



essex

Agri-Business

Industry at a glance

From farm to fork our food and beverage industry is as diverse as its talent. It has a strong combination of all facets of food manufacturing, which includes processing, packaging, warehousing, distribution, retailing and food service.

Stretching from the centre of Essex County to the north shore of Lake Erie, the Town of Essex is uniquely positioned on the 42nd parallel, a circle of latitude shared with northern California, the French Riviera, and Rome, Italy. It's no wonder why so many vineyards are located here, or that they grow some of the best grapes in Ontario.

Cutting-edge research being performed by an impressive network of world-leading food research and development institutions and companies has strengthened Essex's position as a leader in the industry. These and other advantages make Essex a great place for value-added food and beverage processing companies.



Competitive advantage

There are a wide range of federal, provincial, and institutional organizations providing funding and research assistance to agri-business in our region.

Affordable land is drawing in a variety of new agricultural businesses to take advantage of our strategic location.

Duty-free access to U.S., Mexican and European markets for agri-food products from Canada, the fifth largest exporter of agricultural and agri-food products in the world.

If you're looking to start or grow your agri-business, the Town of Essex and its partners can help. Contact us for more information about starting a business in Essex and a variety of local incentives.



Industry FACTS



The Harrow Research and Development Centre is the largest greenhouse research complex facility in North America.



Nearly **70% of the wineries** located in the Lake Erie North Shore Appellation of Ontario are producing in the Town of Essex.

Agri-business is a major driver of the local and regional economy.



Lake Erie North Shore has a long growing season and the highest number of heat units of all of Ontario's viticulture areas.