



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Human Resource Centre of Canada

### Peterborough Area

~ An Analysis of the Peterborough Area Labour Market ~ April To June 2005 ~

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The Peterborough Area HRCC Labour Market Bulletin is a quarterly report produced by the area Labour Market Information Analyst. This bulletin and other LMI products may also be found on our website. (aussi disponible en français)

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**Note:** In preparing this bulletin, HRSDC has taken care to provide clients with labour market information from reliable sources that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since the bulletin was published. Readers are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this bulletin does not necessarily reflect official policies of HRSDC.

*An overview of the Peterborough Area which includes the Peterborough/Haliburton, Cobourg and City of Kawartha Lakes HRCC areas. areas*

Employment increased between April and June ending four quarters of decline in the Peterborough and surrounding area. There were almost 5,000 less people unemployed. Employment grew by over 16,000 and the number of people participating in the labour force increased by over 11,000. Employment gains occurred in both full- and part-time workers. The participation rate increased to 62.2 percent up from 58.7 percent last quarter and the unemployment rate dropped to 5.4 percent from 8.6 percent.

Last year, there were 6,000 more people working, the participation rate was 64.8 percent and the unemployment rate was 4.6 percent.

Both the goods- and services-producing sector cited employment gains. The utilities and manufacturing industries dominated employment gains in the goods-producing sector while educational services, public administration, trade and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing cited the highest gains in the service-producing sector. Construction, agriculture, transportation and warehousing, and other services experienced the greatest job losses.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▶ Recovery in 2005 continues with continuous employment gains from February to June
- ▶ Services-producing sector creates over 15,000 jobs but many service industries still below last year's employment levels
- ▶ Lansdowne Place Mall, Peterborough to become a regional shopping centre
- ▶ Transcontinental Best Book in Peterborough will close in October 2005
- ▶ Approximately 180 more jobs anticipated in Port Hope when three new businesses move from Mississauga
- ▶ ICT Group Call Centre in Lindsay to remain open
- ▶ The new Home Hardware Building Centre in Peterborough to hire 60 people
- ▶ A new 96-bed long term care nursing home under construction in Bobcaygeon
- ▶ The average number of claims dropped approximately three percent compared to the same time last year
- ▶ Advertised employment opportunities increased eight percent compared to last year



LABOUR MARKET NEWS

*Highlights on industry activities that have an impact on the local labour market, this information is derived from several sources including local newspapers, newsletters and various publications. Please refer to "Notes to Readers" for additional information.*

**Utilities**

Eighteen Peterborough employees joined more than 1,000 employees across Ontario who walked off the job due to Hydro One offering a new contract that would cut pay and benefits to new employees. Engineers, accountants, scientists and IT professionals with Hydro One walked off the job on June 6, 2005

**Construction**

**Peterborough**

In the second quarter of 2005, Peterborough experienced the best second quarter performance in home construction in the last 10 years. Home starts levels continue to be strong and it is expected to remain strong for the rest of 2005. According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 161 homes started, up 5.2 percent from the same period of 2004. Single detached starts declined 14.1 percent to 128 units, while multiple starts rose to 33 units. Low mortgage rates, strong consumer confidence and more affordable prices for homes in the Peterborough area will keep demand for new homes strong this year.

Construction of the speed skating oval in Lakefield may be delayed until 2006 after the project did not qualify for government infrastructure funding from the Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund. A second application for funding will be sent later in 2005.

The Peterborough flood on July 15, 2004 caused more than \$100 million in damages. UMA Engineering presented the flood reduction master plan to the city's flood committee. The plan included drainage projects such as a watercourse management plan, environmental assessments of Jackson and Curtis catchment areas and flood-proofing private property. The cost will be approximately \$8-million not including the design or construction.

The renovations to upgrade Peterborough City Hall have started and are expected to be completed by spring 2007. The renovations include additional space, modernization, customer service and security upgrades. The project is valued at approximately \$1.5 million and will be done in five phases.

County road and bridge construction for 2005 have been scaled back due to increasing operating costs from the high amount of snowfall last winter. The following projects will be completed:

- There will be one major road construction project on County Road 40 to Highway 7 in Norwood valued at \$825,000

- Gannons Narrow Bridge, Chases Bridge and Old Canal Bridge will undergo design work and repairs for a total cost of \$165,000.
- Surface treatment will take place on county roads, 2, 3, 8, 11, 20, 33, 44 and 50.

Industrial land at the corner of Erskine Avenue and the Kingsway was approved by the city's planning committee to be rezoned from industrial land to special-purpose retail. The rezoning allows the property to be used for a greater variety of businesses such as big box stores.

- Air Tech Heating and Cooling has opened.
- Jack and Jill of all Trades is a new business offering plumbing, carpentry, electrical repairs, painting services, etc.

On May 2, 2005 city council passed the following construction projects:

- Sir Sandford Fleming Drive and Spillsbury Drive intersection improvements at an estimated cost of \$540,000
- sidewalk reconstruction at an estimated cost of \$870,000
- resurfacing of pavement on designated streets at a cost of \$650,000
- improvements to Westcott and Aylmer Street sewage and water mains costing \$1,083,065

Storm and sanitary sewers will be replaced from 574 Weller Street to Walton Street for \$364,560 with work scheduled to begin September 5 and end October 30, 2005. Subdrains and drainage swales will be installed on Meadowview Road for \$94,809. Work is scheduled to begin June 20 and be completed by July 2005. The contracts were awarded to Accurex Inc. of Peterborough.

