

## 2017 Annual Local Labour Market Monitor

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*This Monitor focuses on local labour market news by industry. Industries are listed within the Goods and Services Sectors in the labour force. Within the Goods Sector are the following Industries: Agriculture; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; Utilities; Manufacturing & Construction. The Services Sector is comprised of Transportation & Warehousing; Trade; Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Business, Building & Other Support Services; Information, Culture & Recreation; Accommodation & Food Services; Educational Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Other Services; Public Administration*

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### Goods

#### Agriculture

- Smart Green Farms located on 2260 Regional Road 15 in Chelmsford uses hydroponic technology to vertically grow organic produce indoors in a closed loop system. The technology allows the indoor farm to grow produce year round while consuming much less water than traditional farming. Smart Greens is only the second of its kind in Canada and plans to add another farm in the fall to grow more kale or other in demand produce while targeting customers locally and offering an online subscription model (smartgreens.co, The Sudbury Star, June 11, 2017)
- 682RX reported it is still optimistic it will be awarded approval to grow and produce medicinal marijuana in the city. The facility would be located in an industrial park in Lively and would employ six full time staff. The company has been lobbying Health Canada for approval for the last three years (CBC Radio, April 18, 2017)

#### Construction

- Hautamaki Estates Ltd has received approval from the city to build a four storey, 256 bed long term care facility on Algonquin Rd (The Sudbury Star, December, 11, 2017)
- Panoramic Properties announced its St Joseph's condominium project is temporarily on hold as it is focusing on other projects. To date, about 40 to 50 people are on a list to purchase one of 214 condominiums which will eventually be built (The Sudbury Star, August 14, 2017)
- The provincial government again pushed back the completion date of the four laning of Highway 69 to "beyond 2021". Originally, the project was scheduled to be completed by 2017 (The Sudbury Star, August 17, 2017)
- City council approved the \$34 million widening of Municipal Road 35 between Azilda and Chelmsford. The project will be started in the spring of 2018 with or without other government funding. The project has been on the books since the 1990s, however work was delayed when Maley Drive was given higher priority (Sudbury.com, July 13, 2017)
- The Rainbow District School Board announced a new elementary school for 387 students will be built in New Sudbury while four other area schools will be renovated. Carl A. Nesbitt, Ernie Checkeris and Westmount Public School will be closed with students transferring to the new school. The school is

planned to open September 2019. A number of sites are being explored with the preferred site adjacent to Lasalle Secondary School (The Sudbury Star, June 13, 2017)

- The city announced its development fees will increase on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Rates were frozen from 2014 to 2016 in an effort to help stimulate local building activity (The Sudbury Star, June 15, 2017)
- City council endorsed a 12 unit housing complex for people living with acquired brain injuries. The complex will be built at 2915 Bancroft Drive, a residential community close to amenities. The project will assist in addressing the lack of affordable supportive housing for individuals with disabilities (The Sudbury Star, May 10, 2017)

## **Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas**

- Vale announced the shutdown of its Coleman Mine will continue until the end of January. Operations in the mine were suspended since November 9, 2017. Local 6500 announced 100 workers were temporarily transferred to other mine sites while 90 continue to work at Coleman to perform the required maintenance. Approximately 300 workers are still on temporary layoff. Members on layoff will receive a Supplemental Unemployment Benefit wage top up to 95% of their earnings (Sudbury.com, December 1, 2017)
  - Vale announced 480 workers at its Coleman Mine are on temporary layoff. The company temporarily suspended operations due to required repairs to its mine shaft ventilation compartment. Repairs could take up to a month to complete (The Sudbury Star, November 15, 2017)
  - Vale laid off 21 production and maintenance employees at its Sudbury operations due to lower volumes produced. Vale currently operates five mines in the area, a mill, smelter, refinery and employs about 4,000 workers (The Sudbury Star, October 20, 2017)
  - Vale announced it has suspended some operations at its Clarabelle Mill. The mill will remain open while a section in the crushing area will be suspended affecting 13 jobs (The Sudbury Star, September 8, 2017)
  - Vale reported the company is looking at cost saving measures and is reviewing its operations in the city. Local 6500 reported the company is looking at cost cutting to save \$200 million but no decisions have been made on how this will roll out. Options may include but are not limited to layoffs, a planned production stoppage or restructuring (The Sudbury Star, August 15, 2017)
  - Vale announced it will be closing its Birchtree Mine in Manitoba in October resulting in the loss of 150 unionized jobs plus another 50 non union jobs. Historically low nickel prices combined with high inventories of nickel and little sign of significant recovery in the near term were the main factors in the closure (The Sudbury Star, May 17, 2017)
  - Vale announced it will be suspending operations at its historic Stobie Mine. Approximately 230 employees will be affected likely resulting in some workforce reductions. The company cited ongoing market challenges and seismic activity have restricted production. After more than 120 years in production, the mine is reaching the end of its natural life and has produced more ore than any other mine in the city (Sudbury.com, March 10, 2017)

- Local 2020 representing office, clerical, technical and professional employees voted to accept a four year contract with Vale. The membership voted to accept the agreement despite recommendations by the union's leadership to turn it down due to benefit concessions. The union represents 300 workers (The Sudbury Star, March 31, 2017)
- Vale reported a net profit of \$3.98 billion in 2016, a positive turnaround from the \$12.13 billion loss in 2015, the largest in the company's history. Vale is the city's second largest employer with about 4,000 workers. It operates six mines, a mill, smelter and refinery (The Sudbury Star, February 24, 2017)
- The City of Greater Sudbury will be formally submitting a bid to host a ferrochrome facility to process Noront Resources ore from the Ring of Fire. If successful, the first phase of plant construction will cost \$1 billion and is expected to create 350 direct jobs and as many as 150 indirect. Construction could start as early as 2020 and take five to seven years to complete (The Sudbury Star, November 8, 2017)
- The province of Ontario reported Crossworks Manufacturing in Greater Sudbury will continue to cut and polish diamonds produced by the DeBeers mine near Attawapiskat until production runs out. The mine is slated to close in 2019. Crossworks opened in 2009 committing to locally polishing 10% of the diamonds produced at the mine (<http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/diamond-cutting-takes-tenuous-hold-in-sudbury-ont-1.3072541>)
- The provincial government announced it is expecting to be moving ahead with its \$1 billion commitment to build a road in the Ring of Fire region in 2018. Noront Resources will be reviewing submissions by February 2017 from four northern cities which including a submission from the City of Greater Sudbury (The Sudbury Star, December 21, 2017)
  - The provincial government announced its commitment to fund two industry and community road proposals to reach the Ring of Fire belt. This announcement was based on reaching road agreements with three out of the five First Nation communities closest to the remote deposits. An east-west road would connect Webequie and Nibinamik First Nations to the provincial highway network through Pickle Lake and continue into the Ring of Fire. The north-south community access road would start north of Aroland and extend into the Ring region. The environmental assessment of both projects will begin in January 2018 with construction planned in 2019 pending all approvals. Noront Resources estimates it could take five years to raise financing and start construction before mining begins (Sudbury.com, August 22, 2017)
  - Premier Wynne reported in her visit to Sudbury on May 23<sup>rd</sup> that her government will be reporting progress in the Ring of Fire infrastructure plan in the next couple of weeks (The Sudbury Star, May 23, 2017)
- Technica Mining announced it moved to its new building on 225 Fielding Rd in Lively. The new location is 35,000 sq ft, a significant increase from the 8,500 sq ft on Mumford Rd. Technica Mining, a Division of Technica Group Inc was formed in 1999 and specializes in underground construction with an expertise in lateral, ramp and raise development, production mining and mine finance (The Sudbury Star, June 17, 2017)
- NORCAT announced it is receiving a total of \$976,500 in combined funding from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and FedNor towards expanding new mining technologies in the

