

The Employment Journey

News You Can Use

On Prince Edward Island



2024 employment opportunities across PEI in aquaculture & fisheries

PEI's aquaculture and fisheries industries offer job opportunities in many communities across PEI, and they are looking to hire people for a variety of roles.

Most jobs at seafood processing plants start in April or May, but most aquaculture plants are open year-round. Apply as soon as possible!



The following are some employers who are hiring:

Acadian Supreme Inc.

8323 Route 11, Wellington
 Phone: 902-854-2675 Ext 223
 Fax: 902-854-2140
 Contact: Lynn Rayner, Operations Manager
info@acadiansupreme.com

Amar Seafood PEI

Victoria by the Sea, PEI
 Contact: Cathy Follett
Cathy.follett@amar.no

Atlantic Aqua Farms Ltd.

Charlottetown, PE
 Phone: 902-437-2700
 Contact: Cora MacIntyre
jobs@atlanticaquafarms.com
www.atlanticaquafarms.com

Beach Point Processing Company

75 Wharf Lane, Beach Point, Murray Harbour
 Phone: 902-962-4340 / 902-962-2030
 Contact: Beckie Walbourne, HR
beckie.walbourne@beachpoint.ca
www.beachpointprocessing.com

**A free bus service for employees runs daily from Montague to Beach Point*

Belle River Enterprises Ltd.

12 Waterview Lane, Belle River
 Phone: 902-962-2248 / 902-659-2385
 Fax: 902-962-4276
 Contact: Dean Hancock, Manager
bre@pei.aibn.com

Green Gables Seafood (L. & C. Fisheries Inc.)

96 Jollimore Drive, French River
 Phone: 902-886-2770
 Contact: Calvin Jollimore, Owner
calvin@greengablesmussels.com
<https://canadasfoodisland.ca/export/company/l-c-fisheries-ltd>

Montague Bay Foods

- a division of North Lake Fisheries (2013) Inc.
 150 Central Street, Montague
 Main: 902-357-2572
 Fax: 902-357-2386
hr@northlakefisheries.com
www.northlakefisheries.ca

North Lake Fisheries (2013) Inc.

58 North Lake Harbour Rd., Elmira
 Main: 902-357-2572
 Fax: 902-357-2386
hr@northlakefisheries.com
www.northlakefisheries.ca

PEI Mussel King

318 Red Head Road, Morell
 Phone: 902-961-3300
 Fax: 902-961-3366
 Contact: Kelly McGrath
kelly@peimusselking.com

Contact: Esther Dockendorff
esther@peimusselking.com
www.peimusselking.com

Prince Edward Aqua Farms Inc.

New London
 Phone: 902-886-2220
 Fax: 902-886-2335
 Contact: Heather Tuplin, Human Resources
htuplin@peaqua.com
www.peaqua.com

Raspberry Point Oyster Co.

Bayview, Cymbria, and North Rustico
 Phone: 902-370-3155
 Contact: Caitlyn Depper, Human Resources
careers@raspberrypoint.com
www.raspberrypoint.com

Royal Star Foods Ltd.

175 Jude's Point Road, Tignish
 Phone: 902-882-2050
 Fax: 902-882-2846
 Contact: Angela Gaudet, Human Resources Manager
jobs@royalstarfoods.com
www.royalstarfoods.com

Seafood 2000 Ltd.

Georgetown
 Phone: 902-652-2316
 Fax: 902-652-2023
 Contact: Jeanne Dobbin, Production Supervisor
Jeanne.sf2000@pei.aibn.com or
ieshia.sf2000@pei.aibn.com
 check Facebook

Simpson Aqua Ventures Ltd.

Savage Harbour
 Phone: 902-393-5750
 Contact: Jason Simpson, Owner
eatmussels@gmail.com

Summerside Seafood Supreme Inc.

105 Queen's Wharf, Summerside
 Phone: 902-436-9892
 Fax: 902-436-2345
 Contact: Carl Desroches, General Manager
office@sssupreme.ca

Job titles in the Aquaculture industry

- Boat Crew/Worker/Helper/Mussel Socker
- Plant/Processing/Production Worker, including Graders, Strippers, Packers and Baggers
- Research and Development Scientists
- Machine/Heavy Equipment Operator
- Maintenance Worker and Managers
- Plant/Production Supervisor
- Quality Control
- Boat Captain/Operator
- Biologist

Job titles in the Fisheries industry

- Operations & Production Manager
- Production Manager
- Accountant
- Maintenance
- Parts Manager
- Port Captain & Manager
- Forklift Operator
- Quality Control
- Production Line Worker
- Boat Captain and Crew

Did you know? Students can earn a bonus ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000

Team Food Island is an incentive to encourage students to enter the Seafood Processing, Agriculture or Aquaculture sector. Students returning to high school in the fall are eligible for a \$1000 bonus payment, while those starting or returning to full-time post-secondary studies can qualify for a \$2000 bonus.

- Step 1:** Register for the Student Work Bonus Program
- Step 2:** Apply for jobs or get contacted by participating employers through the website
- Step 3:** Work the minimum number of hours (250 for high school students, 500 for post-secondary students).
- Step 4:** At the end of your work term, your employer pays you your bonus directly.