Construction on Weller Street and portions of Westbrook Drive and Hopkins Avenue will provide servicing to the Jackson Creek and Lily Lake Secondary Planning areas. Balterre Contracting Limited was awarded the \$2 million contract.

Approximately 50 employees employed in Peterborough and Belleville, represented by Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union joined another 1,400 Entourage Technology Solutions employees across Ontario who walked off the job on March 24, 2005. The employees have been without a contract since September 2004.



### *Housing*

The former Central School building on Murray Street will be converted into 50 apartments. The renovations to the 46,500 sq. ft. building will be completed by December 2004.

Kawartha Glen Condominiums is a new three-storey low-rise 64-unit building to be built on Clonsilla Avenue. The condominiums will range in size from a one-bedroom 560 sq. ft. unit to 1,270 sq. ft. two-bedroom unit. There will be a Kawartha Lounge and a social occasion/party room with a caterer's kitchen and bar. Developer Signum Group has opened a sales office on the site. Construction is expected to be completed in the fall of 2006. Condominium prices will start at \$129,900. Another 91 apartment units are under construction in the former post office on Charlotte Street. Expected occupancy date is in early fall 2005. The \$8-million project will be a three-storey 91-unit apartment building with units ranging from 490 to 916 sq. ft. Apartment pricing ranges from \$560 to \$1025 per month.

### **Haliburton**

The old Sir Sandford Fleming College campus on Highway 118 has been purchased by two local businessmen with plans to build condominiums on the site.

### **Cobourg**

The retail building which houses Blockbuster Video on Elgin Street is currently under construction with an expansion of 2,000 sq. ft. and Castlehead Homes will build 29 new homes in Dunbar Gardens on D'Arcy Street.

### **City of Kawartha Lakes**

A new long term care nursing home is under construction at 28 Boyd Street in Bobcaygeon beside the old Case Manor nursing home. It will have 96 beds with private suites, ensuite washroom and state of the art programs and services for seniors and special need adults. Speciality Care Inc. purchased Case Manor in November 2004.

### **Manufacturing**

Transcontinental Best Book printing plant on Jameson Drive will close by October 2005 leaving 140 people out of work. A new plant opening in Louiseville, Quebec will replace an existing Louiseville Transcontinental plant and will take over much of the Peterborough work. Employees will be offered a severance package and will be able to apply for employment at the Louiseville plant. According to the company, the closure of the Peterborough plant and the opening of the Quebec plant will improve efficiency in the network of the publisher's facilities and reduce cost because of the high Canadian dollar and increased competition from Asian printers.

General Motors Corporation announced that in an attempt to restore General Motors North American business, 25,000 United States jobs will be cut by 2008 and would include plant closures. There are 20,000 workers in Canada with a large

plant in Oshawa. In the first four months of 2005 total Oshawa output fell by close to 18 percent.

RND Crafters opened in Peterborough offering made-to-order outdoor furniture. Owners are Rich and Diane Corrigan.  
[www.rndcrafters.com](http://www.rndcrafters.com)

### **Cobourg**

Polyframe Moulding Inc., Unico Extrusion and a portion of Picture Depot are relocating their businesses from Mississauga to Port Hope. The combined business operations include moulding, picture framing manufacturing, and framed print distribution to national retail outlets. The businesses currently employ 180 and will be creating 30 new jobs initially and 150 more jobs when Picture Depot relocates.

Weston Bakeries Limited employees reached a new contract with the company. The contract provides seasonal workers with five years of service, a \$500 bonus and permanent full-time employees will receive wage increases from \$1.50 to \$2.90 per hour plus a \$1,000 signing bonus. Both permanent and seasonal employees will also receive new health and welfare coverage.

Cam Tran Company employees in Colborne went on strike on May 16, 2005. Their collective agreement expired on February 28, 2005. The company offered a two percent annual wage increase over the next four years with no benefits. Benefits were cut back last year.

### **City of Kawartha Lakes**

Aramark Toolworks' 300 employees ratified a new contract which includes a wage increase and health and safety improvements.

### **Trade**

#### **Peterborough**

#### *Openings:*

- Home Hardware Building Centre - Chemong Road is a new store that will employ 60 people. There will be two 25,000 sq. ft. buildings.
- Uptown Music - 404 George Street. The store plans to have three floors of pianos, guitars, band equipment, rentals, a service department and a school of music.
- Gansta Gear - 442 George Street - clothing store.
- I See France - 382 George Street - lingerie store.
- Smooking - 337 George Street - cigar and pipe store.
- Country Mart - 3328 Buckhorn Road. The new convenience store features baked goods.
- Kindred Spirits - 332 Rubidge Street. The new gift boutique specializes in local artisans.



