



News Release

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BRANTFORD JOBLESS RATE AT 7-MONTH LOW

BRANTFORD (Aug. 5, 2016) – Brantford’s jobless rate tumbled last month to its lowest level in 2016, even as unemployment climbed across Canada.

July’s local seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.5%, down a full percentage point for the second month in a row, according to Statistics Canada data released Friday.

Canada’s jobless rate was 6.9% in July, as the country lost 70,000 full-time jobs, while gaining 40,000 part-time positions. Ontario lost the most jobs, 36,000, but the provincial unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.4% since fewer people participated in the labour force.

In Brantford, employment grew to its highest level in a year in July, with an estimated 69,900 people working, up 2,500 from July 2015.

“We’re hearing from Brantford area employers that they have job openings, but don’t have enough applicants,” said Jill Halyk, executive director of the Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie. “Jobs that are available have different skill and experience levels, and many employers are willing to offer on-the-job training to motivated new hires.”

Residents who don’t think they have the necessary job skills can take advantage of training that is offered in our community, Halyk said. Free, short-term training that is often available through Employment Ontario agencies includes: safe food handling, point of sale training, basic computer programs, working at heights, and WHMIS.

BrantJobs posted 430 jobs in July, down 13% from the previous month. Postings averaged more than 500 a month from March to June. About 52% of job postings are in two main sectors: Manufacturing, Processing and Utilities (29.8%); and Sales, Retail, and Specialty Services (22.8%).

[BrantJobs](#) is a service of the City of Brantford and County of Brant, providing a broad range of employment solutions to local employers and jobseekers. The [Workforce Planning Board](#) is one of 26 non-profit organizations funded through the Government of Ontario that play a leadership role in labour force planning.

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Note: Statistics Canada’s monthly Labour Force Survey provides estimates of employment and unemployment, based on a sampling of households in communities. Brantford’s unemployment figures are reported on a 3-month moving average, while the Canadian and Ontario rates are monthly figures.