# PAISLEY OVERVIEW

Paisley is a village in every sense: Quaint downtown, rivers (actually two) run through it, the surrounding farm area is both peaceful and productive, and you can find an abundance of room to grow and explore. But what's amazing about Paisley are the residents and business owners who call it home. They are both talented and welcoming, collaborative and independent-minded. Paisley is where entrepreneurs can discover the best of all worlds; where they are encouraged to express their talents any way they choose.



### **Artisans by every definition**

Creativity isn't limited to painting and poetry though both are wonderful expressions of talent. Creativity is about looking at any challenge or opportunity in a unique way. For talented people, food doesn't just sustain, it excites; tourism isn't about guiding, it's about discovery and inspiration. The talent to shape employee skills in the energy sector demonstrates creativity. Paisley is a community of artisans in every sector. The community's early innovators started that evolution and today's equivalents promise a brilliant future.



#### **Create unique live-work options**

Work-life balance is difficult to achieve when work is so separate from everyday life. Not so in Paisley. Original homes, farms, store fronts and mills have ample room to blend small business dreams with lifestyle options built in or vice versa. Housing and workspace costs are also moderate compared to many other locations. You can set up home offices here, studios, boutiques, light manufacturing or small food production - whatever your talent needs to flourish. And it can all be as close as home or just down the street.



## **Village Vibe, Unlimited Opportunities**

The village of Paisley is the centre of a thriving regional economy in Bruce County - you're just minutes from Ontario's growing energy sector and a robust tourism industry. Yet you're also nestled into some of the best farm land and food production capacity in the province. That keeps the entrepreneurial vibe unique and sustainable. Some of Ontario's largest







## PAISLEY LIVING

In Paisley, talent abounds. So imagine living in a community where you are embraced by creativity at every turn. You'll see it in the food options, in art, on walls, in local businesses and in the very fabric of community living in and immediately surrounding the picturesque main street and rural landscapes. This is where you can find a home for any lifestyle you wish to create. For individuals, for families young and more experienced, Paisley is where everyone has the freedom to express their talents.



#### **Families Of All Kinds**

No matter how you define family, Paisley offers welcoming options. The local elementary school is growing and secondary schools are a short bus ride away. There are many options to practice your faith, and local or regional community centres support active lifestyle choices. Most important, though, is the welcome you receive whether your family is young, empty nest or just one. Paisley has open arms.



#### **Available Services**

We have sports and recreation programming in all four seasons. Healthcare is close by with full regional hospitals within an easy drive. A full suite of community services are offered by municipal and regional offices. In addition, there is a close-knit network of local entrepreneurs and community participants who are working to grow opportunities in Paisley while maintaining the quaint and welcoming culture that is so important here.



#### Lifestyles

Family homes including developments for active seniors aged 50+ are in good supply. That's a solid foundation for any lifestyle you want to pursue. Most residents participate in a blend of creative and outdoor activities including arts groups, culinary experiences, bike trails and canoeing on The Saugeen (ample access points in and around town). Residents are only 15 minutes from Lake Huron's beaches and options stretch all the way past the world famous Sauble Beach.



#### **Well Connected**

Getting to and from Paisley, local shopping, regional shopping and the major urban centres of south western Ontario is relatively simple thanks to an outstanding array of highway arteries. The information highway is also growing and that means business owners have easy access to local, regional and wider markets online. The beauty of Paisley is its village feel - but you don't have to sacrifice connectedness to enjoy it.





# PAISLEY ECONOMICS

The Paisley economic environment offers entrepreneurs a unique blend of rural and village opportunities that reward creative thinking and skills. Talented people will find like-minded peers here - and those talents can cross lines between food and farming, culture, art, tourism energy and light manufacturing. There are no limits - only possibilities and a welcoming community to share those possibilities with.



## **Creative and Motivated Workforce**

Almost 50% off the local population reports post-secondary education including apprenticeships and just about 70% are of working age. This gives you an excellent talent pool to draw from. The larger Bruce County employment and employer market expands your opportunity - most are within an easy commute through the countryside.



### **Popular Industry Sectors**

Tourism, creative and cultural arts, retail innovation, energy, farm and food and light manufacturing sectors all have roots in Paisley or close by. That gives entrepreneurs a potential foothold in almost any industry segment with peer support and ample market opportunities. In almost every sector, there are examples of local, regional, national and international success stories.



#### **Employers Are Waiting**

One challenge facing start-up or re-locating and expanding businesses is in also finding employment for other family members. This challenge is amplified in many smaller communities - but that is not the case in Paisley. Here, your family members will find a diverse range of employment both around the community and throughout the county. Most employers in all sectors are less than 30 minutes away and there are also exciting new opportunities in farm and local food clusters just outside of town.



