

This is an overview of the Campbellton – Miramichi area which includes Restigouche, Gloucester and Northumberland Counties. The Labour Market Monitor is a monthly report produced by the local labour market information analysts. For further information, contact: samia.awad@servicecanada.gc.ca or marc.savoie@servicecanada.gc.ca

Labour Force Trends

In August 2011, the labour market improved in the Campbellton - Miramichi region. Employment increased by 1,500 to 64,900 compared with August 2010. The employment rate climbed 1.7 points to 50.2% and the unemployment rate increased by 1.5 points to 15.2%.

For more information, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: <http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/lfs05d-eng.htm>

Labour Market News by Industry

Primary Sector

Eastern New Brunswick – The poor weather conditions and heavy rain are damaging the peat industry and affecting the industry's seasonal workforce. Peat is generally harvested between mid-May and mid-September, the long sunny days of midsummer. Whereas 50% of the peat is normally harvested at this time, only 25% of the crop had been taken this year. *L'Acadie Nouvelle – August 9*

Exportation

Dalhousie – The first shipment of wood chips from residues and locally underused tree species will soon leave the port of Dalhousie for Turkey. These operations provide jobs for both dock and forest workers, as well as truckers, stimulating local employment. *L'Acadie Nouvelle – August 3*

Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

Le Goulet, Acadian Peninsula – The provincial government invested \$200,000 to carry out various projects, in particular improvement of the municipal park, layout of the playground and renovation of the community centre. These activities will create jobs in construction. *L'Acadie Nouvelle – August 2*

Retail and Wholesale Trade

Kedgwick – The Rona Matériaux Parent hardware store is reopening in Kedgwick, after closing its doors last year due to a fire. It will employ about ten people. *L'Acadie Nouvelle – August 12*

Bathurst – Minacs, a company headquartered in Toronto with 16 call centres in North America, is recruiting in Bathurst. The company plans to open a call centre in the region in September and to hire about 175 people. This is good news for the local economy, since four call centres had closed in recent years. *Radio Canada, Première chaîne – August 18*

Beresford – A serious fire has destroyed several businesses on Main Street in the municipality of Beresford, putting some 40 people out of work. *Radio Canada, Première chaîne – August 19*

Transportation and Warehousing

Miramichi – The province of New Brunswick is investing up to \$450,000 to improve the infrastructure of Miramichi airport in order to be the air cargo center for the province. The City of Miramichi will award an additional \$500,000 for this project, and \$100,000 will come from the Miramichi Airport Commission. These investments will create more job opportunities and improve the regional trade specifically. A total of up to \$3M will be invested over the next 12 years, following the signing of a long-term lease with the Miramichi Airport Commission. *Government of New Brunswick*

Note: In preparing this bulletin, Service Canada has taken care to provide clients with labour market information from reliable sources that are 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.

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