

QUARTERLY 2025

BULLETIN MARCH



The LMG provides customized Labour Market Information (LMI), education and training to a variety of community agencies and partners

ABOUT US



The Labour Market Group of Renfrew and Lanark (LMG) represents one of 26 workforce planning areas in the Province of Ontario. Funded by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, our team works to provide accurate and timely labour market information to employers, job seekers and organizations that use labour market data for strategic planning purposes. We also provide annual labour market reports that outline trends in the local labour force using statistical data from several sources, as well as intelligence gathered from local employers and employment agencies.

Our Purpose: To help build a skilled workforce in Renfrew and Lanark Counties that contributes to a prosperous Ontario.

Our Mission: To work collaboratively with community partners on the creation of innovative labour market solutions that meet local workforce development needs.

To obtain information about our past work on local labour market trends, please visit our website at www.labourmarketgroup.ca or send us an email with your questions, comments, concerns, requests and ideas. lmg@algonquincollege.com

We acknowledge the Anishinaabe Algonquin People whose traditional unceded, unsundered territory is where the newsletter was produced.



**Looking for a new job?
Hiring? Check out our job
tools!**

[Click Here](http://jobs.labourmarketgroup.ca)



**It is our goal to help you
with any of the questions
you have related to local
LMI, and other topics
related to your
information search.**

[Click Here](#)



**Get the latest copy of our
Local Labour Market
Planning Report**

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**We are here to help you! Please always feel free to contact us
anytime with your questions, comments, concerns and needs.
You can either reach us using the contact information listed above
or by emailing our general email inbox at lmg@algonquincollege.com.**



In memory

Jamie Bramburger



The Labour Market Group of Renfrew and Lanark is deeply saddened by the sudden passing of our beloved leader, Jamie Bramburger. Jamie was more than just a boss—he was a mentor, a friend, and a tireless advocate for the community. His passion for education, workforce development, and the well-being of our region was unmatched. His loss leaves a void that will be impossible to fill, and our team will never be the same without him.

Jamie's impact on Renfrew County and beyond was profound. As a dedicated leader at Algonquin College's Pembroke Campus, he played an instrumental role in shaping the futures of countless students, supporting local businesses, and fostering community connections. His commitment to collaboration and his unwavering belief in the power of education made him a driving force in our region's economic and social development. His work extended beyond the campus, touching lives through his volunteerism, his passion for local history and sports, and his steadfast dedication to making our communities stronger.

We will forever be grateful for Jamie's leadership, kindness, and vision. As we mourn his passing, we also celebrate the legacy he leaves behind—a legacy of generosity, integrity, and an enduring commitment to making a difference. Our thoughts are with his family, friends, and all those who had the privilege of knowing him. Jamie's influence will continue to inspire us, and we will honor his memory by carrying forward the work he was so passionate about.

Thank you,
The LMG Team



Tariffs and the Impact on Renfrew and Lanark Counties

On February 1, newly inaugurated President Trump announced the implementation of immediate 25% tariffs on all Canadian goods. In response, the Canadian government imposed retaliatory tariffs on \$30 billion worth of U.S. goods, with plans for further increases. The sudden move raised concerns about job losses, business closures, and rising costs for Canadian industries.

Now, in a recent update, President Trump has temporarily paused some tariffs until April 2, following pressure from American business leaders who argue the trade war is harming financial markets. However, the pause only applies to Canadian exports that fully comply with the Canada-U.S.-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA), leaving an estimated 62% of Canadian imports still subject to steep levies. Meanwhile, Canada has opted to keep its initial counter-tariffs in place but will delay its next round of retaliatory measures until the U.S. decision on April 2.

The uncertainty surrounding trade relations will continue to impact businesses in Renfrew and Lanark counties, particularly manufacturers in the steel and aluminum sectors. While Canadian exporters may face rising costs, much of the financial burden will still be absorbed by U.S. purchasers. To support local businesses through this volatile period, the County of Renfrew, the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce, and other community organizations are actively engaged. The Labour Market Group (LMG) will closely monitor developments and work with partners to assist those most affected.

Local Response:

- Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Think Renfrew County
- Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC)
- Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium (EMC)

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/trump-tariffs-canada-february-1-1.7447829> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/trudeau-trump-speak-trade-war-1.7448805>

<https://thoughtleadership.rbc.com/how-u-s-steel-and-aluminum-tariffs-would-impact-canadas-economy/>



Introducing the 2024 Local Labour Market Planning Report

Our latest Local Labour Market Planning (LLMP) report is here! This year's report provides valuable insights into the trends, opportunities, and challenges shaping our local workforce. More than just a snapshot of current conditions, it serves as a playbook for collaboration, helping to drive solutions that support labour market stability and growth. We invite you to explore the findings and share your feedback to help us improve future reports. Take a few minutes to complete our evaluation **survey**—your input is invaluable!