- BioPed Peterborough - 445 George Street. The franchise offers custom-made orthotics and orthotic footwear.
- "Zoola and Loola" - 375 George Street is a new woman's clothing and accessories store.
- Browsers Paradise - 7-815 High Street in the Parklane Plaza is a new gift shop opened by Mary Jane Moffat who formerly worked at Browsers Nook for 25 years.
- Revolutions - 1600 Lansdowne Street is a new aftermarket auto accessories store.  
[www.streetrevolutions.ca](http://www.streetrevolutions.ca)

*Expansions:*

- Lansdowne Place will be expanding to become a regional shopping centre so local shoppers will remain in the community instead of travelling to larger shopping areas like Oshawa. Old Navy a family clothing store, will be coming to Lansdowne Place after an announcement was made on May 20, 2005. Loblaws will almost triple their size when the grocery store expands from 63,000 sq. ft. to 160,000 sq. ft. The grocery store would become Loblaws Real Canadian Superstore brand.
- Knock on Wood - 440 George Street is expanding and taking over Your Bed Bath and Kitchen Store located next door. Both stores are owned by Dave Madill. Your Bed Bath and Kitchen Store will close once the stock is liquidated. Knock on Wood will become Knock On Wood and More offering furniture, accessories, kitchen and bath products.
- Shopper's Drug Mart in Lansdowne Place relocated to their new 18,800 sq. ft. space on Lansdowne Place. The store will have a digital photo department, expanded beauty counter and will sell speciality foods like organic pasta and cereal. The building also has 2,700 sq. ft. of space for medical offices.
- Plush Boutique - 384 George Street.
- Kelcey's Nutrition Centre - 65 Hunter Street East.
- Tall Trees Gifts and Collectibles - 317 Reid Street

*Closures:*

- Liquidation World - Peterborough Square.
- Musicland - 427 George Street.

**Haliburton**

- Independent Grocery store opened on County Road 21. The new 35,000 sq. ft. store employs 120 people and has a pharmacy, garden centre, bakery, grocery store and a general merchandise section which sells items such as TV's and DVD's.

**Cobourg**

- Bubbles and Gems - 36 Walton Street in Port Hope is a new home décor store specializing in jewellery

**City of Kawartha Lakes**

Wal Mart department chain store is currently looking for property to build a store in Lindsay. Approximately 7,000 Lindsay area people signed a petition in February 2003 asking the chain to build however, insufficient municipal services is the major obstacle.

*Openings:*

- House Wines - 100 Lindsay Street.
- Bargain Shop - 14 Colborne Street in Fenelon Falls.
- Memories By You - 47 Kent Street West is a new business that offers scrapbook supplies and instruction classes.

*Closures:*

- Zellers Select - 55 Angeline Street.
- Soup for the Soul Soup Kitchen - 20 Cambridge Street North
- Used Armour Christian Book Store - 96 Queen Street.

**Transportation and warehousing**

**Peterborough**

Clearlee Safe Ride has opened offering a driver service where the driver will take clients home in their own car.

**Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing**

**Peterborough**

According to the Peterborough Kawarthas Association of Realtors, the real estate market in the first quarter of 2005 was slower than in 2004 but still remains strong. In March there were 277 properties sold in the Peterborough area compared to 359 sold in March 2004. The sale of homes in the \$240,000 range increased by 20 percent compared to last year and the sale of homes below the \$240,000 mark decreased from last year due to lack of listings. Building permits issued in February were up by 13.5 percent across Canada as reported by Statistics Canada and permit values in February were the third highest ever recorded.

**Cobourg**

Thorncrest Realty Inc. opened a new office at 21 King Street West.

**Professional, scientific and technical services**

**Peterborough**





*Openings:*

- Interiors Just for You is a new service where the owner comes into your home and provides advice on preparing your home for resale.
- Inspections Plus Home & Cottage Inspections services Peterborough and the Kawarthas.
- Sensational Spaces Interior Design
- Armstrong Associates is a new consulting service offering solutions in identifying prospective partnerships, planning strategies and regional or sector strategies.
- Nerds on Site, a new technology franchise offers at home and office technology service. They provide networking, web design, hardware purchase and software development. [www.nerdsonsite.com](http://www.nerdsonsite.com)

**City of Kawartha Lakes**

Accu-Pro Home Inspections has opened, servicing Lindsay and the Kawartha Lakes.

**Business, building and other support services**

**Peterborough**

*Openings:*

- Distress Aid is a new service, offering personal distress alarms to senior citizens, handicapped persons, and persons living alone or with medical conditions.
- Post Family Enterprises is a new excavating business that provides foundation waterproofing and repairs, landscaping, and sand and gravel delivery.
- Max Effective Communications offers training programs to help both employee and employers with communications skills.
- Clearly, Fresh Ideas and Imaginative Strategies opened offering marketing and graphic design services to businesses.
- Marketing Guy, a new marketing consultant firm services Peterborough and Central Ontario and provides services in Internet marketing, Marketing and Business Plans and Trade Show services. [www.MarketingGuy.ca](http://www.MarketingGuy.ca)

*Expansions:*

- Gary's Landscaping in Omeme provides services including excavation, grass cutting, septic installation, and renovations to yards have expanded their business. They now sell topsoil, mulch, gravel, concrete curbs, interlocking brick and firewood on property on Highway 7 west of Lindsay.

**City of Kawartha Lakes**

The ICT Group Call Centre at the Whitney Town Centre in Lindsay will remain open. The 250 employee company has decided to keep its Lindsay location open after an increase in client demand. The call centre had announced in March it would merge their Lindsay office with their Peterborough based call centre.

