



News Release

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JOBLESS RATE CLIMBS BUT SO DOES EMPLOYMENT

BRANTFORD (Sept. 8, 2017) – More city residents were employed and looking for work last month even through the local unemployment rate rose.

Brantford's jobless rate rose to 5.3% in August, from 5% in July, according to seasonally adjusted estimates released by Statistics Canada Friday.

Canada's monthly unemployment rate was 6.2%, while Ontario's was 5.7%, the lowest level in the province since 2001.

In Brantford, an estimated 1,500 more residents were working in August, pushing the city's employment back up to above 60% to 60.8%. July was the first time in 15 years Brantford's employment rate fell below 60%.

"August's job numbers are good news in many ways," said Jill Halyk, executive director of the Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie.

"More people are looking for and finding work. We are hearing from many employers that the labour market is tight and they simply do not have enough applicants to meet the demand."

The Workforce Planning Board, in collaboration with local colleges, is launching two projects this Fall to help meet the need of local companies for welders and employees in transportation and warehousing.

"It is increasingly important to ensure that we provide new entrants into the job market with the training and support they need," Halyk said. "Local businesses depend on good people to meet their production needs."

Approximately 380 jobs across all sectors were posted online during August, according to TalentNeuron data purchased by the Workforce Planning Board.

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 Canada's and Ontario's are monthly.