

# TOWNSHIP OF DORION COMMUNITY PROFILE

*Our Vision: Dorion will be a welcoming community offering an exceptional quality of life for all.*

Funded By:

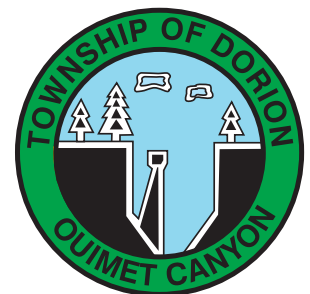


THE TOWNSHIP OF DORION

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# DORION, ONTARIO: OVERVIEW



## *“Explore Dorion in Canyon Country”*

Dorion is a small rural community in Northwestern Ontario with a population of 380 people and a land mass of 212 square kilometres. Dorion is located 70 kilometres northeast of Thunder Bay, Ontario on highway 11/17 on the Top of Lake Superior.

The Dorion area is rich in natural resources, abundant with tourism and recreational opportunities and offers a high quality of life for residents and visitors in the community. The Township is well served by rail and road connections and is within an hour drive to

Thunder Bay regional hospital and international airport. As the economy continues to experience transition in the forest industry, current growth in mining exploration, research into wind energy and in agro-forestry shows potential to replace much of the base sector employment that has been lost.

Dorion has a rich history and prides itself on the quality of life it has to offer people. Dorion is a great place for people to live, play and visit. Why Dorion? It all comes down to quality of life!

# Physical Environment

Latitude: 48.8oN  
Longitude: 88.5oW  
Elevation: 210 metres (689 ft) above sea level.  
Area: 212 square kilometres (81.85 square miles).

## Why Dorion?

- 1) **Affordable Housing** – Dorion has low housing costs compared to other larger municipalities and is the ideal place to build the dream home, raise a family and retire.
- 2) **Location & Quality of Life**– Dorion offers residents all the benefits of rural living at a close distance (45 minutes) to the urban centre of Thunder Bay.
- 3) **Education** – Educational quality is second to none in Dorion as it offers a relatively new public elementary school as well as an Ontario Early Years Centre for toddlers. High school students access the regional high school in the Township of Red Rock 20 minutes from Dorion.
- 4) **Employment Prospects** – Although Dorion has lost much of its base sector employment in the forest industry, there is a growing demand for skilled labour in the emerging mining industry as well as potential opportunities in agro-forestry.
- 5) **Recreation & Tourism** – Families and visitors have close access to numerous lakes, rivers and natural trails to explore. Ouimet Canyon is right in your back yard! In the fall, Dorion becomes alive with hunters from all over Canada and the U.S. looking to harvest black bear, deer and moose.
- 6) **Weather** – The area offers the uniqueness



of northern winters and the adventure that accompanies winter activities like snowmobiling, ice fishing and cross-country skiing. Summers are warm and full of opportunities for eco-tourism exploration and outdoor activities.

- 7) **Wildlife** – The animal habitat in Dorion is unique and offers visitors a variety of opportunities to catch pictures of local wildlife. From the bald-headed eagle to the great Canadian Moose, Dorion is home to them all!
- 8) **Community Pride & People** – Dorion is full of people dedicated to the success and quality of life in Dorion. Come and experience the northern hospitality that Dorion residents exude.

# POPULATION & LABOUR FORCE

2006 Population: 379  
 Total Private Dwellings: 188  
 Population density per square kilometer: 1.8

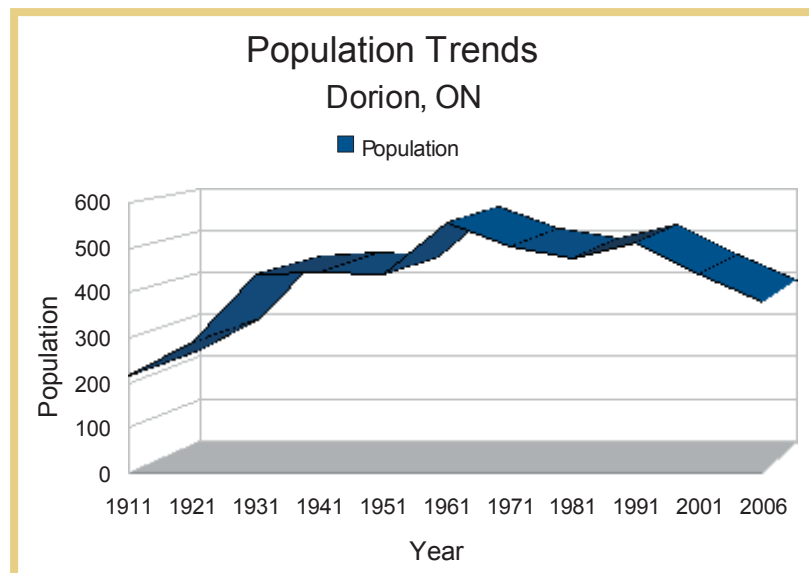
## Population Trends

The demographic composition of Dorion has followed different trends overtime. The population approximately doubled from 1911 to the early 1930's due to the inflow of people from southern Ontario seeking homestead and the wealth of northern natural resources. After World War Two, the population remained relatively stable seeing no positive growth from the mid 1930's to the

early 1950's. The Baby Boom began in the mid 1950's which saw the population increase 21% into the late 60's and early 70's when agriculture and forestry were prime investment opportunities. Since the late 1970's, besides an increase in the population in 1991, the population has continued to decline due to an ever changing economic environment.

