



July - December 2016



## A robust entrepreneurship ecosystem

- ▲ The Regional Business Centre registered 129 businesses in the second half of 2016, an increase from 111 in the second half of 2015. This represents 29 confirmed new business starts and about 59 new jobs in the Greater Sudbury area. 53 jobs were created during the same period in 2015.
- ▼ There were 1,022 inquiries to the Regional Business Centre in the second half of 2016 via walk-ins, emails and phone calls down from 1,635 in the same period in 2015.

Source: Regional Business Centre Summary Report

### Insolvencies

In the third quarter of 2016, the number of consumer insolvencies filed was 225 and there was one business insolvency.

For the 12-month period ending October 31, 2016 the number of consumer insolvencies was 834, up from 816 in the previous year. There were a total of five business insolvencies during the same period, down from thirteen over the same period in 2015.

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada, Insolvency Statistics in Canada, Third Quarter Report 2016

### Employment Insurance Call Centre

The federal government is hiring more than 80 new employees for the Employment Insurance (EI) call and delivery operations centre in Greater Sudbury's downtown. This government call centre will enable Service Canada to meet the increased demand for claims processing for the EI program which provides economic security to millions of Canadians. \$73 million in funding was committed over two years to enhance access to EI call centres.

This will increase the number of call centre agents, which will reduce waiting times and ensure that Canadians can access the information and support they need to receive their EI benefits as quickly as possible.

### Legend Boats

Legend Boats, located in Whitefish, has been named one of the Top 100 boat dealers in North America by Boating Industry, the leading trade publication for the marine industry. Top 100 is the only independent ranking of boat dealers in North America. The list recognizes dealerships that are unsurpassed in business operations, professionalism, marketing tactics, customer service and more.

### Electric Car Charging Stations

Two electric car charging stations will be built in Greater Sudbury by March 2017. One will be located near the McDonald's Restaurant on Newgate Avenue and the other near the Tim Horton's on Notre Dame Street in Azilda. The Ministry of Transportation announced a total of 500 charging stations will be constructed in the province.

### oRide

oRide, a similar ride sharing service to Uber, is now offered in Greater Sudbury. Drivers can connect with passengers who need a lift using a mobile app. At least 50 drivers in the city have now registered with the company allowing its service to be operational in the city. The company is operating in Ottawa with 150 drivers and is now planning on expanding to North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay.



## Surgeon at Health Sciences North (HSN) named one of Canada's 10 most influential Hispanics

Dr. Antonio Caycedo, originally from Colombia, received the honour at a ceremony by the Canadian Hispanic Business Alliance and the Canadian Hispanic Congress. In 2011, Caycedo relocated to Greater Sudbury to establish a practice in colorectal surgery at HSN, introducing several new surgical procedures and technologies since his arrival. He also serves as an assistant professor at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

Source: Health Sciences North

## Post-Secondary School Enrollment

There are more than 11,500 students enrolled in full-time studies at Greater Sudbury's three post-secondary institutions, Laurentian University, Cambrian College and College Boreal. 934 of these students are enrolled in Master's and PhD programs, full-time or part-time. An additional 2,471 students are undertaking part time studies. There are currently 950 international students enrolled in various programs in Greater Sudbury.

