

# Table of Contents

<u>Job fair gives look at 'real world'; Oulton's College organizes event to bring students, employers together</u> .....	1
<u>French seeking work in Canada flock to job fair; Hundreds of young people frustrated with flagging economy turn out for Paris event</u> .....	3
<u>French see Canadian job fair as way to exit stalled economy</u> .....	5
<u>Young French see opportunity in Canada; Turnout of frustrated work seekers surprises job fair organizers</u> .....	6

# Job fair gives look at 'real world'; Oulton's College organizes event to bring students, employers together

---

**IDNUMBER** 200711220033  
**PUBLICATION:** Times & Transcript (Moncton)  
**DATE:** 2007.11.22  
**SECTION:** Business  
**PAGE:** C2  
**BYLINE:** James Foster Times &  
Transcript Staff  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Times & Transcript  
(Moncton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 377

---

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Even many adults can't answer that question, but a job fair aimed at Grade 12 students in Metro Moncton yesterday was still a valuable experience, say both students and employers.

"A lot of our recruiting comes from word of mouth," Jason Trowsdale, recruiting on behalf of Exxon Mobil Canada's support centre in Moncton, said amid the din created by the more than 1,200 students in attendance.

"And it's rare that we might hire someone without post-secondary education," he acknowledged.

Still, with more than 1,000 jobs in Moncton alone serving clients almost around the world, Exxon Mobil likes to maintain its profile in the job market so when the best and brightest think of a future career, maybe they'll think of this global energy player.

This was a job fair with a difference -- it was organized and run by the students in Oulton College's Travel and Hospitality course as part of their training.

So not only did the Oulton's students gain valuable experience in organizing such an undertaking, the high-schoolers were exposed to the endless possibilities in the world of work, and employers got to show their flags to their potential employees of tomorrow.

Oulton's students were out in great numbers as well, checking out potential employers. Many of them were interested in the 143 different non-management positions at Exxon, Trowsdale said, though like most people, they thought they were considering a call centre.

"We are not a call centre," Trowsdale harrumphs.

Candidates are advised to check out Exxon positions via CareerBeacon.com or Kelly Services, which does the initial screening of Exxon's typical 6,600 applications per year.

Meo LeBlanc of Moncton High School might send in an application at some point after graduation and once he gets some post-secondary education under his belt.

"It looks interesting," the Grade 12 student says.

"I need more than a high school diploma to work there by the looks of it, but it's for sure a cut above some of the regular old call centres or some of these jobs where you start at the bottom, and I mean really at the bottom."

Employers on hand ranged across the workaday world, from financial planning to the hospitality industry to the City of Moncton to the Canadian Forces to law firms -- and almost everything in between among the more than 50 exhibitors.

Charles Savoie, president of Oulton College, hoped the experienced proved interesting for all involved.

"This kind of event opens up opportunities for Grade 12 students by helping them put into perspective some career options as well as college programs available to them," he said in a news release.

The event was also open to the public.

# French seeking work in Canada flock to job fair; Hundreds of young people frustrated with flagging economy turn out for Paris event

---

**IDNUMBER** 200711220021

**PUBLICATION:** Vancouver Sun

**DATE:** 2007.11.22

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A13

**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: Gonzalo Fuentes, Reuters / Commuters crowd into the metro at the Gare del Est metro station in Paris Wednesday during a nationwide strike of French transport workers protesting against government pension reform. ;

**KEYWORDS:** !@DATELINE=PARIS

**BYLINE:** Megan Ainscow and Peter O'Neil

**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 544

---

PARIS — Hundreds of young French, frustrated with their country's flagging economy, voted with their feet here this week by braving rain and an exasperating transportation strike to attend a two-day Canadian job fair.

France's economic malaise and rigid job market, which President Nicolas Sarkozy is trying to repair with the kind of confrontational policies that provoked the strike, are driving many French overseas.

"I know that Canada is an open country, with lots of possibilities and a really dynamic population," said Miete Fatou, who studied international relations and is considering a move to Saskatchewan.

She said that the French job market is unfair, and said that employers can sometimes be racist.

"The French have an idea that blacks have their place. It's the royalist spirit, the Old World side of France."

Head organizer Alain Theault, minister counsellor of immigration at the Canadian Embassy, expressed surprise that the turnout was so good, even with rain and the trains at a standstill.

"I was on vacation a couple of weeks ago and I woke up with a nightmare thinking, 'What if we do all this and nobody shows up?'"

The Canadian government spent \$80,000 to put together the event, the fourth of its kind in France since 2004.

The mostly 30-somethings piled into the reception hall, dressed to impress in business attire and carrying paperwork. Of the 6,000 people who sent in resumes online, only 1,200 received invitations.

This was the first time Canadian companies, rather than just provincial representatives, were invited to come and recruit employees directly.

Most of the jobs on offer were low-level service-industry jobs, but Theault pointed out that, for the French, experience working in an anglophone country is a big plus on their resumes.

Inside an auditorium, a slide show flashed photos of happy, smiling people working in restaurants and hotels or enjoying leisure activities on horse-drawn sleighs or skiing and skating in winter wonderland forest scenes.

Hubert Llopis, who seeks a career in aeronautics, was there to speak to Penta Aviation of Vancouver.

"It seems in Vancouver they really know how to live well," he said. "It's anglophone and I'd like to practise my English. There's a nice climate, there's the mountains, there's the beach so we can even go surfing!"

Most of the employers are here because of the huge labour shortage in Western Canada.

