



Labour Market Bulletin

Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances

Service Canada Centres

~ An Analysis of the Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances Area Labour Market ~ July to September 2006 ~

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An overview of the Kenora, Dryden, Fort Frances, Atikokan, Red Lake, Ear Falls, Sioux Lookout and surrounding areas.

Overall labour market conditions in Northwestern Ontario gained some momentum during the third quarter of 2006. While a mixture of developments spread throughout all industrial sectors, the positive generally outweighed the negative. Though uncertainty remained in the forestry sector, other industries demonstrated a certain degree of optimism. Seasonal trends were evident as activity increased in the construction and trade sectors. The mining sector remained relatively strong, as did health care and social assistance.

As labour market conditions in the area continued to regain strength in the third quarter, the region boasted the lowest quarterly unemployment rate of the year.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Canada and United States sign softwood lumber agreement.
- ▶ Shaw Communications Inc. to purchase Norcom Telecommunications Ltd. in Kenora.
- ▶ Still no decision regarding Abitibi-Consolidated assets in Kenora.
- ▶ Domtar Incorporated and Weyerhaeuser Company to merge.
- ▶ Potential manufacturing plant in the works for Wabigoon Lake Ojibway First Nation.
- ▶ Construction begins on new Treaty 3 Police headquarters.
- ▶ Short-term lay offs at Weyerhaeuser Dryden.
- ▶ Lake of the Woods District Hospital puts plans to cut nursing positions on hold.
- ▶ Decrease in border crossings at Fort Frances port of entry.
- ▶ Employment Insurance claim levels down.
- ▶ Job opportunities during the third quarter reflect seasonal trends.

The Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances 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.

Forestry

On September 12, 2006 Canada and the United States signed an agreement resolving the longstanding **softwood lumber** dispute between the two countries. Key conditions of the agreement include no quotas and tariffs at current prices, \$4-billion in duties to be re-paid to Canada and the flexibility to respond to varying operating conditions across Canada. The agreement will run for a minimum of seven years with options for renewal at a later date. Refunds should begin flowing to Canadian companies within four to eight weeks. The softwood lumber dispute 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.

Mining

In a US\$21.3-billion transaction, **Goldcorp Inc.** and **Glamis Gold Ltd.** have agreed to a merger that will create one of the world's largest gold mining companies. The new mine will continue under the Goldcorp Inc. name. Glamis is an intermediate gold producer with mines and development projects in Nevada, Mexico and Central America. Goldcorp is one of the world's lowest cost and fastest growing multi-million ounce gold producers with operations throughout the America's and Australia. Red Lake Gold Mines, Musselwhite Joint Venture in Pickle Lake and Porcupine Joint Venture in Timmins are among Goldcorp's North American assets.

Halo Resources and **Goldcorp** signed an option agreement on three of Goldcorp's properties in Red Lake. Under the terms of the agreement, Halo can earn a 60 percent interest in Goldcorp's Middle Bay and Pipestone properties and 30 percent in its Biron property, through exploration expenditures of \$3-million or more. The properties are located 32 km west of the Campbell and Red Lake Mines.

An Ontario Superior Court ruling in favour of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation (KI) halted further exploration by **Platinex Inc.** at its property in the Big Trout Lake area. Platinex Inc. is a Canadian exploration company based near Toronto that targets platinum group element. The company holds multiple mining claims and leases on crown land in the Big Trout Lake area. Though the claims are not situated on KI's reserve land, the claims are within KI's traditional territory. In such cases, the Province of Ontario is required to consult with First Nations when

proposed actions may impact on Aboriginal rights and interests. KI is located 400 km northeast of Sioux Lookout and is accessible by air and winter road.

International Millennium Mining Corporation of British Columbia announced the acquisition of 20 mining leases, known as the High Lake property located 45 km west of Kenora. The property contains several known gold and gold-copper-molybdenum deposits. An exploration program is planned for the area.

