



# Welcome to Renfrew

Vol 1

## *Come Live In Vacation Country*

Surrounded by pristine countryside with hundreds of rivers and lakes, wide open fields, forests and incredible wildlife, Renfrew is a friendly, affordable place to live and work.

Only a short 40-minute drive from the nation's capital, Renfrew is nestled in the Ottawa Valley and boasts a quiet way of life, with the peacefulness of country living and all the conveniences of an urban lifestyle.

Renfrew's desirable locale on the Trans Canada Highway 17 makes it an ideal place to call home or run a business.

With the recent four-lane expansion of the highway, Renfrew is an easy commute to Ottawa and is within easy shipping distance from Kingston, Montreal, Toronto and even the border of the United States.

**CELEBRATING ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY** in 2008, Renfrew has a long, proud and exciting history.

The area's first settler arrived in 1820, and in 1858 the town was officially founded by businessman, entrepreneur and railroad and lumber baron M.J. O'Brien.

O'Brien's success in the railroad sector was a natural tie to the lumber industry. He took advantage of the area's proximity to the nearby Bonnechere and Ottawa rivers to ship logs down the waterways and built railroads to transport the lumber.

He also loved hockey, and together with his son Ambrose, formed the National Hockey Association (NHA), which later became today's NHL. Thus Renfrew's distinguished heritage includes being the Birthplace of the NHL. The Montreal Canadiens and the Toronto Maple Leafs both have roots in teams originally

supported by the O'Brien's, the historic O'Brien Cup was the pre-cursor to the Stanley Cup and is on display at the Hockey Hall of Fame. Ambrose O'Brien was also inducted in recognition of his contribution to the game of hockey.

Built on this strong foundation and proud history, today Renfrew continues to grow and flourish.

**THE RETAIL AND HOUSING SECTORS ARE BOOMING** with new home and business development at an all-time high. Still, Renfrew has retained its small-town charm



with quiet, safe and friendly neighbourhoods.

There are more than 3,000 single-family homes in town, on fully-serviced, landscaped lots and more are continuously being constructed. Housing prices are very affordable, giving those looking to buy the opportunity to own their dream home.

**THE TOWN'S SERVICES ARE OF THE TOPMOST** quality, including a state-of-the-art and centrally-located hospital.

In addition to having over 100 treatment beds, the Renfrew Victoria Hospital answers all of the community and surrounding area's needs with a wide range of health care services.

**RENFREW HAS A STRONG EMPLOYMENT BASE** of skilled workers in sales, service, tourism, government, business and the trades. Entrepreneurship is encouraged and thrives here, with many new and expanding businesses complimenting the well-established industries and retail stores.

Shoppers can find everything they need in the commercial mall area and downtown. Wide sidewalks,

flower boxes, benches and free weekend parking all ensure that shopping here is always a pleasure.

There are also many recreation and leisure options for those looking to get involved in community activities; along with area clubs to join, there are sports teams for all seasons and service organizations like the Lions Club and Kiwanis.

**ENTERTAINMENT ABOUNDS** with fine dining, casual and family restaurants, the historic O'Brien movie theatre, bowling, music, art and many area celebrations and festivals.

Storyland is a great summer escape for families and draws crowds from across the country. Logos Land's amusement park and water slides are only minutes away, and the region is crisscrossed with snow-mobile trails in the winter months.

Renfrew and area is renowned for its boating, camping and year-round fishing, and the downhill and cross-country ski facilities are breathtaking.

There are parks and playgrounds, baseball diamonds, and tennis courts, soccer fields, running and walking

paths, volleyball nets and outdoor skating rinks.

Renfrew, population 8,500, is a great place to call home no matter what your stage of life; whether starting a family or ready to retire.

We invite you to print our series of quick-read leaflets, each with a detailed focus on different aspects of this great community.

**WELCOME TO RENFREW:**

An overview of what the town can offer to you.

**QUICK FACTS:**

All about Renfrew and area.

**LABOUR FORCE:**

Statistics and information on employees, employers and the available workforce, along with commercial and retail development in the area.

**SERVICES AND UTILITIES:**

Available services, including municipal, provincial and federal, along with hydro, water and sewer information.

**QUALITY OF LIFE:**

Area attractions, recreation, entertainment, and local health and safety services.



With its breathtaking countryside, modern conveniences, affordable housing, strong economy and friendly neighbourhoods, come discover why we choose to call Renfrew home.

*Come live where you vacation!*

