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This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada



**PRESENTED BY:
THE TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT CANADA**

May 2006

TIMMINS ONTARIO

SELF-DRIVE CITY TOUR

WELCOME TO TIMMINS



Discover the hidden charms of Timmins as you wind your way through the northern countryside. Being the largest gold mining municipality in Canada, the city encompasses an area of approximately 1200 square miles. In 1973, the City of Timmins amalgamated,

taking in a number of towns and villages including the communities you will be visiting today. We hope you enjoy this self-guided tour of our great city. Beginning in Schumacher where the Chamber is located, the tour can take anywhere from an hour to a full day, depending on how many stops you make. For your convenience, a map highlighting points of interest is included in the brochure.

A LITTLE HISTORY

The City of Timmins owes its birthright to the riches of the Canadian Shield. As legend has it, in 1909, Harry Preston slipped on a rocky knoll and the heels of his boots stripped the moss to reveal a large vein of gold which later became the Dome Mine. This vein was several hundred feet in length and 150 feet wide.

In 1912, Noah Timmins founded the town to house the employees of the Hollinger Mine. The City has grown since its inception, with a residential population of approximately 45,000 servicing a region of over 117,000 people. Today, it is one of North Eastern Ontario's largest regional centers.

Building on its solid, industrial foundation, the City of Timmins offers a variety of natural, cultural and recreational diversions. As well, we are one of the world's best eco-tourism destinations where tourists can delight in Canadian wildlife, embark on adventure tours, or simply relax in a comfortable atmosphere at one of our many camps and lodges.

17. Mattagami Fun Park

The park boasts two miniature golf courses, a driving range and a go-kart track. One of Timmins' newest attractions, the park is a great place for both the young and young-at-heart to spend a fun-filled afternoon in a beautiful setting along the Mattagami River.

18. The Timmins Square

The "Square" is one of the largest shopping center in North-Eastern Ontario, boasting over 70 shops and services. It is a great place to spend an afternoon shopping, having lunch in its sky-lit food-court, or just wandering around with friends. Combining Timmins Square, The 101 Mall, and the Porcupine Mall along with several smaller malls and individual shops in downtown Timmins, Schumacher and South Porcupine, our community certainly provides a satisfying shopping experience.

19. Cedar Meadows Wilderness Park

During the summer, the park is open seven days a week, with three tours offered daily. The park is situated within a 175 acre forest area and boasts bison, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, mountain goat, moose, porcupine and many other types of wildlife. As the folks at the park say, "Come and get inspired by nature"! There is also a hotel and restaurant on the property, if you wish to take a break before you continue on your journey through Timmins.

20. Mattagami River

This river is the main water route in Timmins. For many years, logs were run down the Mattagami River as a way of getting them out of the bush and to the mills. Today, trucks perform that duty. The river was the original route of the trappers, hunters and explorers in the early days of the Porcupine. The waters of the Mattagami flow north to the James Bay, and offer various canoe routes from Timmins to Moosonee. To view some of these routes, visit the Timmins Outdoors website at www.timminsoutdoors.ca.

21. Gillies Lake Promenade

The Gillies Lake Conservation Area is one of the most popular walking trail in the City. This easy walking trail is approximately 2.5km long and can be enjoyed by the whole family year-round, day and night. The area also offers a children's playground and a public beach. Two parking lots around the lake provide easy access.

TIMMINS

14. Shania Twain Centre/Gold Mine Tour

With both attractions on the same site, a visit to this location is a half day experience.

The Shania Twain Center contains an assortment of Shania's personal mementos, costumes, and awards. The superb collection is so huge, that only 10 to 15 per cent of it can be displayed at one time, making every visit new and exciting.

The Gold Mine Tour, with its \$5 million expansion in 2001, is a must to visit. The Hollinger Gold Mine operation is now closed and offers daily guided tours from mid-May to the end of October. Visitors will be treated as real miners, wearing their attire, working their tools, and even getting paid a paycheck at the end of the day.

15. Hollinger Park

This park is a great place to take the kids and let them run free. For your enjoyment, the park has many picnic tables and benches, and of course, a playground with a water park. Located in the park is a commemorative flower garden in honour of Timmins native superstar Shania Twain. The park also houses a bandstand where you may hear occasional local musicians.

16. Downtown Timmins

At the corner of Spruce Street South and Third Avenue, you can see the former train station built in 1912. It is currently used as the ONR Terminal and leased commercial space.

Turning left on Third Avenue brings you right into Timmins' busiest street in the downtown core. On the right side is the city's Walk of Fame. Prominent citizens have been commemorated here with plaques set in the sidewalk. Along Third Avenue, you will see many local shops, retail services, and restaurants reflecting our vibrant northern Ontario community.

