

Local Labour Market Monitor – January 2017

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

Goods

Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas

- 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)
- 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)

Services

Business, Building & Other Support Services

- 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)

Health Care & Social Assistance

- 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

Educational Services

- 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)
- 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)

Other Services

- 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 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)

Trade

- 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

- 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 then 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)