Source: Laurentian University, Cambrian College and Collège Boréal



## A highly skilled and creative workforce

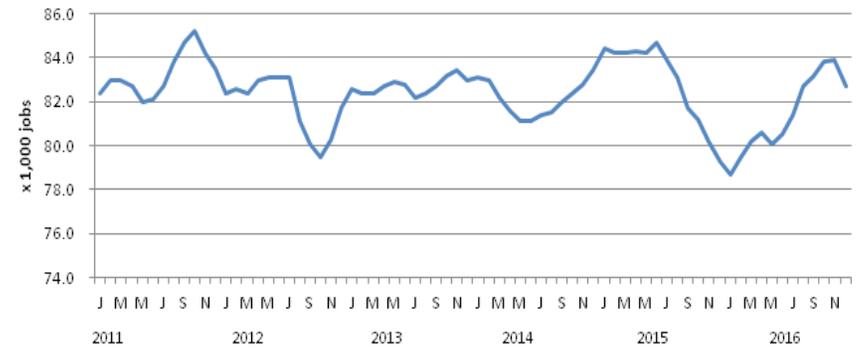
### Labour Force Survey

▶ The unemployment rate for Greater Sudbury in December 2016 was 8.1%, same as in July 2016. The rate is higher than both Ontario's rate of 6.4% and the national rate of 6.9%.

▶ There were 82,700 people employed in Greater Sudbury in December 2016. This is higher than the number employed in December 2015, which was 79,300.

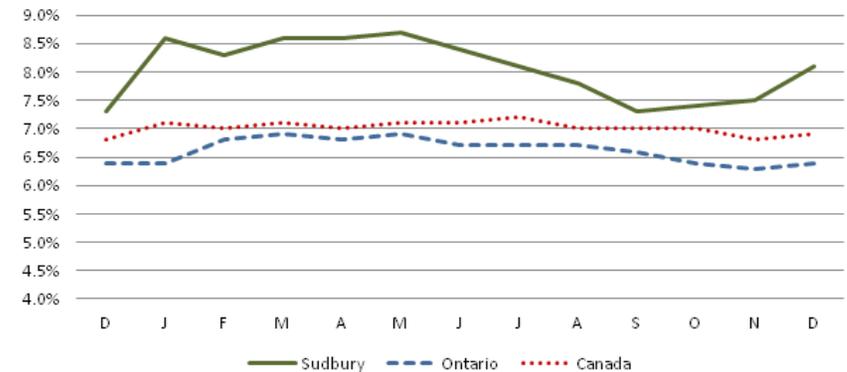
Source: Canada Labour Force Survey

### 2011 - 2016



### Comparative Unemployment Rate

December 2015 - December 2016



### Creating Jobs

In November 2016, The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation announced that it will invest \$9.6 million in various businesses in sectors such as mining, tourism, film and TV production, and even craft brewing. The funding will help to create or retain thousands of jobs in Greater Sudbury and across the North and expand economic opportunity across the region. According to the provincial government, the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund has announced more than \$446 million in funding across northern Ontario since 2013, leveraging more than \$1.4 billion in direct economic activity and helping to create or sustain almost 9,985 jobs.

Source: Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, November 2016

- ▼ The net total value of building permits issued in the second half of 2016 was \$67 million, a decrease from \$141 million issued over the same period in 2015.
- ▲ The net number of building permits issued in the second half of 2016 was 309, higher than the same period in 2015, which was 260.

**Building Permit Highlights**  
**July - December**

| Permit Classification | Number of permits |      | Value of permits |           |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------|------------------|-----------|
|                       | 2016              | 2015 | 2016             | 2015      |
| New residential       | 107               | 120  | \$26.9 M         | \$32.2 M  |
| Misc commercial       | 131               | 66   | \$20.3 M         | \$13.0 M  |
| New industrial        | 7                 | 12   | \$6.6 M          | \$79.5 M  |
| Misc institutional    | 64                | 62   | \$ 8.1 M         | \$ 19.8 M |

Source: Chief Building Official, Building Permit Statements

**Public Transit Infrastructure Projects**

Greater Sudbury gets \$3.82 million in federal money to pay for nine transit infrastructure projects. The City of Greater Sudbury will spend \$1.85 million on transit garage upgrades and rehabilitation, \$500,000 on a route optimization study and service enhancements, and \$20,000 on the purchase of new transit vehicle maintenance software.

**Municipal Infrastructure**

Ontario is providing Greater Sudbury with up to \$19.5 million in formula-based funding over three years to upgrade and expand local community infrastructure through the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF). Investing in municipal infrastructure is part of the government’s economic plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. Investing \$19.5 million in Greater Sudbury’s roads and bridges will create jobs and opportunities for families and businesses in the community. In total, 116 communities in the Northeast will receive more than \$58 million to upgrade community infrastructure.