Utilities

Abitibi-Consolidated has started the regulatory process to separate its hydro electric generating stations from its pulp and paper mill operations in Ontario. These include stations in Kenora, Fort Frances and Iroquois Falls. The company proposes to transfer some of these assets to another Abitibi affiliate as part of its overall plan to expand its power business.

Planning continues for a multi-million dollar **bio-energy research centre** in **Atikokan**. Funding for the project was announced earlier in the year and was originally tied to the anticipated closure of the Atikokan Generating Station. Although the station will now remain open, the town will continue with plans to research the potential role of sustainable biomass, such as wood waste and peat, in the field of power generation.

Communications

Shaw Communications Inc. announced it has entered into an agreement to acquire **Norcom Telecommunications Limited** in Kenora. Norcom operates cable and internet systems in Kenora, Red Lake, Sioux Lookout, Ear Falls and Ignace, along with the CTV television station, CJBN in Kenora. Shaw Communications provides broadband television, high-speed internet, digital phone, telecommunications and satellite services. The agreement is subject to CRTC (Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission) approval. Shaw also plans to offer phone services in Kenora once the agreement is signed.

Increased competition and deregulation of the telecommunications marketplace has prompted the **Kenora Municipal Telephone System** (KMTS) and the **Dryden Municipal Telephone Service** (DMTS) to review their operations and explore partnership options with larger



telecommunications companies. Alignment with a larger company would allow both KMTS and DMTS to broaden services and keep up with rapid developments in telecommunications technology. Both companies have not ruled out the sale of the municipally owned telephone systems.

Construction

The **Township of Sioux Lookout** received provincial funding for two infrastructure projects. The municipality will use \$1-million towards upgrading and extending sewer and water distribution systems and \$209,815 to update water treatment plants. The improvements will open doors for new development and allow planned projects to proceed.

Fire Management Centres in Sioux Lookout and Red Lake will also receive funding. The Red Lake complex will receive \$4.4-million for new staff quarters that will support approximately 60 fire and aviation personnel during the forest fire season. Construction will begin this fall with an expected completion date of June 2007. A new Fire Management Centre is planned for Sioux Lookout pending completion of the sewer and water infrastructure project. Planning will continue over the next two years, with construction tentatively scheduled to start in the fiscal year 2009-10.

Major renovations are planned for the **Canada Safeway** store in **Fort Frances**. The store will be transformed into the chain's new "Lifestyle" format aimed at serving singles, seniors and those seeking a healthy lifestyle. It will also include a Starbucks coffee shop. The Fort Frances Safeway will be the 95th of the company's 214 stores to be changed over.

Construction began on the new **Treaty 3 Police** headquarters in Kenora. General contractor for the \$5.5-million project is Jarnel Contracting (Kenora). The building which will include holding cells and briefing rooms will serve as the home base for approximately 40 police officers. Treaty 3 Police was created three years ago as a result of recommendations to increase the presence of First Nations officers in law enforcement throughout the area.

Phase one of a three year upgrade at the **Dryden High School** is scheduled for completion by December 2006. The project includes improvements to the school's electrical, heating and cooling systems, as well as, the construction of a new computer lab and physics and science facility. The next phase of upgrades will begin in the summer of 2007.

Work continues on the new span of the **Sioux Narrows Bridge**. A crew of approximately 20 has been on site since May. The entire project is scheduled for completion by the fall of 2007.

Construction continues on the new **Spruce Creek Golf Course** south of Morson. The course is scheduled to open in the summer of 2007.

The area will boast two new **skateboarding parks**. Construction of Kenora's park was completed over the summer, while Dryden's will be finished by the end of the fall.

Manufacturing

No decision has been made regarding the future of **Abitibi-Consolidated** mill assets in Kenora. The company is exploring options such as leasing, selling and subdividing the parcel of land. The city of Kenora has expressed an interest in acquiring the company's two power generating stations that are to be severed from the main mill property. While Abitibi may move smaller pieces of equipment, such as valves and forklifts to its other operations, plans to dismantle the manufacturing equipment have not been confirmed. A community task force has also been set up in an attempt to identify other potential uses for the site. As well, the fate of Abitibi's Tunnel Island property has not been determined. Negotiations continue between the company and community heritage and First Nations representatives regarding the development of a heritage attraction on the site.

