



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Kenora

### Service Canada Centre

~ An Analysis of the Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances Area Labour Market ~ April To June 2006 ~

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*An overview of the Kenora, Dryden, Fort Frances and surrounding areas.*

Positive developments in the Northwestern Ontario labour market cushioned the negative during the second quarter of 2006.

There was good news for Atikokan as the provincial government announced it would not close the Atikokan Generating Station as previously planned.

Mixed news was reported in the mining sector. Junior mining companies remained strong, with several new and ongoing drilling and exploration projects underway, while streamlining of operations at the newly integrated "Red Lake Gold Mines" resulted in termination notices for some employees.

The crisis in the forestry industry continued to negatively impact on the Northwestern Ontario labour market with further job losses in the pulp and paper industry. On the brighter side, an expansion at the Ainsworth Oriented Strand board mill in Barwick resulted in new hirings.

Overall labour market conditions in Northwest showed signs of improvement in the second quarter. Following five consecutive quarters of job losses, employment rose more than two percent.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▶ New helicopter flight school opens in Dryden.
- ▶ Planned expansion at Weyerhaeuser Training Centre in Dryden.
- ▶ New name and business line for Weyerhaeuser Company.
- ▶ Bearskin Airlines adds ninth aircraft to its fleet.
- ▶ Abattoir planned for Rainy River.
- ▶ Treaty 3, provincial and federal governments sign trapping agreements.
- ▶ Mining exploration in the Kenora district triples in five years.
- ▶ Tentative softwood lumber agreement between Canada and U.S.
- ▶ Labour market conditions in Northwest showing signs of improvement.
- ▶ Employment Insurance claim load down.

The Kenora SCC 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, Service Canada 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 Service Canada.



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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.*

### Agriculture

A steering committee was appointed by the **Rainy River Abattoir** project to establish a slaughterhouse for the area. Working in conjunction with the Rainy River Cattlemen's Association and the Rainy River Future Development Corporation, the group is in the initial planning stages. It will be responsible for the incorporation, by-laws, facility design and location, business plan and proposals for funding. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$1,800,000. A provincially licensed abattoir is proposed, which would enable livestock producers to sell only within Ontario's borders. It is estimated the project will take two years to complete.

### Forestry

On April 27, 2006 Canada and the United States announced a tentative agreement resolving the longstanding **softwood lumber dispute** between the two countries. The agreement will run for a minimum of seven years with options for renewal at a later date. Key conditions of the agreement include no quotas and tariffs at current prices, \$4-billion in duties to be re-paid to Canada and provincial and regional flexibility in response to varying operating conditions across Canada. The softwood lumber dispute between Canada and the United States has been simmering for years. It boiled over in May 2002 when the United States imposed duties of 27 percent on Canadian softwood lumber, arguing that Canada unfairly subsidized producers of spruce, pine and fir lumber.

The **Northwestern Ontario Forest Council** released an economic impact analysis of the region's forestry sector. The study shows on average, Northwestern Ontario communities depend on forestry for more than 27% of their employment and 35% of their income. Compared to other regional industries the total value of wages and salaries paid to employees in the forestry industry is 27% higher than in health care and social services; over two times higher than in education; over four times higher than in mining and more than five times higher than in tourism-related industries.

The report revealed a significant inter-dependency among various Northwestern communities. Closure or downsizing of a mill in one community affects operations in other communities that offer services or supplies to the troubled mill.

The study states the forest industry is the cornerstone of economic growth in most Northwestern Ontario communities. The presence of forest products industries has created significant opportunities for economic growth in other related and supporting service industries. In summary, the report states Northwestern Ontario can improve its future if it capitalizes on current forest-based industries and expand on value-added wood industries.

### Fishing and Trapping

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Treaty 3** and **Nishnawbe Aski Nation** announced the signing of trapping agreements with the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada. The agreement will allow First Nation organizations to issue trapping licenses to its members; address current royalty systems from the sale of furs; provide training to individuals who want to qualify for first time trapping licenses and administer trap-line allocations in traditional territories.

