

Education and Training

Education in Niagara is among the finest in Canada. Niagara has two post-secondary institutions: Brock University in St. Catharines and Niagara College in Welland, with campuses in Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake. The District School Board of Niagara and the Niagara Catholic District School Board operate elementary and secondary schools, and numerous private institutions offer alternatives to the traditional education systems.

Post- Secondary Institutions

Brock University

Brock University is located at the southern border of St. Catharines, which is at the centre of the Niagara Region. Brock is a mid-sized university accommodating the needs of 11,000 full- and part-time students.

The faculty members at the university use a seminar teaching method, which facilitates more personal relations between students and faculty members. The seminar method is part of every program offered at Brock. It is thought to promote individual thought and to cultivate the intellectual skills and habits of inquiry, analysis and expression needed in a professional workforce. The Brock faculty receives national and international recognition for its work.

Brock has six faculties: Humanities, Social Sciences, Mathematics and Science, Business, Physical Education and Recreation, and Education.

For more information about Brock University, contact:

Brock University
500 Glenridge Ave.
St. Catharines ON L2S 3A1
Tel: (905) 688-5550, ext.
3245
Or visit: www.brocku.ca

Walker Complex

The \$12-million expansion and development of the Walker Complex comprises the new Student, Community Health and Fitness Centre, The Zone, the Eleanor Misener Aquatic Centre, the Leo LeBlanc Rowing Centre and the existing Physical Education facilities.

The Complex is named in recognition of a \$1-million gift to "Good, Better, Brock! The Campaign for Brock University," made by Norris and John Walker and their families. The new facilities were made possible through the support of many other private and public donors

Brock Business Consulting Service

The Brock Business Consulting Service is offered jointly by the Faculty of Business and the Burgoyne Centre for Entrepreneurship (see below). The experience and knowledge of members of the business faculty and the faculty's most outstanding students can be put to work for your business. The service helps managers, owners and potential entrepreneurs in starting a business, marketing, financial management and operations.

For more information about the Brock Business Consulting Service, contact:

Brock University
500 Glenridge Ave.
St. Catharines ON L2S 3A1
Tel: (905) 688-5550, ext. 3720

Burgoyne Centre for Entrepreneurship

The Burgoyne Centre for Entrepreneurship teams Brock University with private sector entrepreneurs. Under the guidance of an advisory council of senior business people, the centre aims to promote excellence in research, education and training for entrepreneur development and to facilitate the creation of new ventures. In addition to helping start-up ventures, the program is building strength in the management of small businesses and family firms. Other activities include practice-management workshops for professionals and programs for secondary-school teachers of entrepreneurship.

For more information on the Burgoyne Centre for Entrepreneurship, contact:

Dr. Tom Bryant
Director, Burgoyne Centre for Entrepreneurship
Brock University
500 Glenridge Ave.
St. Catharines ON L2S 3A1
Tel: (905) 688-5550, ext. 3897

National Research Council's Industrial Research Assistance Program

The National Research Council (NRC) is located on the Brock campus in the Mackenzie-Chown Complex. Through its Industrial Research Assistance Program, the National Research Council has been helping Canadian industry for many years. Its goal is to work directly with Canadian firms of all sizes to develop and apply technology for economic benefit.

To accomplish this goal, the NRC has built up and maintains a national network for technology diffusion and technology transfer. Firms all across Canada are served by a nearby member of the network and may be eligible for the NRC's Technology Enhancement Projects as well as its Research, Development and Adaptation Projects.

For more information visit the National Research Council's website at:

<http://irap-pari.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/>

Corporate Adventure Training Institute

The Corporate Adventure Training Institute (CATI) is a nonprofit research centre dedicated to conducting experiential training sessions and implementing research studies on the effectiveness of adventure training or experiential learning in organizations. CATI began providing services to nonprofit agencies and corporations in 1990, and has worked with many organizations in Ontario and the United States. It is a recognized leader in the experiential training community for its research and service expertise.

CATI's aim is to improve the inter- and intra-personal skills of client groups through carefully structured adventure experiences in which entire organizations, intact work groups or cross-functional teams are given unusual tasks to perform. These tasks are individually challenging (involving perceived risks and requiring personal competence), but cannot be accomplished by an individual; members of the group must work together as a team to be successful.

