

Marathon Information Centre



P.O. Bag "TM", Marathon, ON P0T 2E0
Phone: (807) 229-0480 Fax: (807) 229-3201
Toll Free: 1(800) 621-1029

Marathon Facts

Population: 4000

Location: Marathon is located along the north shore of Lake Superior, 904 km (562 miles) east of the geographic centre of Canada with a latitude of 48° 45 minutes, 26 seconds north, and a longitude of 86° 20 minutes, 46 seconds west, and is 284 m (933') above sea level. Marathon is approximately 16,239 hectares (40,127 acres) large.

Geology: Pre-Cambrian shield

Topography: The town of Marathon is largely covered by forest of bush. Historically the area was formed by glacial action. In the region the soil is shallow to bare, frequently exposing bedrock.

Climate: Influenced by Lake Superior

History: As long ago as 500 BC this area was inhabited by Ojibway Natives who lived along the Pic River and can still be found there today.

When Marathon was first established, it was called Peninsula. The name then changed to Everest, after the president of the pulp mill at that time, but had to be changed later that year because the name was too similar to the name Everett, another community in Ontario.

The town and the CP Rail were constructed between 1881 and 1883. At this time 12,000 men and 5,000 horses worked out of the town.

In 1935, the census of the town was 23.

In 1941, Prisoner of War Camps were established for the Germans in World War II. One camp is located 8 km (5 miles) east of Marathon while the other camp is located at Neys Provincial Park 23 km (14 miles) west of Marathon.

In 1936, Marathon Pulp Mills Co. of Wisconsin acquired cutting rights in the area.

In 1944, construction of the mill started and was completed by 1946.

In 1983, the Mill was taken over by James River Co.

Shortly after, large gold deposits were found in the Hemlo region.

Tembec Kruger owned and operated Marathon Pulp Inc. until 2009.

Pulp Manufacturing:

Marathon Pulp Inc. transported pulp to Rotterdam and as far as the United Kingdom.

The CPR was used to ship the product to buyers and is one of the largest employers in the area.