"It's really tight, the economy in Canada is booming and unemployment is at an all-time low," said Wyatt McMurray of Cache Creek, who owns several A&W franchises in small towns across the province. "The oil fields are sucking up all the workers."

While the job might not be particularly glamorous for a Parisian, McMurray said many, especially those frustrated by the strike, might find a move to Canada appealing.

"As Canadians we're spoiled in that we have tons of space," McMurray said. "Our idea of a traffic jam is three minutes. That's the hook: In a small town, you can have a really big apartment at a low price, and you can walk to work."

The labour shortage in Canada is reflected in the most recent statistics from the Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, which put Canada's unemployment rate at 5.8 per cent. France's was 8.6 per cent.

But numbers don't tell the full story.

Habiba Alimahamat, 29, complained that in France the best jobs are reserved for graduates of the so-called grandes ecoles, the handful of major universities attended by the country's elites.

"In France your degree is all that matters and in the States it's too hard to immigrate. In Canada there is more opportunity and it's your competence, your work experience, that matters," Alimahamat said.

Marketing major Florence Melix, who wants to move to Montreal, also expressed frustration.

"In France we often talk about the lack of evolution in the working world," she said.

"It's already been two years that I've been looking for a job in France. When I went to England, I found one that I liked within two weeks."

# French see Canadian job fair as way to exit stalled economy

---

**IDNUMBER** 200711220030  
**PUBLICATION:** Times Colonist (Victoria)  
**DATE:** 2007.11.22  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A10  
**DATELINE:** PARIS  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 158

---

PARIS -- Hundreds of young French, frustrated with their country's flagging economy, voted with their feet here this week by braving rain and an exasperating transportation strike to attend a two-day Canadian job fair.

France's economic malaise and rigid job market, which President Nicolas Sarkozy is trying to repair with the kind of confrontational policies that provoked the strike, are driving many French overseas.

"I know that Canada is an open country, with lots of possibilities and a really dynamic population," said Miete Fatou, who studied international relations and is considering a move to Saskatchewan.

She said that the French job market is unfair, and said that employers can sometimes be racist.

"The French have an idea that blacks have their place. It's the royalist spirit, the Old World side of France."

Hubert Llopis, who seeks a career in aeronautics, was there to speak to Penta Aviation of Vancouver.

"It seems in Vancouver they really know how to live well," he said. "It's anglophone and I'd like to practise my English. There's a nice climate, there's the mountains, there's the beach so we can even go surfing!"

# Young French see opportunity in Canada; Turnout of frustrated work seekers surprises job fair organizers

---

**IDNUMBER** 200711220132  
**PUBLICATION:** Edmonton Journal  
**DATE:** 2007.11.22  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Business  
**PAGE:** E2  
**KEYWORDS:** FRANCOPHONES  
**DATeline:** PARIS  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 477

---

PARIS – Hundreds of young French, frustrated with their country's flagging economy, voted with their feet here this week by braving rain and an exasperating transportation strike to attend a two-day Canadian job fair.

France's economic malaise and rigid job market, which President Nicolas Sarkozy is trying to repair with the kind of confrontational policies that provoked the strike, are driving many French overseas.

"I know that Canada is an open country, with lots of possibilities and a really dynamic population," said Miete Fatou, who studied international relations and is considering a move to Saskatchewan.

She said that the French job market is unfair, and said that employers can sometimes be racist.

"The French have an idea that blacks have their place. It's the royalist spirit, the Old World side of France."

Head organizer Alain Theault, minister counsellor of immigration at the Canadian Embassy, expressed surprise that the turnout was so good, even with rain and the trains at a standstill.

"I was on vacation a couple of weeks ago and I woke up with a nightmare thinking, 'What if we do all this and nobody shows up?'"

The Canadian government spent \$80,000 to put together the event, the fourth of its kind in France since 2004.

The mostly 30-somethings piled into the reception hall, dressed to impress in business attire and carrying paperwork. Of the 6,000 people who sent in resumes online, only 1,200 received invitations.

This was the first time Canadian companies, rather than just provincial representatives, were invited to come and recruit employees directly.

Most of the jobs on offer were low-level service industry jobs, but Theault pointed out that, for the French, experience working in an anglophone country is a big plus on their resumes.

Inside an auditorium, a slide show flashed photos of happy, smiling people working in restaurants and hotels or enjoying leisure activities on horse-drawn sleighs or skiing and skating in winter wonderland forest scenes.

Hubert Llopis, who seeks a career in aeronautics, was there to speak to Penta Aviation of Vancouver.

"It seems in Vancouver they really know how to live well," he said. "It's anglophone city and I'd like to practise my English. There's a nice climate, there's the mountains, there's the beach so we can even go surfing!"

Most of the employers are here because of the huge labour shortage in Western Canada.

"It's really tight, the economy in Canada is booming and unemployment is at an all-time low," said Wyatt McMurray of Cache Creek, B.C., who owns several A&W franchises in towns across the province. "The oilfields are sucking up all the workers."

While the job might not be particularly glamorous for a Parisian, McMurray said many, especially those frustrated by the strike, might find a move to Canada appealing.

"As Canadians we're spoiled in that we have tons of space," McMurray said. "Our idea of a traffic jam is three minutes. That's the hook: In a small town, you can have a really big apartment at a low price, and you can walk to work."

Habiba Alimahamat, 29, complained that in France the best jobs are reserved for graduates of the so-called grandes ecoles, the handful of major universities attended by the country's elites.

"In France your degree is all that matters and in the States it's too hard to immigrate. In Canada there is more opportunity and it's your competence, your work experience, that matters," Alimahamat said.