

This is an overview of the Moncton – Richibucto area which includes Albert, Kent and Westmorland Counties. The Labour Market Monitor is a monthly report focusing on labour market information produced by a local Labour Market Information Analyst. For further information, contact:

monique.boudreau@servicecanada.gc.ca
line.pike@servicecanada.gc.ca

Labour Force Trends

In August 2011, the labour market deteriorated in both the Moncton – Richibucto region and in the Moncton Census Metropolitan Area (CMA). Employment decreased by 3,200 to 105,900 in the Moncton – Richibucto region, compared to August 2010. In the Moncton CMA, employment fell by 1,500 to 73,000. The employment rate fell by 2.7 points to 61.6% in the Moncton – Richibucto region and by 2.3 points to 63.4% in the Moncton CMA. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate in the Moncton – Richibucto region rose by 0.8 points to 7.7% and by 1.0 point to 7.5% in the Moncton CMA.

For more information, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/71-001-x/2011008/t021-eng.htm>

Labour Market News by Industry

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting

Southeast NB – The fall lobster season opened on August 9 in Lobster Fishing - Area 25. This area includes a large part of the Northumberland Strait that borders on New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia. *Times & Transcript – August 9*

Construction

Moncton – Champlain Place is undertaking a major project involving the paving of its parking

lot. This project is worth \$3M and will be done in several phases. *Times & Transcript – August 30*

Educational Services

Sackville – Mount Allison University plans to build a new Fine and Performing Arts Centre on the site of the former Memorial Library. Construction on the \$30M centre should start in 2012. *Times & Transcript – August 20*

Moncton – The Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick (DMNB) will be welcoming its first students in the fall of 2012 at its new location at the Moncton Hospital. This project is the result of a partnership between the Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine, the University of New Brunswick, Horizon Health Network and the Government of New Brunswick. Each year, this program will accept up to 30 students. During the first two years, students attend classes in Saint John and in the final two years, they have the possibility of completing clerkships in Moncton, Saint John, Fredericton and Miramichi. *Telegraph Journal – August 29*

Health Care and Social Assistance

New Brunswick – The Horizon Health Network is undergoing an efficiency exercise to balance its budget, which could result in layoffs. The President of the CUPE Local 1252, known as the New Brunswick Council of Hospital Unions (NBCHU), was informed about the exercise and the possible layoffs.

CUPE Local 1252 has 11,000 members across New Brunswick, including paramedics, licensed practical nurses, cardiology technologists, clerical and maintenance staff and others who work for the Horizon and Vitalité health authorities, Ambulance New Brunswick (ANB), the New Brunswick Health Council (NBHC) and other organizations. The Vitalité Health Network is managing its budgetary restrictions by taking two cost-cutting measures: limiting staffing overtime and selective attrition.

ANB which employs all paramedics in the province, has no layoffs planned but is currently

in the process of hiring more paramedics.
*Times & Transcript, Telegraph Journal –
August 9*

Information and Cultural Industries

New Brunswick – L'Acadie Nouvelle, the only French-language daily newspaper in New Brunswick is seeking help from the provincial government. It is laying off five of its employees.
Times & Transcript – August 6

Public Administration

New Brunswick – The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada is providing \$57M in funding to repair and maintain small craft harbours across Canada. New Brunswick will receive \$9.7M for dredging, repair and maintenance projects at 14 commercial fishing harbours in the province. The funding is in addition to the \$71.6M already received from the Government of Canada last March to repair storm damaged fishing harbours in Atlantic Canada, Quebec and Manitoba. *Times & Transcript – August 6, Canada News Centre – August 5*

New Brunswick – The minister of Fisheries and Oceans is performing a review of its workforce across Canada. Various positions could be eliminated, through attrition. However, the union spokesperson expects that layoffs will start in the department next month and will continue in three or four waves through to 2014. The federal government would like to reduce government expenditures by \$11B overall and \$47M in Fisheries and Oceans Canada alone. *Times & Transcript – August 15*

New Brunswick – The provincial government has officially approved the decision to postpone the \$0.50 increase on the minimum wage in New Brunswick until April 1, 2012. The minimum wage will increase from \$9.50 to \$10 per hour.
Times & Transcript – August 26

Moncton – The Moncton city council has decided to reduce the city hall workforce by 1% for the next operating budget. The council wants to start the process by first looking at attrition.
Times & Transcript – August 13

Retail Trade

Moncton – Pets Unlimited is launching the Every Pet Deserves a Home adoption program, in partnership with animal shelters and rescue groups across the country. At the same time, the store announced that it is no longer sell dogs at any of its locations. Some job losses are expected but the number of positions affected is not final. *Times & Transcript August 17*

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.