LMI BULLETIN

EASTERN WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Issue #4 | July 2025



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that our office is situated on the traditional Haudenosaunee Mohawk Territories with gratitude and respect, we acknowledge the significant contributions indigenous peoples have made to preserve the land around us.

Sections of the LMI Bulletin

Section One Words from the Executive Director

Section Two Global Efforts to Reduce Trade Barriers between Provinces

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Section One: Words From the ED

This is our fourth monthly Labour Market Information Bulletin.

We appreciate the positive feedback and response from our partner organizations as well as the general public. We are committed to providing accurate, up-to- date information and analysis across the catchment area.



This Bulletin has four (4) sections as outlined above. Our Global News focus this month is on "Efforts by the Federal and Provincial Governments to reduce or remove Trade Barriers". We have also provided a section on local job postings and a link to our LMI Help Desk. The LMI Help Desk is an online questionnaire that allows job-seekers and community partner to ask EWIB for information pertaining to the local labour market. We will provide an Update on Local Labour Markets Characteristics, monthly local job postings (job demand) and data research responses from our LMI Help Desk. The latter component addresses questions which are pertinent for Job Seekers and Employers in our local Labour market. We do hope that these

bulletins continue to serve as a useful and interactive forum for discourse in our evolving economic times. Please send any comments to me at frank@workforcedev.ca.

The Eastern Workforce Innovation Board believes in continuous quality improvement. Part of this improvement occurs through the completion of Evaluation Surveys from our local partners. In October of 2025 and February of 2026 we will be asking partners to complete surveys of our community Projects as a means of ensuring that we are providing useful and important materials to you. We approach your willingness to assist in completing these.

Section Two: Efforts to Reduce Provincial and Federal Trade Barriers

The ongoing trade dispute between the United States and Canada is having an increasingly adverse impact on businesses both in Canada as well as some business partners in the United States. As the Canadian government works to negotiate with its largest trading partner to the South it has also undertaken efforts to foster collaboration between provinces, including efforts to create a regulatory environment which fosters the removal of existing trade barriers between Provinces. This newsletter focuses on a review of how inter-provincial trade barriers impact on provincial and local economies, as well as what experts predict their removal could do for economic development in the country.

According to Daniel Teeter (Global Affairs Canada) and Christopher Cotton (Queen's University Economic Department), "interprovincial trade barriers are potentially as costly as a 7% tariff on goods crossing provincial lines, inflating consumer prices by an estimated 7.8% to 14.5%. This artificial inflation stifles competition, hampers innovation, and curtails economic growth. The authors estimate that dismantling these barriers could boost Canada's GDP by up to \$161 billion annually, or an additional \$2,300 to \$4,000 per Canadian per year. Yet, despite these potential gains, such barriers persist."

Source: John Deutsch Institute for the Study of Public Policy March 5, 2025

Trade between the two nations substantially exceeds trade between many of both nations other trading partners. According to statistics from the Canada Revenue Agency in 2024, the combined value of Canada's imports and exports of goods traded with the United States surpassed the \$1 trillion mark for a third consecutive year. In 2024, the United States was the destination for 75.9% of Canada's total exports and was the source of 62.2% of Canada's total imports. The current United States governments decision to levy punishing tariffs on many of its trading partners, including a current threat to levy 35% tariffs on many Canadian goods including steel, aluminum and softwood lumber, is creating havoc in markets. It also has the potential to be devasting for jobs in the manufacturing sector, support services for these

employers and the Canadian economy in general. Setting aside historic political animosities which have existed between Federal and Provincial parties since Confederation, many politicians are now working actively to promote collaboration, including the reduction of Provincial trade barriers to address the new economic reality we are facing.

