

## THE AMBITIOUS CITY

## COMMERCIAL & RETAIL



### GET CONNECTED WITH

Conversation. 1 800-868-1329  
905-546-4222  
e-mail: [ecdev@hamilton.ca](mailto:ecdev@hamilton.ca)

Connection.     
[www.investinhamilton.ca](http://www.investinhamilton.ca)

Collaboration. Economic Development Office  
City of Hamilton  
71 Main Street West, 7th Floor  
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5 Canada





Hamilton



## HAMILTON'S STRATEGIC LOCATION

Hamilton's strategic location is the result of an intricate network of major air, road, marine and rail allowing ease of movement of products throughout Canada, the United States and the world.

The City is an hour away from Lester B. Pearson International Airport, Canada's largest international airport and within a day's drive to North America's largest business markets in the U.S. In fact, the Buffalo International Airport is just across the border. Hamilton is home to the John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport- one of Canada's largest courier and cargo airports, and the Port of Hamilton- the busiest port on the Canadian Great Lakes.

Nearby are two major highways, the Queen Elizabeth Way which provides ready access to both the Greater Toronto Area, a regional market of over six million people and Highway 401. Highway 401 is the Canadian link to the NAFTA super highway connecting Ontario with the I-75 serving Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and Florida and the I-90 connections to the eastern seaboard.



Ottawa Street Parkette.

*Leading the revitalization and redevelopment, the City of Hamilton offers financial incentive programs to enhance private sector investments for multi-residential, retail facades, office, commercial/residential projects and heritage property improvements:*

- Hamilton Downtown Multi-Residential Property Investment Program
- Reduced Development Charges
- Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program
- Office Tenancy Assistance Program
- Commercial Corridor Housing Loan and Grant Program
- Commercial Façade Property Improvement Grant Program
- Hamilton Heritage Property Grant Program
- Hamilton Heritage Conservation Grant Program
- Hamilton Community Heritage Fund Loan Program
- Business Improvement Area (BIA) Commercial Property Improvement Grant Program
- ERASE Redevelopment Grant Program (ERG)
- ERG Development Charge Reduction Option
- ERASE Tax Assistance Program
- ERASE Municipal Acquisition and Partnership Program
- ERASE Study Grant Program
- LEED Grant Program
- Downtown Hamilton/West Harbourfront Remediation Loan Program

### DOWNTOWN HAMILTON:

*Revitalization and redevelopment of the Hamilton Downtown offers increased residential, commercial and institutional projects creating "live, work, learn, play and invest" opportunities*

- Over 2,000 condominium/apartment units opened, under construction or planned
- David Braley Health Sciences Centre
- New retail/office tower steps from the new GO Station
- Homewood Suites By Hilton
- Empire Times office redevelopment
- McMaster Continuing Education Offices
- Numerous new, culturally diverse restaurants/patios, coffee shops and clubs
- Increase in new Boutique style retail shops
- Steady increase in the number of jobs in downtown Hamilton annually, with 24,700 jobs documented in 2014
- The largest employers groups in downtown Hamilton were in the government, professional/scientific, retail and entertainment, finance-

insurance-real estate sectors with creative industries, healthcare and social services, contact centres and non-profit sectors steadily emerging

- Downtown Hamilton has seen a steady decline in office vacancies, complemented by the redevelopment of older properties to trendy "brick and beam" opportunities, with a variety of spaces and lease rates from \$10 to \$30 psf.

### COMPLIMENTARY RETAIL:

*Major malls are investing, remerchandising and creating new business opportunities for brand name department and chain stores to serve the growing community with:*

- Bentall Kennedy Eastgate Square
- Hamilton City Centre
- Lime Ridge Mall
- Lloyd D. Jackson Square

### BIG BOX POWER CENTRES COMBINE PROMINENT GLOBAL RETAIL AND OFFICE/BUSINESS SERVICES AT:

- Ancaster Meadowlands Power Centre
- Ancaster West Power Centre
- Centre On Barton
- Centennial/QEW Centre
- Flamborough Power Centre
- Hamilton Southeast Power Centre
- Heritage Green



*Lowe's Home Improvements' first commercial development in Canada on Barton Street in Hamilton.*



*Brian Prince Booksellers in the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area.*

### BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREAS (BIAS) & COMMUNITY DOWNTOWNS:

A Business Improvement Area or BIA represents a group of property and business owners within a defined geographic area who collectively develop, promote and protect the commercial viability of the area. A BIA is established through municipal By-Law and is governed under the Municipal Act, 2001, Sub-sections 204-215. The BIA allows local businesses and property owners to join together and, with support of the municipality, organize, finance and carry out physical improvements as well as promote the area as a business and shopping district. A BIA levy provides a secure source of funding for the beautification and promotional initiatives. A Board of Management that oversees the activities of the BIA is elected by the members and is approved by Hamilton City Council. The Ward Councillor of the area is appointed to the Board of Management. With 13 BIAs, 6 Community Downtowns and a Community Gateway, every business need can be served.

- Ancaster Heritage Village BIA
- Barton Village BIA
- Binbrook Community Downtown
- Concession Street BIA
- Downtown Hamilton BIA
- Dundas BIA
- International Village BIA
- King Street West BIA
- Locke Street BIA
- Main Street Esplanade BIA
- Mount Hope Airport Gateway
- Ottawa Street BIA
- Stoney Creek BIA
- Waterdown BIA
- Westdale Village BIA