### **Entrepreneurial Support**

The Business-to-Bruce program is generating more collaboration between unique business sectors and communities. Paisley is no exception - this community works together. Business incubation and business owner education are both available as are informal business owner groups, service groups, and a strong Paisley and District Chamber of Commerce that can assist with resources and networking opportunities. While your talent may be unique, you won't be alone as an entrepreneur and creative thinker in Paisley.







# PAISLEY KEY NUMBERS SUMMARY

While the people and quaint village vibe are the key attractions of Paisley, its amazing quality of life is also supported by the facts and figures of business and family life here.



## **People**

| Population               | 1,045       |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Average Income           | \$48,966    |
| Average Household Income | \$60k-\$79k |
| Number of Homes          | 673         |
| Number of Businesses     | 70          |
| Employment Rate          | 65.9%       |
| Median Age of Residents  | 42 years    |



#### **Amenities**

| Public School             | 1   |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Community Centre          | 1   |
| Medical Clinic            | Yes |
| Unassisted Seniors Living | Yes |
| Places of Worship         | 3   |
| Clubs                     | 20  |



## **Events & Tourism**

| Paisley Blues Fest (June)             | ~ |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Paisley Fall Fair (September)         | ~ |
| Late Night Shop and Social (November) | ~ |
| Saugeen and Teeswater River           | ~ |
| Paisley Rail Trail                    | ~ |
| Santa Claus Parade (November)         | ~ |
| Artists on the River (July)           | ~ |
| Fireman's Breakfast (Summer)          | ~ |
| Shopping                              | ~ |
| Paisley Art Tour                      | ~ |
| Paisley Heritage Tour                 | ~ |
| Paisley Path Barn Quilt Trail         | ~ |



### So Much to Do

| Canoeing             |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Kayaking             | <b>✓</b> |
| Hiking               | <b>✓</b> |
| Snowshoeing          | <b>~</b> |
| Baseball Diamonds    | <b>~</b> |
| Soccer Fields        | <b>~</b> |
| Playgrounds          | <b>~</b> |
| Fishing              | <b>✓</b> |
| Tennis Court         | <b>~</b> |
| ATVing               | <b>~</b> |
| Hunting              | <b>✓</b> |
| Cycling              | <b>✓</b> |
| Curling              | <b>✓</b> |
| Hockey               | <b>✓</b> |
| Skating              | <b>✓</b> |
| Lawn Bowling         | <b>✓</b> |
| Cross Country Skiing | <b>~</b> |
| Snowmobiling         | <b>✓</b> |
| Tubing               | <b>~</b> |
| Trestle Bridges      | <b>✓</b> |







## PAISLEY VOICES

What's it really like to live and create business opportunities in Paisley? Local business owners snare how bringing their business dreams to life in Paisley helps them express their talents today and for the foreseeable future. Of course, a better way to hear what our business owners have to say is to actually speak with them - we can make that happen through Business to Bruce.



**PAISLEY ARTSCAPE** SOCIETY Ken Cormack

After a successful career as a local educator, Ken Cormack focused his energy on his passions currently as the President of the non-profit Paisley Artscape Society. "We're a community that gets things done," says Ken. "With help from Arran-Elderslie and Bruce County, we've refreshed the downtown, and there's a vibe and enthusiasm that is tangible - a magic that allows creativity to thrive here. And it's not just in the arts - we see that creativity in every business type; local manufacturing to agriculture from field to fork."



**BONFIRE ON QUEEN** Jen Christie and Chris Shaw

Jen Christie and her partner Chris opened Bonfire On Queen offering Neapolitan style pizza to great acclaim; they are both big fans of Paisley. "The community and surrounding area are very supportive," says Jen. "They want you to succeed and have made us feel so welcome. There's more though. There is an eclectic vibe here - it is naturally creative and you can't help but feel that energy and want to be a part of it. It sparks ideas and creativity you didn't know you had!"



**RAK THAI KITCHEN** Lin Hakosee

It's quite a journey from Thailand to Bruce County. But ten years in, Paisley is where Lin finally realized her dream and opened a unique take on Thai cuisine. "You come to Paisley if you are both creative and business-minded," says Lin. "When I got here, I found a picturesque location with drive-by traffic and within easy reach of many other communities. But it's the local residents and surrounding area that makes Paisley special. They have been beyond supportive and welcoming to me. They are open to new ideas, and the mix of young families and older residents energizes the town."



**TOMBOI ARTISAN ICE CREAM** Tammie McFarlane and Rob Scapin

Former Steel Town business woman Tammie and Australian wine maker Rob operate Tomboi Artisan Ice Cream on the picturesque main street of Paisley. "Rob and I were looking for a community in which to launch a new idea after 30 year-careers in the Wine and Tourism sectors. Not only is Paisley a beautiful village of rivers, but also a little 'fringy' where random acts of creativity happen every day. You have the freedom here to be unique without judgement. And you have great support from the County and the community to bring ideas to life."

Talk to the business owners of Paisley and learn more about bringing your business to life here.