Source: Ministry of Economic Development and Growth

**Maley Drive Extension**

Phase One of the Maley Drive extension project has officially begun. Construction of a new four lane road near the intersection of Collège Boréal and Lasalle Blvd will join the intersection of Maley Drive and Barrydowne Road. This phase involves building a cloverleaf interchange off of Highway 69 North, near the Lasalle Blvd/Notre Dame Ave intersection. Blasting and rock excavation will continue through the winter months.



The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) announced investments of more than \$3.5 million in six Greater Sudbury mining supply and service firms. These investments are expected to create 28 jobs and spur innovation in addition to the \$9.6 million announced in November.

- Accutron Instruments Inc. received \$148,200 to develop prototypes for communications and monitoring systems for use in mining and industrial operations.
- BESTECH received \$146,661 to develop a Blast Gas Clearance Module to optimize ventilation of blast gas from underground mining corridors and improve productivity.
- Boart Longyear Canada received \$1.37 million to develop technology for mineral exploration rigs with the potential to improve safety for miners, increase efficiency and reduce drilling costs.
- Hardrock-Vertex (formerly Hardrock Mining Products) received \$1 million to relocate, modernize and expand its Greater Sudbury operation to increase productivity and meet market demands. The new \$2.5 million 15,000 sq. ft. facility opened its doors in the Valley East Industrial Park earlier this summer and has allowed the company to grow from 10 to 14 employees, with plans to hire an additional six within the year.
- Rock-Tech received \$800,000 to help construct a new facility to expand its mining equipment manufacturing operations.
- TesMan Inc. received \$75,000 to develop innovative technology that will improve mine safety by enabling the explosives loading process to be completed from a distance.
- Our Economic Development staff worked extensively with Tesman, Boart Longyear and Hardrock-Vertex to secure these investments.

### **Boart Longyear and NORCAT**

Boart Longyear's next generation drilling technology will be tested and refined in northern Ontario following a decision by the Utah-based mining supplier to establish a research and development presence at the Northern Centre for Advanced Technology's (NORCAT) Underground Centre in Greater Sudbury. This will include next generation wireline tooling, smart drill rig technology, XRF technology for examining core samples and high-speed drilling technology. The partnership was announced by Boart Longyear president and CEO Jeff Olsen and NORCAT CEO Don Duval at MINExpo in September in Las Vegas. Ontario Minister of Northern Development and Mines, Michael Gravelle, announced an additional \$1.3 million grant from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation.

### **Weir Minerals**

Weir Minerals opened up a 6,000 square foot warehouse on Old Falconbridge Road. The company designs and manufactures products and services for the minerals, oil and gas and power industries. Its customers include large miners, major oil services businesses and nuclear and conventional power generation companies. In Greater Sudbury, the company has an engineering and field service team. The Weir Group has a presence in more than 70 countries and employs over 16,300 people worldwide.

### **Film and Television Industry**

An estimated 500 people attended the first ever Film & TV Symposium at the Northern Ontario Film Studios. In 2015, 20 productions were filmed in the city funneling at least \$18 million into the local economy and creating more than 700 jobs.

Two large productions are currently being filmed in the city, *Indian Horse* and *Food Market*.

*Indian Horse* tells the story of a First Nations youth who flourishes as a hockey player, but is later haunted by his experience at a residential school and struggles with alcoholism.

*Food Market* will run six episodes and is coproduced by Mark Montefiore, who helmed *Letterkenny*, among other productions shot recently in Greater Sudbury.

### **Place des Arts**

The City Council approved \$5 million for Place des Arts in their 2017 budget, which is the first tax revenue directed towards financing the project. Almost \$339,000 in private donations for the project has been raised in only 40 days through a members' campaign, and proponents hope to bring in \$2.6 million from major donors by April 2018. If all of these pieces fall into place, shovels will be in the ground by the summer of 2018 and the facility would open in the spring of 2020.

