

# North Bay Plastic Molders



If you live in East Ferris, there is a good chance you know Don Champagne and his love for telling a good story. We weren't disappointed when we asked Don, owner of North Bay Plastic Molders, to kick off our small business week with a visit, a story and a photo.

In the Spring of 2020, North Bay Plastic Molders relocated to a newly constructed industrial building on Highway 94, complete with technological upgrades, quality machinery procured from Germany and a state of the art heating system. Don outgrew the original 7,500 sq ft location on Corbeil Road that was built in 1988 and employed 2 (himself and his wife, Jackie).

In his new building, Don employs 10 full-time staff who are busy producing, packaging and delivering custom molded plastic for companies worldwide. In fact, when we arrived, the team had just finished an online conference call with a mining company in Belarus and had skids of orders ready to be shipped to France. There is a lot happening at the new facility, with over 900,000 pieces of custom molded plastic shipped out monthly. Don prides himself on the ability to produce any custom order that a mold can be made for. North Bay Plastic Molders is a front runner in producing quality Canadian made products, and they always try to answer the call for help. They have responded to the Covid-19 pandemic with "ProtectON", a reusable protective face shield that is affordable, durable and can be sterilized. This new venture has not gone unnoticed by MP Anthony Rota, MPP Vic Fideli or Mayor Pauline Rochefort, all of whom are very proud of this local business. North Bay Plastic Molders currently delivers 130,000 face shields per month. Don strives to reach their capacity to produce 1 million per month to help keep Canadians safe and healthy.

Just how did Don get started in the business of plastic? He knew he wanted to be in East Ferris for its atmosphere, so after a conversation with a friend in the injection molding business in 1979, he took it upon himself to visit factories and research all available information in order to start his own company. By 1985 he was incorporated, in 1986 he purchased his first machine and by 1988 he was up and running. Don wants you to know that you do not have to be in a large city like Toronto to have a successful business in industry. "Anything can be done in East Ferris". He says that providing excellent customer service has always been his top priority – even delivering items by hand, and breaking fishing plans to get his customers what they needed.

North Bay Plastic Molders has come a long way from a thought in 1979 to where it is today. 40 years later, geothermal products, plastic piping, drilling/blasting products and ground control products are all being made here, in East Ferris, for clients worldwide.

To learn more about North Bay Plastic Molders, please visit their website at: <https://northbayplasticmolders.com/>

