

Create a life you love



Amherst
NOVA SCOTIA



Small town, big heart

We'll be the first to admit we don't have everything. You won't find traffic jams, air pollution or skyscrapers blocking the view of our stately trees and clear blue sky.

But if you like the idea of small town living with cozy cafés, pubs that serve up local craft beer and live music and a vibrant arts and recreation culture, then Amherst might just be the town for you. As the second-largest small town in Nova Scotia, we have lots to offer our 9,400 residents and the 100,000 other people who live within a half-hour drive. And when the open road calls, we're ideally located in the geographic centre of the Maritime provinces. An international airport and the urban centre of Moncton are just over half an hour away. So, come see why we love it and make Amherst your hometown too!



Livetime music in Victoria Square



"I do so much more since I moved to Amherst than I did when I lived out west."

- Alison (Amherst resident since 2017)

World-class health care



The Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre provides 24-hour emergency care, surgery, internal medicine, anaesthesia, obstetrics, general medicine, intensive care, diagnostic imaging, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, diabetes education, laboratory services and related support services. The well-equipped \$46-million facility was built in 2001. It boasts beautiful grounds and a walking track. Our hospital café has really great food, too!

The collegial and tight-knit medical staff stays informed and connected through monthly "Grand Rounds" where they take turns presenting and regular social events that support local and international charities.

The Community Health Board is a committed group of volunteers who support the work of the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) by advising on local perspectives, trends, issues and priorities. The board administers wellness fund grants to non-profit groups for innovative projects that support healthy living.

"I'm a family doctor and otolaryngologist living in Amherst. Not only do I have the privilege of working with a great group of colleagues and friends, I've had unlimited opportunities to "play" minutes from my home and work — including skiing, hiking, running and cycling.

The combination of living in a smaller community and being centrally located to all the delights of the Maritimes is hard to match. Come and see for yourself!"

- Dr. Gerard MacDonald, MD (Amherst resident since 2009)



"We moved here for the warm hospitality and small-town vibe Amherst offers without sacrificing the amenities available in larger towns. It still feels rural with urban conveniences."

- William (Amherst resident since 2019)

Dream big, grow here!

With more than 400 diverse businesses, services and community organizations right at your fingertips, Amherst is a great place for established companies to grow and entrepreneurs to flourish. Centrally located with excellent rail, road, air, and sea links, Amherst offers easy access to markets across North America and around the world.

Our Industrial park is home to aerospace, green technology, food processing and distribution warehouses, with development-ready sites available for purchase.

The Cumberland region has the largest agricultural land base in Nova Scotia and a vibrant fishing industry. Natural resources in Cumberland include active mining, forestry, maple syrup and wild blueberry sectors. Several businesses also specialize in clean energy manufacturing.

Local business resources include the Community Business Development Corporation (CBDC), Amherst & Area Chamber of Commerce, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) and Nova Scotia Business Inc. (NSBI)



"I love the cozy atmosphere of being located downtown, where I can leave the doors open and people walking by stop in to say hello! I love being my own boss and am happy with the success of my small business, still doing well after seven plus years."

- Donna White, Buds to Blossoms Floral Boutique (open since 2013)

Out-of-office is the new office

Park your car, there's no commuting today! Setting up a remote work space at home in Amherst is easy and convenient. Lightning fast internet, easy access to the Trans-Canada Highway and three airports nearby keep you connected while affordable housing and a safe community provide you and your family a cozy place to call home. With a flexible schedule, you'll have time to fit in a lunch break walk with your dog, spend more time with your family and less time stuck in traffic. Parking problems are a thing of the past! Time to trade in your cramped cubicle for a home office with a view, right here in Amherst.



"I work from home and good internet is imperative to my job. I was amazed to find the high speed internet is better in Amherst than it was in Oakville, Ontario."

- David (Amherst resident since 2016)

Active, healthy community

The Town of Amherst is committed to creating a walkable community through Active Transportation. Infrastructure upgrades for walking and cycling have created a connected, town-wide network linking community neighbourhoods and major destination with safe, comfortable, direct routes. With our Physical Activity Strategy, Amherst is set to become the most active, healthy community in Nova Scotia!

The YMCA offers fitness classes, swimming, an exercise gym and fitness courts. Amherst also has a great softball and baseball complex, arena, skatepark, playgrounds and splash pads. We love our beautiful new tennis courts and off-leash dog park, too!

Love golf? More than a dozen golf courses are within an hour's drive. The Amherst Golf Club course is an 18-hole championship layout, combining natural east coast beauty with a challenging open course.