facility's research mine. The NORCAT research mine provides mining companies with an active laboratory where they can develop and test new mining technologies (Sudbury.com, June 30, 2017)

- Noront Resources reported it is considering building its ferrochrome processing facility in Sault Ste Marie, Timmins, Thunder Bay/Fort William or Greater Sudbury. A decision is expected to be announced by the end of the summer. The facility is expected to create about 350 skilled jobs and about 150 indirect area jobs. If a road plan was settled in 2017, construction could start in 2020 at the earliest and take five to seven years to complete. The first project would focus on nickel deposits with the second project focusing on chromite. Next steps include the provincial government determining where the access road will be built, negotiating agreements with First Nation's representatives and required environmental assessments. The province reiterated its \$1 billion commitment to the project is still on the table (The Sudbury Star, May 11, 2017)
  - Noront Resources Ltd reported it is planning on first developing its Eagle's Nest site, a predominantly nickel copper deposit in the Ring of Fire. Further development would then be followed by the mining of chromite deposits in the area. Before the commencement of any mining activity, however, access to the mine sites depend on the creation of an access road or railway. Once this is approved and funded by the federal and provincial governments, road construction will take up to three years to complete. No concrete timelines were provided for the start of access road or rail construction (The Sudbury Star, January 26, 2017, CBC Radio, January 27, 2017)
- Mohawk Garnet, a local mineral exploration and development company which processed mica, garnet and hornblende has closed its doors declaring bankruptcy. The company made the announcement after it was fined over \$300,000 by the Ministry of Environment for discharging harmful contaminants. The company is owned by members of the Six Nations of the Grand River near Brantford, Ontario (The Sudbury Star, July 25, 2017)
- Major Drilling announced it will be moving its North Bay office to Sudbury. The company will be expanding and consolidating its smaller shops into the one Sudbury location. Major Drilling assembles and repairs small drills used in mining exploration throughout North America (The Sudbury Star, July 6, 2017)
- The Greater Sudbury Development Corporation and the Sudbury Area Mining Supply and Services Association (SAMSSA) announced it signed a collaborative letter of intent with the State of Guerrero in Mexico. The state has an extensive mining history and it is hoped the agreement will lead to developing commercial enterprise, capacity building and technical innovation. It is anticipated the local mining cluster will benefit from supplying operations in the emerging Guerrero Gold Belt (Sudbury.com, March 14, 2017)
- Glencore Sudbury Integrated Nickel Operations reported development work on its Onaping Depth Project has begun despite it waiting for full approval. In 2017, the company is planning \$29 million worth of work which includes driving 1.1 kms of ramp towards the headworks. This work is expected to be completed by the end of September when the company will be securing further funding to sink a shaft and install the required underground infrastructure. Additional diamond drilling is planned to take place in late 2018 or early 2019 with the first development of ore expected in late 2022 or early 2023. The new mine will use almost exclusively battery powered machinery and equipment significantly cutting down on the high cost

of ventilation and refrigeration systems. The ore grade has been reported to be double the quality of ore mined by Glencore or Falconbridge in past years (Northern Ontario Business, April 19, 2017)

- Glencore Sudbury Integrated Nickel Operations reported a net profit of \$1.99 billion in 2016, the highest earnings for the company since 2008. Locally, Glencore operates the Nickel Rim and Fraser mines, a mill and a smelter. It employs 1300 workers in the area (The Sudbury Star, February 24, 2017)
- Production and maintenance workers at voted 79% to accept a four year contract. Office, clerical and technical employees also reached a tentative four year agreement. The contracts will help provide labour security while the company secures a \$1.4 billion investment to develop its two new projects, Onaping Depth and Nickel Rim Deep. This is crucial as ore supplies at the Fraser Mine and Nickel Rim South will only last up to 2021 (The Sudbury Star, February 1, 27, 2017)
- Wallbridge Mining Company Limited announced it is continuing to develop its properties in the Greater Sudbury area. It plans to re-initiate active exploration on its East Range Properties, located adjacent to Glencore's Nickel Rim South Mine and Vale's Victor Deep and Capre development projects. It is also continuing with exploratory drilling on its Parkin Properties north of Capreol (The Sudbury Star, January 21, 2017)

## **Manufacturing**

- Krucker Saunas opened a new manufacturing location in Capreol. Located in the site of a previous Greyhound bus depot, the business moved from its original site at the NORCAT Innovation Centre due to growing demand for its products. All materials and components are Canadian sourced and 80% of business comes from outside the Sudbury area (Northern Ontario Business, June 5, 2017, kruckersaunas.com)
- Crosscut Distillery announced it will be producing locally made vodka, gin and whiskey. It will be the first distillery in the city, the second in Northern Ontario after Rheault Distillery in Hearst and one of twenty currently in the province. Crosscut will be located in a 3,600 sq ft former machine shop on Kelly Lake Rd across the road from Stack Brewing. There has been an explosion of small distilleries opening across the province similar to the growth in the craft beer microbreweries (Sudbury.com, April 25, 2017)

## **Utilities**

- Installation of the first Tesla Supercharger in the North was completed in December in the Smart Centre retail area parking lot in the south end. The stall can charge up to eight vehicles at a time. The company plans on installing 15 chargers across Northern Ontario between North Bay and Kenora. Electric vehicles are still relatively new to northern Ontario; however interest is growing encouraging users in southern Ontario to venture up north. There are currently eight charging stations in the CGS area (Sudbury.com, December 15, 2017, <http://gsevassociation.ca>)
- Union Gas announced it has received approval for a \$74 million pipeline replacement project. The project will involve replacing 20 kms of 10 inch pipe with 12 inch pipe between the Coniston and Frood Rd station and Azilda and Walden station. Construction will begin in May 2018 with work completed by December 2018. Aecon Utilities, a division of Aecon Group Inc will be performing the upgrade (Sudbury.com, October 11, 2017)

- Ontario One Call officially opened its northern Ontario office in Sudbury beside Diggs & Dwellings on the Kingsway. The Sudbury branch created 30 new full time jobs consisting mostly of Contact Centre Agents who process locate requests for anyone digging in Ontario (Sudbury.com, September 22, 2017)