Visit www.teamfoodisland.ca



Cabinet design and sales business opportunity without the large overhead

by Heidi Riley

Greg Stohler has been designing and installing kitchens for 36+ years. He is originally from the US and moved to PEI 18 years ago.

"I had a very successful cabinet business in the US, sold it, met my future wife, and moved to PEI," says Greg. "About three years ago, we were looking at building a house, and I could not find someone to provide the cabinets who would give me a quick turnaround on a quote. I had to wait three or four weeks.

"When I was running my business in the US, my turnaround for giving a quote was usually about three to four days. I thought I could do the same on the Island, my wife challenged me to give it a try, and we did very well. We sold seven kitchens the first year, and we will do about 15 this year."

Greg does not have employees. He does all the work of promoting, meeting with customers, designing the kitchens and preparing 3-D renderings himself.

Instead of having his own showroom, Greg has set up small displays at Birt's Furniture and at Flooring Canada in Charlottetown. He visits the customer's home to show samples and consults on the design. Once the style choice is made and the kitchen is designed, Greg creates a 3-D rendering. Customers can view their new kitchen design using virtual reality goggles so that they can see what the finished cabinets will look like. "They can walk around their kitchen before they buy their kitchen."

The cabinets are built by a company in Moncton, NB and while Greg does not do the installation, he does provide a list of installers he has worked with.

Now Greg is offering partnership/dealership opportunities throughout the Maritimes. "The franchisee will get all the displays and setup, and we give them support on the back-end design side. They don't have to be a designer - they just have to be a good salesperson. It is a really good opportunity for someone willing to work hard.

"We are looking for contractors who want to add cabinets to their portfolio, or for people who want to develop a cabinet business. They will be in business with us, and it will be a very secure experience."

For more information about partnership/dealership opportunities with **In Home Cabinets**, call **Greg Stohler** at **902-330-7181** or email **info@inhomecabinets.com**

Visit www.inhomecabinets.com/pei



Greg Stohler, Owner, In Home Cabinets.

Roofing company ramps up hiring for the spring

by Heidi Riley

C& S PEI Roofers, located in Cardigan, installs steel roofing on new construction and replaces roofs. They also build storage sheds.

Colby Cheverie and **Steven Brousseau** became business partners two years ago. "I already had the business and marketing background, and I knew that Colby had a drive to get things done," says Steven.

"Last year at our peak busy time we had two crews with about 15 employees in total. In the winter there is one crew of eight to keep up with our hefty list of projects. In the spring we start building our staff numbers back up."

Job titles include Roofers, General Labourers, a Foreman, and an Admin person who works in the office six months of the year.

"We are always looking to hire motivated, reliable team players with great work ethics. We look for people who have roofing experience or who come from a related background such as General Labourer, or who grew up on a farm. Many of those skills are transferrable to roofing. We are willing to train the right individuals."

Employees must have reliable transportation. A driver's license and Fall Arrest training are assets.

"We offer competitive wages. Work is full-time, with no holidays or weekends worked unless we need to fulfill a deadline. If you enjoy outside work, then join our team today!"

To apply, email info@peiroofers.ca or call or text **902-201-5269**.

For more information, visit www.peiroofers.ca or www.facebook.com/peiroofers

For the full article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Small business support and the need for independent agents

by Gloria Welton

Atlantic Business Federation offers services and support to help new start-ups and established businesses.

The team offers mortgages, real estate service, insurance, website management & development, marketing, logo designs, health & dental benefits, drone services, a podcast studio, photography, bookkeeping, financing, branding, social media administration, and more.

"We offer services to business owners and their staff that help owners keep costs down and concentrate on what they do best," says **Paul Trainor**, Owner.

"Business owners and those starting a business can call me and we discuss their business needs. They can register with Atlantic Business Federation and become a member at no cost."

Paul has a team of seven independent agents who he refers businesses to, and he does much of the work himself in-house.

"It is getting harder to find independent agents. We need more mortgage brokers and licensed insurance representatives. With website development, marketing, and branding, I need more independent photographers, videographers, people who can direct and edit podcasts, and graphic designers."

Paul is working with a company in Ontario to develop online medical assistance through a virtual healthcare App which will be set up at his office for members and their staff. "This is the future of healthcare," says Paul.

For more information about **Atlantic Business Federation**, call **902-940-5927**.

Visit www.peibf.com



For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.

Busy plumbing and electrical wholesaler will be hiring in future

by Heidi Riley

Bird Stairs supplies products and services to the construction industry in Atlantic Canada.

Bird Stairs

They have been operating on PEI for 10 years.

As well as being a wholesaler of plumbing and electrical products, they have recently opened a construction materials division on the Island.

"With all the construction going on PEI, we are very busy," says **Matt Carter**, Branch Manager, Charlottetown location. "We expect continued growth within the industry especially now that we have brought in our construction division to the Island."

On PEI, there are 11 employees, including Inside Sales, Outside Sales, Office Manager, Administrative staff, Warehouse Managers, and Delivery people.

"We may be hiring in the second or third quarter of 2024," says Matt. "We will be looking for people with knowledge of the products we sell or experience in a related industry. We are also willing to train, depending on the role we are looking to fill."

"Qualified, experienced people with trade skills are the hardest to find. Those trades include plumbing, electrical, and carpentry."

The company offers a competitive compensation and benefits package including health and dental benefits, a corporate fitness membership program, and a pension plan.