Cardinal Coach Tours opened at 18 Cambridge Street, Unit 18. The business offers motorcoach tours within Ontario, Canada and the United States.

**Educational services**

The Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic School Board and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association ratified a new contract on May 31, 2005. The new contract is retroactive to September 1, 2004 and expires September 1, 2008. The contract includes a wage increase of 10.2 percent from September 1, 2004 until August 31, 2008 and improvements to preparation and planning time and transfer and posting procedure improvements for teachers.

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board approved new contracts for both elementary and secondary school teachers which include a 10.2 percent wage increase. Both elementary and secondary teachers ratified the new contracts in separate votes in June 2005. The contracts for both are retroactive to September 2004 and expire in August 21, 2008. Elementary teachers contract also increases the preparation time to 200 minutes from 150 and the secondary school teachers sees a reduction of teacher's on call, mentoring and supervision time by four and half periods by 2008. Both contracts ended August 31, 2004.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board's 700 teachers ratified a new contract by a vote of 97 percent on May 11, 2005 which gives more preparation time and an increase in wages. The contract is retroactive to September 2004 and will run to August 2008. The 700 teachers with the board have been without a contract since August 2004.

**Peterborough**

Trent University will receive up to \$1.3 million in provincial funding to go towards funding underfunded students and approximately \$2 million towards addressing the quality of education, class size and course selection and look into staff planning discussions. The university had a hiring freeze on library, faculty positions, and support staff to reduce the university's \$6-million deficit. The budget will increase spaces by 12,000 for full-time graduate students by 2008 and 14,000 by the end of 2010. The university will give land to the city in exchange for \$2 million towards the DNA cluster project. The city would gain land for sports fields, a new Nassau Mills bridge, new campus arterial ring road, affordable housing on Water Street, and an extension of the Rotary Trail through the campus and Armour Road realignment.

*Openings:*



- Professional, Personal Computer Training (PPCT) – 403 McDonnell St. [www.ppct.ca](http://www.ppct.ca)
- Macdonald Learning & Resource Centre - offers learning strategies to individuals in writing, speaking, concentration, math and self confidence. It is offered through one-on-one tutoring, group sessions or to students.

### Health care and social assistance

Ontario's announcement on April 15, 2005 of 52 family health teams and three community family health teams across Ontario may bring eight new doctors with a total of five family health teams to the area. The news came when another doctor, Dr. Doug MacIntosh announced he would be closing his 1,500 patient family practice on June 3, 2005. A new mental health crisis response program has begun servicing Northumberland, City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton and Peterborough counties. The on-call service has mental health care professionals responding to individuals in stress, within 24 hours. The program is funded through the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

#### Peterborough

Three non-union positions were eliminated and one consolidated position was created at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre when its communication department restructured. The salaries for the three positions were each under \$100,000 per year. Peterborough Regional Health Care Centre will receive \$132 million from the province for funding for 2005 - 2006. The funding will be multi-year for hospital operations for 2006-2007 at \$135 million and \$137 million for 2007-2008.

A new Homeopathic Medicine practice opened at the Jackson Creek Natural Health Centre at 187 Sherbrooke Street.

The Alymer Street Walk-in Clinic re-opened in May. A nurse practitioner and a registered practical nurse have been hired to run the clinic. The property owner AON will provide temporary relief of rent and over the long term a low rental rate. The new clinic will be open Monday to Friday by appointment only from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and closed Wednesday mornings. The nurse practitioner will be able to conduct physicals, diagnose and treat common illnesses and infections, and order X-rays, lab tests and ultrasounds.

North Kawartha Health Care Centre in Apsley received \$50,000 from couple Terrence and Stephanie Lippert to go towards a 1,100 sq. ft. addition. The addition which will cost \$327,000 has been in the planning stages for three years and will have a tele-medical system which allows doctors and practitioners to consult with specialists. It will also provide extra space for storage of patient files, staff room, washrooms with a shower and more space for patient care. The health care centre services approximately 2,000 regular patients from the township and Bancroft, Lakefield, Havelock, Norwood, Cardiff and Campbellford. In the summer months the centre

services up to 5,000 patients. Local paramedics from the Canadian Union of Public Employees accepted a new contract with Peterborough County that includes a wage increase of about 16.5 percent over three years, increase in vacation time, and parental leave improvements.

#### Cobourg

Northumberland Hills Hospital announced that Dr. Michael Barrie, an anesthetist-emergency physician and Dr. Andrew Stafford, a general surgeon have joined the hospital's staff.

#### City of Kawartha Lakes

Dr. Leon Lerm opened a family practice at 86 Angeline Street South. A second nurse practitioner has been hired in the City of Kawartha Lakes and will be interviewing prospective patients and hopes to take on 700 patients. She will be serving two communities in Lindsay.

### Information, culture and recreation

#### Peterborough

Cinema 379 at 379 George Street re-opened June 2, 2005. The patrons choose movies to be shown in the cinema by using a suggestion box and the former fine dining restaurant at the front of the cinema is a concession stand serving popcorn, candy and other items such as crepes. The Peterborough Arts Umbrella re-opened after the July 15, 2005 flood. Their new 4,500 sq. ft. facility at 378 Aylmer Street North is now shared with Artspace, Arbor Theatre and Backlash Projects.