### Mining

**Goldcorp Inc.** reported its first quarter net earnings tripled to \$92.4-million compared to \$29.5-million for the same time period in 2005. Record net earnings were also reported for 2005. Net earnings for 2005 totaled \$286-million compared to \$51-million in 2004, an increase of 460 percent.

On May 12, 2006 Goldcorp Inc. announced it had completed the acquisition of three Canadian mines from Placer Dome, along with other interests from Barrick Gold Corporation. The assets acquired include the Musselwhite Joint Venture in Pickle Lake, Placer Dome's former interests in the Campbell Red Lake Mine, and the Porcupine Joint Venture in Timmins.

"Red Lake Gold Mines" is the new name of the merged operations in Red Lake (Campbell Red Lake Mine and Goldcorp Red Lake Mine). Following the integration process of the two mines, the company announced a staff reduction of 60 positions. Of the mine's 1,000 or more employees, 40 received termination notices. The company cited streamlining of operations and workloads as reason for the layoffs. The new "Red Lake Gold Mines" is Canada's largest gold mine, producing more than 600,000 ounces a year. It is also



one of the world's richest gold mines and lowest cost producers.

**Houston Lake Mining** announced plans to begin production of an open pit mine at its West Cedartree Gold Project located 15 km southeast of Sioux Narrows. The company anticipates mining 50,000 tonnes of ore over the next two years. The ore will be shipped to local area mills for processing. Pending acquisition of small scale mining permits, production is expected to begin this summer. Houston Lake Mining began developing the West Cedartree property in 2002.

In an effort to identify additional gold zones, Houston entered into an option agreement with Golden CAML Mines of Timmins for a 100 percent interest in the Dogpaw Lake gold property which adjoins West Cedartree.

**Rainy River Resources** reported good results from two deep drill holes at its Richardson township property located 40 km west of Fort Frances. The company expects to spend \$5-million to \$48-million in 2006 for resources calculations and exploration.

**Blackstone Ventures** sold its controlling interest in the Kenbridge Nickel Deposit southeast of Kenora to Timmins-based Canadian Arrow Mines Limited. The Kenbridge property is in the exploration stages and has yielded high grade deposits of nickel and copper mineralization.

**Nuinsco Resources** commissioned Wardrop Engineering to de-water its Cameron Lake gold project near Sioux Narrows. De-watering represents the first step towards mine development and production. The company has identified significant gold resources at the site and has invested \$24-million in underground development.

**MetalCORP** announced plans to farm out all of its 100% owned gold projects in the northwest through joint venture agreements. Four projects are located in the Pickle Lake area and one in the Red Lake gold camp. MetalCORP plans to focus on exploration activities on two recent discoveries at its Big Lake and North Rock properties. The Big Lake nickel-copper project is located 30 km southeast of Marathon and the North Rock copper-nickel property 25 km east of Fort Frances.

**Avalon Ventures** announced advanced exploration plans for its Separation Rapids rare metal project located northwest of Kenora. The deposit of lithium-based minerals at the site known as the "Big Whopper" has possible potential to produce a new high-tech construction material. Avalon shipped five to six tonnes of the ore to an undisclosed European buyer last fall for testing in its new product. The company plans to extract another 10,000 to 15,000 tonne bulk sample over the next six to twelve months. Industry officials are hopeful that the

mining development will lead to both a full scale mining operation and manufacturing plant.

The **Ministry of Northern Development and Mines** reports that mining exploration in the Kenora district has tripled in the past five years. With the price of gold and other precious metals remaining high, mining companies have renewed their interest in various local mining properties. Of the top ten mining projects in the province, six are in the Kenora District.

### Utilities

The **Atikokan Generating Station** will not close in 2007 as previously planned. The provincial government reversed its decision to close all coal-fired generating plants based on recommendations from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). IESO released a revised 20-year electricity forecast which identified an increase of 2,500 to 3,000 megawatts of additional capacity was needed to maintain hydro-electric supply throughout Ontario in the next two years. In June 2005 the provincial government announced it would close all coal powered generating plants in favour of creating cleaner sources of energy. The closure of the generating station in Atikokan would have meant the loss of 90 jobs, \$7-million in wages and more than \$3-million in taxes for the community. Municipal officials report the Atikokan Generating Station is to remain open indefinitely.