Other recreational options include free public skating, theatre, dance, gymnastics, art classes, curling, competitive cheer, swim team and martial arts. We have active units of cadets, scouts and girl guides and our public library programs include book clubs and movie nights.

Join the Amherst Area Trail Society for walks along the saltwater marsh and trail network that winds through town. The Amherst Striders running club welcomes runners of all levels.



"I really like riding my bike or scooter to school. Before we moved here, I only rode the bus. I have more freedom here."

- Dylan, 11 years old

Lifelong learning



Early years play groups and learning programs are available through Maggie's Place and the Four Fathers Memorial Library. Amherst has several licensed daycare facilities for preschoolers.

Our modern and well-equipped elementary and junior high schools have award-winning programs in music and visual arts programs for students with special needs and integrated French and French Immersion programs.



Amherst Regional High School is an 800-student secondary school that was built in 2000, with a 493-seat theatre and a high school regulation gymnasium. The school hosts the largest number of international students in Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) offers a wide range of post-secondary programs delivered in full-time, part-time and continuing education formats from the Cumberland campus.



Mount Allison University is located just 22 kilometres away in Sackville, New Brunswick. The university has been ranked Canada's #1 undergraduate university by Maclean's Magazine more times than any other university.

From how to make soup to finding the right nuts for carpentry, Tantnamar Seniors College provides five courses for members over the age of 50 in Amherst, Sackville, Shediac and Moncton.

Welcome home!

Is your "dream house" a modern beauty with lots of room for entertaining friends or a fully-restored heritage charmer with hardwood floors and loads of character?

Either way, Amherst has an abundance of gorgeous homes at some of the most affordable prices in Canada. The average cost of a single family home is \$141,982 and a fully-restored Victorian mansion can be bought for less than \$600,000.

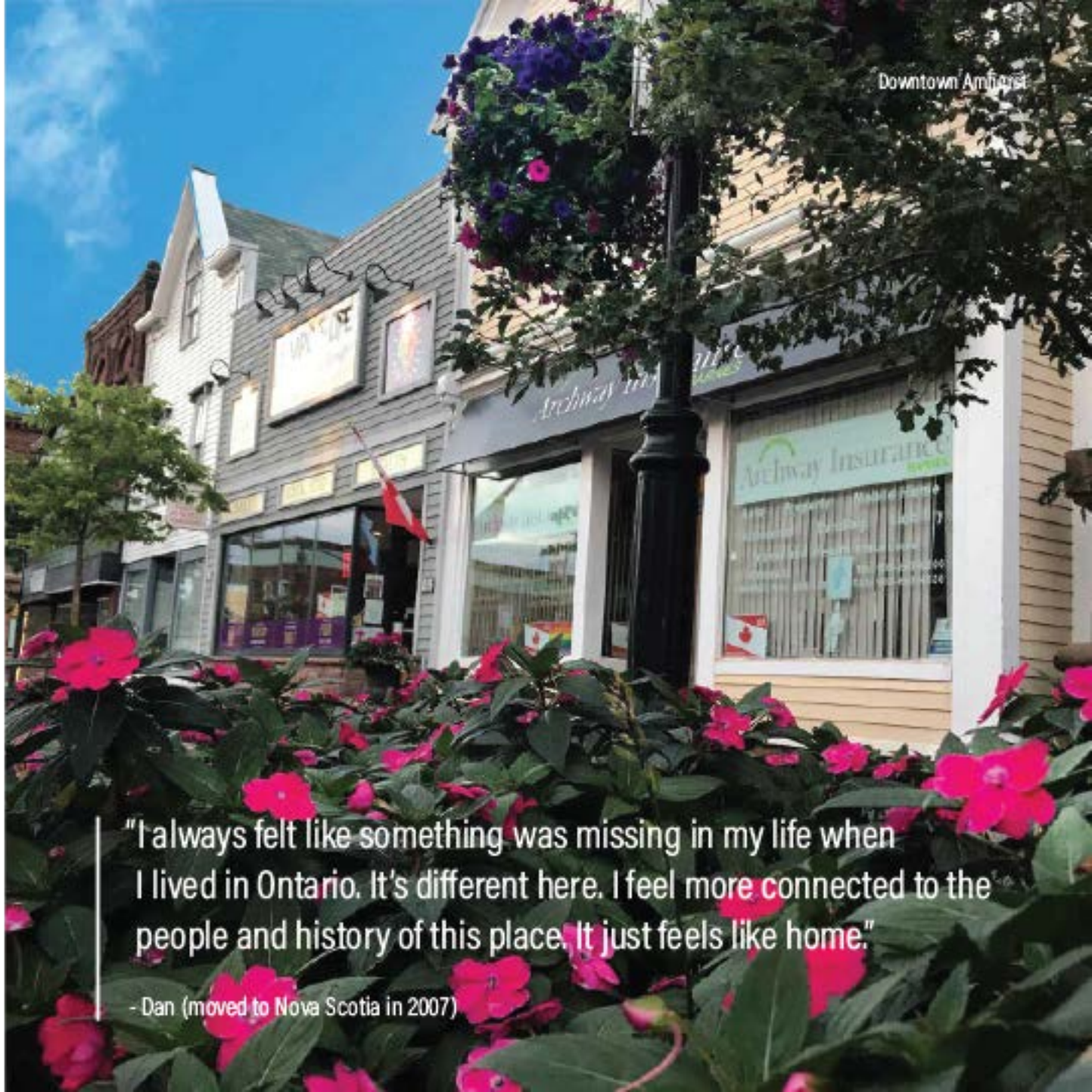
Municipal services, high speed internet and natural gas are available throughout town. Imagine turning the key to your new home and enjoying an east coast lifestyle in safe, friendly and beautiful Amherst.