A new 4.2 kilometre recreational trail that begins at Highland Road and Fairbairn Street continues on to Cumberland Avenue and down to Carnegie Avenue has begun construction. The \$250,000 trail will be paid for by two local businessmen and should be completed by July 2005.

The Kingswood Community Centre at 993 Talwood Drive was sold to The Church at Selwyn and King's Kids Promotions Outreach Ministries Inc. for \$230,000. The proposed plans for the centre includes an indoor skateboard park, KAOS radio station, youth outreach centre, after school programs, performing arts camp, and recording studios. The 15,600 sq. ft. centre has been replaced by the new Peterborough Sport and Wellness Centre.

Kawartha Extreme Mini Motor-Plex, a new indoor racing facility opened at 1539 Chemong Road.

#### Cobourg

Indigo Spirit Yoga opened at 41 John Street in Port Hope.

### Accommodation and food services

#### Peterborough

*Openings:*

- Burnham Mansion located on the Old Keene Road and Highway 7 has re-opened. The name of the restaurant is Burnham Mansion: Casual Family



Dining with a Twist. The restaurant will offer regular buffet nights with the twist being that customers who order the buffet can order additional items from the menu at discount prices.

- Coffee Plus opened in Price Choppers on Lansdowne Street. The Canadian Mental Health Association along with Price Choppers as a partner is operating the business with supported adult employment.
- Montana's Cookhouse will be built in the Winner's Plaza along the Parkway. Developer, First Capital will construct the 5,150 sq. ft. restaurant.
- A new ice cream parlour, Lick This opened on Water Street

*Expansions:*

- Pizza Hut is expanding their location at 705 George Street by renovating the former laundromat next door. The expansion added bathrooms and seating for 25 to 30 patrons and increase their kitchen size.
- Sticklings Bistro will be relocating across the street from their former location on Charlotte Street to the new apartment complex. The move will allow for a seating area for 24 and expand their lunch menu and offer afternoon tea service.

*Closures:*

- Cultures at 141 Charlotte Street closed on April 22, 2005.

**Cobourg**

McDonald's restaurant on William Street plans to demolish their current building and rebuild a new 5,217 sq. ft. restaurant. Once approved by city council then demolition would begin in September with an expected completion date December 2005.

*Openings:*

Juiceworks - King Street East.

Captain George's Fish & Chips - 23 Mill Street, Port Hope.

**Other services**

**Peterborough**

Foot Fundamentals opened, it is owned by Jenny Rheaul, R.N. The business offers home pedicures and preventative care for clients with arthritis and diabetes. [www.footfundamentals.ca](http://www.footfundamentals.ca)

Life Path Astrology opened offering a global service of life-coaching and strategic advice. The business is owned by two astrologers. [www.lifepathastrology.com](http://www.lifepathastrology.com)

**City of Kawartha Lakes**

Zolts Pizza opened at 109 Queen Street, Lindsay.

**Tourism**

**Peterborough**

The Canadian Canoe Museum, Lang Pioneer Village and Peterborough and Kawarthas Tourism have teamed up to create a tour package called Paddles to Pioneers. The package is being offered to tour operators as a day trip with stops at the canoe museum, lunch at a local restaurant and a visit to Lang Pioneer Village. The team will be working with Thomas Cook Travel and the Community Futures Development Corporation to provide "step-on" guides for the tours. The tour is marketed towards Toronto tourists and senior groups.

The new tourist centre located near Highway 115 and Highway 28 junction has opened. The centre is a pilot project until September 2005 at which time township council will decide if there is sufficient need for the centre. Township council has approved zoning for a gasoline station and a donut restaurant.

**Cobourg**

Cobourg, Port Hope and Northumberland tourism will benefit from the Green Tourism Association of Toronto's third edition of the TourGreen Map which markets "green getaways" within a 100 mile radius of Toronto. The map outlines conservation areas, gardens, museums, galleries, heritage sites and environmental visits. [www.tourgreen.ca](http://www.tourgreen.ca).

For more labour market news, visit the HRCC web-site at: <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca>



LABOUR FORCE TRENDS

(Produced by the Eastern Ontario Area Economist)

Employment expanded 10 percent for the spring quarter in Muskoka-Kawarthas. The increased jobs dropped unemployment by nearly 5,000 and brought twice that many job seekers into the labour force. The previous spike in the unemployment rate was due to a flood of people moving into a growing labour market. The decrease in unemployment and the unemployment rate was the result of the remnants of that tide finding jobs as employment opportunities continued to be created at a rapid rate. The unemployment rate dropped over three percentage points to 5.4 percent.

