

# Second edition of the Greater Sudbury Francophone and Bilingual Job Fair

GREATER SUDBURY, January 24, 2023 - Are you a francophone or bilingual newcomer? Are you looking for a job in the city of Greater Sudbury?

For the second year in a row, the Centre de santé communautaire du Grand Sudbury (CSCGS), the Société Économique de l'Ontario (SÉO) and the Réseau de soutien à l'immigration francophone du Nord de l'Ontario (RIFNO), along with its partners, present the Greater Sudbury Francophone and Bilingual Job Fair, organized as part of the Welcoming Francophone Communities initiative in Sudbury

This recruitment and networking event, which will take place online from February 22 to 24, 2023, is reserved primarily for Greater Sudbury employers. Permanent and temporary residents of Greater Sudbury or elsewhere, who have study or work permits, as well as foreigners who have a work permit and wish to immigrate to Canada and settle in this city, will be invited to meet employers during this event.

The meeting process combines both speed dating and meet-and-greet formats. Employers each have 20-minute slots to introduce themselves. Employers then meet with job seekers during 50-minute consecutive face-to-face meetings.

Attendees from last year really enjoyed the format, whose objective is to recreate, as much as possible, the human contact normally found in a physical environment. Some 20 employers and 400 job seekers attended the 2022 edition. On average, 45 job seekers participated in each of the employer presentations. Nearly 100 face-to-face meetings followed the presentations.

"We know that employment is the key to success for a newcomer," said Denis Constantineau, Executive Director of the CSCGS. "Events such as the job fair help build bridges between employers in the host community and the workforce that newcomers represent. It's a win-win situation."

"Several factors, including the massive retirement of baby boomers, are contributing to the erosion in the workplace," added SÉO Executive Director Patrick Cloutier. Events such as this job fair in Sudbury are among the many initiatives the SÉO is involved in to help newcomers integrate into the Ontario labour market.

"This fair is a great example of collaboration between the Francophone community in the Greater Sudbury area, within the framework of the Welcoming Francophone Communities initiative, stated Thomas Mercier, coordinator of RIFNO. While recognizing the need to recruit workers, it is essential to preserve the social and cultural fabric of the Francophone community. "



The City of Greater Sudbury is one of 14 communities across Canada (outside of Quebec) selected as part of the Welcoming Francophone Communities project, an initiative created with financial support from the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) in the 2018-2019 Official Languages Plan *Investing in Our Future*.

The CSCGS is the trustee for this initiative to help Francophone immigrants integrate into their adopted communities.

According to recent statistics, 25 per cent of the population of the Greater Sudbury area is Francophone. Approximately 50 per cent of the population can speak French.

### **About the CSCGS**

The CSCGS Sudbury works to improve, maintain and restore the health and well-being of Francophones in their diversity. The CSCGS offers a variety of programs and services in the areas of health, immigration, housing, literacy and basic education, among others.

### **About the SÉO**

The SÉO is the economic development leader in Ontario's Francophone and bilingual ecosystem. Its activities stem from mandates related to employability, entrepreneurship and initiatives in support of communities.

### **About RIFNO**

RIFNO's mandate is based on five areas of intervention, including the identification of the needs of French-speaking immigrants in order to complete the continuum of Francophone immigration; the economic integration of French-speaking immigrants into society; social, cultural and community inclusion; the promotion of Francophone communities; and, finally, the consultation, coordination and mobilization of partners.

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### **For additional information :**

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