

# GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

Whether you're a current resident or you're making it your new home, welcome to the beautiful Village of Ayr, Ontario, in the Township of North Dumfries!

## A little piece of history.

The Village of Ayr had its beginnings in 1824 when Abel Mudge erected a saw mill at the junction of Smith and Cedar Creek.

By 1846, the population of Ayr was 230. According to Smith's Canadian Gazetteer, there were two churches, a post office, a mill, a carding machine, a tannery, a cooper, two shoemakers, two tailors and two stores. Ayr was booming!

According to the most recent census, Ayr's current population is approximately 4,200, and this fall, the population grows again with your move to Piper's Grove!

Check out [www.ayrnews.ca/recent](http://www.ayrnews.ca/recent) for more historical news about Ayr.



## The ice age.

Before fridges and freezers and ice dispensers, there was the Ayr Ice House. Built in 1860 for ice storage, the Ayr Ice House, located in the downtown core of the Village of Ayr, is one of only 4 remaining ice houses of its kind in Canada. This building now has a heritage designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.



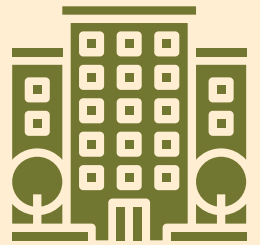
## Hollywood North.

Film producers have latched onto the area because of its historical homes and heritage feel. Murdoch Mysteries and the 2016 Stephen King miniseries 11/22/63 (starring James Franco) were shot in Ayr.

Many residents will also brag about Sharon Stone and Dennis Quaid gracing their streets during the filming of Cold Creek Manor (2003).

For fans of HGTV's Masters of Flip, here's something you probably didn't know: Kortney Wilson is from Ayr. And, Kyle Clifford, two time Stanley Cup champion, also calls Ayr home!

## What's in a name?



The name Ayr had been traced back to a pre-Celtic word meaning "watercourse" or "strong river." Both the Grand River and Nith River flow through Ayr.

## The great outdoors.

Playing and exploring in the rural Township of North Dumfries is endless- from canoe trips down the Nith River to live entertainment, family picnics, historical walking and driving tours, forest trails and sports. There is always something to do here in the Township!

Pinehurst Lake Conservation Area is a 9-hectare (23-acre) kettle lake surrounded by a Carolinian Forest offering visitors a great place to camp, swim, picnic, hike, fish and paddle. In the winter it has snowshoeing and ice-fishing.



The Ayr Lavender Farm is an escape in your own backyard. Enjoy the calming, showering fragrances of over 2,000 lavender plants and take in the serenity of the purple hued landscape from June to August, with July being the best! Don't forget to shop for lavender goodies!

## Staying active.

Keeping our mind and body active is important now, more than ever.

The North Dumfries Community Complex offers an ice rink for public use, a walking track around the upper area of the skating rink, a seniors lounge and a youth room. Outside there are soccer fields, a playground, spray pad, and a large community garden.

## Staying informed.

Family-owned and operated by the Schmidt family since 1913, Ayr News Online is an independent weekly newspaper serving the area in and around Ayr, Ontario. Stay up-to-date on what's going on around you by subscribing at [www.ayrnews.ca](http://www.ayrnews.ca).