## **Services**

### **Accommodation & Food Services**

- Cora's opened serving its first customers at 470 Barrydowne. This space was previously occupied by Pizza Hut. Cora's now has 130 locations in Canada and plans to expand to the U.S. It is the largest sit down breakfast operation in Canada (The Sudbury Star, December 7, 2017)
  - Cora's announced it will be opening in the old Pizza Hut on Barrydowne Road. Cora's is a Canadian breakfast franchise with over 120 stores in the country
- A Swiss Chalet/Harvey's will be opening up in the old location of A&W at the Rainbow Centre
- The Fromagerie Elgin announced it will close its doors after 10 years in business. The downtown venue attracted young hipsters and older professionals providing a warm local atmosphere for musicians and artists to showcase their work and talent. The owners cited financial challenges for the closure (The Sudbury Star, November 29, 2017)
- Cairo closed on Beech Street. The restaurant was open for under four years and served Mediterranean food
- A&W closed at the Rainbow Mall. The fast food restaurant was open at this location for 29 years
- Topper's Pizza announced it has opened its 3,000 square foot customer call centre on Westmount Avenue. It reported the new location will provide a larger, brighter and team focused environment for growth of approximately 50 staff. The pizzeria estimated each new location adds another two to three more staff to its centre (June 23, 2017, The Sudbury Star)
- Lot 88, a premium steak house opened in the former location of Fionn McCool's on the Kingsway
- Fionn McCool's on the Kingsway will be closing its doors at the end of August. An unnamed, independent non franchise steakhouse restaurant will open in its place by the same owners in mid September (CBC, Morning North, June 19, 2017)
- Old Rock Coffee announced it has launched a licensing model allowing local businesses to sell its coffee. It reported a number of local businesses have signed on as a licensee along with a Sudbury owned Toronto based café. Old Rock stated due to growing demand, they may have to expand and look at a separate facility as the city's only coffee roaster. The café has two locations in the downtown core (Northern Ontario Business, May 26, 2017)
- Salute Coffee Company will be opening up a downtown location at 73 Elm (across from the school of architecture). The café will now have two locations in the city to meet the needs of the growing local gourmet coffee culture. It expects to hire about six staff (Kijiji Sudbury, The Sudbury Star, April 19, 2017)

- The Cedar Nest Décor & Café opened at 106- 11 Cedar Street. The café offers décor, espresso, baked goods, salads and sandwiches (Facebook)
- Huckleberries Chocolatiers of Canada announced they are moving to a larger location at 110 Durham Street. The larger area will allow for lounge seating and bistro tables inside as well as a outside sitting area (Facebook)
- Mary Brown's Famous Chicken and Taters will be opening its first store in the city in the former Pluckers location in the south end near Canadian Tire. The Canadian chain family restaurant has been in business for 46 years and has over 130 locations (<http://marybrownsfranchising.com/immediate-opportunities>)
- Pinchman's Café & Artisan Bakery announced they will be opening at 2037 Long Lake Rd (Kijiji)
- Twiggs Coffee Roasters announced it will opening up a location on the Kingsway in June. The 2,800 square foot store will serve coffee, healthy deli options, smoothies and cater. Twiggs originated in North Bay with four locations. The roaster plans on opening at least two locations in the city and will be hiring 35 to 40 full time and part time staff (Sudbury.com, March 13, 2017)
- Five Guys Burgers & Fries will be opening at 1400 Kingsway (beside Party City). The American burger chain has 1,500 locations spanning the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Europe and the Middle East (Facebook, Sudbury.com, February 9, 2017)

### **Business, Building & Other Support Services**

- Millennium 1 Solutions announced it still requires another 250 more Customer Service Agents, particularly bilingual ones. The company now has a shuttle service to and from the New Sudbury Shopping Centre to help with transportation issues for workers who rely on public transportation. Positions are mostly full time with some part time opportunities. Interested candidates can send their résumé to [penny.bertrand-smith@millennium1solutions.com](mailto:penny.bertrand-smith@millennium1solutions.com)
  - Millennium 1 Solutions announced it will be continuing with plans to hire another 200 employees in the fall and another 250 by year end. The primarily inbound call centre opened in May, hiring 250. It stated the majority of positions are full time jobs with a benefits package and there is an opportunity for career development. The centre will be hiring individuals with both English and English-French skill sets. Applicants can apply on the company's Facebook page, through Indeed or emailing the company's career inbox at [careers@millennium1solutions.com](mailto:careers@millennium1solutions.com) (The Sudbury Star, May 11, 2017)
  - Millennium 1 Solutions announced it will be opening up a contact centre. The mostly inbound centre will service government agencies, insurance companies, credit card companies, retailers and loyalty programs. At least 250 workers will be initially hired with this increasing to 350 by the end of the year with most positions permanent, full time. The majority of new hires will be English and include bilingual agents with positions for managers, support staff, IT and human resources staff. The company is spending \$2 million dollars on renovations on a 25,000 sq ft building at 80 National Street off of Maley Drive. Hiring was set to occur in January with start dates beginning in February. Millennium 1 Solutions is headquartered in Toronto with contact centres in Ottawa, Orangeville, Bridgewater, N.S and Manila in the Philippines. Job seekers can

apply for positions at <http://www.millennium1solutions.com/careers/> (The Sudbury Star, January 13, 2017, Sudbury.com, January 13, 2017)

## Educational Services

- The provincial government introduced legislation to end the 32 day college labour dispute and return college students to the classroom. The strike was the longest college strike in the province's history affecting the 24 colleges in Ontario including Collège Boréal and Cambrian College. All outstanding issues will be referred to binding mediation/arbitration (November, 16, 2017, newsroom@ontario.ca)
- A new state of the art helicopter pilot and maintenance training centre is planned for the city. The facility will house four full motion flight simulators and would be open later in the summer or fall 2018 depending on securing required funding. The centre would create an initial 50 jobs for flight simulator instructors, simulator maintenance staff and computer programmers. This number is expected to grow by another 100 within three to five years as the centre grows. Up to 1,000 students a year are anticipated to stay in the city for up to a month at a time. A preferred site has been selected at the south end of the city close to the Country Side arena (Sudbury.com, April 20, 2017, The Sudbury Star, April 19, 2017)
- Cambrian College reported their enrollment is at a 10 year high. The college reported 4,414 students are enrolled at its Barrydowne campus, the highest number since 2008. International student enrolment is up 61% with 573 students from 39 countries registered. There are also 815 indigenous students on campus from cities and remote First Nations communities across Canada (The Sudbury Star, September 28, 2017)
  - Cambrian College's applied research division will receive a \$2.1 million investment from the federal government's National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada College and Community Innovation Program. The funds will support a five year initiative into the college's Mine Environmental Stewardship Initiative which focuses on new and innovative ways of ensuring mining projects are efficient, safe and as environmentally friendly as possible. The college will be working with three industry partners (The Sudbury Star, May 26, 2017)
  - Cambrian College and Laurentian University announced an agreement to boost research and innovation in Northern Ontario. This facilitates the creation of collaborative partnerships and enables faculty, students and staff at both schools to pursue large scale research projects (The Sudbury Star, March 9, 2017)
- Laurentian University Faculty Association (LUFA) went on strike Sept 28<sup>th</sup> suspending classes for its students (Sudbury.com, September, 28, 2017)
  - Laurentian University announced it received confirmation of accreditation for its French, English and aboriginal social work programs for the next two years (CBC Radio Sudbury, February 10, 2017)
  - Laurentian University announced it will be reducing its workforce by offering incentives to its 400 support staff. Staff will have the option of taking a year's salary for quitting, moving to part time hours, six month unpaid leave or bridging to an early pension. The university is preparing for a future with fewer students due to the demographics of northern Ontario and increasing operational budgets related to new programs and buildings. School officials said they will be negotiating offering voluntary workforce reduction incentives to professors later in the year (CBC Sudbury, January 27, 2017)