Domtar Incorporated and Weyerhaeuser Company announced an agreement to combine their fine paper businesses and related assets. The new company will take the Domtar name with a head office in Montreal and operations headquarters in Fort Mill, South Carolina. The merger will create the largest fine paper company in North America and the second largest in the world. Weyerhaeuser assets to be merged with Domtar include 10 pulp and paper mills, two sawmills and various converting, forming and warehousing facilities. The merger includes the Weyerhaeuser paper mill in Dryden and sawmill in Ear Falls. The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2007 pending various levels of approval. Domtar and Weyerhaeuser will continue to operate separately until the deal is final.

A joint project between **Wabigoon Lake Ojibway First Nation** and Wood Tech Group from Finland could create up to 300 jobs in the northwest region. The \$70-million project includes the development of a laminated post and beam manufacturing plant in the Red Lake area and a planing plant and head office in Wabigoon Lake. Wood Tech Group is a liaison organization which links manufacturers to investors and retailers. The two groups have been working on the project for three years to determine the best-end uses and highest-value practices for the wood fibre. Based on the strength of the wood to be harvested, a Japanese market was identified as the primary recipient of the product.



In August 2006 the Ministry of Natural Resources announced it would call for proposals on the sustainable forest license currently held by Abitibi-Consolidated in Kenora. **Kenora Forest Products** had originally approached the Ministry in the fall of 2005 regarding the transfer of these timber rights to the local sawmill to support a \$34-million expansion project. The proposal process is expected to take six months. If successful, Kenora Forest Products would begin construction in the spring of 2007, one year after its original planned start date.

The City of Dryden granted **Meek Forestry Ltd.** a zoning variance necessary to proceed with a wood staging and chipping operation. The proposal originally received negative feedback from area residents concerned with environmental, noise and operational issues. The company now requires site plan approval before proceeding further.

Manitou Forest Products Limited in Emo will receive \$250,000 in provincial funding to assist with its sawmill modernization and expansion project. Manitou specializes in tongue and groove and log cabin siding. The upgrade is expected to create 12 new jobs.

iLevel by Weyerhaeuser (Trus Joist) in Kenora shutdown for three weeks in September as part of the company's attempt to balance production with demand. Although production was suspended, the company's 200 employees continued to report for work focusing on plant maintenance and job training.

Weyerhaeuser's woodlands operations in Dryden also shut down for a two week period in August, affecting approximately 350 employees. The move was part of the company's strategy to balance supply with demand.

A July lay off of approximately 300 workers at the **McKenzie Forest Products** mill in Hudson was averted as the company struggled to find a sustainable market for its wood chips. This was the second reprieve over the summer, with original downtime in June also cancelled. This cycle is expected to persist given the continued downturn in the forest industry.

Trade

New businesses in the area include:

- Fitness Edge in Dryden (fitness centre)
- Northridge Funeral Home in Emo
- The UPS Store in Fort Frances (United Parcel Service).

The **CN Hotel** in Rainy River has changed ownership. Immediate plans for the hotel include the addition of an outdoor patio for smokers and reopening of the dining room.

Also changing ownership was **Gamble Bus Lines** of Dryden. The longstanding business was purchased by Iron Range Bus Lines of Thunder Bay. The new owner will provide school bus service for the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board in

Dryden, a service previously provided by Gamble. Iron Range also provides school bus service in Atikokan, Fort Frances and Thunder Bay.

Loblaw Properties purchased Witherspoon's One Stop in Fort Frances to make way for the construction of a new Extra Foods store. Witherspoon's, which operated as a gas station, convenience and sporting goods store for fifty years closed in August. Construction of the new Extra Foods is expected to begin in the latter part of 2006.

Plans are underway to open a second **Subway** restaurant in Kenora by the end of 2006. Subway employs 10 staff at its current location and anticipates hiring up to 12 additional staff at its new store.