Bird Stairs will post job ads on social media and on www.workpei.ca "Applicants can also drop off a resumé and we will hold them on file."

For more information, call **902-892-2473**. Visit www.birdstairs.ca

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Q & A: What to consider when applying to work for the PEI government

by Gloria Welton

The PEI Public Service Commission provided answers to the following questions:

1. What departments of the PEI government offer employment opportunities?

- Agriculture
- Economic Development, Innovation and Trade
- Education and Early Years
- Environment, Energy and Climate Action
- Finance
- Fisheries, Tourism, Sport and Culture
- Health and Wellness
- Housing, Land and Communities
- Justice and Public Safety
- Public Service Commission
- Social Development and Seniors
- Transportation and Infrastructure
- Workforce, Advanced Learning, and Population

2. What are some common job titles that become available in various departments?

Department of Social Development and Seniors

- Child Protection Social Worker
- Child and Youth Care Worker

Department of Justice and Public Safety

- Youth Justice Worker
- Correctional Officer
- Probation Officer II
- Outreach Worker
- Judicial Clerk
- Court Stenographer
- Deputy Registrar

Department of Health and Wellness

- Care Services Inspector
- Environmental Health Officer
- Health Promoter
- Epidemiologist

Department of Finance

- Data Architect
- IT Consultant
- Project Manager
- Senior Programmer Analyst
- Manager of Finance
- Senior Finance Accountant

Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action

- Forest Auditor
- Watershed Hydrogeologist

Department of Workforce, Advanced Learning, and Population

- Program Officer

Public Service Commission

- Payroll and Benefits Coordinator
- Human Resource Assistant

Department of Education and Early Years

- Autism Specialist

Department of Transportation and Infrastructure

- Heavy Duty Mechanics

3. What might be considered the more difficult jobs to fill?

- Child Protection Social Worker
- Child and Youth Care Worker
- Youth Justice Worker
- Probation Officer II
- Environmental Health Officer
- Senior Programmer Analyst
- Payroll and Benefits Coordinator
- Autism Specialist
- Heavy Duty Mechanic

4. What are the stages of the job application from the job posting to the offer?

1. Job vacancy exists & advertised
2. Applications received & screened
3. Qualified applicants interviewed
4. Job offer

5. How can potential candidates best prepare for each stage of the hiring process?

- Take every opportunity to demonstrate your skills, knowledge, and strengths, and self-awareness
- Make sure you address how you meet all the minimum qualifications for the position.
- Have references available.
- Research the department and position to become familiar with the employer.
- Reflect on potential questions and practice your responses.
- You may be asked questions to demonstrate your skills and abilities in the following areas related to the role: Knowledge, Decision Making, Interpersonal, Communication and Organization
- If it's a leadership position, you may be asked to demonstrate leaderships competencies

6. Who could you ask for help with the application process, to answer any questions you might have while applying?

- Contact **Monic Vokey**, Recruitment Consultant, at mvokey@gov.pe.ca

7. If someone has applied for posted positions and has their name on the casual list but has not been successful yet in gaining employment, what would you suggest as a next step?

- Consider broadening your job search to include positions that align closely with your skills and experience, even if they weren't initially your top choice. Exploring a wider range of opportunities can increase your chances of finding the right fit.
- Customize your resumé to align closely with the requirements and preferences outlined in the job description. Tailoring your resumé in this manner demonstrates your attentiveness to the specific needs of the role.

Why work for the provincial government?

- No. 6 on Forbes' list of Canada's Best Employers 2024
- Opportunities for a flexible work schedule arrangement
- Pension
- Vacation leave
- Sick leave
- Special leave
- Corporate learning and development
- Retirement pay
- Employee Assistance Program
- Statutory holidays
- Summer hours
- Tool allowance where applicable
- Protective clothing and safety equipment where applicable
- Employee recognition
- Free available parking at the PEI Provincial Administration Buildings



Financial assistance available for various healthcare programs

SkillsPEI will pay up to 100 percent of tuition supports, depending on the program and learner situation, and there may also be other financial supports while training in the following programs:

- Resident Care Worker
- Practical Nursing (LPN)
- Primary Care Paramedicine
- Advanced Care Paramedicine
- Accelerated Nursing Program at the University of Prince Edward Island

The Healthcare Priorities Pilot program was developed to assist job seekers to gain the skills and education necessary to secure and maintain employment in a health-related priority occupation currently experiencing skill shortages in the province.

The program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals to help them complete a post-secondary certificate or diploma and transition to sustainable employment.

Who is eligible to participate?

If you are unemployed, underemployed (not working at your trained occupation) or self-employed and lack the necessary skills to secure sustainable employment, you may be eligible to participate in this program.

How to apply

You must meet with a Case Manager to complete a needs assessment and develop a Return-to-Work Action Plan. Your Case Manager will assist you through the application process.

For resources on obtaining a Case Manager, please visit www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/employment-assistance-services

When is the application due?

You must submit your application package and receive confirmation of approval for the program from SkillsPEI before your training starts.

Where can I get more information?

Call SkillsPEI's general inquiries line at **1-877-491-4766**. Visit www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/training-pei-healthcare-priorities-pilot-program

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For more details about the benefits of working with the provincial government, visit <https://jobspei.ca/why-work-with-the-government>

Supporting the global fish vaccine industry

submitted by Daniel Wilson, Pegasus Biotech

Pegasus Biotech is a contract research organization biotech company which has served the global vaccine and biopharmaceutical industry since its founding in 2019.