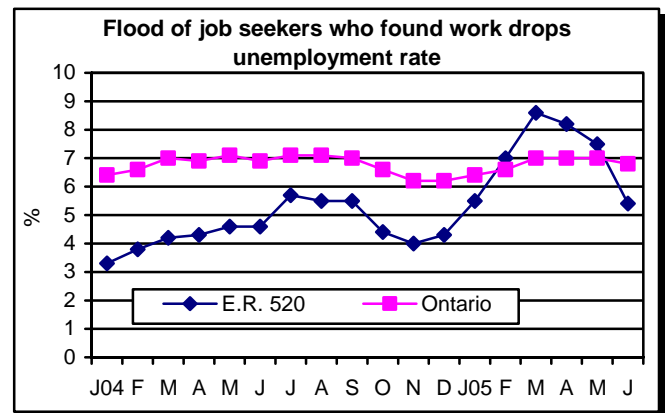
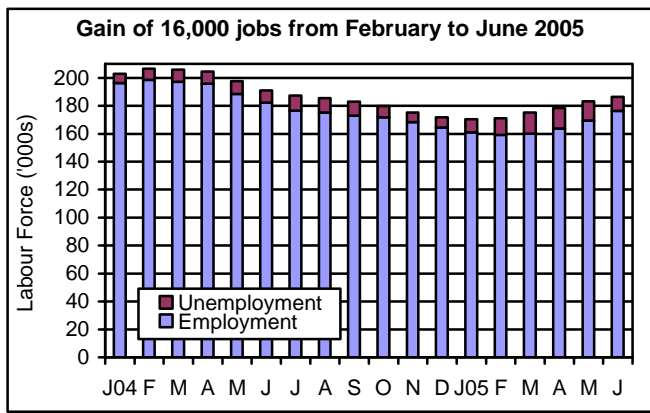
The current labour market remains behind last June's conditions. Six thousand more jobs need to be created for the labour market to return to where it had been. Unemployment, however, was only 1,400 above last year's and the unemployment rate is less than one percent above the previous level.

Muskoka-Kawarthas (E.R. 520) labour force trends

	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Change			
				Quarter/Quarter Absolute	%	Year/Year Absolute	%
Population 15 +	299,700	298,300	294,800	1,400	0.5	4,900	1.7
Labour force	186,500	175,200	191,100	11,300	6.4	-4,600	-2.4
Employed	176,400	160,200	182,400	16,200	10.1	-6,000	-3.3
Full-time	134,500	122,900	145,300	11,600	9.4	-10,800	-7.4
Part-time	41,800	37,300	37,000	4,500	12.1	4,800	13.0
Unemployed	10,100	15,000	8,700	-4,900	-32.7	1,400	16.1
Not in labour force	113,200	123,200	103,700	-10,000	-8.1	9,500	9.2
Participation rate	62.2	58.7	64.8	3.5		-2.6	
Unemployment rate	5.4	8.6	4.6	-3.2		0.8	
Employment rate	58.9	53.7	61.9	5.2		-3.0	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey





**Employment by Industry**

Both the goods- and services-producing sectors created jobs. The goods-producing sector had two industries with large gains, manufacturing and utilities, whose increases were almost entirely offset by two industries with large losses, construction and agriculture. Manufacturing is the region's largest employer. The services-producing sector had over 15,000 more jobs. About half of the jobs came from wholesale and retail trade. Education, at a seasonal high in June, also added over 4,000 jobs.

Compared to a year ago, many industries are still recovering from the 2004 decline. Health care and social assistance with over 7,000 fewer workers remains significantly below its previous levels. Eight out of 11 services-producing industries were below last June's numbers. The goods-producing sector seems to have made a more complete recovery as the sector's total employment was above last June's. The exception is construction which was dragged down by this quarter's poor job performance.

**Muskoka-Kawarthas (E.R. 520) employment by industry**

Industry	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Change		Year/Year	
				Quarter/Quarter Absolute	%	Absolute	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>176,400</b>	160,200	182,400	16,200	<b>10.1</b>	-6,000	<b>-3.3</b>
<i>Goods-producing sector</i>	<b>48,700</b>	47,800	46,500	900	<b>1.9</b>	2,200	<b>4.7</b>
Agriculture	<b>2,900</b>	4,400	...	-1,500	<b>-34.1</b>	...	<b>...</b>
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	...	...	...	...	<b>...</b>	...	<b>...</b>
Utilities	<b>5,400</b>	2,500	3,900	2,900	<b>116.0</b>	1,500	<b>38.5</b>
Construction	<b>14,200</b>	18,100	16,700	-3,900	<b>-21.5</b>	-2,500	<b>-15.0</b>
Manufacturing	<b>25,000</b>	21,400	24,300	3,600	<b>16.8</b>	700	<b>2.9</b>
<i>Services-producing sector</i>	<b>127,700</b>	112,400	135,900	15,300	<b>13.6</b>	-8,200	<b>-6.0</b>
Trade	<b>33,000</b>	25,500	33,700	7,500	<b>29.4</b>	-700	<b>-2.1</b>
Transportation and warehousing	<b>6,600</b>	7,900	6,100	-1,300	<b>-16.5</b>	500	<b>8.2</b>
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	<b>7,300</b>	5,800	7,700	1,500	<b>25.9</b>	-400	<b>-5.2</b>
Professional, scientific and technical services	<b>7,400</b>	6,600	9,400	800	<b>12.1</b>	-2,000	<b>-21.3</b>
Business, building and other support services	<b>6,300</b>	6,500	8,600	-200	<b>-3.1</b>	-2,300	<b>-26.7</b>
Educational services	<b>16,800</b>	12,700	12,000	4,100	<b>32.3</b>	4,800	<b>40.0</b>
Health care and social assistance	<b>19,600</b>	18,200	27,400	1,400	<b>7.7</b>	-7,800	<b>-28.5</b>
Information, culture and recreation	<b>6,200</b>	5,900	7,000	300	<b>5.1</b>	-800	<b>-11.4</b>
Accommodation and food services	<b>10,200</b>	10,400	10,600	-200	<b>-1.9</b>	-400	<b>-3.8</b>
Other services	<b>4,900</b>	5,900	7,200	-1,000	<b>-16.9</b>	-2,300	<b>-31.9</b>
Public administration	<b>9,400</b>	7,100	6,100	2,300	<b>32.4</b>	3,300	<b>54.1</b>