- Cambrian College announced it will be introducing two new graduate certificate programs in September. The Mobile App Development Program is a program for creative thinkers who will be developing mobile game apps for iOS and Android platforms. The Project Management Program is designed for project leaders in the health, education, social and community services, retail, engineering, architecture and design, science and information technology sectors (The Sudbury Star, February 9, 2017)
- The Northern Ontario School of Medicine announced collaboration with Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and Health Sciences North to establish an accredited medical physics residency education program to train medical physicists in the North. Medical physicists are health care professionals with specialized training. Most work in hospital diagnostic imaging departments, cancer treatment facilities or hospital based research establishments (The Sudbury Star, January 17, 2017)

### **Health Care & Social Assistance**

- The provincial government announced it will spend almost \$1.77 million to create 49 childcare spaces at Churchill Public School. The money will be used to rebuild a wing at the school to accommodate childcare. The money comes from the province's \$1.6 billion plan to create 45,000 new licensed childcare spaces in Ontario over the next five years (The Sudbury Star, December 19, 2017)
  - A \$7.5 billion dollar investment in child care services by the provincial and federal governments over the next 11 years will help ensure registered early childhood educators will be in demand as new positions are created in licensed agencies, organizations, First Nation's educational authorities and community based family support programs locally and provincially. In the Greater Sudbury area, it is important to note demand is directly related to an increase in subsidized spaces and not due to a local demographic increase in infants and children under four years of age (The Sudbury Star, July 7, 2017)
- A total of 19 new doctors have decided to set up shop in the city. Six family doctors, two emergency medicine doctors and eleven specialists will help to service local health care needs. Eight of the doctors were trained at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (The Sudbury Star, November 12, 2017)
- Provincial funding injection of \$1.3 million in operating funds over the next three years will allow the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) to hire social workers, nurses and case managers to staff expanded programs and a new apartment building. A total of four staff will be hired at the 200 Larch Street site including an indigenous social worker (The Sudbury Star, November 8, 2017)
- Maison McCulloch Hospice announced it will be receiving \$2 million to help fund the cost of 10 new beds. Funding will also help pay for ongoing support and training to healthcare professionals, volunteers and caregivers (The Sudbury Star, November 8, 2017)
- Health Sciences North announced they received \$750,000 in funding to implement an Integrated Chronic Pain Management Program. A multi-disciplinary team will be recruited by medical and clinical team members. The program will be staffed by physicians, registered nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, kinesiologists, recreation therapists, social workers and psychologists. A program of this type is lacking in the region and is different than the existing Acute Pain Program and Chronic Pain Service. The new program will complement the existing service, however, will go beyond providing

medication treatment and address the many psychosocial and emotional aspects of chronic pain  
(The Sudbury Star, December 2, 2017)

- The Ontario Ministry of Health has approved plans for the next stage of building the PET scanner at Health Sciences North. The Ministry approved proceeding to Stage 4 involving work drawings and specifications. Construction can begin as soon as the final stage is approved leading to a strong likelihood of construction beginning sometime in 2018 (Sudbury.com, December 4, 2017)
- Health Sciences North Research Institute (HSNRI) officially opened its new \$15 million home on Walford Road in the site of the former St Theresa School. The state-of-the-art medical research facility provides the HSNRI with an additional 14,000 square feet, including three wet and dry labs as well as research offices. The research facility now employs 95 staff including graduate students and post-doctorate fellows who are becoming the next generation of northern scientists (Sudbury.com, June 26, 2017)
- Health Sciences North is now the city's largest employer with over 4,200 employees and physicians. It has an annual budget of \$450 million and is affiliated with Laurentian University and its Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM). Vale's Sudbury Operations is now the city's second largest employer with almost 4,000 employees (<https://www.hnsudbury.ca/portalen/News-Events/Latest-News-Media-Releases/entryid/405/dominic-giroux-named-ceo-of-health-sciences-north-and-hsn-research-institute>, <http://www.vale.com/canada/EN/aboutvale/communities/sudbury/Pages/default.aspx>)
- Pioneer Manor announced receiving additional funding from the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care. The funding will allow the long term care facility to hire at least one full time non union contract position and provide extra hours to part time health care aides to provide coverage for weekend and evening shifts. It will also provide for the extension of three limited full time health care aide positions (The Sudbury Star, June 18, 2017)
- The latest City of Lakes Family Health Team Clinic officially opened in Chelmsford. It is one of four COLFHT clinics in the area joining locations in Sudbury, Val Caron and Walden. Three doctors, all graduates of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) work at the clinic. Patients seeking a new physician may register at [yourfamilyhealthteam.com](http://yourfamilyhealthteam.com) (The Sudbury Star, June 9, 2017)
- The Canadian Mental Health Association in Sudbury and Manitoulin branch announced their front line and office staff are now unionized and members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU). Workers at the CMHA Sudbury/Manitoulin provide psychosocial rehabilitation, harm reduction, residences, housing support and emergency shelter to individuals struggling with homelessness and alcohol addiction in the area. OPSEU represents more than 7,000 members working in public hospitals, provincial government and community mental health agencies in Ontario (The Sudbury Star, May, 23, 2017)
- Monarch Recovery Services announced it will be moving into the site of the former St. David's School on Dupont Street in the Donovan. The addictions centre will be amalgamating its two locations into one central site. The increased space will also result in the option to expand programming and services (Sudbury.com, March 10, 2017)
- Midwives of Sudbury announced they will be closing after 18 years. The practice cited a shortage of registered midwives particularly to replace those off on maternity leave. Midwives of Sudbury was one of two primary midwifery practices in the city (Facebook)

- Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre announced they received funding for the next three years to hire two indigenous midwives (CBC Radio Sudbury, February 17, 2017)
- The R.E.S.T. Centre announced it will be closing at the end of March. The centre specialized in flotation and hydro massage therapy