Pegasus provides high-quality bacterial, viral and DNA vaccine development services to the animal health sector and develops accurate and reliable analytical testing solutions for the human and animal health industry.

The Pegasus team is comprised of experts in process and analytical development with experience supporting clients in the human and animal health industries. Pegasus currently has 10 employees, including three Scientific Directors, two Principal Scientist team leaders, and five Senior and Associate Scientists.

Pegasus has been hiring regularly and has grown from eight to 10 employees over the past 12 months. We forecast that our rate of growth will continue, and that we will be hiring additional Senior and Associate Scientists in the coming months. Open positions can be found at www.pegasusbio.com/careers

Pegasus regularly employs new graduates who we pair with experienced staff to provide the necessary training and support needed to ensure they are successful.

The company puts a tremendous effort into being a great place to work, providing insurance benefits, excellent vacation packages, flexible hours, and opportunities for individuals to grow in their careers.

When hiring, some science background is required, but the base level of education spans from college diplomas to PhDs, based on the position. Being able to work well in a team is a critical soft skill.

For more information, visit www.pegasusbio.com

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



The Pegasus Biotech team at the Regis & Joan Duffy Research Centre, Charlottetown. Submitted photo.



Elanco aqua business purchased by Merck Animal Health

submitted by the PEI BioAlliance

Elanco Animal Health has entered into an agreement to sell its aqua business to Merck Animal Health.

On PEI, Elanco currently employs 140 skilled workers, producing some of the leading fish health vaccines in the world. The PEI business began in the late 1980s as a startup called AquaHealth, a spinout of Connaught Labs, with support from the province of PEI.

AquaHealth was one of the founding companies of the PEI BioAlliance when the company employed only 20 people and was later purchased by Novartis Animal Health in 2000. Novartis grew the business to over 120 employees and in 2015, Elanco purchased all Novartis Animal Health assets.

"Merck's purchase of the Elanco aqua assets is a very positive sign for the growth and development of the fish health product business here on PEI and globally," said **Rory Francis**, CEO, PEI BioAlliance.

The BioAlliance has an existing close relationship with Merck Animal Health, with CEO Rick DeLuca serving as Honorary Chair of the VetHealth Global Animal Health and Nutrition Conference in Charlottetown in 2017.

Aquaculture is the fastest-growing source of animal protein in the world. PEI has established itself as a global centre of expertise in fish health product development and commercialization with nine companies involved in developing fish health technologies, as well as the Atlantic Veterinary College's fish health programs.

For more information about the PEI BioAlliance, visit www.peibioalliance.com

For more information about Elanco, visit www.elanco.com

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article name.



One of the two Elanco sites in Charlottetown.



Innovative device detects pain in animals

by Heidi Riley

BioTraceIT™ is a technology company that has developed a medical device for detecting and quantifying pain in people and animals.



The company's PainTrace® Monitoring System hardware device uses skin sensors to detect biosignals related to acute and chronic pain displaying real-time pain levels.

Currently, PainTrace® is offered in animal health and research markets improving animal welfare and outcome measures through monitoring the intensity of pain, assisting in determining the anatomical location of pain, identifying the duration of pain, and tracking changes in pain overtime.

The device helps to understand what treatments are most effective and what groups of individuals will benefit most from a particular treatment.

"We have worked closely with The PEI BioAlliance, which has a very wide breadth of global experience," says **Deborah Dullen**, President and CEO of BioTraceIT™. "They provided a mentor team that has a global business background. We also have access to networking opportunities that help us expand into new markets. It has been a great resource."

The company's research, design, software application development, and technical support teams are located on PEI, and components are manufactured in Ontario. A strong technical group works on PEI, and the company plans to add more employees on the Island in the near future.

Positions will open soon with the company for experienced candidates for Python Development, Data Analytics, Cloud Development and Security, and iOS Application Development.

Open positions are posted at www.peibioalliance.com/job-postings

For more information about BioTraceIT, email info@biotraceit.com

Visit www.paintrace.com or www.facebook.com/PainTrace

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Bioscience incubator helps start-ups go from idea to marketplace

submitted by the PEI BioAlliance

Emergence is Atlantic Canada's bioscience business incubator. Headquartered in Charlottetown, it helps bioscience start-ups and early-stage companies from across Atlantic Canada go from idea to marketplace. It serves about 56 active companies, 28 of which are from PEI. Combined, Emergence companies represent 605 jobs.

Areas of specialization include animal and human health diagnostics, med tech, natural health products, bio-active extraction and value-added food processing, and aquaculture.

"We provide access to C-suite mentors, run the 'Emergence Critical Path Program', and provide specialist project support," says **Dr. Jason Cleaversmith**, Executive Director.

"Emergence mentors support companies on their path to commercialization by filling key knowledge gaps and help companies make credible investment propositions."

The Critical Path Program focuses on each company's technology and path to market, and also provides one-on-one and an MIT-inspired team mentoring approach for bioscience companies.

The program helps identify investors and guides businesses through regulatory processes and manufacturing scale up, and provides support to develop product launch strategies, market intelligence and export plans, and more.

Emergence has a team of experts with a wide range of skills and experience that come together to help emerging companies. They include Mentors, Technical Advisors, and a Project Manager.

