

Why Sault Ste. Marie – Appendix

**Contribution by an Algoma District community member*

The Earth system works by the dynamic interaction of the subsystems -the hydrosphere, geosphere, atmosphere and biosphere. The hydrosphere pertains to water in all its forms; the geosphere to the physical earth; the atmosphere to the gases; the biosphere to all living things. These subsystems are interconnected by processes and cycles with one another. They also have processes and cycles within themselves.

It would be prudent then to choose a location for the Canadian Water Agency which had ready access to a variety of bodies of water and landforms and scientists with world class expertise in diverse fields.

Within the city limits are large tracts of forests and fields, fast moving rivers, swamps, bogs, and the St. Marys River. Not many cities can boast that kind of habitat diversity, or the biological diversity associated with it.

The Algoma District provides even more diversity.

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BODIES OF WATER/LANDFORMS

WATER

- **Lakes:** Lake Superior is the largest of the Great Lakes, and the largest body of fresh water on Earth. Lake Huron is the second largest of the [Great Lakes](#). Inflow into the lake is received from [Lake Superior](#) via the St. Marys River, from Lake [Michigan](#) via the Straits of Mackinac and from numerous streams draining the [adjacent](#) lands.
- **Locks:** The Sault Ste. Marie Canals containing five locks were built. Four of the five locks are on the U.S. side and are operated by the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#).
- **Rivers:** Designated a [Canadian Heritage River](#) in 1992. The St. Marys River drops more than 6 m in 1.6 km through the Sault Ste. Marie Rapids. It is an important link in the St. Lawrence Seaway. Large islands divide the river into a series of 3 lakes and the St. Joseph channel. (Montreal River*) The source is the [Montreal Lake](#) at the community of [Island Lake](#) in northwest Sudbury District. It heads west, and passes under [Ontario Highway 17](#) just before reaching its mouth at Lake Superior at the community of [Montreal River Harbour](#). It is 130 km long. There are four [hydroelectric](#) dams and generating stations on the Montreal River.
- **Shorelines:** The Shore Ridges Conservation Area is 443 hectares of land including 366 metres of shoreline some of which has been designated as provincially significant. The Marks Bay property is a 103-hectare site including 3000 metres of shoreline on the St. Marys River.
- **Wetlands:** The Shore Ridges Conservation Area contains three of four classifications of wetlands -designated as Provincially Significant.
- **Dams/reservoir:** Fort Creek dam and reservoir was built to prevent frequent flooding of the city's west end. The land around the reservoir (Fort Creek Conservation Area) was bought to control development and protect forest and vegetation in the area.
- **Watershed:** Our watershed encompasses a 552 square kilometre area which includes the St. Mary's River watershed and a number of smaller watersheds draining the northern shore of Lake Superior.
- **Rapids:** St. Marys River
- **Hydroelectric Power Generating Station:** Mackay Generating Station
- **Groundwater recharge area:** The Hiawatha Highlands Groundwater
- **Freshwater Spring:** Shore Ridges Conservation Area
- **Falls:** Bridal Veil Falls – the highest falls in Agawa Canyon at 68.5 m
- **Swamps, Bogs:** Whitefish Island
- **Freshwater spring:** Shore Ridges Conservation Area
- **Marina:** Bellevue Marina is a public marina facility that provides 155 serviced and unserviced slips and a fully accessible canoe/kayak launch.
- **Canal:** With the retreat of the Wisconsin Glacier some 12,000 years ago, the St. Marys River ultimately carried Lake Superior waters east to Lake Huron. The St. Marys rapids result from a six-metre difference between the two lakes.