### **Information, Culture & Recreation**

- The provincial government announced it will be investing over \$33 million to help fund 51 projects which support local television and film production. Since 2013, the NOHFC has invested more than \$85.6 million towards 139 projects in the north. According to Northern Ontario Film Studios, the local film industry employs 1,000 in the north who live and work in the area (The Sudbury Star, December 16, 2017)
- TVO announced it will be setting up a news coverage hub in Sudbury. This will include hiring two on-the-ground journalists in the city to develop current affairs articles and videos (The Sudbury Star, November 12, 2017)
- Urban Air Adventure Park will be opening at 1066 Barrydowne Rd (former Canadian Tire) in the summer of 2018. Urban Air is an American based full-service family entertainment center specializing in indoor trampoline parks. The Greater Sudbury location will be the first Canadian location for the franchise. The business will be hiring approximately 45 staff and will be recruiting in the spring of 2018 (Sudbury.com, November 17, 2017, <https://www.urbanairtrampolinepark.com>)
- DIY Craftery and Lounge will be opening at 43 Elm Street. The business will be hiring local makers, artists and creators and will hold a liquor license (Sudbury.com, November 17, 2017)
- Place des Arts will receive a total of \$12.5 million from the federal government. The \$30 million project is now 90% funded by all levels of government. It will include a 300 seat theatre, a 150 seat studio and rehearsal space, a 60 seat bistro and 1150 sq ft gallery. The gallery will house the Galerie du Novel-Ontario, three workshops, a youth studio, three artist studios for in-residence artists, two meeting rooms and administrative offices. Organizers expect the facility to be very busy with 850 daily activities yearly year and more than 50,000 visitors yearly adding an economic boost to the city of \$7 million annually (The Sudbury Star, October 14, 2017)
  - Place des Arts will be receiving another \$5 million from the provincial Liberal government. This brings this government's contribution to \$8.25 million for the project. Organizers are hoping to obtain \$13 million from the federal Liberal government by the fall to make the project a reality in the summer of 2018. The 60,000 square foot building will be built on the corner of Elgin and Larch Streets. City council will be updated on the project in December (Sudbury.com, June 23, 2017)
- The Copper Cliff Curling Club announced it may be closing its doors. The club has been around for 100 years and has 200 members. The Club stated aging equipment and increasing hydro costs are making it very difficult to keep its doors open and the impending increases to minimum wage will not help with managing its expenses (The Sudbury Star, July 13, 2017)
- City council voted to locate an event/arena centre on the Kingsway and not in the downtown core. This allows the True North's Group proposal to move forward with a 6,000 seat arena, a second ice surface, concert venue, casino, hotel, restaurants, water park, motor sport park, drive in theatre and commercial

space. The ambitious project will cost between \$60 and \$100 million. An update will be provided to council on the status of the project in December (The Sudbury Star, June 28, 2017)

- City council voted to locate the Synergy Centre in the downtown core. The \$63 million 60,000 square foot Centre will be a state-of-the-art public meeting and performance facility with a performing arts centre which can accommodate between 700 and 2000 patrons along with smaller halls to host conferences, exhibitions and banquets. Council approved a one time allocation of \$187,500 to undertake a site evaluation and selection process as well as finalize a detailed business plan, operation model, conceptual design and financial plan for the centre. An update will be provided to council on the status of the project in December (The Sudbury Star, June 28, 2017)
- City council voted to locate a combined library/art gallery in the downtown core. It approved \$100,000 to undertake a site evaluation and selection process. An update will be provided to council on the status of the project in December (The Sudbury Star, June 28, 2017)
- City council voted to allow Dario Zulich, owner of the Sudbury Wolves to fully take over arena operations. This would include managing hockey and non hockey events. The agreement is not expected to affect the 38 part time staff and two full time non union staff and layoffs are not anticipated (The Sudbury Star, June 13, 2017)
- Gateway Casinos announced they signed a letter of intent to add a new casino to the True North Group's entertainment complex at the east end of the Kingsway. The \$60 million casino would have the potential of creating up to 250 new jobs in its bar, restaurant and gaming floor bringing the total number of its employees in the city to 400 (CBC News Sudbury, June 13, 2017, Sudbury.com, June 28, 2017)
- The provincial Liberal government announced in its provincial budget it is committing \$3.25 million to building the Place des Arts project in the city's core. The project still requires substantial further funding for construction to begin on the \$30 million project. If funding is secured, construction can start as early as the spring of 2018 (Sudbury.com, May 3, 2017, The Sudbury Star, May 11, 2017)
- Bell Media announced it is reducing a number of positions in its television and radio stations in the Northern Ontario sites (ie. Sudbury, Timmins, Sault Ste Marie and North Bay). The company did not disclose exactly how many positions were reduced or eliminated, however the restructuring affected journalist and camera operator positions. Bell reported it is facing challenges due to international competition, the evolution of broadcast technologies, advertising and regulatory pressures (Sudbury.com, Feb 2, 2017)
- Northern Axperts, the city's first axe throwing business announced it will be opening within Peddler's Pub. The business will also host an axe throwing league. Ax throwing is a new and growing sport increasing in popularity in Toronto and Montreal (Sudbury.com, February 9, 2017)

## Other Services

- Bliss Beauty Lounge and Spa will be opening at 525 Notre Dame. The centre specializes in facial treatments, manicures and pedicures using organic compounds and certified estheticians (blissloungeandspa.com)

- Rover.com announced it is advertising for independent contractors to partner as pet sitters and dog walkers. The online pet service claims to be the nation's largest five star network of pet sitters and dog walkers offering dog boarding, house sitting, dog walking, doggy day care or drop in visits (Kijiji, June 13, 2017, rover.com)
- GoFetch, an online pet sitting platform announced it is now in Sudbury and has local sitters. The Vancouver based service founded in 2015 is the nation's largest community marketplace connecting dog owners with trusted dog walkers and sitters providing a 'cage free' service. The service reported it expanded to the city due to its high pet ownership (The Sudbury Star, May 30, 2017, gofetch.ca)
- The Solid Gold VIP Lounge, an adult entertainment service announced it will be closing its doors. The adult night club was in business for 27 years. Industry insiders reported that an aging demographic and competing interests have led to dwindling customers and lower demand (Facebook)