Note: "... " indicates that data are too small to be expressed and are not appropriate for release. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey



LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND

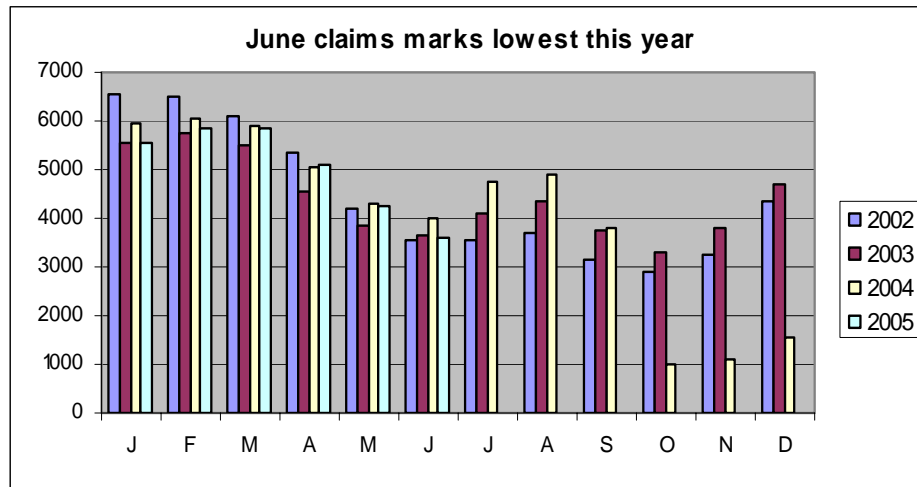
**Employment Insurance Claim Load**

The average number of Employment Insurance (E.I.) claims for Peterborough and the surrounding area dropped 25 percent in the second quarter of 2005 compared to the first quarter. There was an average of 4,313 claims between April and June, down over 1,400 from January to March. The average number of claims dropped approximately three percent compared to the same time last year.

In general, the 25-44 years of age group experienced the greatest decrease in claims. Men accounted for 61.5 percent of E.I. recipients, a drop of 5.5 percent compared to last quarter.

Occupations with the highest number of claims were:

1. Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities (1,424)
2. Construction trades helpers and labourers (1,067)
3. Truck drivers (456)
4. Heavy Equipment Operators (382)
5. Retail Salespersons (330)
6. Labourers in food, beverage and tobacco processing ((286)
7. Carpenters (254)
8. Material handlers (216)
9. Cooks (195)
10. Retail trade managers (184)



**Regular Employment Insurance Claimants - Muskoka – Kawartha Economic Region (Er 520) Area**

Area	April - June '05			January - March '05			April - June '04		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
Peterborough/Haliburton Area	2,469	945	1,525	3,202	1,033	2,169	2,428	897	1,531
Cobourg Area	878	354	524	1,063	380	683	931	404	527
City of Kawartha Lakes Area	967	361	606	1,490	481	1,008	1,085	380	705
<b>Total Peterborough Area</b>	<b>4,313</b>	<b>1,660</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>5,755</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>3,861</b>	<b>4,444</b>	<b>1,681</b>	<b>2,763</b>

Source: HRCC administrative data C-356

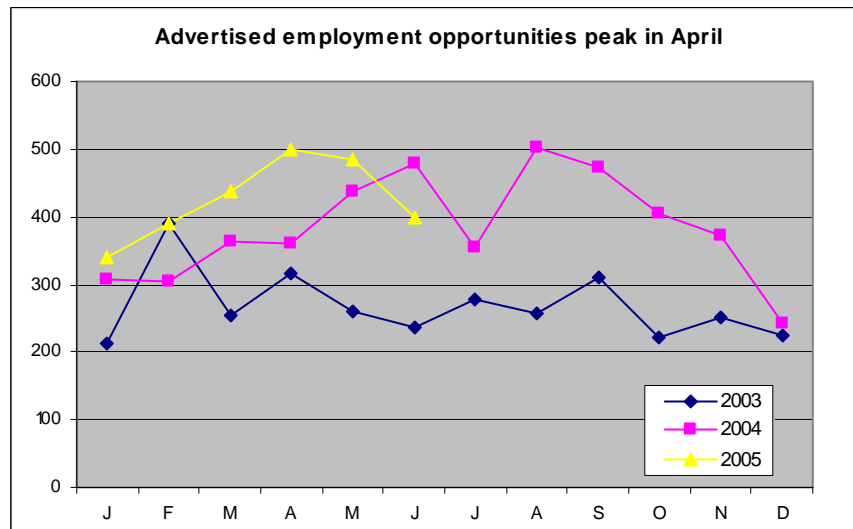


**Employment Opportunities**

The number of advertised employment opportunities increased by just under 20 percent between April and June with 217 more vacancies advertised. April marked the highest number of opportunities advertised so far this year while June decreased significantly. The occupational groups that posted the highest increases include the sales and service, trades and transport, and the business and administration occupations. Compared to the same time last year there was an eight 8 percent increase.