LANDFORMS

- **Cliffs:** [Robertson Cliffs](#), Ogidaki Mountain, Gros Cap. Although the average elevation in the Canadian Shield region is 305 m, several high hills and ridges north of Sault Ste. Marie exceed 640 m. Ogidaki Mountain (665 meters), a high hill in the Algoma Highlands north of Sault Ste. Marie, ranks about #7 in Ontario.
- **Forests:** Great Lakes, St. Lawrence Forest region (Mark's Bay)

- **Old Growth Forest:** The Hiawatha Highlands
- **Batholith:** Gros Cap is situated on a batholith, a large deep-seated body of intrusive igneous rock consisting of coarse-grained granite rock.
- **Escarpment:** The upper Indian Ridge Trail in the Shore Ridges Conservation Area offers a view from an escarpment.
- **Clay Beds, Natural Erosion and Fine Sand Deposits:** Shore Ridges Conservation Area
- **Rock faces:** Gros Cap
- **Canyons:** Agawa Canyon is in the Canadian or Pre-Cambrian Shield, the oldest Mountain range in the world.
- **Conservation Areas:** [Hiawatha Highlands](#), [Fort Creek](#), [Mark's Bay](#), [Shore Ridges](#), [Gros Cap](#)
- **Diabase Dyke, Gorge:** Montreal River
- **Island & Native Historical Site:** Whitefish Island
- **Bluff:** Gros Cap

POTENTIAL COLLABORATING EXPERTISE

THE SEA LAMPREY CONTROL CENTRE

The Great Lakes Fishery Commission, in cooperation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, carry out sea lamprey control on the Great Lakes. The Sault Ste. Marie Sea Lamprey Control Centre supports Sea Lamprey research, monitoring, and control efforts. This is a working science station. Agency staff may be unavailable when they are in the field or otherwise engaged in projects.

Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Trail:

<http://www.greatlakesfisheriestrail.org/place.asp?ait=av&aid=190>

TARENTOROUS FISH CULTURE STATION

Surrounded by managed northern forest lands, Sault Ste. Marie maintains a significant capacity of forestry expertise and knowledge as the headquarters of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' Forest Division staff, and three forest research centres including the Ontario Forest Research Centre, Great Lakes Forestry Centre (federal) and provincial Invasive Species Centre.

Valuable cutting-edge research and development in Sault Ste. Marie at these institutions build knowledge for growing healthier and more valuable forests, fighting invasive species on land and sea, climate change science and more.

Welcome to Sault Ste. Marie: <https://welcometossm.com/work/industries-employers/>

ONTARIO FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

In Sault Ste. Marie, our research and technical staff focus on applied landscape and silviculture research. They examine how forests respond to natural disturbances and management. This information teaches us how to regrow forests and ensure our management practices emulate natural disturbances.

They study Forest carbon, genetic diversity, growth and yield, health and invasive diseases, management and ecology, management in boreal mixed woods, management in Great Lakes–St.

Lawrence forests, restoration and resilience. They study Terrestrial systems ecology, forest landscapes and disturbance, wetlands and peatlands.

THE GREAT LAKES FORESTRY CENTRE (FEDERAL)

Its research priorities include: Forest pests, Climate change and forest fire studies and Forest ecosystem research.

CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

The Sault Ste. Marie region conservation authority owns and manages over 5,000 acres of diverse ecosystems including forests, wetlands and shorelines. Conservation Areas: Hiawatha Highlands*, Fort Creek, Mark's Bay, Shore Ridges, Gros Cap

CENTER FOR FRESHWATER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan (Across the bridge on the southern shores of the St. Marys River)

The Center for Freshwater Research and Education is located adjacent to the CFRE fish hatchery in the Cloverland Electric Cooperative Hydroelectric Plant.

It houses a mesocosm laboratory, which is an experimental system in which to perform a broad range of scientific investigation spanning aquaculture to contaminants to invasive species. It's basically a very complex wet laboratory where we can do replicated and controlled experimentation that may have applications to aquaculture or fisheries management; understanding the effects of invasive species, or contaminants; the effects of invasive species or contaminants on our native species.

The center contains teaching labs, administrative offices and office space for external partners, such as the Michigan Sea Grant, Michigan State University, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The U.S. Coast Guard National Center of Expertise for the Great Lakes, which will focus on oil spills in freshwater environments, will be housed at the new facility. The Great Lakes Discovery Center aims to bolster community engagement through interactive displays on the ecology of the Great Lakes, a discovery lab that will host natural resources-based programming for students of all ages and an aquarium in the visitor center where people can view and touch a pair of large sturgeon.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING HUB

The Office of Research and Innovation and Department of Experiential Learning unveiled the schools Experiential Learning Hub - a new space for innovation where students, faculty and community partners will be able to collaborate on research and innovation.