CATI sessions have ranged in length from half-day events, as a component of a larger conference, to multi-stage residential programs aiming at facilitating a corporate restructure.

For more information about the Corporate Adventure Training Institute, contact:

Tim Dixon
Brock University
500 Glenridge Ave.
St. Catharines ON L2S 3A1
Tel: (905) 688-5550, ext. 3120

Niagara College

Niagara College is recognized as one of the most progressive, enterprising and forward-looking colleges in Ontario. It serves a diverse student and client community from three campus locations: Welland, Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism in Niagara Falls, and Glendale, Niagara-on-the-Lake * a \$38 million facility which opened in the fall of 1998.

The College's annual operating budget is in excess of \$50 million and its economic impact on the Niagara Region is estimated at \$125 million. Niagara prides itself as a major partner in the economic development of the region. More than 600 industry representatives serve on the College's Program Advisory Committees, ensuring programs remain up-to-date and relevant. More than 30,000 people have graduated over the College's 33 years of operation.

Niagara has more than 5,000 full-time students in more than 60 post-secondary and 10 post-graduate programs, another 1,500 in skills upgrading and customized training, and about 18,000 continuing education registrations annually. Program specialty areas include: hospitality and tourism; information and computer technology; integrated manufacturing; environment; horticulture and agribusiness; media and design; and health and community studies. The College offers Distance Education and on-line courses in certain areas.

Niagara keeps an international focus in terms of programs and services and has a growing international student base. Students from 30 countries are studying English as a Second Language or enrolled in post-secondary programs.

The College boasts several centers of excellence, which have contributed to its growing international reputation a school of choice for post-secondary education:

- Niagara Culinary Institute
- Centre for Integrated Manufacturing Training and Applied Research (CIMTAR)
- Centre for International Trade
- Centre for Environmental Training
- Business Development Centre
- Centre for Community Leadership
- James Sim Institute for Continuing Dental Education

Full-time staff numbers 430, including faculty, support and administrative staff, as well as more than 500 part-time staff, including continuing education teachers.

For more information about Niagara College, contact Darrell Neufeld, Manager of Corporate Communications at 905-735-2211, ext. 7567.

Or visit: www.niagarac.on.ca

Niagara College's Ventures Division and the Business Development Centre

Niagara College Ventures Division

The Ventures Division of Niagara College is committed to developing partnerships that support economic growth for businesses and corporate competitiveness. The division provides leadership for new ventures of economic, community, business, education, and international development designed to enhance the effectiveness of human resources and corporate performance.

The Ventures Division, located at the Glendale campus, includes the Business Development Centre. The services of this centre include the following:

- entrepreneurship and small business development training
- business counselling and referrals
- low-cost workshops and seminars
- a full range of information resources

For further information about the Ventures Division please contact:

Bea Clark, Director at 905-641-2252, ext. 4003.

Business Development Centre

The Business Development Centre of Niagara College is a team of diversified leaders and mentors who promote success and economic growth through education and development, fostering entrepreneurial excellence within the Niagara region and beyond.

For further information on Niagara College's Business Development Centre visit:

<http://www.mybdc.biz/>

Other Area Post-Secondary Institutions

School	Location/Contact	Information
McMaster University	1280 Main St. West Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8 Tel: 905-525-9140 www.mcmaster.ca	40 minutes west of Niagara Falls, offering undergraduate and graduate programs in all major disciplines. Renowned Medical and Engineering programs, hospital on site.
Niagara University (USA)	Tel: 716-286-8700 www.niagara.edu	Located in Niagara Falls, NY, 20 minutes from Canadian border. Full and part time courses offered.
University of Waterloo		
University of Guelph	Tel: (519) 824-4120 www.uoguelph.ca	Approximately 1.5 hours northwest of Niagara, renowned in Canada and around the world as a research-intensive and learner-centred institution and for its commitment to open learning, internationalism and collaboration.
Wilfred Laurier University	75 University ave West Tel: (519) 884-1970 www.wlu.ca	Located approx. 1.5 hours northwest of Niagara, Laurier offers a high quality undergraduate education in the Liberal Arts, Science, Business, and Music.
University of Western Ontario	1151 Richmond St. Tel: (519) 661-2111 www.uwo.ca	Just under 2 hours away, Western has been continuously ranked at the top of Canada's university rankings, and offers numerous programs to its 40, 000 full-time and part-time students.
State University of New York at Buffalo (USA)	Tel: 716-831-2000 www.buffalo.edu	Located in Buffalo, NY, approximately 40 minutes from Niagara Falls, ON. Undergraduate and post-graduate programs offered in approximately 70 disciplines.