Place des Arts will be built on what is now the municipal parking lot at the corner of Elgin and Larch streets. Place des Arts will house Carrefour francophone de Sudbury, Centre franco-ontarien de folklore, Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario, La Nuit sur l'étang, Éditions Prise de parole, Galerie du Nouvel-Ontario, Salon du livre du Grand Sudbury and Laurentian University's francophone theatre arts program.

### **Science North Admissions**

▲ 86,792 visitors between July and December 2016, an increase from 81,609 in the same period of the previous year.

### **Dynamic Earth Admissions**

▲ 44,050 visitors between July and December 2016, a substantial increase from 32,383 in the same period of the previous year.

### **Hotel Occupancy**

▼ Greater Sudbury's hotel occupancy for the five month period from July 2016 to November 2016 was 68.4%, which is down from 75.9% over the same period in 2015.

▲ The average daily room rate for the five month period from July to November 2016 was \$116.75 which higher than the rate in the same period in 2015, which was \$115.52.

In comparison, Ontario had an average hotel occupancy rate of 76.06% and an average daily room rate of \$137.45 during the same period.

*Source: CBRE Report, November 2016*

## Major Events and Economic Impact

Economic Development staff has made strong efforts on securing upcoming major events in Greater Sudbury.

| Event  | # of Delegates | # of Hotel Room Nights | Projected Economic Impact |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2016 Canadian Field Robotics Network (NCFRN)   | 80             | **                     | \$2,500                   |
| 2016 Sudbury Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)  | 300            | 30                     | \$8,010                   |
| 2017 International Conference on Topics in Astroparticle and Underground Physics (TAUP) Conference | 300            | 840                    | \$224,280                 |
| 2017 Sudbury Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)  | 300            | 30                     | \$8,010                   |
| 2017 Canaqua Swim Run  | 200            | 30                     | \$8,010                   |
| 2018 Telus Cup Hockey Canada   | 200            | 1400                   | \$373,800                 |
| 2018 Ontario Professional Planners Institute Symposium (OPPI)                                      | 300            | 600                    | \$160,200                 |
| 2018 Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) Nordic Skiing                      | 300            | 600                    | \$160,200                 |
| 2019 The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)                                     | 250            | 350                    | \$93,450                  |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>2,230</b>   | <b>3,880</b>           | <b>\$1,038,460</b>        |

\* based on 2013 Statistics Canada data from Travel Survey of Residents of Canada and International Travel Survey prepared by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

\*\* This was actual food & beverage revenue created by making the match between out of province meeting planner and local restaurant.

## Canada Summer Games 2021

The Canada Summer Games Technical Review Committee (TRC) visit on August 26th was a success. The agenda for the TRC visit consisted of over 20 site tours in nine official hours and included sport and non-sport venues and the Games Village at Laurentian University. At the end of the visit, members of the community, sport clubs and stakeholders, including the Mayor and four city councilors greeted the TRC with a warm welcome of applause and cheering at the Northern Water Sports Centre.

## Tourism Events

In the January to August 2016 period, Sudbury Tourism supported 84 events through the Event Support Program with a combined \$102,127 in funding. These events attracted an estimated 58,252 non-local participants, delegates and spectators to Sudbury, resulting in local spending of approximately \$15,553,284 during this time period.



## A LEADER IN HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES

### **New Cancer Treatment Introduced to Greater Sudbury**

A new cancer treatment procedure is being offered at Health Sciences North. Patients received the first round of Radiofrequency Ablation, a procedure using electron probes to destroy cancer cells. This is now available to patients for the first time in northeastern Ontario. Previously, patients had to travel to Toronto or Barrie for this procedure. This is an out-patient same day procedure done in the HSN CT suite for patients with kidney, liver and lung cancers with smaller tumours who are referred by their surgeon or oncologist. Patients typically recover much quicker than following a surgical procedure.