Memorandum of Understanding for Research, Innovation and Education

In 2019, Algoma University, Sault College, Natural Resources Canada's Great Lakes Forestry Centre and the Ontario Forest Research Institute signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding for Research, Innovation and Education.

There will be increased opportunities in natural resources, environmental science and forest science research and education that may exceed what the organizations could do separately.

There will also be increased sharing of intellectual and technical resources, including faculty and staff expertise and sophisticated research infrastructure and equipment and research sites.

Finally, the development of collaborative research projects, including more competitive research grant proposals as well as the increased participation of CFS-GLFC and OFRI researchers as adjunct professors contributing to active mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students will support an increased collaboration of forest science research and education.

<https://algomau.ca/news/algoma-university-sault-college-ontario-forest-research-institute-natural-resources-canadas-great-lakes-forestry-centre-sign-mou/>

SCIENTISTS AND RESEARCHERS (World Class)

Natural Resources Canada: Research Scientist, Forestry Specialist, Forest Landscape Biologist, Forest Fire Research Specialist, Forest Vegetation Ecologist, Forest Ecologist, Forestry Officer, Environmental Technicians, Forest Ecology Research Technician, Biometric and Landscape Analysis Technician, Geographical Information Systems Analyst, Land Classification Technician, Vegetation Management Application Technician, Soil and Water Field Technician, Chemistry Lab Technician, Chemistry Technician, Insect Disturbance Geospatial Analyst, Insect Production Services Technician, Entomology Technician, Insect Rearing Assistant, Insect Production Facility Supervisor/Biologist, Terrestrial Invertebrate Ecologist

<https://profilis-profiles.science.gc.ca/en/research-centre/great-lakes-forestry-centre>

The Invasive Species Centre Staff: Invasive Species Specialist, Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Invasive Species Policy Coordinator

Algoma University: <https://algomau.ca/news/canada-research-chair-funding-renewed-invasive-species-biology/>

Dr. Pedro M. Antunes, Professor of Biology, Executive Research Lead and Canada Research Chair (Invasive Species)

His research studies the impacts of human-induced disturbances such as invasive species and climate change on important ecological processes, and helps to train the next generation of scientists. His work will provide essential insights into some of the effects of climate change - related to invasive species and soil diversity.

N.O.R.D.I.K (Northern Ontario Research, Development, Ideas and Knowledge):

<https://nordikinstitute.com/about/our-team/>

Vision

Promoting more vibrant, caring and sustainable communities through research, dialogue, analysis and reflection dedicated to the practice of holistic community development.

Goals and Objectives

- Build Northern Ontario's capacity to conduct research
- Conduct research that contributes to social and economic justice for Northern Ontario communities
- Provide evidence for informed policy and decision-making
- Focus on Indigenous, rural and Northern communities

SCIENTISTS AND RESEARCHERS ASSOCIATED WITH N.O.R.D.I.K.

Sue Chiblow (Ogamauh annag kwe), PhD Candidate, Assistant Professor

Susan (Sue) Chiblow is crane clan from Garden River First Nation. She was raised in Garden River First Nation by a single male parent in a home with 4 brothers and 3 sisters at Bell's Point. Sue has participated in Water Walks, water ceremonies and water gatherings learning the responsibilities to the waters. She has a strong connection to the lands and waters through Anishinaabek harvesting activities. She has worked extensively with First Nation communities for the last 30 years in environmental related fields and is a volunteer for the Traditional Ecological Knowledge Elders of the Robinson Huron Treaty territory. Sue holds a B.Sc. in Biology with a minor in Chemistry, and a M.E.M. in Environmental Management. She is an appointed member of the Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge Subcommittee to the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada and is appointed co-chair on the Indigenous Advisory Committee to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada. Sue is the recipient of the Vanier Graduate Scholarship and was the Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program at Michigan State University.

