

News Release

STRATFORD-BRUCE PENINSULA ADDS 1,200 JOBS IN DECEMBER

Walkerton, ON (January 5, 2018) – The unemployment rate for the Stratford-Bruce Peninsula economic region fell by 0.2 percentage points to 4.1%, with more people employed and searching for work. The local labour force grew by 900 people in December, continuing an upward trend since June 2017. The provincial unemployment rate in December fell by 0.1 percentage points to 5.1%.

Compared with 2016, net employment in Stratford-Bruce Peninsula Economic Region increased in 2017 by 3,500. The number of people employed in Goods-producing sector rose by 6,000 while employment in Services-producing sector decreased by 2,600.

Employment increased for the seventh consecutive month (+1,200) in December, as a notable gain in part-time work (+2,100) was partly offset by a decline in full-time employment (-900). The gain was mainly attributed to more jobs in the Services-producing sector. However, compared with 12 months earlier, the number of Goods-producing sector employees rose by 8,700, while Services-producing sector employees decreased by 2,100.

The employment in the Goods-producing sector saw its largest monthly gains in Agriculture (+900) and Utilities (+600), and its biggest losses in Manufacturing (-2,700) and Construction (-1,300). Overall, the Goods-producing sector saw a net loss of 2,300 jobs.

Employment in the Services-producing sector edged up 3,500 in December. The added employment over the same period was driven by gains in Health care and social assistance (+1,900) and Wholesale and retail trade (+1,500). Losses were observed in Business, building and other support services (-1,200) and Professional, scientific and technical services (-500).

Kinectrics Inc., a Bruce Power supplier, broke ground on a new facility at the Bruce Energy Centre near Tiverton, creating 30 to 50 jobs. Employers continue to have ongoing job openings in the region.

The 4th annual EmployerOne Survey is open until January 31, 2018. Employers in Bruce, Grey, Huron and Perth counties are encouraged to complete the survey to help with local and regional workforce planning.

- 30 -

Note: Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey provides estimates of employment and unemployment, based on a sampling of households in communities. Stratford-Bruce Peninsula figures represent a three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality.