



GBS

All your computer needs Celebrating 25 Years Serving Parry Sound & Area

Family owned Georgian Bay Software is an all Canadian business, celebrating 25 years of supporting residential and business customers in Parry Sound and the surrounding areas.

Founded in 1992, Georgian Bay Software was a home-based, one-man business. Daryl McMurray purchased GBS in 2004. At that time, the business was operating with three employees and provided IT service/support and limited retail product.

Within five years the business had grown to the point where it employed a Retail Sales Manager, an Office Assistant, and three Technicians. The company was on the verge of needing additional technical staff, however its current location was not suitable to allow for expansion.



In 2009 Daryl approached the Community Business Development Centre (CBDC) for financing to purchase and renovate a building to accommodate the expansion of the business. With the assistance of the CBDC, Daryl acquired 42 Gibson Street in Parry Sound.

The expansion and subsequent company growth would not have been possible without the support, continued partnership, and lending services of the Parry Sound Community Business Development Centre. Daryl summed it all up best with "A huge thank you to all of you

there at the CBDC. I wouldn't have been able to get where I am without your work and support, and I know that I am not alone. CBDC was there to provide a loan that helped our company complete the expansion."

The new location and renovations allowed GBS to double both its retail space and tech service area. There was also room for a 10-station training center, which is used by the public for Internet access, as well as for tutoring and workshops. Having recently become Parry Sound's first and only Apple Authorized Service Provider, GBS can now help with MacBooks, iPads, and iPhones.



GBS continues to fulfill the computer and networking needs of small and medium sized businesses, institutions, organizations, and the residential sector, within the district of Parry Sound. GBS now employs five full time staff and two part-time, and is a large proponent of the local High School Co-op Program.

GBS is a vital supporter within area communities. The staff at GBS support several local causes, including the Breakfast Program at Parry Sound Public School, annual donations to the Salvation Army and Harvest Share, and no charge web hosting for not-for-profit organizations.

CBDC wants to make the Parry Sound region a thriving economic hub for those living and visiting. This is accomplished by providing loans to assist both start-up & existing businesses. Since opening its doors in 1987 the CBDC has approved over 528 loans, valuing over 45 million dollars. The CBDC has created & assisted in maintaining 2173 jobs in the local area.

Contact the CBDC today to see your business dreams become reality.



Parry Sound Community Business Development Centre





CROFTER'S

The Organic Specialists

“The most natural food is fruit”

Family owned, Crofters is Canadian: “Bears love berries almost as much as we do, and the most natural food is fruit”

Certified organic, Crofter's makes the best tasting, nutritious, organic fruit spreads possible with 1/3 less sugar than traditional preserves, gluten free and all spreads meet all categories of vegetarian including vegan.

Crofter's has been a certified organic manufacturer since 1990, years before any North American regulatory requirements for organic products were in effect. Crofters has always had a strong dedication to product development and innovation, while building upon a deep knowledge of food production.

Crofter's Food Ltd. set up shop in Parry Sound in 1989 and was a small start-up company employing 4 people. Crofters was one of the first in Canada to manufacture almost exclusively organic products; supplying natural and organic food markets with reduced sugar products long before the popularity of the low carb diet, and the recent scientific opinion to reduce sugar consumption. A step ahead of the GAME! Wow!

Crofters quickly grew with a plant capacity at close to 100%. Phase 1 expansion in 2013, included a new pre-processing warehouse facility of 22,000 sq.ft. This new facility created 4 more permanent jobs in the Parry Sound area.

Phase 2 expansion in 2014, added an additional 25,000 sq.ft. and created 4 more permanent jobs in the Parry Sound area.

Phase 3 investment and completion in 2016 created 13 new permanent job positions in the Parry Sound and area.

The expansions and company growth would not have been possible without the support, continued partnership and lending services from all levels of government; federal, provincial and local: FedNor, NOHFC (Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation), CB&DC (Parry Sound Community Business Development Centre), lending services. Gerhard Latka, Crofter's Food Ltd. quoted, "during Crofter's \$14.6 million expansion project we had drawn down our bank loan and required more funds for process

equipment, the CB&DC was there to provide a loan that helped our company complete the expansion."



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Crofters now employs over 57 people making them one of the largest employers in the Parry Sound area. Crofters is a vital supporter to the Parry Sound and surrounding communities. In the 2016 Holiday Season 5000 jars of jam were donated to local food banks and community initiatives, Harvest Share.

Today Crofters organic fruit spreads are distributed in both natural and conventional channels throughout Canada and the US. Crofters is the leading brand in the US Natural channel, more than doubling sales of the nearest competitor and continues strong annual growth.

The most natural food is fruit – look for your jar of Crofter's today.



Parry Sound Community Business Development Centre



Meet the Team: Get Stuffed Upholstery Etc...



Creating New Memories from Old Treasures

Get Stuffed Upholstery Etc...

“Transforming your Treasured Heirlooms”

Custom Upholstery
Antique Repair & Refinishing Etc.
40 Ahmic Street, Ahmic Harbour
705-746-0144

“Memories of Gramma in her old Chair” bring back warm feelings of home for many of us. Cherished heirlooms fill our homes & cottages with recollections of days past. Transforming our old treasures into ‘new’ is the mission of Get Stuffed Upholstery.

Get Stuffed Upholstery team, Victor & Randy, relocated in 2011 from the Hamilton, Ontario area & established their business in Ahmic Harbour. Victor & Randy turned a lifelong passion for antiques and interior design into reality. Their extensive restoration experience provides high quality upholstery & antique refinishing for treasured heirlooms. From custom furniture re-upholstery, cushions - all sizes and shapes - indoor and outdoor, slipcovers, ottomans, upholstery supplies for the hobbyist, to a large selection of fabrics. There is a large investment in Get Stuffed, along with immense feeling of community they serve.



New Upholstery Workshop

Serving the local area and primarily the seasonal residents, in addition to, liaising with local contractors, word of mouth referral & a strong social media presence Victor & Randy are hard-at-work. Some of the local families and cottages date back to the 1800’s and contain various cherished heirlooms.

As time passed, quickly the aspirations of the team & clientele had grown and an additional workshop was built in 2015 on site to service the expanding customer base. This expansion would not have been possible without the support of the CBDC lending services. Each treasured piece of furniture comes with a story & memory. They have created a sense of community, & work one-on-one with clients to ensure the memory is restored with quality

workmanship. Passion, skill, quality materials and Victor’s creative touch all come together.



Victor emphasizes how the Parry Sound Community Business Development Centre (CBDC) really focus on local community & job creation. “They fill a huge gap that traditional banks cannot service, & we definitely see a



continued partnership with them in the future. Their support enabled us to build an onsite workshop & expand our business to the next level.”

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Have that cherished piece of furniture with memories? Contact Get Stuffed Upholstery. Rebuilding & restoring your much-loved remembrances & heirlooms can be a reality.



Parry Sound Community Business Development Centre