Discussions have taken place between the **City of Kenora** and two private companies interested in building renewable energy plants in the area – a biofuel co-generation plant combined with an ethanol fuel facility and a plant to produce pellets for pellet stoves. The plans are in the infancy stages and the prospective companies want to remain anonymous. City officials state if plans move ahead, a significant number of jobs would be created.

### Construction

The **Kenora Catholic District School Board** began construction of a new elementary school in Kenora. The school will replace two existing schools in the city and will accommodate approximately 400 students. Number 10 Architectural Group from Winnipeg designed the building and Finn Way General Contractor, Inc. from Thunder Bay won the bid as general contractor. The entire project will cost \$10-million and is scheduled for completion in August 2007.

A \$4.2-million construction and renovation project at **Beaver Brae High School** in Kenora began in June. The project is expected to take six months to complete. The project includes a new atrium, as well as upgrades to its electrical, mechanical and air exchange systems.



The **Municipality of Machin** received \$175,000 in funding under the Canada-Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund to replace a bridge east of Vermilion Bay. Machin will contribute the balance of the \$525,000 project.

**Other construction** starts in the area include a new sewage lift station in Dryden and upgrades to Sioux Lookout's sewer collection and water distribution system.

## Manufacturing

**Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.** reported a first quarter loss of \$33-million compared to a \$51-million loss for the same time period in 2005. Quarterly sales fell to \$1.24 billion from \$1.32 billion in the fourth quarter of 2005. The reduction in sales came during a period when the company streamlined operations, cut jobs and sold non-core assets as part of its corporate wide review process.

The review which began in January 2005 led to the closure of several mills, including the Kenora mill in December 2005. The closure resulted in the permanent lay off of 340 mill employees. In April 2006, the company announced plans to cut another 200 jobs and \$35-million in expenses in an effort to streamline operations in sales, administration and management. The company's overall goal is to reduce costs across the board by 20 percent. It is reported the new cuts will result in the loss of 20 jobs at the Abitibi-Consolidated mill in Fort Frances.

On April 1, 2006 **Weyerhaeuser Dryden** closed its wood room processing plant and permanently shut down one paper machine resulting in the lay off of 110 employees. The company has moved all of its wood chipping operations into the field, eliminating the need for a wood room. High fibre and energy costs and a slumping fine paper market were cited as reasons for the paper machine closure.

In 2003, Weyerhaeuser Dryden downsized, restructured their paper operation and closed their sawmill resulting in a loss of approximately 365 jobs. The company now operates one paper machine and has a total staff of 685.

As part of the company's corporate review of operations, Weyerhaeuser announced it is considering alternatives for its fine paper business. The alternatives range from continuing to hold and operate the assets to a possible sale or other disposition of the properties. Weyerhaeuser's fine paper division includes the Dryden mill, which is the only active fine paper mill operated by the company in Canada.

Weyerhaeuser Company announced the consolidation of five separate operating units into one unified business – "**iLevel by Weyerhaeuser**". Weyerhaeuser products and services – engineered lumber, engineered panels, plywood, lumber and

distribution will form iLevel. The strategy behind the new business line is to supply customers with all components necessary for building the residential structural frame under one product brand. The Kenora Trus Joist Plant will now fall under iLevel by Weyerhaeuser.

Due to a reduced market for wood chips, **MacKenzie Forest Products** in Hudson shut down harvesting operations for a two week period in June. Approximately 50 woodlands employees were laid off. A larger indefinite layoff of 320 workers at the saw mill was averted earlier in the month as the company struggled to find buyers for a growing mound of wood chips. With the closures and slowdowns of various mills in the region, the market for jack pine chips has been reduced. Long term and temporary contracts are still in place for spruce chips. Future layoffs are pending.

The **Ainsworth Oriented Strand Board** mill in Barwick expanded its facilities with the construction of a new \$5.5-million building to be used for strand storage. The building allows the company to increase capacity and better utilize fibre. Ten new employees were hired.

## Trade

Alderwoods Group Inc., the parent company to **Brown's Funeral Home** in Kenora was bought out by Service Corp International. With the purchase of Alderwoods, Service Corp will become the largest funeral services provider in North America.

