The York neighbourhood is located in northeast Edmonton. It was developed during the 1960s, when Edmonton was experiencing steady population growth. At the time, the typical dwelling unit was the single detached home. Unfortunately these structures could not be added to the market quickly or cheaply enough to satisfy the demands of the growing population. The planning for the York neighbourhood sought to meet the need for more dwelling units, and in 1967 row housing units in Edmonton’s first condominium complex were offered for sale in York.

Most of the construction in York was completed during the 1970s. Despite an early foray into multi-unit condominiums, single-detached units still made up the bulk of the housing units York. However, ongoing development and redevelopment had increased the number of multi-family structures. Today, slightly more than half of the dwelling units are single and semi-detached homes, while the remainder of units are found in row houses and low rise apartment buildings. Higher density housing tends to be located along arterial roads on the periphery of the neighbourhood, especially along 66th Street and 144th Avenue.

York contains a significant commercial component located in the southeast corner of the neighbourhood, and other shopping facilities located nearby at Londonderry Mall and in the Clareview shopping area. The York Elementary School is located in the centre of the neighbourhood and other schools are located in the adjacent neighbourhoods of McLeod and Kilkenny.

York neighbourhood takes its name from Annie A. York Secord, a local school teacher who moved from Ontario to Alberta in 1889 to teach at Poplar Lake and then Namao.