Year	Population	% Change Previous Year
1911	216	n/a
1921	292	26%
1931	440	33.6%
1941	448	1.8%
1951	440	-1.8%
1961	557	21%
1971	506	-9.6%
1981	478	-5.5%
1991	513	6.8%
2001	442	-13.8%
2006	379	-14.3%

Source: Dorion's Roots & Branches



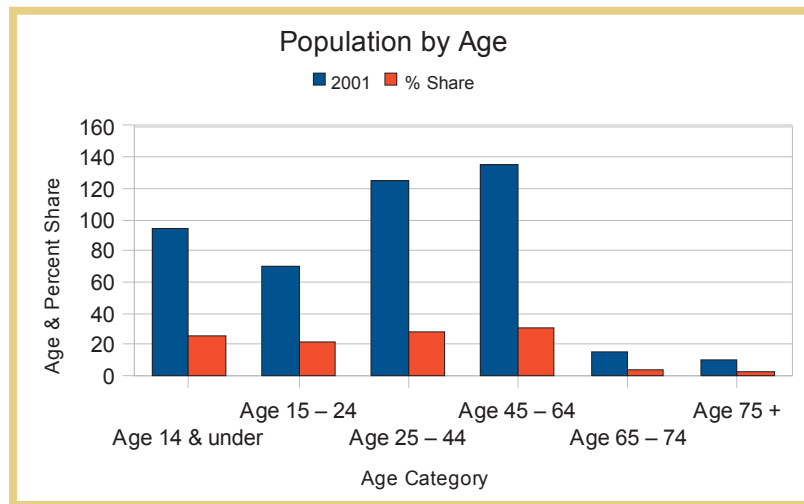
## Population by Age

A good portion of Dorion’s population (58.82%) is between the age of 25 and 64. This is good for the community as it reveals a balance between the younger (25-44) families and older (45-64) citizens. Also, a balanced population has enabled

the community to grow and build young healthy families but also provide the experience needed to form responsible government for the elderly (65+) and student age (24 & under) residents.

Age Category	2001	% Share
Age 14 & under	95	25.84
Age 15 – 24	70	21.49
Age 25 – 44	125	28.28
Age 45 – 64	135	30.54
Age 65 – 74	15	3.39
Age 75 +	10	2.26

Source: Statistics Canada



# Family Income

Average family income \$: \$60,059  
 Median family income \$: \$54,523  
 Standard error of average family income: \$5,294  
 Source: Statistics Canada

## Population by Education: Dorion

Education Category	2001	% 2001
<b>Total Population age 20 and Over</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Grade 9 or less</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>13.85</b>
<b>Grade 9 – 13 Without Secondary Certificate</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>36.92</b>
<b>Grade 9 – 13 With Secondary Certificate</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>16.92</b>
<b>Trade Certificate or Diploma</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>6.15</b>
<b>Other Non – University Education Without Certificate of Diploma</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3.08</b>
<b>Other Non – University Education With Certificate or Diploma</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>13.85</b>
<b>Some University without Diploma</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Some University with Certificate</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>University Degree</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>9.23</b>

Source: Economic Development Ontario  
 (Statistics Canada)

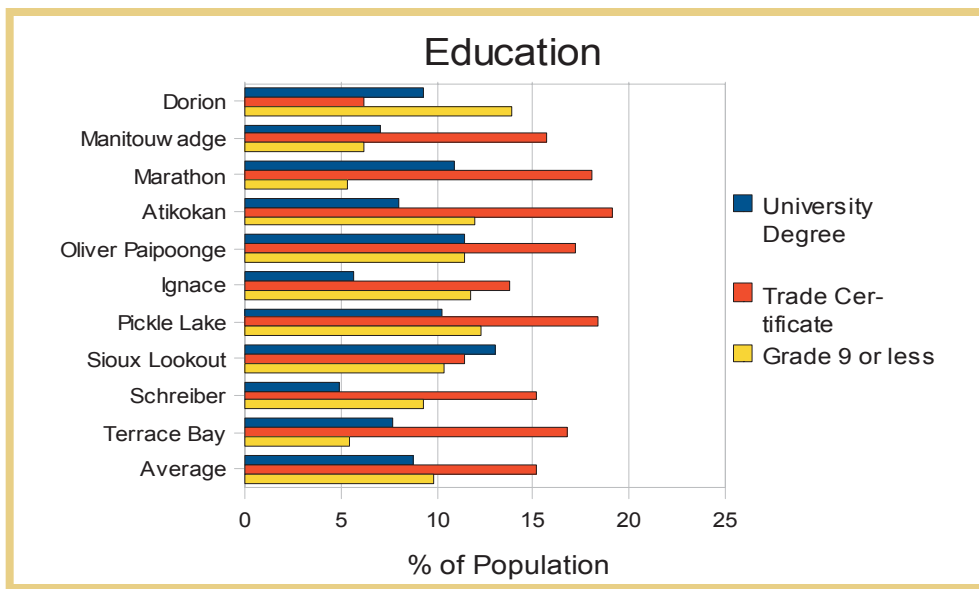
## Population by Education: Comparison among Other Northwestern Ontario Communities