**New business openings** in the area include:

- Senor Arroyos Taqueria in Kenora (Mexican restaurant)
- Domino's Pizza in Fort Frances
- Frontline Games in Kenora (video games).

## Transportation

**Bearskin Airlines** has added a ninth 19-passenger aircraft to its fleet. The new aircraft will increase the number of flights from Thunder Bay to Sudbury and Ottawa. The purchase of the new aircraft is a result of increased passenger demand. Bearskin maintains major bases of operation in Thunder Bay and Sioux Lookout and employs more than 200 people.

**Modak Aviation** opened a helicopter flight school at the Dryden Regional Airport. The company began providing commercial flights for area forestry and mining companies in the summer of 2005, when it purchased an empty hangar at the Dryden airport. The company has also reported some aggressive plans for expansion. The plans include helicopter rides to the public, an airplane flight school in Dryden, an aircraft piston division with gas certification and a rebuilt transmission shop. Expansion could create an additional 10 to 15 jobs.





## Educational Services

Members of the **Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation District 5B Occasional Teachers'** and the Rainy River District School Board reached a tentative contract agreement. Approximately 50 members of the union had been in a legal strike position since December 2005. The teacher's took strike action and withdrew their services for a short period in April. The main issue was wage parity with their full-time counterparts.

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board and the **Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit of Northern Shield, District 5A**, also reached a tentative contract. The agreement affects about 100 secondary substitute teachers.

The federal government introduced tax credits and incentives to support **apprentices** and encourage businesses to hire them. Highlights, which were announced in the 2006 Federal Budget, include a tax credit of up to \$2,000 for employers who hire and train apprentices, a \$1,000 grant for apprentices and a \$500 tax deduction for trades people for the cost of tools. Also announced was a textbook tax credit worth about \$80 per year for all full-time students.

Local school boards have signed agreements with **Confederation College** whereby students can earn dual credits that can be applied to both the high school and college level education. Classes in which dual credits can be earned vary among the boards and range from hospitality and tourism to technology and skilled trades. The new initiative is designed to better prepare and encourage students as they make the transition from high school to post secondary education.

An expansion is planned for the **Weyerhaeuser Training Centre** in Dryden. The provincial funding will be used to purchase additional equipment. The facility has been operating since 2004 and is a partnership between Weyerhaeuser, the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada and Confederation College. Located on Weyerhaeuser's mill property, the centre trains apprentices in six electrical and mechanical trades. The initial commitment of the centre was to train Weyerhaeuser maintenance employees to acquire certification in at least two additional trades. However, it is also being used by college students throughout the region. The provincial government hopes to increase the number of new apprentices by 7,000 to a total of 26,000 annually in 2007 and 2008.

## Health Care And Social Assistance

**Rainycrest Home for the Aged** and Riverside Health Care Facilities in Fort Frances signed a Memorandum of

Understanding which will result in Riverside assuming ownership, governance and management of the home. In March 2005, the Ministry of Health took over control of Rainycrest and appointed Riverside as the interim administrator. The provincial government took action after a review of the home's operations failed to meet ministry standards. An amalgamation steering committee has been formed to work out the details of the agreement.

The **Lake of the Woods District Hospital** in Kenora will receive \$4.9-million in provincial funding for hospital renovations. The money will go towards roofing, asbestos and mould removal, mechanical repairs and an on-call nurse communication system.

Medical clinics in Kenora and Fort Frances are transforming their privately owned clinics into **not-for-profit health care centres**. Physicians are in the process of merging their former private practices into integrated family health networks. The move is part of a proactive plan by the communities to enhance physician and medical professional recruitment efforts. Physicians joining the new health care centres will not incur the financial burden of establishing a private practice. The physicians at both centres have applied to the provincial government to become "Family Health Teams". Health teams include nurse practitioners, dietitians, pediatricians and programs such as cardio-rehabilitation. Designation as a Family Health Team enables centres to access provincial funding for staffing. Renovations at the Kenora Health Care Centre are scheduled to begin in August with a tentative completion date of December 1, 2006. The facility will accommodate five new doctors who are expected in Kenora over the summer months. Conversion of the Fort Frances Clinic is in the initial planning stage. The provincial government has targeted a total of 150 Family Health Care Teams for Ontario.