For more information about Emergence, call 902-367-4400 or email info@emergencebioincubator.com

Visit www.emergencebioincubator.com

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Dr. Jason Cleaversmith



Employment and training available in agriculture

by Stacy Dunn

The PEI Agriculture Sector Council offers assistance in job placement and training within the agriculture industry. As a non-profit organization, it serves as a platform for active industry involvement in identifying and resolving human resource challenges.

Jobs in agriculture range from seasonal to year-round, with a current high demand for Drivers holding Class 3A or Class 1 licenses.

During spring, the PEI Agriculture Sector Council's job board showcases numerous job postings as farmers prepare for planting.

Sarah Jay, Agriculture Employment Officer, says that August is another peak hiring period, particularly for potato farms during harvest.

"Common roles on potato farms include Potato Grader, Truck Driver, and Heavy Equipment Operator."

There are diverse career opportunities within agriculture beyond farm work, such as roles in farm equipment stores, accounting, research, and technology.

Training available

Training opportunities, including Class 3A and Class 1 license programs, are available through the sector council multiple times a year, funded by Skills PEI and the Department of Agriculture. These programs aim to upskill existing agricultural workers, enabling them to transition between seasonal positions and enhancing employee retention.

Additionally, the PEI Agriculture Sector Council collaborates with Dalhousie University to offer a unique two-year registered apprenticeship program. This program integrates classroom instruction with on-farm experience, leading to a Certificate of Qualification in Farm Technician with the PEI Department of Innovation and Advanced Learning.

Designed to address the demand for skilled agricultural workers, the apprenticeship program provides valuable training and contributes to the sustainability of the agricultural workforce on PEI.

Laurie Loan, Executive Director of the PEI Agriculture Sector Council, highlights the program's success, with an annual participation of 18 to 25 individuals, including a diverse age range and increased female participation. "Employers are actively investing in employee development to foster productivity and ensure business continuity through succession planning."

Those interested in pursuing certification as a **Blue Seal Certified Farm Technician** can begin by registering with PEIAGSC. Call Laurie Loane at **902-892-2591** for more information and to register.



Sarah Jay, Agriculture Employment Officer, PEI Agriculture Sector Council.

Did you know? Students can earn a bonus

Team Food Island is an incentive to encourage people to enter the agriculture sector. Again, this year, summer students can qualify for a bonus while working in the agriculture industry. The extra funds have helped high school and post-secondary students save for their future education. This program starts accepting applications in April.

Students must be returning to school in the fall to be eligible. Grade 10 and 11 students must work a minimum of 250 hours to receive a \$1,000 bonus, and graduating Grade 12 students, who are moving on to post-secondary education in the fall, get a \$2,000 bonus after working a minimum of 250 hours. Post-secondary students receive \$2,000 after working a minimum of 500 hours.

For more information on **Team Food Island**, visit www.teamfoodisland.ca

To learn more about jobs in agriculture, call or email the **Agriculture Employment Officer** at **902-892-2591** or **1-866-892-1091**, info@peiagsc.ca

Visit www.peiagsc.ca



Trucking sector finding ways to train drivers

by Stacy Dunn

The PEI Trucking Sector Council (PEITSC) is an industry-driven, not-for-profit organization which addresses human resources issues and promotes opportunities in the PEI trucking industry.



The organization provides a vehicle for effective industry participation in identifying and addressing issues related to workforce attraction and retention, career awareness, skills upgrading, and training.

Truck Drivers and Truck & Transport Mechanics remain the jobs most in demand in this industry.

PEITSC Executive Director **Brian Oulton** says his organization regularly does presentations to schools, government, and other stakeholders to emphasize the importance of trucking to the economy.

Truck and Transport Mechanic Apprenticeship training on PEI is now in its third year.

"We had success working with companies and we had a high number of entry-level Mechanics," says Brian. "We are now moving them on to Block 2 and Block 3 so we can take on some new entrants."

Another program that PEITSC has had success with is **Find Your Drive**, which includes eight weeks of full-time training at a school and four weeks of internship.

SkillsPEI covers 80 percent of the participant's tuition for a Class 1A driving course. The program offers a living allowance to support students while in school and a post-training, paid work placement with an Island-based employer.

"We had seats for 15 people to take the course," Brian says. "They had to come up with 20 percent of the tuition, which their employer would then reimburse. We did high-level screening for the program (i.e. a criminal record check, an essential skills component, driver's abstract and medical) and a lot of post-training was done through the Carriers Edge program, which covers such things as defensive driving and winter driving. Taking the course made it easier for the younger Drivers to get insurance."

Wages

The wage range for Drivers depends on the type of work and how long the Drivers want to stay on the road. Long Haul Drivers can make \$75,000 to \$85,000 a year; those who are willing to stay out a bit longer can make up to \$100,000 a year or more.

"The companies have stepped up their game in providing good wages. There are incentives for safety, good fuel mileage, and avoiding idling the trucks. Health benefits, RRSP contributions, and gym memberships are also offered."

Brian says the industry is better at getting Drivers home. "In the past, the average Long Haul Driver was away two weeks at a time. Now the average is four or five days."

Other jobs related to Trucking

- Dispatcher
- Finance
- Freight Brokerage
- Paralegal
- Marketing
- Nurse Practitioner

"One company has a staff person dedicated just to driver wellness," Brian says. "The roles in trucking are more diverse than what people think."