Community	University Degree (% of population)	Trade Certificate (% of Population)	Grade 9 or less (% of population)
<b>Dorion</b>	<b>9.23</b>	<b>6.15</b>	<b>13.85</b>
<b>Manitouwadge</b>	6.99	15.66	6.15
<b>Marathon</b>	10.89	18.09	5.36
<b>Atikokan</b>	7.95	19.13	11.93
<b>Oliver-Paipoonge</b>	11.38	17.19	11.38
<b>Ignace</b>	5.67	13.77	11.74
<b>Pickle Lake</b>	10.2	18.37	12.24
<b>Sioux Lookout</b>	13.05	11.40	10.30
<b>Schreiber</b>	4.90	15.20	9.31
<b>Terrace Bay</b>	7.66	16.79	5.47
<i>Average</i>	<i>8.792</i>	<i>15.175</i>	<i>9.773</i>

Source: Economic Development Ontario  
 (Statistics Canada)

Dorion was compared to nine other communities across three indicators measuring the quality of educational attainment. Dorion fares well in university education, but poorly in trades and high school education measures. The percent of the population with a university degree in Dorion is 0.438 % higher than the average found among the nine other communities. However, the statistics also reveal that Dorion (6.15 %) has a 9.025 % lower instance of people holding a trade

certificate or diploma compared to the average (15.175 %). Finally, the percent of residents with grade 9 or less is 4.077 % higher than the average, suggesting a relatively high instance of high school drop rates within the community. On the positive side, Dorion offers skilled labour at the university level, but needs to invest in regional partnerships and programs to develop skills and capacity for the trades.



## Labour Force Indicators

Labour Force Indicator	2001	% 2001
Total in Labour Force	225	62.5
Total out of Labour Force	140	38.89
Total Population (15 years+)	360	100.00
Total Employed	175	77.78
Total Unemployed	50	22.22
Participation Rate		62.5 %
Employment-Population Ratio		48.6%
Unemployment Rate		22.22%

Source: Economic Development Ontario (Statistics Canada)

## Labour Force by Industry

Industry Category	2001	% 2001
Mining	0	0
Agricultural	110	70.96
Construction	0	0
Finance and Insurance	0	0
Real Estate	0	0
Wholesale Trade	0	0
Retail Trade	15	9.68
Transportation	10	6.45
Professional & Scientific	0	0
Health Care	20	12.9

Source: Economic Development Ontario (Statistics Canada)

According to the 2001 census, Dorion's labour force was primarily concentrated in the agricultural and forestry sector. According to a recent study done in August of 2007, approximately 80 employees in Dorion lost their jobs in forestry related industries. This suggests that the percentage of the labour force in agriculture

(includes forestry) has declined substantially and no longer dominates the local labour market. Moreover, the Dorion area is experiencing an increase in mining exploration, which suggests that mining is no longer absent as an industry providing employment for the local economy.

# MUNICIPAL SERVICES



The majority of operating funds received by the Corporation of the Township of Dorion are dependent upon the taxes collected from property owners. These finances are used to provide the essential municipal services needed for community infrastructure, road maintenance, economic development, administration and tourism. The fire hall in Dorion is completely volunteer based and offers the much needed fire protection and emergency services for local families and highway travelers. The Dorion Public Library offers a full range of library services including the Community Access Program (CAP) site with free computer & internet access.

## Taxation: 2007 Tax Rates

Tax Class	Municipal Tax Rate	Education Tax Rate	Total Tax Rate
<b>Residential:</b>	<b>0.01455835</b>	<b>0.00264000</b>	<b>0.01719835</b>
<b>Commercial: Occupied</b>	<b>0.03602490</b>	<b>0.03046472</b>	<b>0.0664900</b>
<b>Commercial: Excess Land/Vacant Land</b>	<b>0.02521743</b>	<b>0.02132530</b>	<b>0.0465430</b>
<b>Pipelines</b>	<b>0.03360796</b>	<b>0.02945025</b>	<b>0.0630580</b>
<b>Farmlands</b>	<b>0.00363959</b>	<b>0.00066000</b>	<b>0.0043000</b>
<b>Managed Forests</b>	<b>0.00363959</b>	<b>0.00066000</b>	<b>0.0043000</b>

# HEALTH CARE & HOUSING

## Health Care

Being a rural community sometimes requires traveling a longer distance to access health care services. Dorion however, is a reasonable distance to two regional hospitals – twenty minutes to Nipigon District Memorial Hospital and one hour to Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. Also, the community has access to free health care services on a monthly basis through a mobile health unit delivered by Norwest Community Health Centres. Emergency response care is provided by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) from the regional dispatch in Nipigon and the Thunder Bay District Health unit supports wellness promotion out of the regional office also located in Nipigon. Dorion promotes healthy communities and helps support regional health services through local taxes and volunteers.



