

Business Name Searches in Muskoka

Listed below are the places where you can search the records of the Companies and Personal Property Security Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Government Services. This searches business names registered with the Province of Ontario.

Muskoka Enterprise Centre

- 35A Manitoba St., Bracebridge 705-646-9021 info@muskokaenterprisecentre.com
- Internet based, fee, \$8, payable by VISA or Mastercard
- Searches conducted for you by phone or appointment

Internet

- Website: <http://www.cbs.gov.on.ca/obc/english/4TJTBS.htm>
- Fee, \$ 8, payable by VISA, Mastercard or American Express

Government Information Centre

- 207 Main St. W., Huntsville, 705-789-4616
- Self-Help Workstation
- Fee \$ 8, payable by cash, cheque or credit card

Before making a final decision on a business name, it is a good idea to check whether the name you have in mind is already in use. The most complete searches are done, for a fee, by private search houses. You can conduct your own business name searches however it is important to make your search as complete as possible, including businesses registered in Ontario and other provinces, as well as incorporations and trade-marks.

One of the searches would be to search the records of the Companies and Personal Property Security Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Government Services. This searches business names registered with the Province of Ontario. In Muskoka, there are several places where this search can be conducted. Please see above.

Please note: if a business incorporates using the business operating name, (as opposed to a number) the corporation is **not** obligated to also register that business name with the Companies and Personal Property Security Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Government Services.

Incorporated business names are protected. You may be sued if you use a name that is the same as the legal name of an incorporated business or its registered trademark. Incorporated businesses are registered with the Canada-wide corporate and business name registry called the Newly Upgraded Automated Name Search (NUANS). A NUANS search report will display corporations, business names and trademarks which are similar to the name you have searched.

You can check business names registered in other provinces through the business registration authority of the other provinces.