Experts note that a series of administrative and regulatory reforms are essential if the Federal Government and Provinces are serious about achieving success in increasing revenues and addressing to needs of the broader economy. Reforms need to occur in the following areas;

- A.) **Provincial Regulations and Credentials.** If a product, service or professional certification is legal in one province, it should be automatically accepted in another.
- B.) **Eliminating Redundant Inspections.** Goods and equipment which are deemed to be compliant in one province should not be require costly and unnecessary recertifications elsewhere.
- C.) **Key Industries should be targeted for Reform.** The manufacturing sector alone accounts for over 40% of the total gains Nationally when Provinces act unilaterally.
- D.) **Enhancing Labour Mobility.** If provinces are not ready to implement economy wide reforms, they should explain which sectors would benefit most from liberalized trade.
- E.) **Strengthening Infrastructure and Connectivity:** Invest in upgrading transportation networks, integrate provincial power grids and rail and trucking capacity, and expand broadband access to facilitate the movement of goods, services, and information.
- F.) Increasing Transparency and Accountability: Enhance data collection on interprovincial trade, conduct internal trade missions, and launch public awareness campaigns to highlight the costs and inefficiencies of existing barriers and what can be done to address them.

As the federal and provincial governments move towards creating a regulatory environment that promotes internal trade, they will face ongoing challenges. This will be particularly true in the energy sector. While some provinces fully support projects in the energy sector such as pipelines, others are reticent to engage in these endeavors. Similarly, there is a need for ongoing engagement and negotiation with Indigenous partners across the Country who have opposed pipelines previously. While barriers and disagreements will arise, all parties at this stage are actively engaged, and all recognize the necessity of collaboration in the current fiscal climate.

Section Three: Local Job Postings

This section provides information on local jobs that are in demand by reviewing data of the job hubs on the EWIB web-site. <u>Click here</u> to visit the EWIB's job board.

Job Postings by Occupation in EWIB

NOC	Occupation	June 2025	May 2025	June 2024	June 2025 vs May 2025	June 2025 vs June 2024
0	Legislative and senior management occupations	4	5	4	(1)	0
1	Business, finance and administration occupations	273	304	248	(31)	25
2	Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	103	118	106	(15)	(3)
3	Health occupations	219	183	153	36	66
4	Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services	209	193	209	16	0
5	Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	32	26	25	6	7
6	Sales and service occupations	574	608	489	(34)	85
7	Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	218	280	234	(62)	(16)
8	Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations	11	19	6	(8)	5
9	Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	62	60	37	2	25
Х	Unclassified occupation	20	29	25	(9)	(5)
	Total Across All Occupations	1721	1820	1,532	(99)	189

Source: Lightcast

EWIB Region includes Leeds & Grenville Counties, Frontenac County and Loyalist Township

June 2025 showed 1,721 new job postings. This was a decrease over the previous month of May of 99 job postings but an increase of 189 job postings from a year ago reported in June 2024. The largest decrease in job postings from last month and from a year ago was in the trades, transport and equipment occupations. The most significant increase in job postings from last month was in health occupations. From last year the largest increase was in the sales and services occupations.

Despite the predicted economic instability due to the effects of tariffs, this area is experiencing relative employment stability. There has been a steady influx of American-plated vehicles entering eastern Ontario (Cornwall, Prescott, Lansdowne). Numbers have remained steady at 55,037 for June 2025, down by only 486 from June 2024. This is good news for the tourism industry in eastern Ontario.

Top 20 Job Postings by Occupations June 2025 - EWIB Region

NOC Code	Occupational Title	# Job Postings	
31301	Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses	74	
64100	Retail salespersons and visual merchandisers	74	
64101	Sales and account representatives - wholesale trade (non-technical)	50	
44101	Home support workers, caregivers and related occupations	41	
63200	Cooks	43	
64409	Other customer and information services representatives	40	
60020	Retail and wholesale trade managers	38	
65200	Food and beverage servers	34	
73300	Transport truck drivers	35	
75101	Material handlers	32	
65102	Store shelf stockers, clerks and order fillers	30	
95109	Other labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	28	
13100	Administrative officers	29	
65201	Food counter attendants, kitchen helpers and related support occupations	27	
42201	Social and community service workers	26	
33102	Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates	26	
41200	University professors and lecturers	24	
65100	Cashiers	23	
65310	Light duty cleaners	21	
11100	Financial auditors and accountants	20	

Source: Lightcast Job Postings June 2025



Section 4: LMI Help Desk

EWIB provides a free Labour Market Information (LMI) Help Desk Service to the public. Questions can be submitted by completing an online form and a response will be sent to you within 5 business days. Click here to request local labour market information from our LMI Help Desk.