### **Nipigon District Memorial Hospital**

Phone: (807) 887 - 3026  
website: [www.ndmh.ca](http://www.ndmh.ca)  
email: [lenders@ndmh.ca](mailto:lenders@ndmh.ca)

### **Thunder Bay District Health Unit**

Nipigon Branch Office  
Phone: (807) 887 – 3031  
Website: [www.tbdhu.com](http://www.tbdhu.com)

### **Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre**

Phone: (807) 684 - 6000  
email: [tbrhsc@tbh.net](mailto:tbrhsc@tbh.net)  
website: [www.tbrhsc.com](http://www.tbrhsc.com)

### **Norwest Community Health Centre**

Phone: 1-866-357-5454 (toll free)  
Local: (807) 622 - 8235  
website: [www.norwestchc.org/thunder\\_bay.htm](http://www.norwestchc.org/thunder_bay.htm)

## Housing Costs



A key indicator of the quality of life in Dorion is the low cost of living. Housing costs are relatively low in Dorion compared to the national average and other Northwestern Ontario communities.

Costs	Amount (Dorion) \$	National Average \$
Average Gross Monthly Payments for rented dwellings	\$488.00	\$753.00
Average Monthly Payments for owner occupied dwellings	\$499.00	\$964.00
Average Value of Dwelling	\$94,985.00	\$199,884.00

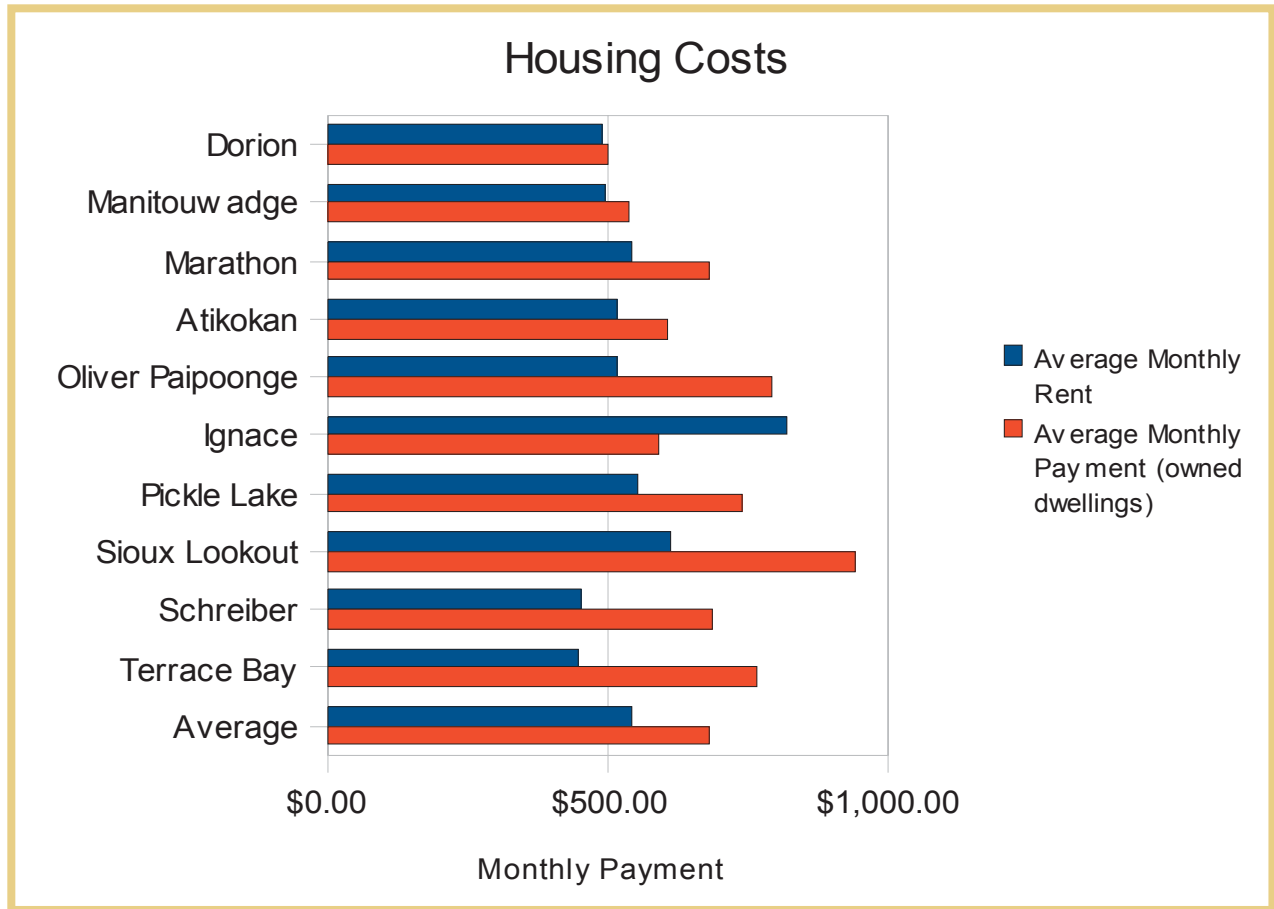
Source: Economic Development Ontario (Statistics Canada)