Private Schools

A number of private schools in the Niagara Region accommodate students from kindergarten through secondary education.

Ridley College

Founded in 1889, Ridley is one of Canada's most respected private schools and one of the country's largest boarding schools. The school's fine educational facilities are located on a beautiful 88-acre campus. Coeducational since 1973, Ridley hosts students from more than 30 countries, and stresses a structured, multifaceted educational environment. Athletics, extracurricular activities, morning chapel, supervised evening study and cadet corps are mandatory. All students have a faculty advisor and are encouraged to assume a variety of leadership roles.

Ridley is accredited by the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Canadian Educational Standards Institute. The school is a founding member of the Canadian Association of Independent Schools and an affiliate member of the National Association of Independent Schools and the English Speaking Union.

Ridley annually matriculates almost its entire graduating class to universities and colleges in Canada and the United States. It is renowned for the strong sense of community that unites its students, faculty and alumni.

For more information about Ridley College, contact:

Ridley College
2 Ridley Rd.
P.O. Box 3013
St. Catharines ON L2R 7C3
Tel: (905) 684-8193
www.ridley.on.ca

Niagara Christian Community of Schools

Niagara Christian Community of Schools (formerly known as Niagara Christian Collegiate) is an independent, non-denominational Christian school located on the beautiful Niagara River, near Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. NCC has a rich heritage and tradition, educating students with excellence since 1932. NCC prepares students for life centred on strong values and a commitment to family, community, church and the world around them. The moment you step onto the campus you will feel the safe, caring, nurturing environment where students thrive.

NCC Secondary School (Grades 9 to 12/Pre-university) is celebrating its 75th year as an educational leader in Canada. The diverse international student body from 18 countries enhances the unique and stimulating learning atmosphere. NCC Secondary

School is home to local Canadians as either day or residential program students. International students are welcomed to the NCC family as participants in the residential program, enjoying residences on the campus and excellent homestay placements.

NCC Middle School (Grades 7 and 8) offers incredible opportunities for personal development in a unique and innovative environment. Local Canadians attend as day students, and a limited number of international students reside with specially chosen and matched homestay families. The rigorous academic program is taught by energetic and enthusiastic teachers who utilize the Ontario Curriculum to encourage each student to enjoy success to their full potential.

NCC Elementary School (JK to Grade 6) opened its doors in September 2006 to local Canadian Students. Rigorous literacy and math programs, taught by passionate and loving teachers, exceed Ontario Ministry guidelines. The safe and non-threatening environment strengthens confidence, while instilling strong morals and ethics during the earliest years of education.

NCC FACTS

1. Co-educational, Day and Residential, Private Secondary, Middle and Elementary Schools
 2. Located near Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada
 3. Established in 1932
 4. Approximately 400 students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12/Pre-university
 5. Small class sizes offer more individual attention
 6. 2/3 Canadian students, 1/3 international students
 7. 18 countries around the world represented
 8. Safe, caring, nurturing environment
 9. Residential Program includes excellent homestay and residence placements
 10. Live-in Residence Director families provide guidance and individual attention
 11. Excellent academic and specialty programs
 12. Ontario Ministry of Education and Training guidelines are met and exceeded
 13. Graduates receive the OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma)
- Distinguished placement rate at highly respected universities and colleges