For more information about careers in trucking, call the **PEI Trucking Sector Council** at **902-566-5563**.

Visit www.peitsc.ca

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Inspiring youth to pursue careers in science

by Gloria Welton

STEAM PEI is a non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire young Islanders from kindergarten to grade 12 to pursue learning and careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, art, and math.

They offer engaging hands-on programs across PEI, including camps, in-school workshops, after-school classes, special events, and team-building workshops.

Kimberly Wishart Chu Foon is the Director of Partnership Development for STEAM PEI and is also the organization's Climate Science Specialist.

There are currently 11 year-round, full-time staff, and 10 work part-time throughout the school year. An additional 15 to 20 full-time, seasonal staff are hired for the summer.

STEAM PEI is currently looking to fill the following summer positions for 2024:

- Summer Camp Leader
- Summer Camp Support
- Summer Marketing Support
- Summer Camp Facilitator
- Summer Makerspace Support
- Summer Logistics Intern

STEAM PEI's space is on the main level of the Epetwitk Assembly of Councils building, located opposite Founders Hall, Suite 102, 8 Stan MacPherson Way, Charlottetown.

For more information about **STEAM PEI** programming and their hiring needs, call **902-201-4734**.

Email kimberly@steampei.com

Visit www.steampei.com

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Volunteering with the Alzheimer Society of PEI

by Heidi Riley

The Alzheimer Society offers programs and services for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementias, as well as their families and caregivers.

The Volunteer Companion program matches a volunteer with a person living with dementia to provide companionship and do activities such as reading or going for a walk.

The Wellness, Connect & Care program provides experiences of healthy, active living, social connection, engaging activities, and health and wellness education. Volunteers are needed in roles such as Walking Group Leader and help with social activities.

Event support: The organization is always looking for people to take pictures or videos at fundraising events, help plan and coordinate projects, and assist in research, writing and editing.

"We are planning our annual Walk for Alzheimers fundraising event, which is happening in May," says **Bronwyn Spenceley**, Operations and Special Projects Coordinator with the Alzheimer Society of PEI.

"We are currently recruiting volunteers to help with planning and logistics before the event and to be on site on the event day to help with set up and tear down, registration, and the kids zone."

Office support: answering the phone and receiving donations.

Community speaker program involves volunteers doing outreach presentations on behalf of the Alzheimer Society of PEI.

"Volunteers make a real difference to our organization, and significantly help persons with dementia and their family caregivers."

For more information about the **Alzheimer Society of PEI**, call **902-628-2257** or email society@alzpei.ca

Visit <https://alzheimer.ca/pei>

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.

Alzheimer
Society

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Careers within PEI's first mental health and addictions emergency department

The new **Mental Health and Addictions Emergency Department** at the QEH in Charlottetown, which opened on February 27, is the first of its kind in the province and in Atlantic Canada.

The new facility is located at the QEH emergency department and shares the same public entrance.

According to the provincial government's news release, the new department serves Islanders needing urgent mental health, addictions, and substance use care and clinical support in times of crisis.

The QEH emergency department triage team assesses patients in crisis to ensure they receive any urgent medical care they need prior to moving into the new space for mental health care.

With a safe and welcoming patient-centred environment, it provides people experiencing a mental health, addiction and/or substance use crisis with 24/7 access.

The department is staffed by a multi-disciplinary team of trained healthcare providers who assess, stabilize, and manage urgent care needs.

Team members include Psychiatrists, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Social Workers, and Clerks.

Healthcare teams will also work with patients to create a treatment plan and make connections to other acute or community-based mental health, addictions or substance use programs and services that best support the person's journey to well-being.

The new 8,000 square foot facility has seven assessment rooms, a family room and consult rooms, and a central workstation for the healthcare team. The adjoining Short Stay Unit will open in the coming months.

The Short Stay Unit has four rooms for people who require a brief hospital admission of 72 hours or less, and two transition rooms for those awaiting transfer to an inpatient mental health bed. Services offered include psychiatric assessment, telepsychiatry, addictions crisis services, and stabilization. A psychiatric assessment will be required for admission to the Short Stay Unit.

"This unique mental health and addictions emergency department is critical to transforming how care is provided to Islanders in need of urgent support," says **Hon. Mark McLane**, Minister of Health and Wellness. "This is a life-changing step forward that will touch the lives of so many."

"For those individuals who require emergency psychiatric or addiction services, this new Mental Health and Addictions Emergency Department is the first step in their treatment journey," says **Dr. Javier Salabarría**, Medical Director of Mental Health and Addictions with Health PEI.

"The toughest part for someone experiencing a mental health, addiction or substance use crisis is often just walking through the door," says **Leslie Warren**, Director of Acute and Complex Care for Mental Health and Addictions with Health PEI.

Career opportunities in healthcare on PEI

Physicians - PEI has many opportunities for physicians in family practice and in a variety of specialty areas such as Emergency Room Physicians, Psychiatrists, Anesthetists, Physiatriests, and Internists, to name a few. Also, opportunities are available for Associate Physicians and Physician Assistants.

Nursing - Many nursing positions are available across PEI in areas such as Nurse Practitioner, Registered Nurse, and Licensed Practical Nurse.