### Housing Costs Compared across 9 other Northwestern Ontario Communities

Community	Average Monthly Rent \$	Average Monthly Payment \$ (owned dwellings)	Average Value of Dwelling \$
<b>Dorion</b>	<b>\$488</b>	<b>\$499</b>	<b>94,985</b>
Manitouwadge	493	535	38,006
Marathon	544	682	78,041
Atikokan	517	604	70,242
Oliver-Paipoonge	517	790	157,750
Ignace	818	589	86,950
Pickle Lake	551	737	163,721
Sioux Lookout	613	942	151,399
Schreiber	455	684	71,916
Terrace Bay	447	766	77,526
<b>Average</b>	<b>544.30</b>	<b>682.80</b>	<b>99,053.60</b>

Source: Economic Development Ontario (Statistics Canada)

Compared to nine other Northwestern Ontario communities, Dorion ranks the lowest for average monthly payments for rented and owned dwellings. The average value of a home in the typical Northwestern Ontario community is \$99053.60, whereas the average dwelling in Dorion is valued at \$94,985 – roughly \$4,000 below the regional average. However, on average Dorion homes are still valued higher than six of the nine communities studied.



# LAND USE INVENTORY

There is a limited quantity of vacant industrial and commercially zoned property available for development in Dorion. Historically, private land in Dorion was used primarily for agricultural production. Today, as agricultural production has diminished significantly, there remains an excess supply of underutilized rural zoned land in Dorion. As the forest industry continues to face transition, communities like Dorion throughout Northwestern Ontario are seeking new opportunities for economic diversification, particularly in agro-forestry, other value-added industry and cottage development. To capture the potential availability for future land development, the Township of Dorion conducted a basic analysis and inventory of land holdings to identify new opportunities for rural land use.



## Land Inventory Analysis

Based on the 2005 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) assessment roll there are a total of 334 freehold parcels located in the Township of Dorion comprising a total area of 24,206.59 acres with a total current value assessment of \$25, 715,300.

Ownership Type	Total Acreage	% of Overall Total Acreage	Number of Parcels	Average Parcel Size (acres)	Total Assessed Value (\$)	% of Overall Total Assessment	*Average Value Per Acre
Rural Land > 5 acres	15,964.18	65.97%	181	98.54	\$12,826,400	51.36%	\$803
Out of Country Owners	1,440.26	5.95%	11	130.93	337,200	1.35%	\$234
Rural Land < 5 acres	130.83	0.54%	63	2.08	\$3,496,000	14%	*\$26,722
Estates	321.00	1.33%	8	40.13	\$398,600	1.66%	\$1,242
Companies	2,252.83	9.31%	20	112.64	\$1,392,900	5.58%	\$614
Township	101.51	0.42%	8	12.69	\$354,800	1.42%	\$44,350
District School Board	15.18	0.15%	1	15.18	\$1,359,000	5.44%	*\$89,526
Provincial Agencies	3,449.15	14.25%	21	164.25	\$1,134,600	4.54%	\$329\$
Churches	169.71	0.7%	5	33.94	\$583,500	2.33	*\$3,438
Railways & Utilities	334.62	1.38%	10	33.46	**\$3,090,700	12.38	\$797
<b>Overall Totals</b>	<b>24,199.27</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>73.77</b>	<b>\$24,973,700</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>** \$915</b>

Source: Municipal Property Assessments Corporation (MPAC).

\*Assumed to include value of on-site building

\*\*No acreage shown for TransCanada Pipelines Transmission Lines – value excluded

## Opportunities for Rural – Agricultural Land Development

According to MPAC data, over sixty six percent of freehold land in Dorion is zoned for rural and/or agricultural purposes. For all rural land parcels larger than five acres, the average parcel size is 98.54 acres with an average value of \$803 per acre.

To capture the potential availability of land parcels larger than five acres, the Township conducted a

basic area resident survey covering 15, 964.18 acres (181 parcels) to identify local interest in land development for agro-forestry, bio-energy and general industrial use. Moreover, basic land development features were measured by identifying the current & historical use(s) of each privately owned holding.