## Public Administration

A conciliator was appointed to assist in contract talks between the **Northern Youth Centre** in Kenora and its workers represented by the Canadian Auto Workers union. Union members endorsed a strike vote in April. Although non-monetary issues were resolved during negotiations, both parties were unable to agree on a wage settlement. Northern Youth Centre is an open-custody detention centre for youth employing over 20 workers.

The Kenora District Services Board announced it would proceed with the "**Best Start**" day care initiative on a reduced scale, due to funding cuts. Best Start was originally announced by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services in July 2005 in an attempt to support children and their families



in the early years of development by providing neighbourhood and early learning child care centres.

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board, the Kenora Catholic District School Board and the Red Lake Area Combined Roman Catholic School Board have designated schools in Kenora, Dryden, Red Lake and Sioux Lookout as deliverers of the “Best Start” initiative.

The Rainy River District Social Services Board in conjunction with the Rainy River District School Board and the Northwest Catholic District School Board opted to invest the reduced funding into a feasibility study to improve existing day care facilities in the Fort Frances area. In Dryden, the Northwest Catholic District School Board proposes to develop 40 day care spaces at its St. Joseph’s School. The project will be cost shared between the Kenora and Rainy River District Services Boards.

The **City of Kenora** began a review of its operations. Bonuses and wage freezes, staff reductions and municipal service levels have all been targeted as part of the review. The City of Kenora employs over 240 workers. Results of the review are expected in late summer.

## Tourism

The **Northwestern Ontario Tourism Association** reported the number of tourists visiting the region have declined since 2004. Although visitors were down, enquiries to local travel information offices increased during the first two quarters of 2006 compared to the same time period last year. Industry officials cited many reasons for the inconsistency in statistics, including misconceptions among American visitors concerning passport requirements, the rising Canadian dollar, poor weather and a recent push towards exotic locations.



LABOUR FORCE TRENDS

Welcome job creation in the Northwest

Despite a higher unemployment rate, labour market conditions in Northwestern Ontario showed welcome signs of improvement in the second quarter of 2006. Following five consecutive quarters of job losses, employment rose more than two percent (+2,200). More than two-thirds of these new jobs were full-time. The labour force expanded at a faster pace of three percent (+3,300). Since there were more new or returning job seekers than new jobs, unemployment increased. Consequently, Northwestern Ontario's unemployment rate climbed from 8.3% in the first quarter to 8.9%. Significantly higher than the provincial rate of 6.0%, this was the highest unemployment rate among Ontario's 11 economic regions in the second quarter. In addition, this was the highest quarterly unemployment rate posted for the region in more than five years.

Northwest weaker year over year

In spite of these positive developments, Northwestern Ontario's labour market remains much weaker year over year. A total of 7,400 jobs were lost over the past four quarters, a decline of nearly seven percent. At the same time, 6,200 individuals withdrew from the labour force, a decrease of just over five percent. Since the job loss outpaced the labour force contraction, unemployment increased. Consequently, Northwestern Ontario's unemployment rate climbed from 7.5% in the second quarter of 2005 to 8.9%.

