



A robust entrepreneurship ecosystem

▲ The Regional Business Centre registered 47 businesses in the first quarter of 2017, an increase from 26 in the first quarter of 2016. This represents 11 confirmed new business starts and about 19 new jobs in the Greater Sudbury area. There were 37 jobs created during the same period in 2016.

▼ There were 378 inquiries to the Regional Business Centre in the first quarter of 2017 via walk-ins, emails and phone calls down from 920 in the same period in 2016.

Source: Regional Business Centre Summary Report

Millennium 1 Solutions

Millennium 1 Solutions, a Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) company, opened its facility in February. The mostly inbound centre will service government agencies, insurance companies, credit card companies, retailers and loyalty programs. At least 250 workers will be initially hired with this increasing to 350 by the end of the year with mostly permanent full-time positions. The majority of new hires will be English and include bilingual agents with positions for managers, support staff, IT and human resources staff. The company is spending \$2 million dollars on renovations on a 25,000 sq ft building at 80 National Street.

Five Guys Burgers and Fries

Five Guys Burgers and Fries recently opened at 1400 Kingsway, next to Party City. The American burger chain has 1,500 locations spanning the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Europe and the Middle East.

Twiggs Coffee Roasters

The North Bay-originated brand, Twiggs Coffee Roasters, is opening up its first Sudbury location on the Kingsway, a 2,800 sq.ft facility. The coffee shop serves in-house, freshly roasted java from four different locations in the North Bay area. Twiggs offer healthy meals constructed in the deli, delicious smoothies blended with real fruit, and catering orders prepared for meetings and other events. It is estimated that the Sudbury location will require between 35 and 40 full- and part-time staff.

Northern Axperts

Northern Axperts, the city's first axe throwing business opened its facility within Peddler's Pub. The business host axe throwing coaching and an axe throwing league. Ax throwing is a new and growing sport increasing in popularity in Toronto and Montreal.

One Stop Naturals

One Stop Naturals opened in the former Harvey's building in Val Caron. The food store is owned by a registered homeopath carries a comprehensive selection of vitamins, foods, supplements and even sports a drive through organic juice, yogurt, ice cream and coffee.



A welcoming and open community

The 2016 Census Profile for Greater Sudbury (CMA) reported the population grew by 1% between 2011 and 2016. The population in 2016 was reported to be 164,689, an increase of about 1,600 in five years.

Ontario Economic Report

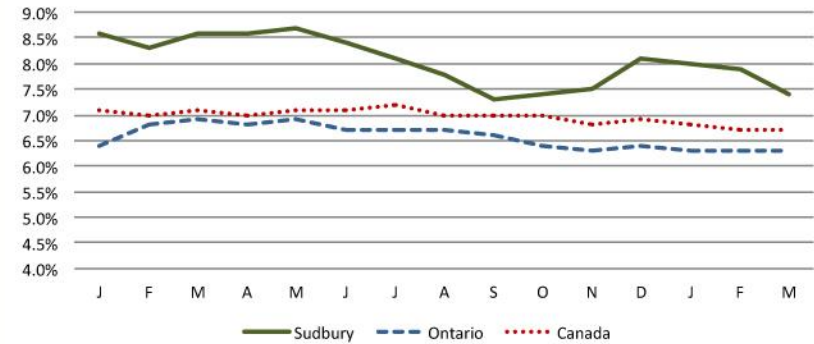
The Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) released the inaugural Ontario Economic Report (OER).

Below are some of the highlights:

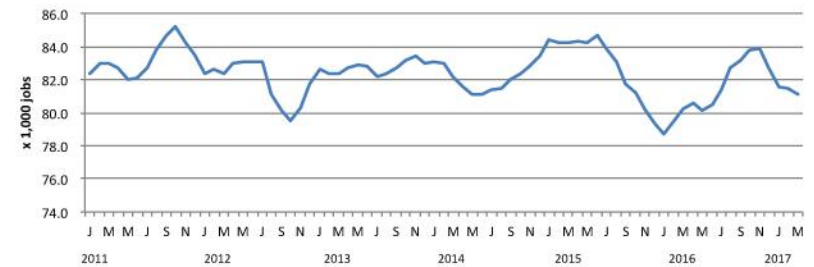
- Unemployment in the city is predicted to drop in 2017 from 8.1% to 7.5%
- Median residential housing prices are predicted to increase slightly to \$235,000, reflecting a small increase over the previous year.

Comparative Unemployment Rate

March 2016 - March 2017



Employment in Greater Sudbury 2011 - 2017



A highly skilled and creative workforce

Labour Force Survey

The unemployment rate for Greater Sudbury in March 2017 was 7.4%, down from 8.4% in March 2016. The rate is higher than both Ontario's rate of 6.4% and the national rate of 6.7%.

There were 81,100 people employed in Greater Sudbury in March 2017. This is higher than the number employed in March 2016, which was 80,900.

Source: Canada Labour Force Survey



- ▲ The net total value of building permits issued in the first quarter of 2017 was \$60 million, an increase from \$47 million issued over the same period in 2016.
- ▲ The net number of building permits issued in the first quarter of 2017 was 212, higher than the same period in 2016, which was 200.

Building Permit Highlights

January – March 2017

Permit Classification	Number of permits		Value of permits	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
New residential	6	4	\$1.41M	\$1.23M
Misc residential	100	128	\$3.43M	\$7.16M
New industrial	1	4	\$100,801	\$12.58M
Misc institutional	29	18	\$36.11M	\$16.53M

Source: Chief Building Official, Building Permit Statements

The Greater Sudbury Airport

The Greater Sudbury Airport reported it is working on plans to develop 230 acres into a commercial park. Future non aviation businesses may include a coffee shop, gas station, hotel and car wash. The airport reported 228,962 passengers used the terminal in 2016, up slightly from 2015.

