



# News Release

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## MAY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS HALF A PERCENTAGE POINT

BRANTFORD (May 10, 2011) – Brantford’s employment picture continues to show modest improvement, according to jobless figures announced Friday.

Brantford’s unemployment rate fell to 8.4 per cent in May, down from 8.9 in April, according to Statistics Canada numbers released by [BrantJobs](#). It was the second consecutive month the rate fell. (To see the full report, click [HERE](#))

BrantJobs continues to see an increase in job posting. The popular job search website reported 341 active listings last month, up 62 per cent from May 2010. Full-time, permanent positions saw the most growth, and such jobs now account for about 50 per cent of postings. Occupations seeing strong prospects include health care workers, transportation operators, and labourers in the trades, processing, manufacturing and utilities.

“It’s good to see that local employers are advertising full-time, permanent positions,” said Jill Halyk, executive director of the [Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie](#). “These are encouraging signs that the economy may be improving.”

The Workforce Planning Board’s May labour force survey supports evidence of an improving local job market.

The 92 Grand Erie employers who participated in May’s survey reported hiring 125 staff, while only 29 positions were eliminated, for a net gain of 96 positions. Employment growth was especially strong in seasonal-type occupations, including workers for farms, nurseries and swimming pool companies. But there was also demand for machinists, welders, machine operators and other occupations.

The Workforce Planning Board is one of 25 non-profit organizations in Ontario that play a leadership role in labour force planning.

BrantJobs is a service of the City of Brantford and County of Brant, providing a broad range of employment solutions to local employers and job seekers. Full details can be found at [www.brantjobs.ca](http://www.brantjobs.ca)

- 30 -

Contacts:

Jill Halyk, Executive Director, Workforce Planning Board, 519-756-1116, x227

[jhalyk@workforceplanningboard.org](mailto:jhalyk@workforceplanningboard.org)

Mark Skeffington, Communications/Project Co-ordinator, 519-756-1116, x228

[mark@workforceplanningboard.org](mailto:mark@workforceplanningboard.org)