Sue is a PhD candidate at York University expecting to complete her PhD in the winter of 2021. As a PhD candidate, her work focuses on "N'bi G'giikendaaswinmin" (water knowledge) exploring humanity's relationship to N'bi and how improving the relationship can support the well-being for N'bi and all life.

Research interests: Indigenous knowledge systems and naaknigewin (law), Anishinaabek women's knowledge, waters, star world, land-based learning, Indigenous environmental management, food sovereignty, Anishinaabek research methodologies, ecosystem approaches.

Dr. Elaine Ho-Tassone, Post-Doctoral Fellow

Elaine is a PhD Candidate, Social and Ecological Sustainability (Water), at University of Waterloo. She is passionate about building bridges between people and organizations, raising social-ecological awareness, and exploring innovative, sustainable solutions for ecological protection or restoration and community development. She has collaborated with people from a variety of industries and sectors, e.g., construction, engineering, public education, tourism, natural resource management, renewable energy, academia, government, businesses, non-profit organizations, and community members (Canadian and Indigenous). Elaine has delivered dozens of talks and has designed/delivered workshops in settings that range from small community events and corporate meetings to international conferences. In addition, she has also been a driving force in the growth and development of several social-economic ventures. Elaine is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) as of 2014 and is a member of the Climate Reality Leadership Corps, having trained with Al Gore (former Vice President of the USA) in 2015. Current volunteer positions include sitting on the Board of Directors at the Long Point Biosphere Reserve and representing North America (Canadian representative) on the global Action for Sustainable Development Facilitation Committee. She also continues to be involved in various volunteer initiatives which she previously began in a remote Maasai community in Kenya, including a women's bead cooperative. A new Research Associate, Elaine's first project with NORDIK aims to develop a community-led, two-eyed seeing biomonitoring pilot program for water quality in partnership with Garden River First Nation, supported by six other organizations (including Algoma University), by spring 2022.

Research interests: Environmental monitoring indicators, water quality monitoring and management, collaborative approaches (e.g., co-management, co-created solutions, community-

based participatory action research), bridging Western and Indigenous ways of knowing, and sustainable development (e.g., Sustainable Development Goals).

Haley MacLeod, PhD Candidate

Haley is a PhD Candidate in the Natural Resource Management department at Lakehead University. Haley has earned an Honours Bachelor of Science (BSc; Biology, and Environmental and Resource Sciences) from Trent University, and a Masters of Science (MSc) with a specialization in Cell Biology and Genetics from Trent University. She is expecting to complete her PhD in the spring of 2023.

Haley has a diverse research background with experience in environmental toxicology, cellular and molecular biology, freshwater ecology, and fisheries science. Her current PhD research is focused on answering fundamental questions around the drivers of freshwater fish production, developing more effective tools for monitoring fish populations, and understanding how aquatic contaminants such as microplastics and their chemical additives impact freshwater fish populations. Haley has also developed and led multiple Two-Eyed Seeing hands-on STEM programs for Indigenous elementary and high school youth to improve Indigenous-science knowledge and science literacy.

Research interests: Freshwater ecosystems, multiple-stressors, conservation and Indigenous-led conservation, aquatic contaminants, climate-change, community-led research, science communication.

Dr. Jennifer Foote, Ornithology, animal communication, Ecology network

Dr. Brandon Schamp, Head of the School of Life Sciences and the Environment-Invasive Species Biology

Dr. Isabel Molina, BSc & MSc (National University of La Plata, Argentina) PhD (Michigan State University)

Dr. Nairne Cameron, Associate Professor in the Department of Geology and Geography
She has been an important voice regarding food scarcity and food access.

Dr. Nicolas Rouleau, Neuroscientist and Bioengineer

Dr. Nirosha Murugan, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology
She is an interdisciplinary scientist with a strong passion for research and teaching. Her lab combines principles and state-of-the-art techniques from neuroscience, regenerative medicine, and cancer biology.

Dr. Townsend

He has devoted his academic career to helping people diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, convey their thoughts through sophisticated computer software and hardware. Today, he is one of the world's leading researchers. His research has led to a computer-based interface which allows completely paralyzed people to communicate their thoughts through only brain activity and no physical movement. This computer technology is provided at a minimal cost to the users.