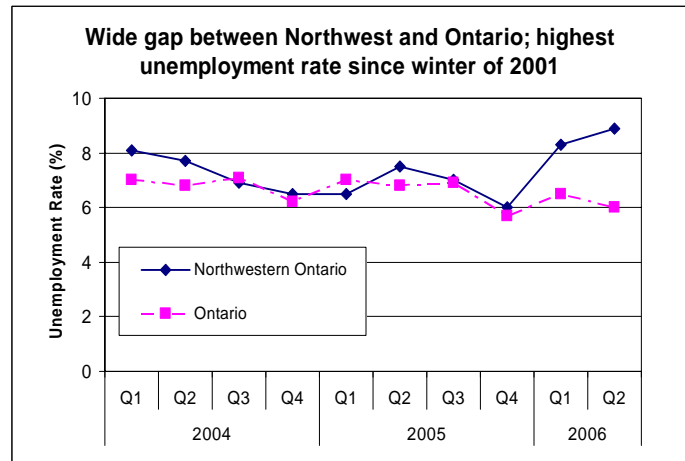
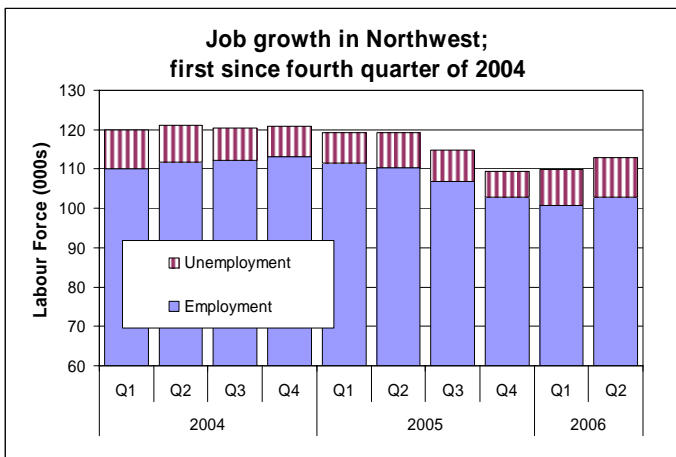
Northwestern Ontario (Economic Region 595) is comprised of three Census Divisions: the Districts of Thunder Bay, Rainy River and Kenora.

Northwestern Ontario Labour Force Trends

	Second Quarter 2006	First Quarter 2006	Second Quarter 2005	Quarter/Quarter Change		Year/Year Change	
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
				Population 15 +	177,300	177,400	177,500
Labour force	113,100	109,800	119,300	3,300	3.0	-6,200	-5.2
Employed	102,900	100,700	110,300	2,200	2.2	-7,400	-6.7
Full-time	80,900	79,400	82,900	1,500	1.9	-2,000	-2.4
Part-time	22,000	21,300	27,400	700	3.3	-5,400	-19.7
Unemployed	10,100	9,100	9,000	1,000	11.0	1,100	12.2
Not in labour force	64,200	67,600	58,200	-3,400	-5.0	6,000	10.3
Participation rate	63.8%	61.9%	67.2%	1.9		-3.4	
Unemployment rate	<b>8.9%</b>	8.3%	7.5%	0.6		1.4	
Employment rate	58.0%	56.8%	62.1%	1.2		-4.1	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.



**Note to readers:**

**Revisions to the LFS**

Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates for the January 1987 to December 2005 period have undergone revisions. There are three reasons for the revision. First, the revision enables the use of improved population benchmarks in the LFS estimation process. These improved benchmarks provide better information on the number of non-permanent residents. There are also changes to the data for the public and private sectors from 1987 to 1999. In the past, the data on the public and private sectors for this period were based on an old definition of the public sector. The revised data better reflects the current public sector definition, and therefore result in a longer time series for analysis. Finally, the geographic coding of several small Census Agglomerations (CA) has been updated historically from 1996 urban centre boundaries to 2001 CA boundaries. This affects data from January 1987 to December 2004.

It is important to note that the changes to almost all estimates are very minor, with the exception of the public sector series and some associated industries from 1987 to 1999. Rates of unemployment, employment and participation are essentially unchanged, as are all key labour market trends. Users are cautioned that any comparisons of historical data should be done using these revised estimates.

The article "Improvements in 2006 to the LFS" ([71F0031XIE](#), free) provides further explanation for the revisions and an overview of the effect of these changes on the estimates.

**Source: Statistics Canada, The Daily, February 10, 2005**

**Employment by Industry Analysis**

Readers of this quarterly labour market review may note that we have discontinued the tables and commentary on employment by industry sector as of the First Quarter, 2006. We have discontinued this content element because recent analysis indicates that the sampling error is too large to provide meaningful observation of changes in sector employment at the sub-provincial level over the short term.

*LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND*

**Employment Insurance Claim Load**

Following an increase in the number of regular Employment Insurance claims in the first quarter of 2006, the Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances area saw its claim load totals decrease by 20% over the second quarter of the year. The claim load was also significantly lower year over year, with a 10% decline compared to the second quarter of 2005. Interestingly enough employment insurance claim loads have continued to decline year over year for the past three years, despite huge lay offs in the forestry and manufacturing sectors. The number of male claimants almost doubled the number of female claimants in this quarter, which is in line with the same time period in 2005. More than half the claim load fell in the 25 to 44 age bracket which is again comparable to the second quarter of 2005.

