

## = Ontario Highway 19 =

King 's Highway 19 , commonly referred to as Highway 19 , is a provincially maintained highway in the Canadian province of Ontario , connecting Highway 3 in Tillsonburg with Highway 401 southeast of Ingersoll . Highway 19 is 18 @. @ 8 km ( 11 @. @ 7 mi ) long , starting at Highway 3 in the south and ending at Highway 2 in the north ; this is similar to its original route and length of 25 @. @ 1 kilometres ( 15 @. @ 6 mi ) in 1930 . The highway began as the Plank and Gravel Road , a toll road formed by the Ingersoll and Port Burwell Road Company . It was first assigned in 1930 . Several extensions in the early 1930s took the route north to Highway 86 at Tralee . However , a significant amount of Highway 19 was decommissioned and turned over to local and county governments in 1997 and 1998 .

## = = Route description = =

The southern end of Highway 19 begins at Highway 3 in Tillsonburg , while the northern end terminates 400 metres north of the centreline of Highway 401 , southeast of the Ingersoll town limits . Highway 19 is situated entirely in Oxford County and serves the communities of Ostrander , Mount Elgin and Salford . Prior to 1998 , it began in Port Burwell on the shores of Lake Erie , while the northern terminus extended to Highway 86 east of Listowel in the community of Tralee .

The route begins on the southern edge of Tillsonburg at Highway 3 ( Talbot Road ) , travelling north along the eastern side of Big Otter Creek . This section of the highway , known as Vienna Road , lies next to a business / industrial park . At County Road 51 ( Simcoe Street ) , Vienna Road ends and Highway 19 turns west , becoming Oxford Street and crossing Big Otter Creek . At Broadway Street , Highway 19 turns northwest and passes through the downtown strip as well as beside Tillsonburg Town Centre . It continues into residential subdivisions , eventually exiting the town into the municipality of South @-@ West Oxford as it turns north at Quarter Town Line and becomes Plank Line .

The route enters farmland , but bisects the hamlet of Ostrander shortly thereafter . It crosses the Ontario Southland Railway , which lies roughly parallel to the entire length of the highway , before passing west of Tillsonburg Airport and curving northwest . After travelling through farmland , the route enter Mount Elgin and intersects County Road 18 ( Mt . Elgin Road ) . After , it continues through more farmland to the community of Salford , where it encounters County Road 46 ( Salford Road ) . It turns northward briefly , emerging back into agricultural surroundings for the final stretch of the route . Just southeast of Ingersoll , it encounters an interchange with Highway 401 ( Exit 218 ) ; Highway 19 ends immediately north of the westbound ramps . County Road 119 ( Harris Street ) continues northwest into the town to meet former Highway 2 .

## = = History = =

The history of Highway 19 dates back to 1849 , when the Baldwin Act and the Act to Authorize Formation of Joint Stock Companies were passed . George Tillson , his sons , and his brother @-@ in @-@ law Benjamin Van Norman were the principal stockholders of the Ingersoll and Port Burwell Road Company , which they formed along with approximately 200 shareholders in September 1849 . Proceeding quickly , the company established eight toll booths along the new route , which became known as the Plank and Gravel Road due to the materials with which it was constructed . However , the greed of toll road operators resulted in diminishing upkeep , which forced the province to enact legislature allowing counties to assume ownership of the roads . It took until 1907 for Oxford County to assume the toll road ; the proprietors were compensated with \$ 15 @, @ 500 ( \$ 293 @, @ 300 when adjusted for inflation from 1916 ) .

The gradual implementation of various legislation over the following decade allowed many counties to vastly improve roads under their jurisdiction . By the time the Department of Highways ( DHO ) assumed the road from Highway 3 in Tillsonburg to Highway 2 in Ingersoll on March 12 , 1930 as King 's Highway 19 , it was once again a gravel road . A year later , on May 27 , 1931 , the highway

was extended north from Woodstock to Shakespeare . As a result of this , a concurrency with Highway 2 was created between Ingersoll and Woodstock . Several months later , on July 1 , the department assumed the remainder of the Ingersoll to Port Burwell Road , extending Highway 19 south of Tillsonburg .

As part of a depression relief program , the DHO and Department of Labour undertook several projects in 1933 and 1934 , one of which included the Stratford to Tralee Road . On July 4 , 1934 , the DHO assumed the road as part of Highway 19 . To remedy the discontinuity , a 12 @-@ kilometre ( 7 @.@ 5 mi ) concurrency with Highway 7 was established . At this point , Highway 19 had grown from its original length of 25 @.@ 1 kilometres ( 15 @.@ 6 mi ) to 148 @.@ 4 kilometres ( 92 @.@ 2 mi ) .

The route remained unchanged until the early 1960s , when several highways were renumbered . Highway 19 between Woodstock and Shakespeare was redesignated as Highway 59 , while Highway 100 between Thamesford and St. Marys was redesignated as Highway 19 . The concurrencies with Highway 2 and Highway 7 were relocated as a result of this renumbering ; Highway 19 became concurrent with Highway 2 between Ingersoll and Thamesford , and with Highway 7 between St. Marys and Stratford . While the length of the route was reduced insignificantly as a result of this renumbering , it became more direct .

Between then and 1997 , no changes were made to Highway 19 . On April 1 , 1997 , the section from Highway 3 south to Port Burwell was transferred to Elgin County , Oxford County and Haldimand ? Norfolk . This was followed by a second round of transfers on January 1 , 1998 , which resulted in the section north of Highway 401 being decommissioned and assumed by Oxford County and Perth County .

Today , the majority of the Port Burwell to Tillsonburg segment is designated as Elgin County Road 19 . A short segment in Haldimand ? Norfolk and Oxford County immediately south of Tillsonburg is designated as County Highway 19 . The Ingersoll to St. Marys segment is now known as Oxford County Road 119 , while the segment north of Stratford is designated as Perth County Road 119 through Brunner , then Perth County Road 131 through Milverton .

= = Major intersections = =

The following table lists the major junctions along Highway 19 , as noted by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario . The entire route is located in the Regional Municipality of Oxford .