## Survey Findings

Out of the total 38 survey respondents, 20 (52.6%) indicated that they currently own rural-zoned land that is underutilized and potentially available for development. From this, area residents indicated that a total of 2270.24 acres (29 parcels) with an average parcel size of 78.28 acres of rural land is potentially available for development and/or alternative land-use.

## Land Development Features

Percent of total available land with the following development features	Development Features
90%	Fairly good soils & drainage
85%	Mostly level elevations
90%	Available road frontage
90%	Available electrical service
35%	Farmed within the past 20 years
35%	Still in use as farmland
40%	Features mature timber stands
50%	Harvested (timber) within the past 20 years
10%	Prospected for mineral development
15%	Mines, gravel pits or quarries developed in the past 20 years

Overall, the development features for available land in Dorion are relatively conducive for agricultural and/or industrial development purposes. Survey findings and general land-use analysis suggest that the potential for development in Dorion is high and that re-zoning and attracting investment for new and/or alternative land use could create the much needed boost to the local economy.

# PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM



The natural attractiveness of Dorion's physical geography is well known throughout Ontario, Canada and the world. Ouimet Canyon Provincial Park and Eagle Canyon attract over 65,000 tourists on an annual basis. The eco-tourism attractions in the area include Cavern Lake Nature Reserve, Hurkett Cove Conservation, Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area and the Dorion Fish Culture Station. Dorion offers a variety of privately owned camping and outdoor activity-based businesses and there are many local lakes and rivers that offer visitors and residents the opportunity to enjoy outdoor and water-based activities like kayaking, boating, fishing and bird watching. Dorion is within a 30 minute drive of two Marina's in the neighboring

Townships of Nipigon & Red Rock which give boaters access to the best cruising grounds on Lake Superior. In the fall, Dorion becomes alive with hunters from all over North America looking to harvest black bear, deer and moose. Whether it's hiking down the trails at Ouimet Canyon or just sitting down at Hurkett Cove Conservation to enjoy a picnic and watching the birds, Dorion is a unique & exceptional community to explore, relax and enjoy life with friends and family.

## Ontario Parks

For more information:  
Ouimet Canyon Provincial Park  
c/o Sleeping Giant Provincial Park  
Pass Lake, Ontario  
P0T 2M0  
807-977-2526

## Lakehead Region Conservation Authority

For more information contact:  
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority  
P.O. Box 10427; 130 Conservation Rd.  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6T8 (Canada)  
Telephone:(807) 344-5857  
Fax:(807) 345-9156



# TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Township of Dorion is located on the Trans Canada Highway 11/17 along the Terry Fox Courage Highway. Dorion is within one and a half hours to one eastern United States border crossing in Pigeon River and is within four hours to two western border crossings in Fort Frances, ON and Rainy River, ON. Thunder Bay, ON is the largest city located within an hour's drive of Dorion Township. Finally, the Corporation of the Township of Dorion maintains 11.1 kilometres of paved roads and 44.2 kilometres of gravel roads within the Township boundaries.



## Distance to Major Urban Centres

City	Km	Miles
Alliston:	1249.5	776
Hamilton:	1350.4	839
Ingersoll:	1331.8	827
Kingston:	1549.9	963
Kitchener/Waterloo:	1399.7	869
London:	1292	802
Montreal:	1610	1000
North Bay:	1056.6	656
Ottawa:	1412.9	877
St. Catharine's	1482.9	921
Sault Ste Marie:	640	397
Thunder Bay:	70	43
Toronto:	1305.9	811
Windsor:	1189.7	739

## Distance to Major Border Crossings

Border Crossing	Km	Miles
Massena/Cornwall:	1532.1	952
Ogdensburg/Prescott:	1482.9	921
Alexandria Bay/Ivy Lea:	1540.3	957
Lewiston/Queenston:	1499.6	931
Niagara Falls/Niagara Falls:	1502.3	933
Buffalo/Fort Erie:	1524.2	947
Detroit/Windsor:	1189.7	739
Port Huron/Sarnia:	1193.7	741
Sault Ste Marie/Sault Ste Marie:	640	397
Grand Portage/Thunder Bay:	140	87
International Falls/Fort Frances:	405.5	251
Baudette/Rainy River:	496.1	308

Source: Economic Development Ontario

## Energy

Electricity in Dorion is supplied and serviced by Hydro One. Electricity prices of Hydro One are determined through the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). As part of the Regulated Price Plan (RPP), electricity prices are reviewed and adjusted by the OEB more frequently — every six months if necessary. To obtain current information on electricity prices for residential and commercial customers, visit [www.hydroone.com](http://www.hydroone.com) or [www.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca).

## Water

Water is accessed in Dorion through individual property wells. Residents are responsible for their own water quality which includes meeting provincial regulation for water testing and potable water access. Dorion is well known as having some of the purest natural springs in Ontario. For more information contact the Chief Building Inspector at the Municipal Office.

