

**April 2015**

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**ABOUT NIEFS**

NIEFS is a charitable community-based not-for-profit organization and the major employment agency for Northern Vancouver Island. As a leader in workforce development we provide services to over 5000 job seekers and 500 companies annually. As an organization, we have been actively connecting employers with workers since 1986.

With 29 years in business, NIEFS is a cornerstone in our community building extensive partnerships with businesses, other organizations, communities and individuals in Campbell River and across the North Island. These partnerships are integral to our ability to assist people to build self-sufficiency through active and sustainable participation in the labour market and assist employers to hire the right people, with the right skills at the right time contributing to a strong, resilient and healthy community.

**NIEFS Mission**

To assist those in need with the development of skills that will enable them to find and hold employment in an ever-changing world.

**Chart 1: Vancouver Island/Coast Employment Trends – March 2015**

	2015	2014
<b>Population (15+)</b>	652,600	648,200
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	6.1	6.2
<b>Labour Force Participation Rate</b>	57.5%	58.1%

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

**QUARTERLY UPDATE**



Between January - March NIEFS posted 552 jobs which was up (71 postings) from the same quarter in 2014. Moreover, total postings are up by 8% and 25% compared to 2014 and 2013 respectively as shown in Chart 2.

**Top Industries – Total Job Postings**

The top industries for job postings this quarter were:

- Forestry = 16.1% (86 postings)
- Tourism/Hospitality = 15.4% (82 postings)
- Construction/Trades = 11.4% (61 postings)
- Retail/Wholesale = 10.1% (54 postings)

**Top Occupations (NOC) – Total Job Postings**

Top National Occupation Codes (NOC) pertaining to the 9 main categories are:

- Sales & Service – 39.3% (203 postings)
- Trades, Transport & Equipment Operators – 23.4% (121 postings)
- Business, Finance & Administration – 11.2% (58 postings)

**Quality of Employment – Total Job Postings**

This quarter 62% of all jobs posted on the NIEFS job board were full-time and 22% part-time as shown in Chart 3.

The number and percentage of full-time jobs posted versus part-time, seasonal, contract or contract can be an indicator of the health of the local labour market.

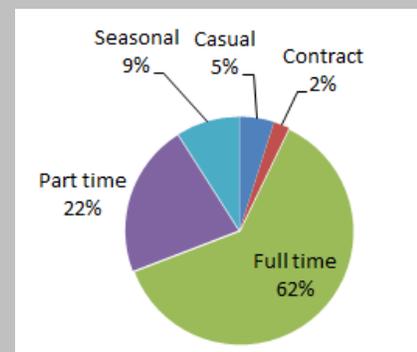
**LOCAL LABOUR MARKET NUMBERS  
NIEFS JOB BOARD**

**Chart 2: Total # NIEFS Job Board  
Total Postings - 12 Month Running Total**

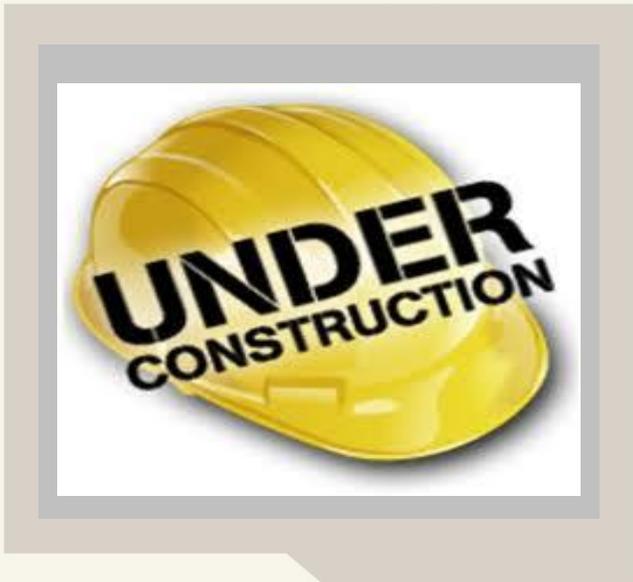
March 2011	1590
March 2012	1909
March 2013	1929
March 2014	2373
March 2015	2579

SOURCE: NIEFS JOB BOARD

**Chart 3: Quality of Employment  
January – March 2015**



SOURCE: NIEFS JOB BOARD



Keep up to date on Major Projects  
Check out these Tools!