Istvan Imre, Fish Ecology

POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Sault Ste. Marie is home to a highly skilled and technical workforce and with access to nearly 2,000 graduates annually from Algoma University, Sault College and Lake Superior State University (Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan). We can work with our partners to develop customized training and learning to support your industry or sector needs. <https://welcometossm.com/live/advantages/>

ALGOMA UNIVERSITY

It's four-year Honours Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science program is an interdisciplinary program that integrates core courses in the disciplines of biology, chemistry, and geography. <https://algomau.ca/academics/programs/environmental-science/>

SAULT COLLEGE

- Diploma programs in the School of Natural Environment and Outdoor Studies
- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Technician
- Forestry Conservation Technician
- Natural Environment Technician

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY

Just across the United States border in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, Lake Superior State University (LSSU) is a small university of about 3,000 students. LSSU is known for its academic programs such as fisheries and wildlife management, engineering chemistry and the environmental sciences. LSSU offers primarily bachelor's and associate degrees, but also grants a master of arts in curriculum and instruction and many certificates. The university also offers joint programs with Sault College and Algoma University.

SHINGWAUK KINOOMAAGE GAMIG (UNIVERSITY)

The Centre of Excellence in Anishinaabe Education

They will preserve the integrity of Anishinaabe knowledge and understanding in cooperation with society to educate the present and future generations in a positive, cooperative and respectful environment. <https://shingwauku.org/>

FIRST NATIONS/METIS EXPERTISE AND COOPERATION

Indigenous communities are found on all sides of the Sault, with Batchewana First Nation and Garden River First Nation being adjacent to the city. Other nations, including the Métis Nation of Ontario and the Missinabie Cree First Nation have offices in Sault Ste. Marie.

They have been very actively involved in educating their people in their rich cultures, languages and history. They are enthusiastic about sharing their knowledge with all those who express an interest. They are ready, willing and able to assist in endeavours concerning the Canadian Water Agency.

Indigenous Peoples believe the natural world is sacred, consider themselves as one element of the natural world, and that it needs to be whole for future generations. Generally speaking, they see themselves as stewards of the land. It is not that they are anti-development but more that they are pro-environmentally-responsible-development.

SHINGWAUK HALL

Within the walls of the old residential school, you'll now find the Reclaiming Shingwauk Hall exhibit. An amalgamation of a museum, interpretation centre, and memorial, the history of this site is told alongside the larger narrative of the fight for self-determination against colonialism.

THE NATIONAL CHIEF'S LIBRARY

Will be housed in the Anishinaabek Discovery Centre. This state-of-the-art library and archives is the first-ever First Nations-organized and First Nations-run research library in Canada. The archives provide a safe space to store, share and appreciate Indigenous artifacts and literature from many First Nations.

THE ANISHINAABEK DISCOVERY CENTRE (ADC)

By promoting and preserving Indigenous culture and education, the centre is a testament to the commitment to reconciliation. The Centre houses classrooms and administrative offices, a student lounge, café, art gallery as well as a performing arts space.

SHINGWAUK KINOOMAAGE GAMIG (UNIVERSITY)

The Centre of Excellence in Anishinaabe Education. They will preserve the integrity of Anishinaabe knowledge and understanding in cooperation with society to educate the present and future generations in a positive, cooperative and respectful environment.

KINA AWIYA SECONDARY PROGRAM

The Kina Awiiya Secondary Program is a very unique partnership between the Board of Education and the local Indigenous Friendship Centre (IFC). Traditional cultural events and celebrations with the local First Nations community / band offices are practiced throughout the school year. The Kina Awiiya Secondary Program infuses First Nation Cultural values, aspirations and beliefs into all areas of the curriculum.

INDIAN FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

To provide increased access to culture and culture based program and service delivery to Urban Indigenous children, youth and families that foster a strong sense of well-being and positive Indigenous identity. To ensure the effective delivery of the Cultural Resource program to Urban Indigenous children, youth and families providing and facilitating access to traditional teachings and ceremonies in a safe and acceptable environment, promote cultural awareness, language support, culturally based healing, work with Elders and traditional people as required using a prevention lens to meet the needs of the community.

