

Local Labour Market Monitor – January 2018

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

Agriculture

- The Sustainable new Agri-Food Products and Productivity Program (SNAPP) will be accepting applications until February 28, 2018. Farmers and food businesses can apply for funds to help cover the costs of business startup and expansion. Northern Ontario agriculture and food producers, businesses and collaborations are eligible to apply (The Sudbury Star, January 5, 2018)

Manufacturing

- Local craft brewer, Stack Brewing reported federal tax increases of 2% in April 2018 combined with provincial tax increases will affect its profit margins. The brewery reported the changes in taxation has had a negative impact on profit margins and growth since it opened five years ago making it difficult for small craft breweries. It cites taxation increases in the industry as the largest obstacle to its growth and sustainability as consumer demand for locally produced craft beer is steady (CBC Up North, January 19, 2018)

Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas

- Thyssen Mining announced it is making the city its operations base for eastern Canada and opened a local office. The company reported the impending Ring of Fire development along with other interests is why it decided to open up a local office. The mining company has a strong reputation for delivering on joint venture agreements with First Nations (Sudbury.com, January 31, 2018)
- Vale announced it is expecting its Coleman Mine to be back in production in mid February. Mine operations were suspended on November 10, 2017 (Sudbury.com, January 15, 2018)

Services

Accommodation & Food Services

- Parker House Suites located at 250 Elm Street will reopen as a bed and breakfast under new ownership. (Northern Ontario Business News, January 29, 2018)
- Urban Cheese opened up in 96 Larch Street in the downtown core. The restaurant serves gourmet sandwiches with a diverse assortment of cheeses in a laid back atmosphere

- A Swiss Chalet/Harvey's will be opening in early February at the Rainbow Mall in the place of the former A&W. Fifteen to twenty full time and part time staff will be hired (The Sudbury Star, January 11, 2018)
- The Eat Local Sudbury Co-op is closing down its storefront on Larch Street. The Co-op reported over the last few years it has struggled to remain financially sustainable. The steady decline in membership, limited parking, reduced sales and changing consumer habits were cited for the decrease in business. Eat Local was open for 10 years and was one of two downtown grocery stores. It will completely close at the end of February (The Sudbury Star, January 28, 2018, CBC Morning North, January 29, 2018)

Educational Services

- A \$2 million investment in Science North will deliver hands on coding and programming to schools across Northern Ontario to more than 30,000 kindergarten and high school students, The monies are provided through the federal government's new CanCode program which will provide \$50 million over the next two years to provide teachers with the tools needed to educate students (The Sudbury Star, January 23, 2018)

Health Care & Social Assistance

- Health Sciences North will be reducing senior staffing levels by cutting five senior management staff positions. The cuts will save about \$800,000 annually (Sudbury.com, January 15, 2018)
- The Sudbury & District Nurse Practitioner Clinics announced they will be taking on 500 new patients at their Riverside and Lively clinics. The clinic reported the scope of a nurse practitioner (NP) has evolved over the last 10 years. NPs can now prescribe some medication and request certain laboratory tests and diagnostic imagery such as x-rays and ultra sound. These duties were not permitted when the province's first nurse practitioner clinic opened in Sudbury 11 years ago. There are now 24 NP clinics across the province (CBC Morning North, January 31, 2018, <https://www.sdnpc.ca/>)
- Funding of \$500,000 was announced to help with the first phase of planning for the expansion of the NEO Kids and Family Program. The longer term goal is to construct a separate home for the program which will cost about \$40 million (The Sudbury Star, January 22, 2018)

Information, Culture & Recreation

- Gateway Casinos and Entertainment Ltd stated their \$60 million casino will create up to 250 new jobs in addition to the 140 jobs that it currently employs at the Chelmsford location (The Sudbury Star, January 24, 2018)

Other Services

- Done for You Laundry opened at 3183 Errington Avenue in Chelmsford. The laundry service is unique in that it specializes in a wash and fold service. The owners shared with an increase in people working more multiple jobs, there is less time for basic housekeeping duties it believes there is a local market need for its service (The Sudbury Star, January 30, 2018)

Public Administration

- The City of Greater Sudbury will be hiring a part time integrity commissioner for a five year period. Amendments to the Municipal Act require that municipalities appoint or arrange for the services of an integrity commissioner. Additionally, the Ontario ombudsman has declined to be involved in inquiries across the province involving municipal councillors (The Sudbury Star, January 24, 2018)

Trade

- Duck in a Tub closed at the Rainbow Mall. The store opened in 2016
- Bentley closed at the Rainbow Mall. The store specialized in purses, wallets, suitcases and other accessories. Bentley stores at the New Sudbury Shopping Centre and Southridge Mall remain open
- Bottega Mia, a long established women's clothing store at the Rainbow Mall will be closing and liquidating its store. The business opened in 1988. The location at the Southridge Mall will remain open

Transportation & Warehousing

- Taxi drivers in the city reported the increase in minimum wage is hurting their profits. The industry reported they cannot increase their rates to offset increased costs as they are regulated by the city. For the second time in three years, the city will be exploring modernizing the current bylaw (CBC Morning North, January 25, 2018)
- The Greater Sudbury Airport reported an overall 18% increase in the number of travelers who visited the airport in 2017 with 271,000 arriving and/or departing. In 2016, there were 229,000 travelers. The increase in travelers has been credited to improved scheduling, stronger focus on flight reliability and the upsizing of aircraft on certain flights. There are four main carriers; Porter Airlines, Bearskin Airlines, West Jet and Sunwing (Sudbury.com, January 18, 2018)