### **Health Sciences North (HSN) Virtual Critical Care (VCC)**

Health Sciences North's Virtual Critical Care Set-up was used for a high-risk birth in Espanola Regional Hospital and Health Centre. HSN stated that the birth served as a perfect example of how VCC technology helps bridge the gap between the larger and smaller hospitals to provide the highest quality care. The VCC Unit uses the latest in video-conferencing technology and electronic medical records sharing to connect HSN with smaller critical care units and emergency departments at hospitals across northeastern Ontario.

### **VitaHeal Medical Clinic**

Dr. Raj Vorha opened the clinic in January 2015 to provide a space for patients dealing with chronic pain and addiction that differed from the impersonal spaces he had seen throughout his career. Unlike many other clinics that focus on pain management and addiction, VitaHeal encourages patients to bring their families, including their children, so they can be a part of their recovery.



## ONE OF THE MOST INTEGRATED EDUCATION AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS IN ONTARIO

### **Collège Boréal**

Collège Boréal received significant funding, \$5,710,940, from the federal and provincial governments for major infrastructure projects to modernize existing facilities and enhance the institution's capacity for research and innovation.

The new Wellness Centre will allow the college to conduct research in a number of areas, including the effect of physical activity on the mobility, independence and mental health of the aging population. The facility will also become a laboratory for those students who have to maintain a certain level of physical fitness to meet professional standards required for their respective professions.

The construction of a green roof and greenhouse on the centre's roof will provide a unique opportunity to study this type of infrastructure in northern Ontario so that researchers may better understand the impact of climate ones on potential crops.

### **Cambrian College and Algoma University**

Cambrian College announced that they signed an articulation agreement with Algoma University. The agreement will allow qualified Cambrian students and graduates of certificate, diploma and advanced diploma programs a streamlined pathway to Algoma's Bachelor of Arts or Science degrees. These include Business Administration, Computer Science, Fine Arts, Music and Social Work degrees.

Cambrian College announced a 2% increase in overall enrolment for 2016/17 with first year enrollment up by 4%. The Barrydowne campus attracted 18% more international students bringing the fall total to 350, up from 286. An increase was also noted in indigenous students who are band sponsored or self-identified.

## Laurentian University and the Mineral Exploration

### Research Centre (MERC)

Laurentian University announced it will be receiving over \$59 million in funding to create a research and development facility at the school's Mineral Exploration Research Centre (MERC). This is in addition to the \$55 million in cash and in-kind donations committed to the university totaling \$114 million. MERC will focus on mining exploration and increasing ore body discoveries.

- \$49.3 million from the federal Liberal government will be allocated over seven years and is the largest single allocation in the university's 56 year history. It will be used to hire 35 post doctoral fellows, research assistants, and technicians and support staff. More than 80 graduates, 100 undergraduate students and several contractors will also be employed.
- \$10 million has been donated by mining entrepreneur David Harquail, CEO of Franco-Nevada Corporation including an \$8.4 million endowment fund. This fund will be used towards Research Chairs, laboratory equipment and supplies, technical support and international scholarships for international PhD students. The remaining \$1.6 million will be allocated for immediate recruitment of a Research Chair in exploration targeting and other supports.

## Laurentian University School of Architecture

Rob McEwen, one of Canada's leading executives in the mining industry, announced a \$10 million gift to the Laurentian University School of Architecture in Greater Sudbury. McEwen is the founder of Goldcorp Inc., which he grew from a small company with a market capitalization of \$50 million to a global player worth more than \$10 billion. The school will now be known as the McEwen School of Architecture in recognition of the significant investment by the McEwen family. Four million dollars will be used to complete the school's \$45 million state-of-the-art building in downtown Sudbury. The remaining \$6 million will enhance the experience of students and maximize their capacity to become agents of change for architecture globally.