CHILDREN OF SHINGWAUK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (CSAA)

Residential school survivors, descendants, friends, students, and staff

SHINGWAUK RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (SRSC)

Works to restore and realize Chief Shingwauk's vision of providing an environment for Indigenous people that promotes "sharing, healing and learning".

Healing and Reconciliation Through Education in 2019, an e-book providing an extensive history of the residential school, including decades of archival research and data collection published by the Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre (SRSC).

FORWARD THINKING

A. RENEWABLE ENERGY, SMART ENERGY, CLEAN TECH

Sault Ste. Marie has been harnessing renewable energy for over 100 years, since its first hydroelectric project on the St. Mary's River. Today, the area produces over 500MW of renewable made up of wind (250 MW), solar (60 MW), hydro (203 MW) and co-generation (110 MW feeding Algoma Steel).

Additionally, Sault Ste. Marie has acted as a hotbed for experimental and energy and clean tech projects, including gasification of waste, reverse polymerization of tires, smart grid technology, and currently a promising 7 MW battery energy storage project between Convergent Energy and the Sault Ste. Marie Public Utilities Commission.

In the summer of 2018, the Sault Ste. Marie Public Utilities Commission (PUC), wholly-owned by the city, announced a \$33 million community-wide smart grid project (Sault Smart*), as well as a 48MW energy storage system, the largest of its kind in Canada.

These two projects will create a more resilient, reliable and intelligent electrical system for Sault Ste. Marie, and will significantly lower electricity costs for large and mid-sized businesses.

Since 2008, the City of Sault Ste. Marie has seen nearly \$1 billion worth of investments in such projects as wind, solar and hydroelectric power generation, a battery-storage project, a cogeneration facility at Algoma Steel, smart meters deployed to all customers and LED street lights deployed across the community.

B. DIGITAL ECONOMY

Sault Ste. Marie's burgeoning IT and digital economy sector is comprised of software development, web development, business process outsourcing, digital marketing, app development, game development and cloud-based software companies. Some examples include business process software company Workiva, online media company Village Media, Insightworks (online training and onboarding), Microsoft 365 technical support firm - Createch, Canada Bank Note, SSI System Solutions, Lucidia, Miramar, Cavera.

Sault Ste. Marie has direct access to all major fibre optic networks and international fibre optic connections.

Welcome to Sault Ste. Marie: <https://welcometossm.com/live/advantages/>

C. ECONOMY

Once seen as strictly a steel town, Sault Ste. Marie continues to diversify its economy and has experienced growth in other sectors such as alternative energy, science and technology, aviation services, and business-process outsourcing.

A number of small and medium-sized businesses have set up or experienced growth in Sault Ste. Marie over the past several years, including:

- HELIENE CANADA: designs and manufactures photovoltaic solar panels in Sault Ste. Marie and exports the panels throughout North America and Europe.

- ARAUCO NORTH AMERICA: manufactures composite wood products
- ALGOMA ENERGY SOLUTIONS: a trusted installer, designer, and consultant in the renewable energy industry. Specialists in solar power.
- BIOFOREST'S: experienced and knowledgeable staff work with clients to create and implement effective pest management and forest health strategies for urban and commercial forests, municipalities, tree nurseries and more.
- INSIGHTWORKS: provides online training and onboarding
- WORKIVA: is a business process software company.
- ALGOMA STEEL: The Company will construct two state-of-the-art Electric Arc Furnaces (EAF) which will replace Algoma's current steelmaking operations and eliminate current coke and iron production. The switch to a low-carbon manufacturing process is expected to dramatically shrink Algoma's environmental footprint, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 70%. Steel is an enabler – from wind turbines to electric cars, steel is an integral part of nearly every net zero solution. This transition positions Algoma to meet the growing demand for green steel. It has the ability to use scrap metal which also helps fight pollution.