Visit www.realtor.ca to see current home listings.



"In October of 2015, I moved with my family to Amherst from Seoul, South Korea. It was such a big change in our lives and Amherst has been so welcoming and kind to me and my family. I am so proud to call Amherst my home now."

- Heeyeon (Amherst resident since 2015)



"I always felt like something was missing in my life when I lived in Ontario. It's different here. I feel more connected to the people and history of this place. It just feels like home."

- Dan (moved to Nova Scotia in 2007)

Connected by land, air and sea



Connecting you to road, rail, air and sea, Amherst is conveniently located at the geographic centre of the Maritime provinces. With three exits into town from the Trans-Canada Highway, take a road trip and enjoy the scenery throughout Cumberland County or venture to a major city, just a short drive away. We are just 90 minutes from the Halifax Stanfield International Airport and 40 minutes from the Greater Moncton International Airport. The Canadian National Railway main line passes through Amherst, connecting you from coast-to-coast, while the Port of Halifax is only two hours away.



"It takes me seven minutes to drive to work and I don't even have to go through a stoplight. My family enjoys sports and we can often be found at the local rink cheering on the hometown hockey team. When the ice thaws in the summer we can be found at many of the local beaches enjoying the warm waters of the Northumberland Strait. If you're an active person who loves the outdoors, then Amherst really is a gem for you." - Dr. Andrea Faryniuk, General Surgeon.



One of the dozens of waterfalls within a 40-minute drive from Amherst.

Rich in culture



With approximately 200 immigrants living in Cumberland County, Amherst's population is becoming more diverse over time.

The YMCA Centre for Immigrant Local YREACH program and the Multicultural Association of Cumberland welcome immigrants with local supports to help them feel at home, offering programs and activities, including cooking classes, homework club and more!



Newcomers can also delight their taste buds with many different international cuisines at various Amherst restaurants and take part in diverse festivals offered throughout the year.

The Town of Amherst is committed to offering programs and activities that reflect different cultures and diversity.



Celebrate with us

Our maritime hospitality, culture and heritage are celebrated all year long with our many festivals and events. Come celebrate with us! Experience community spirit, pride and social belonging. Annual events include French Toast Fest, Winter Carnival, Canada Day Celebrations, Summer Night Markets, Bordertown Biker Bash, Fibre Arts Festival, Esther Fest, Holiday events and New Year's Eve Family Celebration.





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amherst.ca

Winter Wonderland

Do you want to build a snowman? Mild temperatures plus lots of snow equals excellent conditions for winter activities. You can snowshoe or cross-country ski at the nearby 405-hectare Chignecto National Wildlife Area. (We'll even lend you some snowshoes!) Enjoy free public skating at the Amherst Stadium, home to the Amherst Junior 'X' Ramblers hockey team, minor hockey and figure skating club, or under the stars on the downtown ice surface. Ski Wentworth is just 40 minutes away and the Cumberland region has thousands of kilometres of snowmobile trails.





Soak up summertime

Imagine driving to the ocean after work to breathe in the salty ocean air. We're the "host to two coasts"! With ancient fossils and impressive tides, the Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark is just down the road to the south. The sandy beaches and warm waters of the Northumberland Strait are only 22 minutes to the north. There you can sea kayak or comb the strait's many beaches for sea glass. In between, you'll find mountain waterfalls, salmon rivers and wild blueberry fields. Beautiful blue skies, fresh air and sunny days are in the forecast all summer long!



Bay of Fundy, Cape Chignecto



Gulf Shore Provincial Park, Pugwash



Amherst Point Migratory Bird Sanctuary

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