The **Canadian Tire Marina** in Kenora permanently closed in July 2006. The marina had temporarily shut down in May after a gasoline leak was discovered. The corporate office of Canadian Tire subsequently announced it would not open the marina after the clean up was completed. The Canadian Tire Marina operated seasonally for 20 years.

Transportation

Shortly after announcing a planned expansion, **Modak Aviation** in Dryden ceased operation. The company began providing commercial flights for area forestry and mining companies in the summer of 2005, when it leased an empty hangar at the Dryden Regional Airport. Modak had announced aggressive plans for expansion in the spring of 2006, which included an airplane flight school, an aircraft piston division and helicopter related services. The closure is under investigation by the Dryden Police Service.

Discovery Air will invest \$500,000 to upgrade its Hicks and Lawrence hangar facility in Dryden. Discovery Air, operating through Hicks & Lawrence Limited, is an aviation company focused on providing specialized air transport services. Its primary flight operations and maintenance base is located at the Dryden Regional Airport, while the head office is in London, Ontario. The company currently has contracts to provide air services in support of the Ministry of Natural Resources' forest fire management program. Great Slave Helicopters (a subsidiary of Discovery Air) will join Hicks and Lawrence under the local umbrella of Discovery Air once upgrades are completed. There are approximately 300 people employed through Discovery Air, with 45 working in Dryden.

Bearskin Airlines announced additional flights will be added to its service between Winnipeg and Sioux Lookout. Four new jobs will be created to cover the service.



Educational Services

Due to cuts and realignments in provincial funding, many Northwestern Ontario **school boards** were faced with funding shortfalls at the start of the 2006-2007 school year. The shortfalls were attributed to the realignment of provincial education grants, as well as, declining enrolment in some areas. A total of eleven Northern boards were faced with decreased operating revenue based on the new provincial government funding projections.

Health Care And Social Assistance

Plans to cut 17 full-time nursing positions and close 22 hospital beds at the **Lake of the Woods District Hospital** in Kenora have been put on hold. The hospital announced the cuts over the summer in an effort to recoup \$966,000 of its fiscal year deficit ending March 31, 2006. A boost in program funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has enabled the hospital to stay on its recovery plan and look at other alternatives for recovery.

Municipal councils across the Rainy River District will vote on a proposal to transfer **Rainycrest Home for the Aged** in Fort Frances to Riverside Health Care Facilities on a permanent basis. The deal would include the addition of 21 new beds and \$1.35-million in capital grants from the province. Riverside has been the interim administrator for the home since March 2005, when the Ministry of Health cited the home's operation did not meet provincial standards.

Construction of the new Sioux Lookout **Meno-Ya-Win Health Centre** is expected to begin in the summer of 2007. Meno-Ya-Win presently operates out of seven sites, two of which are hospitals. The health centre will service Sioux Lookout and 28 surrounding communities with a combination of traditional healing, medicines, foods and support programs and Western medical technologies. The centre will cost \$100-million and employ over 300 people, with up to 50 new jobs being created. Job Fairs will be held in the area, including First Nations communities to promote both construction and health related employment opportunities. The facility is expected to be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2009.

Services of a private audiologist are now available in Fort Frances. **"The Ear Clinic"** will provide one stop audiological and hearing aid service.

Public Administration

Kenora's **economic development committee** comprised of local government, business and labour representatives released a report outlining plans to revitalize the city's economic future. The report focused on the development of a strategy to retain, expand and attract business, industry and government to the area. Recommendations included supporting value-added forestry initiatives, identifying opportunities related to Abitibi-Consolidated assets, downtown revitalization and the establishment of a permanent economic development commission. The report also stressed the need to partner with various community groups, businesses and First Nations to explore opportunities within the mining and tourism industries.

Dryden's Economic Diversification Advisory Committee also released a report identifying priorities for the city's economic revitalization. Priorities include market expansion, resource sector support, infrastructure capabilities, marketing, tourism and the creation of a training and research centre of excellence.

