



# News Release

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## BRANTFORD JOBLESS RATE TUMBLES TO 4.2%

BRANTFORD (Feb. 10, 2017) – Brantford’s jobless rate tumbled to a three-year low of 4.2% in January, after a third straight month of substantial job creation.

January’s unemployment rate fell half a percentage point from the 4.7% recorded in December, according to seasonally adjusted Statistics Canada figures released Friday. January’s 4.2% rate matches what was last seen in November 2013 and is the lowest in the region (Guelph is next at 5.5%).

Canada’s unemployment rate was 6.8% in January, while Ontario’s was 6.4%.

Since last October, Brantford has seen employment grow by an estimated 5,200 jobs, resulting in the jobless rate falling to 4.2% from 6.2% in 4 months. About 1,300 of those jobs were added last month alone.

“I can’t remember such rapid job growth in such a short period of time. It’s great to see,” said Jill Halyk, executive director of the Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie. “Our stable business environment and community collaboration has made the Brantford area attractive for job creation.”

Halyk said the employment growth isn’t a surprise when you see that more than 12,600 jobs have been posted online across Grand Erie in the last year, according to Vicinity job numbers purchased by the Workforce Planning Board. Seventy per cent of those postings were permanent jobs.

The Vicinity data shows that manufacturing continues to lead the way in local job creation followed by public administration. Top sectors for jobs have been sales and service, manufacturing, health care, and trades and transportation, but there’s been growth across the board, Halyk said.

BrantJobs figures mirror the Vicinity information. BrantJobs posted 420 paid jobs in January, up by about 80 since December. Manufacturing-related jobs continue to lead the way locally, followed by those in sales, retail and the trades, with 76% of job postings being full time.

[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.

**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 Canada’s and Ontario’s are monthly.