2619 Niagara
Parkway
Fort Erie, ON
L2A 5M4
Tel: (905) 871-6980
Fax: (905) 871-9260

Other Niagara Region Private Schools

School	Location/Contact	School	Location/Contact
Beacon Christian High School	St. Catharines, ON Tel: (905) 937-7411	Bible Baptist Academy	Niagara Falls, ON Tel: (905) 356-7717
Calvary Christian School	St. Catharines, ON Tel: (905) 935-3854	Calvin Memorial Christian School	St. Catharines, ON Tel: (905) 937-6302
Christian Centre Day School	Fort Erie, ON Tel: (905) 871-5117		
Garden City Christian Academy	St. Catharines, ON Tel: (905) 937-6440	Golden Harvest Christian Academy	Stevensville, ON Tel: (905) 382-2108
Great Lakes Christian College	Beamsville, ON Tel: (905) 563-5374	John Calvin School of Smithville	Smithville, ON Tel: (905) 957-2341
Netherlands Reformed Christian School	Vineland, ON Tel: (905) 562-4023		
Niagara Community Church School	Niagara Falls, ON Tel: (905) 357-9519	Niagara Seventh Day Adventist Elementary School	Niagara Falls, ON Tel: (905) 358-9728
Phoenix Rising Elementary School	Fort Erie, ON Tel: (905) 871-8072	Robert Land Academy	Wellandport, ON Tel: (905) 386-6203
Smithville District Christian High School	Smithville, ON Tel: (905) 957-3255	Chestnut Woods School of Montessori Education	St. Catharines, ON 905-227-7575

Provincial Education Standards

To make sure Ontario students learn the skills they need for tomorrow's world, a new, more demanding curriculum has been introduced. Mandatory teacher testing will ensure that students always learn from professionals with the most up-to-date skills. New standardized tests and report cards have been introduced to give parents a clearer picture of their children's progress.

As well, a new Charter of Education Rights and Responsibilities clearly spells out what students, teachers and parents need to do in order to produce excellence in education. It also spells out the rights they can expect the government to protect. Our reforms will benefit students of all ages, from small children to university students.

Publicly Funded Schools

There are currently two publically funded school systems in Ontario. The following two school boards operate all of the elementary and secondary schools under these systems located in the Niagara Region.

District School Board of Niagara

The District School Board of Niagara provides high-quality education to more than 46,000 elementary and secondary students. The Board has jurisdiction in Fort Erie, Grimsby, Lincoln, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelham, Port Colborne, St. Catharines, Thorold, Wainfleet, Welland and West Lincoln. "Education that works" is accomplished by the Board through the provision of a learning atmosphere that encourages personal growth, productive citizenship, lifelong learning and academic success.

The Board offers an innovative, progressive approach, a highly qualified teaching staff and state-of-the-art equipment and facilities to meet the ever-changing needs of its students. It equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete and contribute in today's world. The curriculum is carefully designed to lead students towards success in higher education, the working world and their personal lives.

The District School Board of Niagara offers the community a full range of programs for all students, including the following elements:

- many elementary-level schools offering junior kindergarten through to grade 8;
- several schools offering primary classes only; a small number providing only grades 4 through 8
- extended French classes that begin at the grade 5 level, and continue into secondary school
- a full range of special education services to meet the needs of exceptional students of all ages, including the following:
 - classes for those who are gifted and those who have a hearing impairment, learning disabilities or behavioural exceptionalities
learning resources teachers who work with classroom teachers to meet the individual needs of exceptional students
 - integrated classes for developmentally handicapped students
 - programs for autistic and blind and deaf students
 - a commitment to improving access to all of the board's buildings for students with special needs (a multi-year construction program is under way)
 - full range of innovative technological and computer studies programs, beginning in Grades 7 and 8
 - a wide variety of courses and programs in secondary schools which prepare students for post-secondary destinations including apprenticeships, college, university or workplace.
 - exemplary programs at the elementary and secondary level as well as support from divisional consultants and resource teachers

The District School Board of Niagara offers professional development for teachers and support staff, employs qualified staff and provides excellent facilities and equipment.

For more information about the programs of the District School Board of Niagara, contact:

Alice Russell - Information and Records Officer
District School Board of Niagara
Tel: (905) 641-1550, ext. 4155
Web site: www.dsbni.edu.on.ca

Niagara Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education in the Regional Municipality of Niagara has a proud heritage, dating back to 1854. The Niagara Catholic District School Board strives to maintain its mission to preserve and strengthen the spiritual character of its schools and its commitment to the pursuit of excellence in an environment that focuses on the building of a Christian Community. The mission statement of the Niagara Catholic District School Board is based on the development of our Catholic community of learners.

The Mission of the Niagara Catholic District School Board as a Catholic Community of learners, is to ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills and values to reach their full potential, with Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Light.

