

An overview of the Northeast Ontario Economic Region. It includes the census division of Greater Sudbury and the districts of Nipissing, Parry Sound, Manitoulin, Sudbury, Timiskaming, Cochrane and Algoma. The Labour Market Monitor is a monthly report focusing on labour market information produced by Ontario Region, Service Canada Labour Market and Socio-Economic Information Directorate. For further information contact:  
[lmi-imt@workingincanada.gc.ca](mailto:lmi-imt@workingincanada.gc.ca)

### **Labour Force Trends**

Employment in the Northeast Ontario economic region increased by 7,200 from May 2010 to May 2011. All job gains were in full-time employment (+8,000), partially offset by losses in part-time employment. This rise in employment caused the employment rate to increase from 54.4% to 56.0%. During this period, the number of unemployed people fell (-2,800), lowering the unemployment rate from 10.3% in May 2010 to 9.2% in May 2011. Over the same period, the provincial unemployment rate declined from 9.2% to 8.3%.

For more information, please visit the Statistics Canada website at:  
<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/lfss05d-eng.htm>

### **Labour Market News by Industry**

#### **Business, Building and Support Services**

Total System Services, Inc. (TSYS) announced the opening of a financial service support centre in Greater Sudbury. The U.S. based company, which processes credit cards and other electronic payments, is scheduled to open its call center in July. Approximately 150 jobs will be created in the first year of operations, while another 300 will be added the following year.

Zedd Customer Solutions received over \$265,000 from the province to relocate their call centre and expand operations in North Bay. The provincial funding, provided through the Enterprises North Job Creation Program, will help create 150 new positions and secure 250 existing jobs.

#### **Construction**

Belanger Construction from Sudbury was awarded a \$14.1-million contract from the Province to make improvements to Highway 101 east of Wawa. The project, ending in October 2012, is expected to create about 100 jobs.

C. Villeneuve Construction Company Ltd. of Hearst was awarded a \$13-million contract from the Province to make improvements to Highway 11 west of Hearst. Construction, which includes a new westbound passing lane, culvert replacements and new pavement, will be completed by the end of the year. Approximately 80 jobs will be created.

The Town of Kirkland Lake received \$6 million from the Province to upgrade its local roads and water infrastructure. The upgrades will help the community, which has seen an increase in mining production since 2008. The project is expected to create 70 construction jobs.

The construction of the new Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) North East Region headquarters and forensic identification unit in North Bay began this month. This project will create 50 construction jobs.

A modern OPP detachment is being constructed in Kapuskasing. The new OPP James Bay Detachment's Kapuskasing Administration Centre, which will be completed by spring 2012, is expected to create 50 construction jobs.

K.J. Beamish Construction Company Ltd. was awarded a \$5.1-million contract by the Province to make repairs to Highway 108 north of Elliot Lake. Approximately 36 jobs will be created as a result of the funding. The work, which includes

repairing the current drainage system, replacing culverts and repaving a portion of the road, is scheduled for completion by the end of the year.

Teranorth Construction & Engineering Ltd. of Sudbury was awarded a \$3.5-million contract from the Province to replace the Brule Creek Bridge on Highway 652 east of Cochrane. The project, which is expected to be completed by September of 2012, will create 25 jobs.

Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology accepted a \$1.5-million investment from the Province to add a new academic wing to its campus. The funding for the new learning space, provided through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) Infrastructure and Community Development Program, will help increase student enrolment and create 18 jobs.

The Town of Kirkland Lake received \$695,700 from the NOHFC to launch a three-year revitalization project. The project will help the community strategize about how to benefit from the current mining boom and diversify the economy. About 14 jobs will be created.

### **Education Services**

The Province announced an investment of \$21 million in the Laurentian University School of Architecture. The school, which will accommodate 400 students, will be the first school of architecture in Northern Ontario. The site of the new school has yet to be determined.

### **Forestry, Mining, Oil and Gas**

Vale announced the start of its \$200 million CORE (Challenging Ore Recovery) project at the Clarabelle Mill in Copper Cliff. The investment will help increase metal recovery by four percent and create employment for up to 200 skilled trades workers. The investment is part of a series of environmental and modernization projects totalling \$3.4 billion that will take place in the next five years.

Vale and Xstrata Nickel reached an agreement to collaborate in a new copper mining initiative that will increase the lifespan of the Fraser Mine in Sudbury by approximately seven years. The new agreement will allow 75 laid off employees to return to work.

### **Health Care and Social Services**

The Northeastern Ontario Cancer Therapeutics Research Initiative (CTRI) received \$1 million from the Province to conduct cancer related research at the Sudbury Regional Hospital Lab. Approximately 25 jobs will be created within the first five years of the project.

The Sudbury Regional Hospital received \$2 million from the province to help improve the hospital's emergency wait time strategy. The money will be used to purchase new short-stay beds and create eight new jobs.

The Province invested over \$667,000 through the NOHFC Infrastructure and Community Development program to provide health and family support services to Batchewana First Nation residents. The funding will be used to construct a multi-use research hub, located in the Batchewana First Nation Health Centre, and create 15 jobs.

### **Manufacturing**

Rentech Inc. accepted a wood supply offer from the Province of Ontario. The White River sawmill will use the wood allocation to produce biodegradable synthetic jet fuel and renewable naphtha, which will be used to produce biodegradable plastics. Approximately 83 full-time jobs and 300 indirect jobs are expected to be created as a result of this wood allocation. At the peak of construction, 1,000 construction jobs will be created. The plant is expected to be operational in 2015.

KD Quality Pellets in New Liskeard accepted a wood supply offer from the Province, which will be used to produce wood pellets and create 16 new jobs. Production is expected to start by the end of 2012.

### **Trade, Wholesale and Retail**

Target Corporation named Sudbury and North Bay as locations for two of the first 105 stores it will be opening in Canada in 2013. Site renovations are expected to create a large number of jobs.

*Note: In preparing this bulletin, Service Canada has taken care to provide clients with labour market information from reliable sources that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since the bulletin was published. Readers are encouraged to also refer to other*

*sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information*

*contained in this bulletin does not necessarily reflect official policies of Service Canada.*

*Prepared by: Labour Market and Socio-economic Information Directorate, Ontario Region.*

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