D. CLIMATE CRISIS ACTION

In 2017, the Community Adjustment Committee identified Environmental Sustainability as one of the pillars for community development. FutureSSM was tasked with implementing and building on recommendations in the CAC report, including creating a community GHG emissions inventory and reduction plan to help implement community climate change priorities.

In early 2019, the City of Sault Ste. Marie received funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) under the Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP) to increase capacity to reduce community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

A full time, permanent Environmental Sustainability Coordinator was hired in December 2021.

PRIME LOCATION

Sault Ste. Marie is strategically placed:

- on the shore of the St. Marys River, connecting Lake Huron and Lake Superior
- at the heart of the great lakes
- at the heart of Canada
- at the intersection of I-75 from the south and the Trans Canada Highway from the east and west
- in the centre of North America
- we share an uncongested border with the United States
- excellent air, highway, marine, rail and telecommunication connections
- direct multi-modal access to the international locations

The International Bridge, which links our beautiful waterfront city to our sister city, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, creates an international flavour while providing an easy access from south-western Ontario and the mid-west states.

City of Sault Ste. Marie, Advantages -Welcome to Sault Ste. Marie:

<https://welcometossm.com/live/advantages/>

TRANSPORTATION ADVANTAGES

Sault Ste. Marie is also a hub for transportation -highway, marine and air. Because it is in the centre of Canada, travel to and from each coast is equidistant.

- **HIGHWAY:** Sault Ste. Marie is located on the Trans-Canada Highway at the northern tip of U.S. Interstate-75.
- **AIR TRAVEL:** An international airport with multiple choices of airlines. A quick, one-hour flight is all it takes to get to Toronto for a work meeting or weekend getaway.
- **ALGOMA DOCKS:** The location is a pivotal point of connection between Lake Superior, Lake Huron and Lake Michigan. It is currently the 4th largest port on the Canadian Great Lakes (by volume)

MULTICULTURAL POPULATION

Our multicultural population can impart knowledge, training and life experiences gained in other countries. The flags in front of the Civic Centre reflect some of the home countries of people who have made the Sault their community. To date, there are 40 flags. The rationale for the project is to celebrate the growing multicultural nature of our city with recognition of the changing social fabric of our community.

Sault Ste. Marie has Multicultural social groups such as the Francophone community.

LOWER COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Sault Ste. Marie offers numerous cost benefits over business operations in larger cities. We offer quality talent and expertise at an affordable rate, low business operating costs and a low cost for land and real estate.

BALANCE - QUALITY OF LIFE

Adventure. Nature. Serenity. Affordability.

Living in Sault Ste. Marie offers the kind of lifestyle that people dream about.

Sault Ste. Marie is a small city with big potential, making it the perfect place to live, work and relax. You don't need to chase work-life balance in the Soo. It's already here, waiting for you.

Without long commute times and the cost of the gas and vehicle maintenance, congested highways, and a high-pressured environment, you can be more fluid to prioritize what is most important to you. Take time and live in the moment; pursue a hobby, volunteer to make a difference, be present in raising a family, take a conference call, then take a drive up the Lake Superior coast, put in a full workday, then put the kids in the car to head to camp for a BBQ and swim.

A balanced life supports less stress, better mental health, greater productivity.

Welcome to Sault Ste. Marie <https://welcometossm.com/live/advantages/>

Living here provides the best of many worlds. Sault Ste. Marie is a safe, modern, medium-sized city (73,500) with amenities of larger centres and is just minutes from nature.

Sault Ste. Marie is where “outdoor” and “adventure” meet. Wind your way through rivers, lakes and streams; discover cliffs, caves and canyons, surrounded by breathtaking landscapes. Experience Lake Superior, Lake Huron and hundreds of other lakes in the area.

We offer affordable housing, quick access to the USA and a true four-season destination.

We own winter! Massive lake-effect snowfall contributes 300 cm of powder. There are vast networks of groomed trails for skiing, snowshoeing, fat biking and snowmobiling.