Unionized workers at the **Northern Youth Centre** and **Setterland Group Home** in Kenora have reached new contract agreements with WJS Stelmaschuk and Associates. The Edmonton-based employer manages the two facilities under contract with the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. There are approximately 20 people employed at each centre.

Tourism

The **Canada Border Services Agency** reported a decrease in American visitors crossing the Fort Frances port of entry in the second quarter of 2006. Although statistics have not yet been released, border officials expect the trend to continue into the third quarter. As well, a report released by Statistics Canada indicated the number of American visitors to Canada as a whole hit a record low during the first half of 2006. High gas prices, a strong Canadian dollar and perceived delays at the border were cited as reasons for the decrease. The drop in border crossings also translated into a drop in business for some local tourist operators, with many reporting a much slower season compared to last year. Again, high gas prices and a strong Canadian dollar were noted as contributing factors.



LABOUR FORCE TRENDS

Northwest continues to regain lost ground

Labour market conditions in Northwestern Ontario continued to regain strength in the third quarter of 2006. Since falling to a 12-year low of 100,700 at the start of the year, employment has steadily recovered. With the third-quarter increase of three percent (+3,200), the level of employment was nearly back to the level it was one year ago. Moreover, all of the third-quarter job growth was in full-time employment (+4,700), more than compensating for a seven-percent decline in the number of people working part-time. The third quarter also saw an expansion in Northwestern Ontario's labour force (+1,900). In addition, since there were more new jobs than new or returning job seekers, unemployment decreased. As a result, the region's unemployment rate fell from 8.9% in the second quarter to 7.7%. This was the lowest unemployment rate seen in the Northwest this year. Even so, the rate compared unfavourably with the Ontario average of 6.6%. Among Ontario's 11 Economic Regions, only Windsor-Sarnia (8.5%) and Northeastern Ontario (7.9%) posted higher third-quarter unemployment rates.

Northwestern Ontario (Economic Region 595)

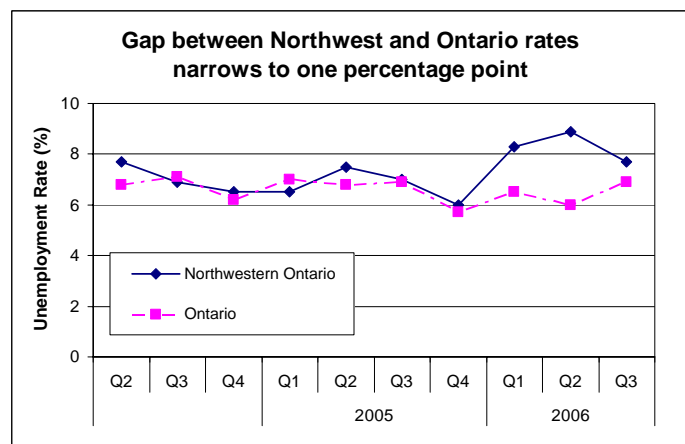
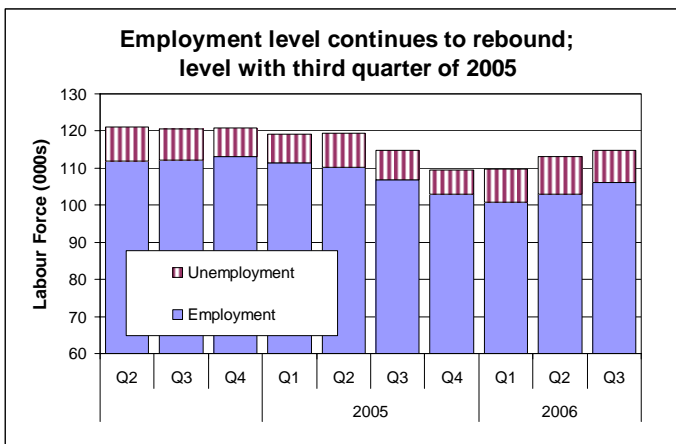
is comprised of three Census Divisions: the Districts of Thunder Bay, Rainy River and Kenora.