Also, there is a demand for **Patient/Resident Support Services** including Resident Care Worker (RCW), and Patient Care Worker (PCW).

Allied Health Professionals are also in demand. Those careers include Social Workers, Social Service Workers, Behavioural Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Occupational Therapist Assistants, and Physiotherapists, Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, Clinical Chemists, Medical Laboratory Technologists, Medical Physicists, Psychologists, and Registered Midwives.

For more about opportunities in a career in healthcare, visit www.healthjobspei.ca/opportunities

Program explores ways to enter the healthcare profession

by Gloria Welton

A group of 11 people recently celebrated the completion of a program designed to prepare them for working in a healthcare setting.

PEI Essential Employability Skills (EES) Project, administered through PEI Literacy Alliance, is a 12-week program including six weeks in the classroom and six weeks on the job.

"Our EES program is fully supported with no direct cost to the participant and removes barriers to attend by offering subsidies and living allowances," says **Jinny Greaves**, Executive Director.

"We want to thank SkillsPEI staff for their hard work to make the funding possible." This project is also funded in part by the Government of Canada's Skills for Success Program.

Participants received training in the following skills:

- Reading
- Writing
- Numeracy
- Digital skills
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Creativity and innovation

Participants earned the following certifications:

- Gentle Persuasive Approach Dementia Care
- CPR - cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Transferring Lifting Repositioning
- WHMIS
- Food Safety

"This program is providing relevant, niche training," says **Brian Hooley**, Owner/Operator of the Corrigan Home in Charlottetown, a 28-bed community care facility.

"Corrigan Home hosted three people from the last graduating class, and three more will have their six-week training placements with us.

"The training this program provides leads to jobs and opens the door for further education such as the RCW, LPN and RN programs."

For more information and to apply, visit www.peiliteracy.ca/ees

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



2024 PEI Essential Employability Skills Project graduates. Front row are staff members.

Volunteer opportunities with the East Coast Music Awards

by Heidi Riley

The East Coast Music Awards is a five-day celebration showcasing East Coast artists and music. The event is hosted yearly across Atlantic Canada by the East Coast Music Association, a non-profit organization of artists and music industry professionals.



This year, the event will be held in Charlottetown from May 1 to 5.

The ECMA Awards Show recognizes Atlantic Canadian artists in a variety of categories including Album of the Year, Songwriter of the Year, Breakout Performer, and many more.

"This is the biggest production of the event, and will be held on May 2 of this year," says **Eric Daponte**, Volunteer Manager for the East Coast Music Awards.

"We couldn't do all this without the help of our volunteers," says Eric. ECMA relies on more than 250 volunteers to make the event a success. There are many roles to be filled by volunteers, from scanning tickets to shuttling artists, venue managing, selling artists' merchandise, assisting the tech team, helping with social media promotion, and more.

For more information, contact **Eric Daponte**, Volunteer Manager, at volunteers@ecma.com or call **403-667-0972**.

Or contact **Victoria Moura**, Volunteer Outreach, at victoria@ecma.com or **782-377-2970**.

To apply, visit www.ecma.com/ecma-2024/volunteer-at-ecma



The QR code will take you to the on-line application. You can specify which roles you are interested in and your availability.



For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Volunteering with the Charlottetown Farmers Market

by Heidi Riley

The Charlottetown Farmers Market is looking for more volunteers to help throughout the year.

Volunteers are needed on days when the market is open: Saturdays during the year and on Wednesdays between June 5 and September 4.

The Waste Knot program helps to inspire customers to reduce their waste.

"Last year, we diverted and sorted 275 kg of waste, and we hope to do better this year with the help of our volunteers," says **Polina Puchkova**, Operations Coordinator.

Duties include supervising waste stations, disposing of waste, and rinsing and counting recyclables at the end of the day.

Summer market opportunities include doing market assessments and surveys, coordinating community not-for-profit booths, and assisting vendors in setting up.

Information booth activities include fundraising, selling market merch, and customer service.

Besides volunteering when the market is running, there are also things to do when the market is closed, such as painting, building maintenance and repair, cleaning, and gardening.

For more information about volunteering with the Charlottetown Farmers Market, email **Polina Puchkova**, Operations Coordinator, at charlottetownfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Visit www.charlottetownfarmersmarket.com

or check Facebook at www.facebook.com/CharlottetownFarmersMarket

Scan the QR code to fill out the application form.



For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Informational interviews: a successful tool to connect with employers

by Ethan Paquet

Many job seekers begin their job search by researching the latest job listings, submitting their resumé or application, and waiting for the employer to call them to come in for an interview.

But did you know that most open positions are not advertised?

One strategy that can increase your chances of finding a job with a company you want to work for is an **informational interview**. This informal conversation helps job seekers learn about the company, build a relationship with a new contact, and gain additional job leads.

"Informational interviews are a way for job seekers to get their foot in the door and to make the most of their job search," says **David Smallman**, Career Development Practitioner with Career Development Services (CDS). "They also offer a way to make valuable connections that can help them find success."

The first step is to create a list of employers you might like to work with. Research each one by finding recent news stories, exploring their website, or speaking with employees, he says. "Find out who they are and the work they do. Look for the name and contact information of the person responsible for hiring."

Ensure your resumé is up-to-date, and tailor it to match each company you wish to approach. "Check with someone such as a CDS staff member who can make sure it is ready to go."