### Municipal Office

Building Inspector: Alan Cooke  
170 Dorion Loop Road  
Dorion, ON P0T 1K0  
Tel. (807) 857 – 2289  
Fax. (807) 857 – 2203  
Email [office@doriontownship.ca](mailto:office@doriontownship.ca)

### Fuel Oil & Propane

The main bulk fuel and oil comes from Thunder Bay and is supplied by Pye Brothers and Mikus Fuels. Superior Propane and Cal-gas supply the entire propane market in Dorion.

### Pye Brothers Fuels Ltd.

1250 Rosslyn Rd.  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Phone: (807) 475 – 7667

### Mikus Fuels-Shell Canada

1401 Walsh St.  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Phone: (807) 475 - 4241

### Superior Propane

3014 Arthur Street  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Phone: (807) 939 – 2568

### CAL-GAS Inc.

130 Island Dr.  
Thunder Bay, ON.  
Phone: (807) 344 - 3300

## Telecommunications

Dorion is connected worldwide with high speed internet, cellular and satellite service through Thunder Bay Telephone (Tbay Tel) and Bell Canada. Also, through the government funded Community Access Program (CAP) the Dorion library provides free high speed internet service to the community.

### T-bay Tel

Business Solutions  
Phone: 1-866-999-0626  
Local: (807) 623 – 8800  
website: [www.tbaytel.net](http://www.tbaytel.net)

### Bell Canada

Business Customers  
Phone: (807) 623 - 4255  
website: [www.bell.ca](http://www.bell.ca)

# CLIMATE

The climate of Dorion is typical of a mid-latitude inland location with a Great Lake (Lake Superior) moderating influence, resulting in cooler summer temperatures and warmer winter temperatures. The average daily temperatures range from a high of 17.6 °C in July and a low of -14.8 °C in January. The average daily high in July is 24.2 °C and the average daily high in January is -8.6 °C. The surrounding area is quite sunny with an average of 2184 hours of bright sunshine each year, ranging from 283.4 hours in July to 88.8 hours in November - sunnier than any area/region in Canada located to the east of it.



## Average Weather Conditions

Temperatures		Precipitation	
Extreme Maximum	35.7°C	Avg. Annual Rainfall	550mm
Extreme Minimum	-40.5°C	Maximum Rainfall	89mm (August)
Average summer temp	16°C	Maximum Snowfall	46cm (December)
Average Winter temp	-9.5°C	Avg. annual Sunshine Hours	2,184 hours

## Average Weather Comparisons among Communities

Area	Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	Average Annual Snowfall (cm)	Average Annual Hours of Sunshine
Calgary, AB	320.6 mm	126.7 cm	2395 hours
Winnipeg	415.6mm	110.6 cm	2377 hours
<b>Dorion, ON</b>	<b>550 mm</b>	<b>196 cm</b>	<b>2184 hours</b>
Montreal, QC	760 mm	214.2 cm	2028 hours
Kelowna, BC	298 mm	101.8 cm	2000 hours
Vancouver, BC	1154.7 mm	48.2 cm	1920 hours
London, ON	781 mm	213 cm	1861 hours
Whitehorse, YT	163.1 mm	145 cm	1852 hours
Saint John, NB	1157 mm	283 cm	1681 hours

Source: The Weather Network

# PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

## Geology & Physiography

Dorion is located on the Canadian (Boreal) Shield or Precambrian Shield which covers two-thirds of Ontario. The geology of the area consists of “rocks of Proterozoic age (i.e. 600 million to 2.5 billion years old), which represents a zone of orogenesis or “mountain-building” (e.g. large-scale folding, thrusting and faulting of rocks) which occurred about 1.8 billion years ago.” Evidence of this can be found in Dorion at Ouimet Canyon Provincial Park and the Pinnacles, which are two very popular tourist attractions in the area. The terrain of the forest ranges from lowland peat bogs to deep fertile upland soils to bedrock covered by thin layers of soil and moss.

Mining in Dorion consists of potential exploration for deposits of gold, silver, uranium, copper and other industrial minerals. Mining exploration in the Dorion area has been increasing since the 1970's particularly for uranium deposits in the Sibley Basin, which according to geologists shares much of the geological structure with the Athabasca Basin in Northern Saskatchewan.

Source: Ministry of Natural Resources



## Rivers & Lakes

The whole eastern boundary of Dorion shores the Great Lake Superior, the largest National Marine Conservation Area in North America. Dorion is home to over twenty-five lakes of various sizes, the major ones being Wolf Lake and Innes Lake. The major river that runs through Dorion is the Wolf River. Along the Wolf River there are many waterfalls and attractions for tourists to explore. Most of the drainage off local lakes runs through 3 creeks in the area: Furcate Creek, Coldwater Creek and MacIntosh Creek. The longest running creek in the township is by far Coldwater Creek which runs approximately 12.5 kilometers before draining into Lake Superior

One of the most popular public access lakes in the area is Wolf Lake, which actually lies just outside of Dorion Township to the north in the unorganized area of Glenn Township. Wolf Lake is known for its great walleye fishing, swimming and camping getaways. Innes Lake also deserves mentioning as a major lake in terms of size and physical attraction. The main fish species found in Innes Lake are Lake Trout.