### **Professional, Scientific & Technical Services**

- The Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences announced it will be opening a new satellite office at Health Sciences North. The site was made possible due to a \$563,000 investment by the federal and provincial governments and the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation. Housing the Institute will involve renovating about 1000 sq ft of space. About 12 new positions will be eventually created attracting top researchers to Northern Ontario to review and evaluate local health data (The Sudbury Star, November 18, 2017)
- The Ontario government announced it will be hiring two new assistant Crown attorneys in Sudbury. The announcement is a result of pressure to speed up Ontario's justice system in light of the Jordan ruling which sets tight time limits for cases to come to trial (The Sudbury Star, July 10, 2017)
- Time Hero Incorporated reported it received \$417,410 from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation towards the development of a new cloud based application designed to help businesses improve scheduling and project management. The project will create eight new jobs locally (The Sudbury Star, July 13, 2017)
- The SNOLAB announced it will be creating 20 jobs over this year thanks to a \$28.6 million grant from the federal government. This will bring the total staffing compliment to 96 from 75 staff (Sudbury.com, January 10, 2017)
- City staff recommended a numbered company be approved to build a research and development facility at the intersection of Wanup Road and Highway 537. The business currently employs fewer than five employees and is engaged in the research and development of electrical components including the design and retrofit of panels and controllers for the mining and pulp and paper industries (The Sudbury Star, January 16, 2017)

### **Public Administration**

- The Greater Sudbury Police Service reported in its 2018 operating budget it will not be expanding its service of 264 officers, support staff and eight community safety personnel in the New Year. The Service stressed they have not added any new police officers in the last four years other than to replace officers who have retired, left the organization or are on leave (The Sudbury Star, November 21, 2017)

- Conservation Sudbury (formerly the Nickel District Conservation Authority) announced it is planning on hiring four new full time equivalent hires in 2018 (The Sudbury Star, November 23, 2017)
- The Ontario Provincial Police are touring northeastern Ontario promoting hiring 100 officers (CBC Radio, August 10, 2017)
- The Elgin Greenway was approved to proceed by city council, however, on a much smaller scale than the \$8.5 million cost projected earlier this year. The scaled back project will now cost \$3.9 million and will be incorporated into the 2018 budget while applications for other funding options are pursued. The project is one of 17 projects identified by council to revitalize the downtown core (The Sudbury Star, July 13, 2017)
  - City council voted to consider the Elgin Greenway Project. The project is focused on revitalizing a one kilometer long green, active transportation corridor that will connect downtown Sudbury at the school of architecture to Ramsey Lake and Science North via the Nelson Street footbridge. The project will cost at least \$8.5 million, is subject to further approvals and must secure funding from other sources. If approved, the project is anticipated to begin in 2018 with a 2020 completion date (The Sudbury Star, May 3, 10, 2017)
- City councilors approved a consultant report from PricewaterhouseCoopers to proceed with the next steps to build a new \$100 million 5,800 seat arena and event centre. Councilors approved \$200,000 to fund the next step on a financing plan and site selection. This report will be due before June. There are 15 potential sites which will be explored for construction (Northern Ontario Business, March 8, 2017)
- City council unanimously rejected the proposed fire and paramedic optimization plan. The proposal included plans to hire up 58 full time career fire fighters while delivering a major overall of how fire services are delivered in and around the city (The Sudbury Star, April 26, 2017)
  - A proposed fire and paramedic services optimization plan is recommending nine of 24 fire halls be closed in the area while others would be composite stations staffed by full time firefighters and volunteers. Full time fire fighter staffing levels would increase from 108 to 166, however, volunteer fire fighters would be reduced to about 175 from 350. If implemented, it is estimated it would take a minimum of seven years to execute (The Sudbury Star, March 9, 2017)

## Trade

- thebirchbox.ca, opened. Birchbox is a new online gifting studio that specializes in creating an event in a box (The Sudbury Star, December 9, 2017)
- 25/7 Fitness will be opening in January 2018. The nonprofit gym will be located at 392 Montague Street. The owner is a certified fitness instructor who spent many years in a federal penitentiary and is using his life experience to help improve physical health in the community. The gym will employ certified trainers and also employs at risk and marginalized youth. While employed, youth attend educational programs and work towards a personal training certification. Various programs are offered with a community focus and partnerships (The Sudbury Star, December 12, 2017, 257fitness.com)
- The Ontario government announced Greater Sudbury will be among the first 14 cities selected for a government run marijuana store. Initial stores will also be located in Brampton, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, London, Mississauga, Ottawa, Sault Ste Marie, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Vaughan and Windsor.

The LCBO will operate the shops through a subsidiary that will sell and distribute recreational marijuana to individuals 19 and older. Consumers will not be allowed to use the product in workplaces or public spaces. The province intends to set up to 150 stand alone cannabis stores by 2020

(The Sudbury Star, November 6, 2017)

- The Dollar Store will be opening up a new location at the Garson mall, 3060 Falconbridge Rd, Unit #1 (The Sudbury Star, November 23, 2017)
- The Palladino Auto Group will be opening a BMW dealership on the Kingsway (beside Wendy's). It will be city's first dealership servicing northern Ontario. The dealership is expected to be open in the summer of 2018 (CBC Radio, Morning North, Oct 18, 2017)
- Sudbury Hyundai reported the expansion of their dealership and services has resulted in the hiring of five new staff members over the 12 months (Sudbury.com, Oct 11, 2017)
- Sears Canada announced it will be closing all its stores after 65 years in business. Sears currently has 12,000 employees of which 75% are part time. Analysts blamed the chain's inability to evolve with the times, lack of appeal to younger shoppers and reliance on catalogue shopping. Stores must be liquidated by January 2018. It is predicted the two floor space at the New Sudbury Shopping Centre will be vacant for an extended period and may be repurposed into housing three or four smaller stores (The Sudbury Star, October 14, 2017)
  - The Sears Home Store on Marcus Drive will be closing in the city. The store was opened in 2006. Currently, the New Sudbury Shopping Centre Sears Store is remaining open. Sears Canada announced it is closing 59 stores and laying off 2900 people across the country (The Sudbury Star, June 23, 2017)
- Rustic Craft announced they will be closing their retail store in November. The manufacturing division has been sold and will remain open under the Rustic Craft name. Retirement reasons were cited as the main reason for the closure
- Mastermind toys announced it will be opening up a 4456 square foot retail store on Silver Hills Drive in Greater Sudbury in the late fall. This location will employ about 25 people. The Canadian retailer opened their first store in 1984 and now has over 55 stores in seven provinces while undergoing the largest expansion in their 33 year history. It reports it has remained competitive in an era where online selling dominates by offering high quality exclusive specialty toys, games and books at various price points. The store encourages a shopping experience where touching and exploring is encouraged (The Canadian Press, September 19, 2017)
- City Surplus announced it will be closing their doors after 73 years in business. The business cited retirement reasons for the closure (Facebook)
- Toys R Us filed for bankruptcy in the U.S. and Canada largely due to losing market share to online discounters such as Amazon. It was also cited that children are increasingly moving towards mobile devices as a substitute for traditional toys. No announcements have been made on the fate of the lone local store
- The Toy Outlet, a discount surplus toy store at the Rainbow Centre closed. The Outlet opened in 2016