### [NIEFS Labour Market Information](#)

Quick and easy to use! NIEFS Labour Market Information provides an overview of major projects happening or anticipated to happen right across the North Island. Be sure to check back often for updates!

### [CR Chamber of Commerce Major Projects Portal](#)

This is the go to place for suppliers and job seekers looking for up to date information on the John Hart and North Island Hospitals project.

### Thinking of Posting a Job?

Did you know between January 1, 2015 and March 31, 2015 NIEFS website had 311,733 page views and 21.2% were new visitors to the site?

NIEFS job postings are free and with such reach what are you waiting for?

[Post a Job Now](#)

## MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

With so many projects either underway or about to get started in the Campbell River region it's hard to keep track! Here is a quick overview of some of the projects on the go.

### VIHA North Island Hospitals Project

- Construction well underway.
- Detailed Trade Tender Matrix provided by Graham Construction is available for both the [Campbell River](#) and [Comox](#) Hospital sites.
- For more information go to [NIEFS](#) or the [Major Project Portal](#).

### BC Hydro John Hart Generating Station Replacement

- [BC Hydro Community Construction Update](#) for April 2015 provides up to date details on the project.
- Construction well underway.
- For more information go to [NIEFS](#) or the [Major Project Portal](#).

## OTHER LABOUR MARKET UPDATES

Although we have had a fairly healthy economy and labour market in the past 2 years with the build up to the major projects, Campbell River and North Island has experienced a number of significant changes in the labour market over the past few months including:

### *Closure of Target*

- Impacting approximately 120 people at the Campbell River store.

### *Mt. Washington Resort*

- For the second year in a row the alpine resort had to close early for the season due to lack of snow impacting over 400 people.

### *Neucel Specialty Cellulose – Port Alice*

- Temporary curtailment expected to last 6 months impacting over 300 people.

### *Nyrstar – Myra Falls*

- Temporary shutdown expected to last at least 6 months impacting over 300 people.

## NIEFS Mission...

*To assist those in need with the development of skills that will enable them to find and hold employment in an ever-changing world.*

### BUILDING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Thank you for all the assistance you have afforded Keltic Seafoods. Your considerations have in large part contributed to our labour force stability. You previously brought to my attention the Canada Job Grant opportunity.

As a result, I have put 23 employees through various courses under the Canada-BC Job Grant including: Basic Boiler Awareness; Refrigeration Operator; and Sanitization courses bringing in instructors to Port Hardy. Without such funding as you suggested we wouldn't have been able to do this. It is so important for rural employers to provide existing and prospective employee education and targeted industry specific training. This is key to our workforce stability.

**Gordon Patterson**  
Human Resources Manager  
Keltic Seafoods Ltd.

Connecting people with work since 1986...

[www.niefs.net](http://www.niefs.net)

**NIEFS**  
NORTH ISLAND EMPLOYMENT



@NIEFSdotNET



North Island Employment

[www.niefs.net](http://www.niefs.net)

#### Drop In

870C 13<sup>th</sup> Ave | Campbell River or

#129-8950 Granville Street | Port Hardy

#### Phone or Fax

##### **Campbell River**

Phone: 250-286-3441 Fax: 250-286-3447  
Toll Free: 1-866-286-6788

##### **Port Hardy**

Phone: 250-949-5736 Fax: 250-949-5797  
Toll Free: 1-877-949-5736

#### Email

Campbell River - [info@niefs.net](mailto:info@niefs.net)  
Port Hardy - [phinfo@niefs.net](mailto:phinfo@niefs.net)