Northwestern Ontario Labour Force Trends

	Third Quarter 2006	Second Quarter 2006	Third Quarter 2005	Quarter/Quarter Absolute	Change %	Year/Year Absolute	Change %
Population 15 +	177,100	177,300	177,600	-200	-0.1	-500	-0.3
Labour force	115,000	113,100	114,800	1,900	1.7	200	0.2
Employed	106,100	102,900	106,800	3,200	3.1	-700	-0.7
Full-time	85,600	80,900	85,600	4,700	5.8	0	0.0
Part-time	20,500	22,000	21,200	-1,500	-6.8	-700	-3.3
Unemployed	8,800	10,100	8,000	-1,300	-12.9	800	10.0
Not in labour force	62,200	64,200	62,800	-2,000	-3.1	-600	-1.0
Participation rate	64.9%	63.8%	64.6%	1.1		0.3	
Unemployment rate	7.7%	8.9%	7.0%	-1.2		0.7	
Employment rate	59.9%	58.0%	60.1%	1.9		-0.2	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.



LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Employment Insurance Claimload

For the third consecutive quarter the Employment Insurance claimload has dropped in the Kenora/Dryden/Fort Frances area. Claimant numbers decreased by almost 20% which is not unusual for this time of year. July and August normally represent peak periods for seasonal employment in the tourism, hospitality and construction sectors, while September marks the return to work for laid off school related employees. The number of male claimants fell by almost 50% this quarter which is in line with the same time period in 2005. As in the last quarter, more than half the claimload fell in the 25 to 44 age bracket. Third quarter claim levels in 2005 and 2006 were relatively equal.

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

	July to September '06	April to June '06	July to September '05
Male	961	1549	967
Female	952	788	965
Total	1913	2337	1932

Source: Service Canada administrative data (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 September 2006. The table below represents vacancy activity captured from the National Job Bank and local newspaper advertisements.

Job opportunities during the third quarter were reflective of seasonal employment trends. Almost 40% of all job vacancies were in Sales and Service which includes retail, food and accommodation. Social Science and Education accounted for 15% of total vacancies, with the majority of job openings concentrated within social services. Based on the continuing downturn in the forestry sector, it is not surprising that occupations in manufacturing and primary industries showed little activity. Occupations in Business /Administration and Health tend to remain strong on an annual basis.

Employment Opportunities – Kenora, Dryden, Fort Frances and Surrounding Area

Occupations	July to September 2006	April to June 2006	January to March 2006
Total Vacancies	674	713	400
Management	51	52	29
Business/Administration	65	102	55
Natural & Applied Sciences	26	19	11
Health	57	49	50
Social Science & Education	104	102	64
Culture & Recreation	5	3	8
Sales & Service	266	265	131
Trades & Transport	87	110	43
Primary Industry	12	7	2
Manufacturing & Utilities	1	4	7

Source: National Job Bank and Newspaper Advertisements



“Making Kenora Home”

In 1999 the Government of Canada announced the **National Homelessness Initiative** designed to help ensure community access to programs, services and support for alleviating homelessness in communities across the country. Under this initiative communities receive support to implement measures that assist homeless individuals and families in achieving and maintaining self-sufficiency. The Kenora Fellowship Centre, Kenora's only emergency shelter, was provided with funding to support the research and development of local strategies for the homeless in the area. Activities undertaken by the centre provided an invaluable “seed investment” in the community's long-term homelessness strategy.

Over the past summer the “Making Kenora Home” committee was created. The committee held several “Community Solutions for Homelessness” workshops aimed at responding to the needs of the unfortunate. Participants included all levels of government, community groups, businesses and interested individuals. The group looked at food banks, clothing cupboards, furniture depots and transportation shuttle services as part of the short term aid to homelessness. Long term plans include the sustainability of emergency shelters and transitional housing. Working groups were also formed to look at practical responses to the needs of those on the street, public education and options for future projects.

For more information on Canada's National Homelessness Initiative please visit: <http://www.homelessness.gc.ca/>

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 Service Canada Centre 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>

