
Employment increases in April

The latest Monthly Labour Force Survey from Statistics Canada, released May 8th, indicate the following:

1. Employment increased, by **600** jobs, in the month of April.
2. This was the first month of gains after losses in the first three months of the year. A gain of 600 is large enough that it is not likely within the error of margin in the data, meaning April's extra employment was a meaningful reversal of the first three months of 2015.
3. So far 2015 has seen softer employment numbers; however, we are still analysing the employment effects of the harshest winter on record for the Saint John region.
4. It is likely we saw some losses in January to March associated with the slow-down in Alberta, early evidence suggests that effect of this on Saint John is stabilising, but we will update in future months as we know more.

Economic activity over the past couple of months include:

- \$7.5m has been committed by the Federal Government, the Province of New Brunswick and Saint John Industrial Parks for the construction of the Lorneville Barge Terminal. Conservatively the barge terminal is estimated to create 180 jobs by the time it is up and running.
- Nordia, a wholly owned Bell Canada subsidiary, is expanding their contact centre in Saint John by 250 jobs, and is moving into a renovated 40,000 square feet space in Prince Edward Square
- Clean Harbours announced they are adding 25 jobs over the next three years. Among others they provide environmental services to the oil and gas sector and to pulp and paper operations.
- J.D. Irving, Limited, has awarded 168 contracts to New Brunswick companies totalling \$65.9m in value as the west-side pulp and paper mill is upgraded. The upgrade is predicted to create and support an estimated 284 positions through 2015.
- Moosehead has postponed the lay-off of 70-80 workers by three months, until the end of September due to a brief contract extension.
- Target Canada closed their Saint John location on April 11th, after gradually reducing staff as they went through liquidation. Early indicators suggest the 100 or so jobs lost were absorbed elsewhere in the labour market.
- Futureshop in Saint John was one of the stores kept by Best Buy as they closed down all Futureshop stores. It has since re-opened as a Best Buy store.

An infographic demonstrating the economic impact of the J.D. Irving, Limited project is attached on the second page. This is an overview of the various economic benefits of the largest forestry investment in Canada made in the last two decades.

One of the goals of True Growth 2.0 is net new job growth. Enterprise Saint John measures job growth according to the monthly Labour Force Survey, with a focus on long-term, sustainable increases in employment. Our target for 2015 is a net increase of 750 jobs over a twelve month average, compared to 2014. We follow the survey results closely along with our day-to-day work in the business community. The overall increase in average employment from 2013 to 2014 highlighted the ongoing commitment by our community to its economic development plan, True Growth 2.0. Together, we are creating long-term sustainable employment and stimulating investments in our region.

Enterprise Saint John collaborates with True Growth Network Partners to track these indicators and continue the progress made towards greater economic prosperity. If you have data you wish to share or announcements, please contact us at the e-mail address below.

For more information, contact: David Thomas, Investment Attraction Officer, Enterprise Saint John, 506-632-6110, dthomas@enterprisesj.com

JDI PULP & PAPER MILL UPGRADE

current status: ACTIVE
timeframe: 2014-2016

\$450 MILLION
capital expenditure



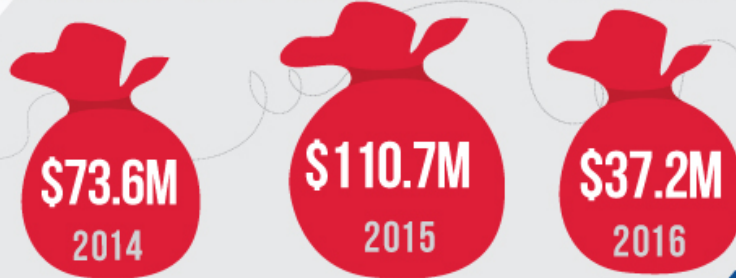
THIS \$450M UPGRADE IS THE LARGEST INVESTMENT IN A PULP MILL IN CANADA SINCE

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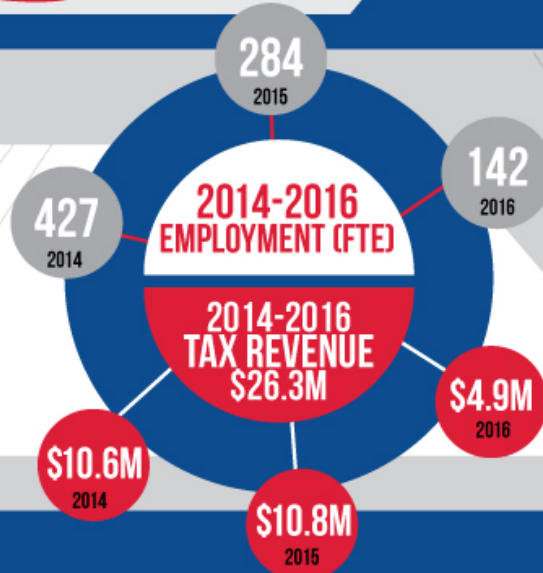


THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO GENERATE A

\$137.4 MILLION BOOST IN PROVINCIAL GDP



OVER THE 3 YEAR PERIOD AND \$221.5 MILLION IN SUPPLY CHAIN AND INDUCED ECONOMIC IMPACTS.



THIS PROJECT = **CONSUMER SPENDING** OF **\$48 MILLION**

3 YEARS