Connect with the hiring manager through a phone call. "Let them know that you are looking for a job and that you are interested in their company. Ask if they have time to meet to have a conversation."

For the interview, bring your updated resumé. Prepare a list of questions such as the following:

- What services or products do they provide?
- How many staff? What are their titles and duties?
- What does a typical day look like at their workplace?
- Future plans for the company?
- Upcoming positions they might need to fill?
- What are the requirements for the job(s)?
- What are their hiring practices?
- Do they have any additional job leads?

"Avoid asking about wages, salary, or benefits," David says. "Instead, ask about the skills they might be looking for in a potential employee. You want them to see that your interested in the company, and not just a job."

Typically, the interview will last 15 to 30 minutes. At the end, let the employer know if you are interested in working with them, he says. "The promise of continued communication shows dedication, so let them know when you will follow up."

Soon after the meeting, send an email thanking the employer/hiring manager for their time and reiterate your interest in working with them. You may also ask if they have any additional job leads, David says.

David encourages anyone needing support with their job search to connect with CDS. "We are here to help job seekers at any stage of their career. Give us a call, make an appointment, and we will help you get on the right path to finding meaningful employment."

To learn more about **Career Development Services**, visit www.cdspei.ca

For the full article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



David Smallman, Career Development Practitioner with Career Development Services. Submitted photo.

Getting ready for spring job fairs and the job hunt

by Ruby Arsenault

Spring is just around the corner, and so is the job hunt. It is also time for job fairs to be held across PEI. Many employers will be searching for applicants to fill seasonal, full-time, and part-time jobs.

You can meet with employers at job fairs or call them and ask to meet to talk about potential jobs coming up.

PEI offers plenty of job openings all year round in industries such as tourism, healthcare, early childhood education, agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, road and bridge building, bioscience, construction, trades and technology, boat building, other manufacturing, trucking, finance, and Information Technology, to name a few.

When attending a job fair or meeting an employer at their location, what should you bring with you?

- A positive attitude
- An updated resumé (bring numerous copies)
- Updated references
- Dress for success

What should you include on your resume?

- Ensure your contact information is correct
- List of previous employment, job duties, and a reference contact
- List of training, certificates, and education
- Highlight skills to show what you have to offer
- Include an objective which notes the position you are applying for

For help with your resumé, connect with a **Career Development Services** office near you.

Visit www.cdspei.ca

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.



Looking for a Job? Looking for Employees?



JOB FAIRS 2024

CHARLOTTETOWN
Tuesday, April 16th
Delta Hotels Prince Edward
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

SUMMERSIDE
Tuesday, April 23rd
Credit Union Place
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Come prepared to talk to employers!

skillspei.com/jobfairs

Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal jobs are available across PEI.

Employers ready to hire can reserve a booth at skillspei.com/jobfairs before March 28th.



SkillsPEI
Pathway to Your Future

Funded by the Department of Workforce, Advanced Learning and Population through the Canada-PEI Labour Market Transfer Agreements.



The importance of following up after a job fair

by Ethan Paquet

Job fairs are a great place to meet employers and have a conversation. How can you stand out and show the employer you are interested in working for them?

Elmira Moghimi is a Program Officer with **PEI Connectors**, an initiative of the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce. Funded by the federal and provincial government, it offers free services and programs to newcomers to PEI in areas related to entrepreneurship and job search.

"How a job seeker follows up with an employer is the most important factor in whether or not they will get the job," says Elmira.

Within a day or two after the interview, send an email reminding the employer of your meeting.

- Choose a precise and professional subject line
- Be professional – refer to the employer by Mr. or Ms. (last name) or use "hiring manager".
- List the job fair date and the jobs that interest you.
- Refer to something you discussed during your in-person chat.
- Ask if they have filled the position(s) they were hiring for.
- Say you are looking forward to hearing more about the next steps of the hiring process.
- Request to connect in the near future.
- Thank them for their time.
- Attach your customized resumé for that particular role.
- Add your contact information at the end of your email.

"If the employer does not immediately respond, wait one week, and then follow up again with a short message saying you are still interested in their company and want to have another meeting."

"One client I worked with was very interested in a job. After applying, he was informed that the position had been filled. He kept in contact with that employer, and when another position opened up, he was asked to come in for an interview. Because the employer saw his dedication and the effort he was making, he was eventually hired."

More ways to maintain a professional connection

- Connect with the employer on LinkedIn
- Stay tuned to the company's social media to find networking events or job fairs they might be attending.
- Send emails periodically to let the employer know that you are still looking for a job, and ask if they know of any opportunities that might be a good match.

An employer's perspective

The job seekers who tend to stand out at job fairs are those who come prepared, says **Ryan Duffy**, Industry Engagement and Events Officer with the **Tourism Industry Association of PEI (TIAPEI)**. "Bring enough copies of your resumé to hand out, do some research, and ask questions that show you have put time and effort into learning about us."



Elmira Moghimi, PEI Connectors Program Officer. Submitted photo.

"By sending us an email or phone call reiterating where we met you and what job you are interested in, you are opening yourself up to opportunities to get your foot in the door. You never know where that connection might lead."

To learn more about **PEI Connectors**, visit www.peiconnectors.ca

For more about tourism careers and training, visit www.tiapei.pe.ca

For the complete article, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search the article title.