Source: Lakehead Region Conservation Authority



## Flora & Fauna

Dorion is located deep in the heart of the boreal forest -- the largest forest region in Ontario and Canada. In geological terms, the boreal forest is quite young. Until about 13,000 years ago, glaciers covered much of Ontario and Canada. It wasn't until approximately 5,000 years ago that the boreal forest was established in northern Ontario.

In Dorion the main conifer species are white and black spruce, balsam fir, jack pine, tamarack and eastern white cedar; the predominant

deciduous species are white birch and poplar. The forests in Dorion are similar to those in upper Michigan and northern Minnesota. The boreal forest is home to a variety of wildlife, including moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, jays and song birds, wolves, beaver and otter. Dorion is frequently referenced as a popular bird watching location. In addition, the forest contains hundreds of species of plants, such as ferns, mosses, shrubs, herbs and mushrooms.

Source: Ministry of Natural Resources

# LEARNING INSTITUTIONS

Education and training are one of the most essential resources that a community needs to function and thrive. Having access to a high quality of education and training provides people with the necessary skills and disciplines to raise healthy families and support a growing economy. Dorion has a relatively new elementary school as well as an Ontario Early Years Centre that provides elementary students with the necessary educational upbringing. After completion of elementary school students must travel a reasonable distance to a nearby High school in the bordering township of Red Rock approximately 20 km away. Post-Secondary education and training is accessible within an hour drive of Dorion in Thunder Bay where many programs and disciplines are offered at the certificate/diploma, undergraduate and graduate levels.



**Lakehead University**  
**955 Oliver Road**  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5E1  
Phone: (807) 343 – 8110  
Fax: (807) 343 – 8023  
[www.lakeheadu.ca](http://www.lakeheadu.ca)

**Confederation College**  
1450 Nakina Drive  
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4W1  
Toll Free: 1800 – 465-5493  
[www.confederationc.on.ca](http://www.confederationc.on.ca)

**Academy of Learning Career  
and Business College**  
416 E. Victoria Avenue  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Phone: (807) 624 – 2380  
[www.academyoflearning.com](http://www.academyoflearning.com)

**CDI College of Business,  
Technology and Health Care**  
28 North Cumberland Street  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Toll Free: 1 – 800- 965 – 7055  
[www.cdicollege.com](http://www.cdicollege.com)

**Northwestern Transport Training &  
Heavy Equipment Training**  
195 East Gore Street  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Phone: (807) 622-1152  
email: [northwestern@tbaytel.net](mailto:northwestern@tbaytel.net)  
[www.northwesternworldwide.com](http://www.northwesternworldwide.com)

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & FUTURE GROWTH

The quality of life in Dorion is an attractive feature and significant driver of economic development in the area. The onset of the emerging mining exploration industry as well as continued development and research into tourism, agro-forestry and wind energy will ensure a bright and prosperous future for Dorion and the regional economy.

Economic development initiatives are dealt with by the Dorion Economic Development Committee

## **The Township of Dorion Municipal Office**

170 Dorion Loop Road  
Dorion, ON P0T 1K0  
Phone: (807) 857 – 2289  
Fax: (807) 857 – 2203  
Email: [office@doriontownship.ca](mailto:office@doriontownship.ca)  
[www.doriontownship.ca](http://www.doriontownship.ca)

## **Superior North Community Futures Development Corporation**

7, Chemin Mill Road P.O. Box/C.P. 716  
Terrace Bay, ON P0T 2W0  
Phone: 1-888-445-9999  
Fax: (807) 857 – 9664

[DEDC]. Also, there are regional government ministries and nonprofit organizations that act on behalf of each community in the region for business development and consulting services. As a potential investor or site selector, information on Dorion and its development opportunities can be found through the following contacts:

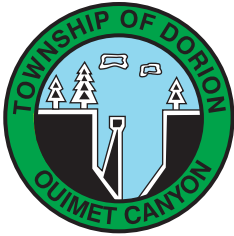
## **Business Outreach Officer:**

Anne-Marie Bourgeault  
Email: [annemarie@sncfdc.org](mailto:annemarie@sncfdc.org)  
[www.sncfdc.org](http://www.sncfdc.org)

## **Ministry of Northern Development & Mines**

Regional Advisor: Guylene Levesque  
Phone: (807) 857 – 0267  
Email: [guylene.levesque@ontario.ca](mailto:guylene.levesque@ontario.ca)  
[www.mndm.on.ca](http://www.mndm.on.ca)

# CONTACT US



## Dorion Economic Development Township Office

170 Dorion Loop Road  
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