



News Release

For more information, contact:
Mark Skeffington 519-756-1116, x228
mark@workforceplanningboard.org

BRANTFORD JOBLESS RATE UNCHANGED AT 7%

BRANTFORD (Sept. 4, 2015) - Brantford's unemployment rate stayed steady in August, while BrantJobs saw a record number of job postings locally.

August's local seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 7%, the same as July, according to Statistics Canada figures released Friday. Brantford's unemployment rate now matches the Canadian average, which climbed to 7% from 6.8% even though 12,000 new jobs were created. Ontario's jobless rate was 6.8%, up from 6.4%.

Locally, BrantJobs saw a big jump in the number of job postings last month, up 60 from July. The 530 jobs posted in August were the highest the website has seen since it was launched in 2008.

"It's good to see our employment rate stabilize, but I think the bigger news is the number of businesses hiring," said Jill Halyk, executive director of the Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie. "The BrantJobs figures suggest that hiring is picking up locally, putting us in a good position moving forward."

BrantJobs figures also show the large majority of job postings are permanent, full-time positions, which is positive news, Halyk said. The average hourly wage for postings over the last year is \$15.47 an hour. That figure is above the local living wage of \$14.48 an hour determined by a study done by the Brant County Health Unit.

In Brantford, the employment rate climbed slightly, moving up to 60.5% from 60.3%, reversing the recent downward trend.

Brantford saw a monthly increase in jobs in trades and manufacturing, and a modest drop in the number of retail salespersons. All three sectors are among the top sources of jobs in the area.

[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 in 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.