The greatest numbers of advertised opportunities were in:

1. Couriers (111)
2. Retail salespersons (66)
3. Cooks (54)
4. Food counter attendants (52)
5. Food and beverage servers (46)
6. Truck drivers (44)
7. Registered nurses (40)
8. Carpenters (33)
9. Janitors, building superintendents (33)
10. Light duty cleaners (33)



**Employment Opportunities - Muskoka – Kawartha Economic Region (Er 520)**

Occupations (NOC)	April – June 2005	January-March '05	April - June 2004
<b>Total Vacancies</b>	<b>1,382</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>1,277</b>
Management	63	48	58
Business/administration	242	200	265
Natural & applied sciences	32	46	27
Health	114	120	80
Social science & education	85	73	57
Culture & recreation	42	81	36
Sales & service	511	373	452
Trades & transport	242	175	236
Primary industry	24	23	35
Manufacturing & utilities	27	26	31

Source: Local newspaper ads



*FROM THE AUTHOR'S DESK*

***Job Fairs and Trade Shows***

Green Expo 2005 trade show was held on April 30, 2005 at the Peterborough Armoury featuring environment friendly products from businesses from Peterborough and the Kawarthas, Toronto and Ottawa areas.

Weston Bakeries held a job fair for seasonal and student production positions on May 15 and May 17, 2005 at their location at Northam Industrial Park, Cobourg. The wage for positions is \$10.00 per hour.

Giant Tiger held a job fair on June 20 and 21, 2005 at Fleming's Frost Campus, 200 Albert Street, Lindsay. The store which plans to open in the former Zellers Select at 55 Angeline Street is looking to hire 60 full- and part-time employees. Cashiers, checkout supervisors, receivers, operational associates and sales associates positions were available.

The Business Revolution 2005 Trade Show presented by Employers First was held on June 7, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Baker's Hill Banquet Centre. The trade show with 45 business trade booths had keynote speakers from Revenue Canada, Howell and Fleming, WSIB, Ministry of Labour and the Ministry Initiatives and New Inspectors.

A new inbound call centre held a job fair on Wednesday, June 15, 2005 at the Victoria County Career Services in the Whitney Town Centre 370 Kent Street West, Lindsay. Applicants were asked to apply in person with their resume for Customer Care Representative, Training, Human Resources and Supervisory level positions.





**Notes to Readers:**

1. The **Economic Region 520: Muskoka-Kawartha** is comprised of Census Divisions: Northumberland County, Peterborough County, City of Kawartha Lakes, Muskoka District Municipality and Haliburton County.
2. For the purpose of this publication, the **Peterborough Area** includes all of the above communities as well as Peterborough/Haliburton Human Resources Centre (HRCC), the Cobourg HRCC and the City of Kawartha Lakes HRCC.
3. The information contained in the Labour Market News section is gathered using a variety of internal and external sources. The primary sources of information include **Peterborough Examiner, Lindsay Daily Post, Cobourg Daily Star, Haliburton Echo and Minden Times**
4. **Definitions – Labour Force Survey data**  
**Population 15+** (the working age population) consists of all persons 15 years of age and over residing in Canada with the exception of residents of the Territories, persons living on Indian Reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Canadian Armed forces. The **Labour Force** consists of people employed or unemployed and searching for work. Those who are neither employed nor unemployed and are not willing or able to supply labour services are considered **Not in the Labour Force**. The **Participation Rate** is the percentage of the working age population (15+) who are seeking work or are employed. The **Unemployment Rate** is the number of people who are unemployed and looking for work as a percentage of the number of people in the Labour Force. The **Employment Rate** is the number of people employed as a percentage of the working age population.
5. **Definitions - HRSDC Corporate Data**  
**Employment Insurance claim load:** The number of individuals with an active claim for regular Employment Insurance benefits. Data on Employment Insurance claimants is not an accurate measure of the absolute level of unemployment. The data does not include unemployed individuals who: 1/ have not met the program's eligibility requirements or 2/ have exhausted their benefit entitlement.  
**Employment Opportunities:** Advertised employment opportunities are comprised of vacancies notified to the HRCC offices in our area and newspaper want ads. This data is not a count of all labour market activity; in practical terms, such a count is not feasible. This data is useful to track short and long-term changes in the demand for individual occupations. The total number of opportunities is equal to full-time plus part-time and casual.
6. This review uses data from **Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS)**. In any survey there is a chance of variation due to sampling size. **Three-month moving averages** are used for selected labour force characteristics in an attempt to improve the reliability of this data. For further information on the Labour Force Survey, visit Statistics Canada's website at:  
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/3701.htm>
7. For more information on Industrial and Occupational categories used in this review, visit **Statistics Canada's website** at:  
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/index.htm>

