

Labour Force

In 2006, the average age of Quesnel's labor force was 40. The Quesnel economy has never been one of sharp booms and busts, so the labor force is relatively stable. Training centres such as the College of New Caledonia, University of Northern British Columbia and School District 28 Helen Dixon Centre work closely with employees and employers to custom design training programs to meet the needs of the work force and employers. As Quesnel's retail, tourism and hospitality sectors become more predominant employers, these training institutions continually upgrade their curriculums to serve this market.

Forestry is by far the most important sector in the Quesnel area both in terms of employment and community income. Almost one third of all jobs are classified as forestry (i.e. logging, forest services or wood processing). The agricultural labour force is also proportionately much higher when compared to the province. The trade and service sectors are less prominent, except for hospitality (nearly 13% of the labor force in Quesnel), which is near the provincial average.

Unions

The following unions currently have members in Quesnel:

BC Government Employees Union	Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners
Canadian Union of Postal Workers Local 816	Local 2545
Communication Energy Paperworkers	Canadian Union of Public Employees
Health Sciences Association of BC	Local 1050
International Union of Operating Engineers	Faculty Association of CNC
Local 115	Hospital Employees Union
Plumbers Pipefitters & Steamfitters Local 170	Steelworkers of America (IWA) Local 1-424
Quesnel & District Labour Council	Public Service Alliance of Canada Local 20202
Registered Nurses Association of BC	Quesnel & District Teachers Association Local
Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 280	28
United Food & Commercial Workers Intl.	Retail Wholesale Union
Local 777	Teamsters Local 213
United Transportation Local 1923	United Steelworkers District 3

For more information, contact the Quesnel and District Labor Council (fax only: 250 992-7725)