Look for the parkette (beside the C.I.B.C. Bank on the corner of Third Avenue and Pine Street) that houses a site commemorating Shania Twain; Timmins' country singing sensation. Her hand prints are embedded in cement below a plaque in her honour. Across the street is Bucovetsky's department store. Established in 1909, it is the oldest business in the city. Third Avenue itself was first laid out in 1911 and some of the buildings here date back to 1912.

SCHUMACHER

1. Timmins Chamber of Commerce

Located on the Chamber property is a 20 ton rock of copper and zinc which was donated by Texas Gulf Sulphur Co. (now Falconbridge Ltd.) A time capsule containing mementos of the 1966 era of the Porcupine Mining District is buried in its base and is due to be opened in the year 2066. Lying behind the monument, surrounded by a bed of flowers, is a rock said to be 3 billion years old. The "Ripple Rock" was discovered and identified a number of years ago by Dome Mines Limited, and was placed on the Chamber's property for your viewing pleasure.



2. McIntyre Community Centre

The facility was built in 1938 for the employees of the McIntyre Mine. It is a scale model of the Maple Leaf Gardens, complete with the famous red, green and blue seats and end balconies. The Center is still very active and features an arena, curling rink, ballroom, auditorium and a diner style coffee shop.

3. McIntyre Headframe

Behind the Community Center, towering majestically over Pearl Lake is the McIntyre Mine #11 headframe. The 3rd largest producer of gold in Canada is closed today, but the city plans to redevelop the headframe and its immediate surroundings as a heritage monument to gold mining in the Porcupine Camp.

4. Schumacher Park

Home to three monuments honouring the mining history of Schumacher. The iron statue overlooking the highway is a representation of Mr. Sandy McIntyre discovering gold, while the other one depicts a wealthy American investor named Frederick W. Schumacher, for whom the town takes its name. The headframe is a replica of the McIntyre Mine.

5. St. Alphonsus Church

The church is covered with many murals painted by local artist, Mr. Ed Spehar. Father Les Costello was rector of this church for over 23 years. This beloved priest, co-founder of the world famous Flying Fathers hockey team, was a prominent figure in our community known for his sense of humor and his generosity.



6. International Flags

At the end of the street, you will notice a collection of flags representing the community's rich ethnic diversity and heritage. Please note that the flags are taken down for the winter.

7. Mine Tailings

On your right, at the bottom of "Rae Hill", you will notice the tailings from the Dome Mine. Waste rock from the mill at the mine was pumped and allowed to settle. The area has been over-planted with grass to alleviate the traffic hazard caused by wind-swept dust from the tailings. With new methods of extracting residual gold from the tailings, the mines are looking at these areas with renewed interest.

SOUTH PORCUPINE

8. Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology

The main campus and central office of Northern College is situated on Highway 101 West. On the property, a plaque has been erected in recognition of the many lives lost during the "Great Fire of 1911". To see photographs of the fire, and find out about its impact on the community, visit the Timmins Museum.

9. Porcupine Mall

The Mall houses many locally owned unique shops and services. It is nestled between the communities of Porcupine and South Porcupine, on the north west side of Highway 101 and is located across the street from Northern College. Being on this major highway gives the mall great exposure to travelers and surrounding communities.

10. Whitney Cemetery/Deadman's Point

Over 70 people lost their lives in the great Porcupine fire of July 11, 1911. Due to the close proximity of Porcupine Lake, many lives were saved. However, one unusual tragedy occurred when a mine manager by the name of Robert A. Weiss thought he could save his family by taking them down a mine shaft. Sadly, the fire used up all the oxygen in the shaft and the whole family perished. Most bodies of the fire victims were sent home, but 17 were buried here. A monument was erected in their honour by the Toronto Board of Trade.

11. Bruce Avenue

Take a stroll down historical Bruce Avenue and visit beautiful quaint shops and restaurants. Or, take the kids to the Waterfront Park at the end of the street to spend a leisurely afternoon.

12. Timmins Museum: National Exhibition Centre

Step back in time to the early 1900s with a visit to this major attraction in downtown South Porcupine. This historical museum offers shows and exhibits throughout the year. A display of the original stamp mill used by the Hollinger Mine in 1911, as well as old mining equipment can be seen in the courtyard.

13. Gold Mine Road

This road is known to the locals as the "Backroad". A number of mines were located on this road. Since 1960, most of them have been torn down. The first mine on your left is the Dome Mine; the only gold mine which has been in operation since 1910. The story of the discovery of the Dome reports the accidental finding of a vein of gold by a prospector who slipped on some moss while climbing the side of a mound (or dome), exposing the vein of gold. Hence, the name "Dome Mine". Further on to your right, is the Paymaster Headframe. The Paymaster Mine was closed in 1934.