- Mojoverse announced it will be closing its retail store at 1264 Kingsway in July due to high overhead costs. An online only store [mojoverse.ca](http://mojoverse.ca) will be created in August which will offer geeky products and memorabilia, podcasts, a community calendar of events and a newsletter (The Sudbury Star, June 30, 2017)
- Cindy's Homebrew announced after 30 years in business, it will be permanently closing at the end of July. The shop focused on the sales of equipment for the wine and beer home brewer. The business cited retirement as the main reason for its closure (Facebook)
- The Real Canadian Superstore announced it will be offering a Click and Collect option for busy shoppers and to accommodate modern lifestyles. The online shopping initiative is targeted towards time starved residents allowing customers to shop online and pick up their groceries at a convenient time as personal shoppers prepare their orders. Fifteen people were initially hired as personal shoppers (The Sudbury Star, June 12, 13, 2017)
- One Sky Local Fine Goods opened at 125 Durham Street. One Sky features goods made in Sudbury and Northeastern Ontario. A modern fusion of retail, gallery and workshop space, One Sky offers goods from over 30 Northern makers. Products range from organic soaps to handcrafted furniture (CBC Morning North, May 8, 2017)
- Michael Hill will be opening up its first Sudbury store in the New Sudbury Shopping Centre in the site of the former Danier Leathers. Michael Hill International Ltd is a specialty retailer of jewellery in North America and Oceania. It operates a retail jewellery chain of 296 stores in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States with over 2,000 permanent employees. The company's headquarters are in Brisbane, Australia ([michaelhill.ca](http://michaelhill.ca))
- Ardene will be opening up another location in the city in the site of the former Future Shop beside the New Sudbury Shopping Centre. The store is expected to be open in May (Kijiji Sudbury)
- Our Little Secret Fashions announced they will be expanding at 76 Cedar Street introducing upscale men's fashion clothing. This will help fill in the void left in upscale men's clothing created with the closures of the Hollywood Shop, Fiorino's and Joe Lesar's Men's Wear in the downtown core (CBC Radio, Morning North, April 24, 2017)
- Sunrise Records announced they will be opening up at the New Sudbury Shopping Centre in the site of the former HMV. Sunrise is one of the only Canadian-owned, independently operated record store chains left in all of Canada. It has been in business since 1977 (CBC Radio, [sunriserecords.com](http://sunriserecords.com))
- One Stop Naturals opened in the former Harvey's building in Val Caron. Owned by a registered homeopath, it claims to be the largest health food store in the north carrying a comprehensive selection of vitamins, foods, supplements and even sports a drive through organic juice, yogurt, ice cream and coffee ([onestopnaturals.ca](http://onestopnaturals.ca))
- Jean Country closed at 3069 Highway 69 North in Val Caron. The store opened in 2015
- HMV will be closing its stores across the country due to falling into receivership. The company reported losing \$100,000/day due to customers turning to online media. The lone Sudbury store in the New Sudbury Shopping Centre will close by April 30. The company operates 102 stores across the country employing 1,340 workers (The Sudbury Star, January 28, 2017)



## Transportation & Warehousing

- Manitoulin Transport announced it has acquired another company under its umbrella, Duckering's Transport Ltd based in Red Deer, Alberta. Manitoulin Transport is a member of the Manitoulin Group of Companies still headquartered in Gore Bay on Manitoulin Island. A combination of up-to-date technology, newer equipment and best-in-class supply chain processes have helped grow customers and prospects across the province, country and even in the U.S. Manitoulin now commands more than 70 terminals in Canada and 250 service centres in the U.S (Northern Ontario Business, December 4, 2017)
- The Greater Sudbury Airport reported air travel in the city has increased by 16.5% over 2016. The airport has plans to expand its services and further redesign its physical structure in the near future dependent on funding (The Sudbury Star, November 17, 2017)
  - The Greater Sudbury Airport reported it is working on plans to develop 230 acres into a commercial park. Future non aviation businesses may include a coffee shop, gas station, hotel and car wash. The airport reported 228,962 passengers used the terminal in 2016, up slightly from 2015 (Northern Life, February 16, 2017)
- NAAT (Northern Academy of Transportation Training) officially opened its new Safety Services Training Centre. The Centre was created due to increased training volumes. It has the capacity to host 100 students within the classroom and two outdoor simulators for confined space and working at heights (The Sudbury Star, October 17, 2017)
- The Sudbury Student Services Consortium reported a shortage of bus drivers in the city. This has resulted in bus drivers doing double routes and in students arriving late for school. A \$400 signing bonus is being offered in an effort to attract more drivers (The Sudbury Star, September 11, 2017)
- National Railway Equipment Company announced it will be closing its Capreol plant after being in business for 17 years. The company cited low commodity prices for steel and other metals, cheaper metals from China, the high price of the U.S. dollar and low price of gas and oil as factors. Shipping goods and commodities by rail has become less attractive than delivering by road. The company's main client was CN Rail. NRE is an American headquartered company with Canadian locations in Capreol and Calgary. The Capreol plant specialized in locomotive remanufacturing and refurbishing. The closure will put 24 unionized employees out of work at the end of February (The Sudbury Star, January 17, 2017)

## Other Information

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- A report by the Fraser Institute entitled "*Uneven Recovery: Much of Ontario Still Hasn't Fully Recovered from the 2008 Recession*" concluded:
  - 11 of the province's 23 urban areas actually experienced net job losses from 2008 to 2016
  - Growth in the province primarily occurred in the metropolitan Toronto and Ottawa regions
  - Negative job growth occurred in five northern communities; Greater Sudbury (-1%), Thunder Bay (-3%), Timmins (-6%), North Bay (-9%) and Sault Ste Marie (-16%) between 2008 and 2016 (<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/uneven-recovery-much-of-ontario-still-hasnt-fully-recovered-from-the-2008-recession>)

- Workforce Planning for Sudbury & Manitoulin released its quarterly *Job Bank Vacancy Study -July to Sept 2017* on online vacancies. The following highlights were noted:
  - 2,000 jobs were posted in total in Greater Sudbury during this period
  - Postings increased by 561 over the same period in 2016
  - Most populous occupations included sales and service, cooks, cleaners, shelf stockers, security guards, desk clerks
  - 41% of postings were for full time positions, 19% part time and 33% unknown
  - The top seven employers with the most vacancies included:
    - Health Sciences North – 62
    - Walmart – 54
    - Loblaws – 41
    - Lowes – 29
    - Shopper’s Drug Mart – 28
    - Manulife Financial 27
    - Leons – 21

(The Sudbury Star, November 28, 2017)
  
- Workforce Planning for Sudbury & Manitoulin released its first quarterly *Job Vacancy Study – April 1 to June 30, 2017t*. The report confirmed that from April 1 to June 30, 2017, there were a total number of 2053 job postings in the City of Greater Sudbury. This represented an increase of at least 500 job postings over the same period in 2016.
  - The top six industries based on number of job postings in the City for this period were:
    - Retail Trade (189)
    - Health Care & Social Assistance (128)
    - Public Administration (99)
    - Accommodation & Food Services (87)
    - Professional, Scientific, Technical (73)
    - Manufacturing (68)
  