A lower claim load at this time of year is not unusual and is reflective of the seasonal nature of employment throughout the area, especially in the tourism, hospitality and construction sectors.

**Regular Employment Insurance Claimants – Kenora, Dryden, Fort Frances and Surrounding Area**

	<b>April to June '06</b>	<b>January to March '06</b>	<b>April to June '05</b>
<b>Male</b>	1655	1949	1823
<b>Female</b>	860	1215	969
<b>Total</b>	<b>2515</b>	<b>3164</b>	<b>2792</b>

Source: Service Canada administrative data C-356 (Average of month-end totals for the quarter)





**Employment Opportunities**

Job vacancy data in the Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances area is only available from January to June 2006. The table below represents vacancy activity captured from the National Job Bank and local newspaper advertisements.

Employment opportunities in the second quarter of this year increased significantly compared to the first quarter. The increase in vacancies represents the demand for seasonal workers during the summer months as resorts, restaurants and retail establishments prepare for the tourist season. As well, April to June historically symbolizes the start up of construction projects in the area. These trends are supported by vacancy data which shows Sales/Service and Trades/Transport as having the highest activity levels in April, May and June. Also representing a large portion of the overall vacancy activity are the Business/Administration and Social Science/Education sectors. Traditionally, activity in these two sectors remain strong on an annual basis.

**Employment Opportunities - Kenora, Dryden, Fort Frances And Surrounding Area**

Occupations (NOC)	April to June 2006	January to March 2006
<b>Total Vacancies</b>		
Vacancies	<b>713</b>	<b>400</b>
Management	52	29
Business/Administration	102	55
Natural & Applied Sciences	19	11
Health	49	50
Social Science & Education	102	64
Culture & Recreation	3	8
Sales & Service	265	131
Trades & Transport	110	43
Primary Industry	7	2
Manufacturing & Utilities	4	7

Source: National Job Bank and Newspaper Advertisements

*FROM THE AUTHOR'S DESK*

**Count Yourself In**

Every five years Canada conducts a census. May 16, 2006 was census day in Canada. The census provides a statistical portrait of our country and its people. A vast majority of all countries regularly carry out a census to collect important information about the social and economic situation of the people living in its various regions.

In Canada, the census is the only reliable source of detailed data for small groups (such as lone-parent families, ethnic groups, industrial and occupational categories, immigrants) and for areas as small as a city neighbourhood or as large as the country itself. Because the Canadian census is collected every five years and the questions are similar, it is possible to compare changes that have occurred in the demographics of Canada's population over time.

The census includes every man, woman and child living in Canada on Census Day, as well as Canadians who are abroad, either on a military base, attached to a diplomatic mission, or at sea or in port aboard Canadian-registered merchant vessels. Persons in Canada including those holding a temporary resident permit, study permit or work permit, and their dependents, are also part of the census.

It's not too late to complete the 2006 Census. It can be completed online at <http://www50.statcan.ca/census2006/> or the paper questionnaire can be completed and mailed. For more information on the 2006 Census, contact:

Statistics Canada  
 P.O. Box 99998 STN. FED-GOVT/GOUV  
 Ottawa, ON K1A 9Z8 Phone: 1 877 594-2006



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada



**Notes to Readers:**

1. The **Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances area labour market** is comprised of communities west and north of Thunder Bay extending to the Manitoba border and north of the Canada-United States border to Hudson's Bay.
2. For the purpose of this publication, the **Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances area** includes all of the above communities, as well as, Minaki, Sioux Narrows, Ignace, Pickle Lake, Atikokan, Vermilion Bay, Ear Falls, Hudson, Nestor Falls, Emo, Devlin and numerous remote northern communities within the boundaries described above..
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 **The Dryden Observer, Fort Frances Times and Rainy Lake Herald, Daily Miner and News, The Sioux Lookout Bulletin, Northern Ontario Business, Statistics Canada and Service Canada administrative data.**
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 – Service Canada Centre 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 SCC 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>