Arena and Event Centre

City councilors approved a consultant report from PricewaterhouseCoopers to proceed with the next steps to build a new \$100 million, 5,800 seat arena and event centre. Councilors approved \$200,000 to fund a financing plan and site selection. This report will be due before June. There are 15 potential sites which will be explored for construction.



City of Greater Sudbury and the State of Guerrero

The Greater Sudbury Development Corporation (GSDC), the Sudbury Area Mining Supply and Services Association (SAMSSA) and the State of Guerrero in Mexico signed a letter of intent to work together for mutual economic benefit. The parties agree to work together to “identify, analyze and develop opportunities” for mineral development in the State of Guerrero, which contains the resort city of Acapulco on the Pacific coast. This could mean potential “commercial enterprise, capacity building, and technical innovation,” and could clear the path to a more definitive framework agreement.

Noront Resources and the Ring of Fire

Noront Resources Ltd reported it is planning on first developing its Eagle’s Nest site, a predominantly nickel copper deposit in the Ring of Fire. Further development would then be followed by the mining of chromite deposits in the area. Before the commencement of any mining activity, however, access to the mine sites depend on the creation of an access road or railway. Once this is approved and funded by the federal and provincial governments, road construction will take up to three years to complete.

Wallbridge Mining Company

Wallbridge Mining Company Limited announced it is continuing to develop its properties in the Greater Sudbury area. It plans to re-initiate active exploration on its East Range Properties, located adjacent to Glencore’s Nickel Rim South Mine and Vale’s Victor Deep and Capre development projects. It is also continuing with exploratory drilling on its Parkin Properties north of Capreol.

Vale

Vale reported a net profit of \$3.98 billion in 2016, a positive turnaround from the \$12.13 billion loss in 2015, the largest in the company’s history. Vale remains the city’s largest employer with about 4,000 workers. The company operates six mines, a mill, smelter and refinery in Greater Sudbury.

Glencore

Glencore Sudbury Integrated Nickel Operations reported a net profit of \$1.99 billion in 2016, the highest earnings for the company since 2008. Locally, Glencore operates the Nickel Rim and Fraser mines, a mill and a smelter. The company employs 1,300 workers in Greater Sudbury..

Research and Development Facility

City staff recommended a numbered company be approved to build a research and development facility at the intersection of Wanup Road and Highway 537. The business currently employs fewer than five employees and is engaged in the research and development of electrical components including the design and retrofit of panels and controllers for the mining and pulp and paper industries.



A nationally recognized centre for artistic excellence, vibrancy and creativity

Canadian Screens Awards 2017

A number of productions filmed in Greater Sudbury were recognized with a 2017 Canadian Screen Award:

Letterkenny: Best Comedy Series, Best Direction in a Comedy or Series and Best Writing in a Comedy or Series

The Amazing Race: Best Reality / Competition Program or Series. Episode 6 of Season 3, "Who is Alex Trebek?" which was #shotuphere in Sudbury was the most viewed episode in history at time of airing.

Born to be Blue: Achievement in Music – Original Score
Achievement in Music – Original Song

Painted Land: In Search of the Group of Seven: Barbara Sears Award for Best Editorial Research

Slasher: Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Supporting Role in a Dramatic Program or Series

Two Lovers and a Bear: Achievement in Art Direction / Production Design and Achievement in Editing



One of Ontario's top tourism destinations

Science North Admissions

38,162 visitors between January and March 2017, a slight decrease from 39,479 in the same period of the previous year.

Dynamic Earth Admissions

6,452 visitors between January and March 2017, a decrease from 10,079 in the same period of the previous year.

Hotel Occupancy

Greater Sudbury's hotel occupancy for January and February 2017 was 48.15% which is slightly down from 53.25% in the same period in 2016.

The average daily room rate for January and February 2017 was \$112.78 which is identical to the same period in 2016.



The Northern Ontario School of Medicine

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine announced collaboration with Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and Health Sciences North to establish an accredited medical physics residency education program to train medical physicists in the North. Medical physicists are health care professionals with specialized training. Most work in hospital diagnostic imaging departments, cancer treatment facilities or hospital based research establishments.



Cambrian College is introducing new programs

Cambrian College announced it will be introducing two new graduate certificate programs in September 2017. The Mobile App Development Program is a program for creative thinkers who will be developing mobile game apps for iOS and Android platforms. The Project Management Program is designed for project leaders in the health, education, social and community services, retail, engineering, architecture and design, science and information technology sectors

Cambrian College and Laurentian University

Cambrian College and Laurentian University announced an agreement to boost research and innovation in northern Ontario. This facilitates the creation of collaborative partnerships and enables faculty, students and staff at both schools to pursue large scale research projects.

NORCAT launches mobile app

NORCAT Safety Wallet was created based on customer insight and demand for a mobile tool that manages client training courses and records, distributes training content at teachable moments, and enables on-site worker compliance tracking and management. The introduction of the Safety Wallet is part of NORCAT's broader training and development technology and innovation strategy that has featured the launch of the NORCAT equipment simulation training centre and the avatar-based mine rescue simulation training tool recently featured at the 2017 Canadian Mining Games. The pilot launch of the Safety Wallet can be downloaded on Android devices via the Play Store and will soon be featured for Apple devices. NORCAT is working with an array of customers to continue to develop and deploy new features and content over the coming six months.