  - The top three employers with the most postings for this period were:
    - Health Sciences North (87)
    - City of Greater Sudbury (84)
    - Walmart (39)
  
  - 39% of postings were full time while 18% were part time
    - 20% required a university education
    - 21% required college, vocational or apprenticeship training
    - 23% required a high school diploma or equivalency

<http://planningourworkforce.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/QUARTERLY-JOB-VACANCIES-April-June-2017.pdf>
  
- A joint report from Workforce Planning for Sudbury & Manitoulin and Cambrian College entitled “*Occupational Capacity in the Non-Residential Construction Labour Market*” concluded:
  - 6,000 workers are employed in non residential construction in the Greater Sudbury area. Truck drivers, electricians and construction millwrights reported to be in the top three occupations
  - An estimated labour supply shortage of 1,300 workers of the required 2,200 workers in six projects is anticipated
    - Occupations Experiencing Shortages: Out of over 30 occupational areas, shortages were predicted to exist particularly for floor covering installers, plasterers/drywallers, contractors and supervisors, drillers and blasters, bricklayers

- Occupations Experiencing High demand: Jobs in higher demand in the proposed projects include earth workers, labourers and masonry workers (The Sudbury Star, November 10, 2017)
- The province of Ontario announced they have funded 50 college and university graduates through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation's Northern Ontario Internship Program for a one year term. The terms pay \$30,000 to \$60,000/yr and the following businesses received funding:
  - Biznorth Inc
  - J.L. Richard & Associates
  - Eat Local Sudbury Cooperative
  - The Social Planning Council of the Sudbury Region
  - Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce
  - Better Beginnings, Better Futures  
(The Sudbury Star, November 25, 2017)
  - Spectrum Telecom Group Ltd
  - The Northern Policy Institute
  - Health Sciences North
  - NEO Kids Foundation
  - Le Salon du Live du Grand Sudbury
- Sudbury was rated 169<sup>th</sup> out of a list of 417 cities according to MoneySense, a Canadian personal finance website. This is a steep drop from the 84<sup>th</sup> place ranking in 2016. Factors such as a robust economy, high wealth and income, home affordability, low taxes, transit friendliness and other factors were reviewed in rating determination (<http://www.moneysense.ca/save/financial-planning/canadas-best-places-to-live-2016-overview> <http://www.macleans.ca/economy/canadas-best-places-to-live-2017-overview>)
- The Provincial Liberal government released its "The Changing Workplaces Review – An Agenda for Workplace Rights. The report recommends 173 recommendations to modernize the province's workplace. Premier Wynne stated the government will be looking at which changes to implement first, however, will not be implementing all the recommendations (The Sudbury Star, May 24, 2017, <https://www.ontario.ca/page/changing-workplaces-review-summary-report>)
  - Premier Wynne announced minimum wage will increase to \$14/hr on January 2018 and to \$15/hr on January 2019. The wage will then rise annually with inflation (CBC News, May 30, 2017)
- A new report from Health Quality Ontario entitled '*Health in the North*' reported the following factors for Northeastern Ontario which includes Greater Sudbury. Residents in this part of the province reported the following results over the rest of the province:
  - Living 2.5 fewer years on average
  - More dying prematurely due to self inflicted injuries, circulatory disease and respiratory disease. Suicide rate alone is three times higher
  - More likely to be smokers
  - Likely to report having multiple chronic conditions
  - Less likely to be able to see a family doctor, nurse practitioner or other regular health care provider when required (<http://www.hqontario.ca/System-Performance/Specialized-Reports/Health-Equity-in-Northern-Ontario>)
- Fednor announced it will be investing an extra \$25 million over the next five years. The extra funding will help support communities, businesses and First Nations in the region. The federal government also launched a Prosperity and Growth Strategy for Northern Ontario which targets economic development through innovation. This strategy will focus on four areas of potential growth and diversification:

- Building a diverse, skilled and educated workforce
- Promoting the adoption of advanced technologies, including clean technology
- Encouraging business to start up and scale up to compete globally
- Helping municipalities and Indigenous communities better respond to opportunities and challenges

Consultations will take place with key stakeholders such as community and Indigenous leaders, economic development organizations, private sector and industry representatives, Northern Ontario's innovation centres, and federal and provincial government departments

(The Sudbury Star, April 20, 2017, [https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2017/04/prosperity\\_and\\_growthstrategyfornorthernontario.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2017/04/prosperity_and_growthstrategyfornorthernontario.html))

- The Provincial government announced it will be increasing the general minimum wage to \$11.60 in October. Changes are announced by April 1 of each year and take effect on October 1. Since 2014, increases have been tied to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI). Industries employing the most minimum wage earners are accommodation and food, retail trade and information, culture and recreation. Between 1996 and 2003, minimum wage remained frozen at \$6.85/hr ([news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2017/03/ontario-increasing-minimum-wage-to-support-workers-and-families](http://news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2017/03/ontario-increasing-minimum-wage-to-support-workers-and-families))
- Niagara Region was selected as the successful bidder to host the 2021 Canada Summer Games. The City of Greater Sudbury was one of four Ontario cities vying to host the country's largest multi-sport competition for young athletes. The Games would have brought 4,600 coaches and athletes, covered 23 sports and drew 20,000 spectators over a two week period (The Sudbury Star, March 31, 2017)
- The 2016 Census Profile for Greater Sudbury (CMA) reported the population grew by only 1% between 2011 and 2016. The population in 2016 was reported to be 164,689, an increase of about 1600 in five years. The national growth rate was 5% while the rate for Ontario was 4.6% (Statistics Canada)
- The 2017 Construction Confidence Indicator, an annual survey of construction contractors conducted by the Ontario Construction Secretariat, reported the majority of Ontario's construction firms expect to conduct more business this year than last. Central Ontario reported the highest confidence score at 62 while Northern Ontario reported the lowest confidence score (57) out of all regions (<http://iciconstruction.com/2017/03/10/2017-ocs-construction-confidence-survey/>)
- The Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) released the inaugural Ontario Economic Report (OER). Some city highlights included:
  - Unemployment in the city is predicted to drop in 2017 from 8.1% to 7.5%
  - Median residential housing prices are predicted to increase slightly to \$235,000 reflecting a small increase over the previous year  
<http://sudburychamber.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/OER-Sudbury-2017.pdf>
- A report entitled, "*Northern Projections Human Capital Series – Greater Sudbury*" by the Northern Policy Institute and Northern Ontario Workforce Planning confirmed that Sudbury has the highest number of newcomers per capita compared to other census districts in Northern Ontario. Based on these trends, the report offers three key recommendations to promote the long-term sustainability of the district:
  - Market the City of Greater Sudbury as a desirable destination for secondary migration in Ontario;

- Continue to build on Indigenous partnerships and the opportunity for Greater Sudbury to be marketed as a destination for Indigenous migration within Canada.
- Market education as another high quality product produced by the city, over and above traditional strengths in mining and mining supply (<http://www.northernpolicy.ca>)