Sault Ste. Marie has over 150 km of world-class ski trails, and is just a 45 minutes car ride to one of the best mountain resorts in Ontario. Hike or snowshoe through stunning winter wilderness terrain, including towering snow-draped forests, serene ice-covered lakes and frozen waterfalls of the Canadian Shield region. You can rent a pair of snowshoes at Hiawatha Highlands and embark on the area’s fantastic network of backcountry trails. You can participate in ice fishing, skating, snowboarding, sleigh rides, ice climbing, and ice caves.

In the Sault, you can sign-up for a yoga snowshoe class during the day and take a midnight ski by the light of lanterns at night. Roast marshmallows at the waterfront skating trail, and then follow it up with a night of hockey at the newly constructed GFL Memorial Gardens. Sault Ste. Marie is also home of the Soo Greyhounds hockey team and the historic Bon Soo Winter Carnival.

After the snow melts, our landscapes wake up with new growth. Our fish are ready to take on any angler, cottages and lodges are prepared for your arrival to catch that trophy: northern pike, walleye, smallmouth bass, brook trout – these are just some of our favourite species to hook.

In summer, our region is a playground for freshwater and land-based adventures and so many things to see and do. Blue skies, clear water and clean, fresh air make for the best summer vacations.

Hike trails that will challenge you and bring you into the farthest reaches of provincial parks, communities and remote landscapes. (Hiawatha Highlands, Gros Cap Voyageur Trail). The sun, miles of sandy beaches are great for swimming and BBQs and roasting marshmallows. (Mark’s Bay). You will also enjoy mountain biking (Kinsmen Park biking), canoeing, kayaking, boating, using a personal watercraft or pontoon boat, waterskiing, tubing, hunting, camping and rock climbing.

Sault Ste. Marie is a gateway to summer adventure for day trips up the coast of Lake Superior. There are over a hundred pictographs at Agawa Rock, a sacred lakeside site located in Lake Superior Provincial Park, around 150 km north of Sault Ste. Marie. Find the location where the Group of Seven got their inspiration.

Finish work on a Friday and be at the cottage in 30 minutes for dinner, sauna and a swim or fishing. For the summertime urbanite, the Sault also has enough to keep you busy; dog parks, skate parks,

downtown street parties, walks along the boardwalk, a visit to Bellevue Park a summer concert series, outdoor yoga and fitness classes, and a 22.5 km non-motorized John Roswell Hub trail are just some of the amenities you can take advantage of.

Fall brings bursts of vibrant colours, as far as your eye can see. Fiery reds, brilliant oranges and yellows make the very best backdrop for touring whether by car or motorcycle or the Agawa Train. Goosebumps are guaranteed while on our coastline tours. Hunting opportunities are endless for moose, black bears, and wildfowl.

Sault Ste. Marie is a world-class destination. There is a reason why the New York Times named Sault Ste. Marie and the Lake Superior ice caves as one of the top 52 places in the world to visit in 2019. The Agawa Canyon just north of the Sault was named as one of National Geographic Canada's 50 Places of a Lifetime. Sault Ste. Marie is now home to Crank the Shield, the annual backcountry mountain bike stage race.

The internet speeds are best-in-class, meaning you can work from anywhere without interruption.

The area surrounding Sault Ste. Marie inspired the group of seven artists. Today, artists, musicians, videographers, writers, photographers, artisans and performers gather here to share their talents. Sault Ste. Marie has many vibrant arts and music groups including several theatre groups, a symphony orchestra and several craft guilds.

Take in the latest exhibit at the Art Gallery of Algoma or 180 Projects, catch a theatre performance at the Sault Community Theatre Centre, or get a front row seat to hear a local band play at Lop Lops Gallery and Lounge or the Bellevue amphitheatre.

Sault Ste. Marie is also home to annual events and festivals, like the Algoma Fall Festival, Rotary Fest, the Gathering at the Rapids Pow Wow, and the Shadows of the Mind Film Festival.

From its rich history and quality-of-life benefits to its growing, progressive economy and competitive advantages...Sault Ste. Marie is a great place to live, learn, work and play.

Water, it's the one resource every living thing on our planet depends on to live.

<https://ssmrca.ca/source-water-protection/about-source-water-protection/>