Highlights of Academic programs for students from Kindergarten to Grade 12

The Niagara Catholic District School Board offers quality Catholic educational programs for all students at 52 elementary schools, 8 secondary schools and at Adult and Continuing Education sites throughout the Niagara Peninsula. Schools are located in the cities of Fort Erie, Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelham, Port Colborne, St. Catharines, Thorold, Wainfleet and Welland. Catholic parents, trustees, senior administration, principals and vice-principals, teachers and support staff of the Niagara Catholic District School Board are proud of their tradition of Catholic education in the Niagara peninsula.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board provides the following programs for students.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten programs are designed to accommodate the characteristics of young children, their needs, interests and ways of learning in the arts, literacy and numeracy.

Elementary Education

Elementary school programs introduce grades 1 to 8 students to integrated studies within an active learning environment with dedicated teaching staff. The elementary curriculum focuses on Religious and Family Life Education, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Language, Health and Physical Education, the Arts, Social Studies, History and Geography. All schools provide extensive extra-curricular programs for all students.

Secondary Education

Secondary school programs (grade 9 through grade 12/Ontario Academic Credit) offer students a full range of credit programs in all subject areas including Religious Education at the eight secondary schools throughout the peninsula. Highly qualified teaching staffs, who are specialists in their subject areas, deliver these programs. All schools provide extensive extra-curricular programs for all students in grades 9- OAC.

Adult and Continuing Education

Adult and Continuing Education programs and credit courses are offered at sites in Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland.

French as a Second Language

French-as-a-second-language programs begin in grade 1. By grade 9, students will have received 960 hours of French instruction.

English as a Second Language/English Literacy Development

English as a Second Language and English Literacy Development programs are available in all elementary and secondary schools for students who have recently moved to Canada and for students whose first language is not English.

Special Education

A full range of programs for special-needs students is offered in both regular and special classes at the student's home school. The Niagara Catholic District School Board is committed to the inclusion of pupils with exceptional needs within their home schools and in their age appropriate classes. The Board is also committed to the philosophy that all students within its jurisdiction be provided with the opportunity to access programs and services that will maximize their potential and receive an education commensurate with their identified needs.

Enrichment

Enrichment programs are designed to maximize the opportunities for all students to develop to their full potential. Programs begin in the primary division and continue through to graduation from secondary school. Enrichment enhances or expands classroom experiences to provide a greater depth and/or breadth of experience, which may prove beneficial to all students.

Co-operative Education/Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program

Cooperative education programs combine classroom learning with on-the-job training. Students can earn one to four credits by taking cooperative education. Opportunities are available in many areas, including accounting, advertising, architecture, audio-visual services, child care, computers, cosmetology, dentistry, drafting, electronics, graphic art, hospital services and occupational therapy.

The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program provides students with the opportunity to meet diploma requirements while participating in an apprenticeship occupation.

St. John's Valley Centre

St. John's Valley Centre provides outdoor education programs for students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. The programs meet curricular expectations in Science, Technology, Social Studies, History, Geography and Environmental Studies.

For further information about the Niagara Catholic District School Board contact:

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells,
Program Officer
905-735-0240, ext. 124
www.niagararc.com
e-mail: info@ncdsb.com

Daycare Centres and Nursery Schools

The Niagara area is home to more than 100 daycare centres and nursery schools. Niagara offers parents and other caregivers the opportunity to choose from among informal care, licensed home daycare, licensed daycare centres and nursery schools. The City also has "resource centres and toy libraries" that provide services for parents/caregivers and young children. The municipal programs are designed to promote positive parent/caregiver-child relationships and to accommodate the characteristics of young children, their needs and interests.

For more information about daycare centres and nursery schools, contact:

Information Niagara
5017 Victoria Ave.
Niagara Falls ON L2E 4C9
Tel: (905) 356-4636
Fax: (905) 356-3522
www.informationniagara.com

Conseil Scolaire de District du Centre-Sud-Ouest (French Public School Board)

Please visit the website of le Conseil for more information at:

www.csdco.on.ca

Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud de l'Ontario (French Catholic School Board)

Please visit the website of le Conseil for more information at:

<http://www.csdccs.edu.on.ca/>