Click Here →



What's Inside?

- Demographic data for Renfrew and Lanark counties including migration changes and age group break downs
- Updates on the economy and local labour market from our community partners
- The latest news on changes to immigration policies and changes in the local labour market.
- Economic data on employers, industries and occupations
- The results of our Employer Pulse Survey and Community Consultations

EMPLOYER PULSE SURVEY

The Employer Pulse Survey, conducted over 18-weeks from September 2024 to January 2025, provided crucial insights that confirmed assumptions by the Labour Market Group (LMG). These assumptions were derived from unemployment data analysis, employment service office activity, local intelligence from community consultations, and job posting trends across various platforms.

Based on feedback from the previous year, the survey included new questions about hiring practices involving underrepresented groups, such as newcomers, youth, and seniors.

[Read the full report here!](#)



NEWS

☀️ **Introducing the Mesa Warming Centre in Pembroke!** ☀️

Opened on December 7, 2024, the Mesa Warming Centre provides 24/7 support for individuals facing homelessness and precarious housing. Located at 156 John Street, this collaborative initiative by the County of Renfrew and local partners addresses homelessness, addictions, and mental health challenges.

Staffed by MacKay Manor personnel, the low-barrier facility offers vital services, including addiction and mental health support. Funded through municipal partnerships and generous community donations, the Centre is grateful for the contributions from local businesses and organizations.

Lanark County Joins REDI Pilot to Attract Skilled Workers

Lanark County is proud to be one of four regions participating in the Regional Economic Development through Immigration (REDI) pilot program from January 2 to December 31, 2025. This initiative helps local employers address labour shortages by attracting highly skilled international workers in healthcare, skilled trades, technology, construction, and other in-demand sectors.

Employers can take advantage of a streamlined immigration process through the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (OINP) Employer Job Offer streams, while internationally trained workers can secure employment and a pathway to permanent residency. For more details, employers can contact Lanark County's [Economic Development Team](#) and job seekers can visit the [OINP website](#) or reach out to the [Settlement and Recruitment Officer](#) for guidance.

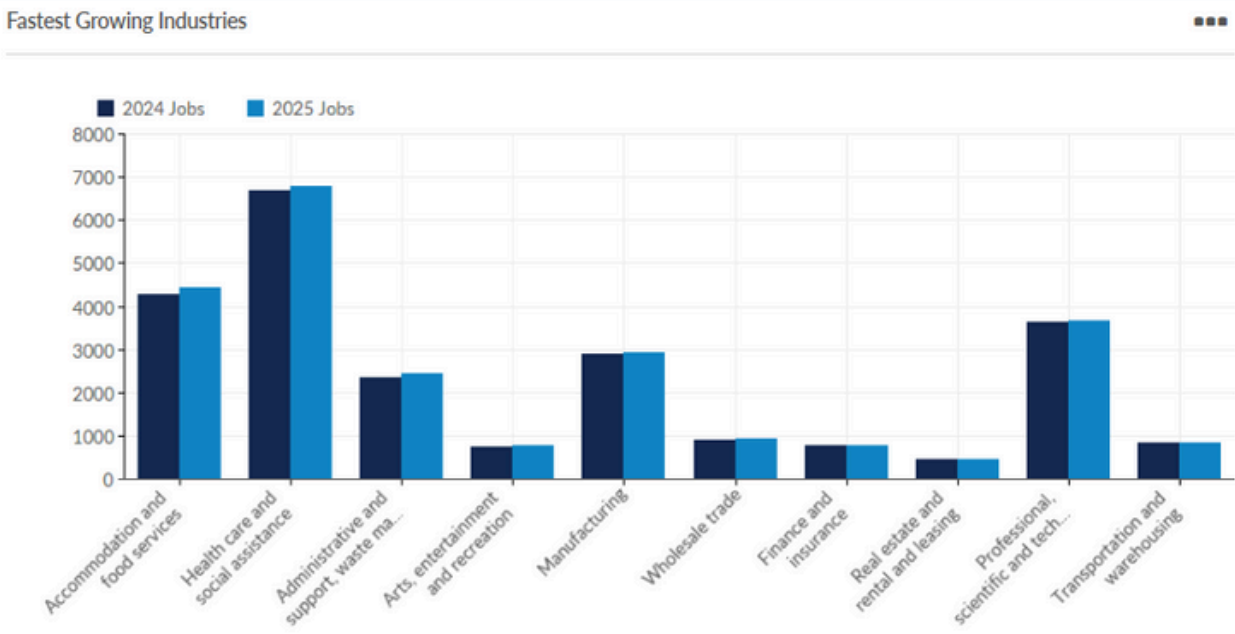


Labour Market Data: Lanark and Renfrew

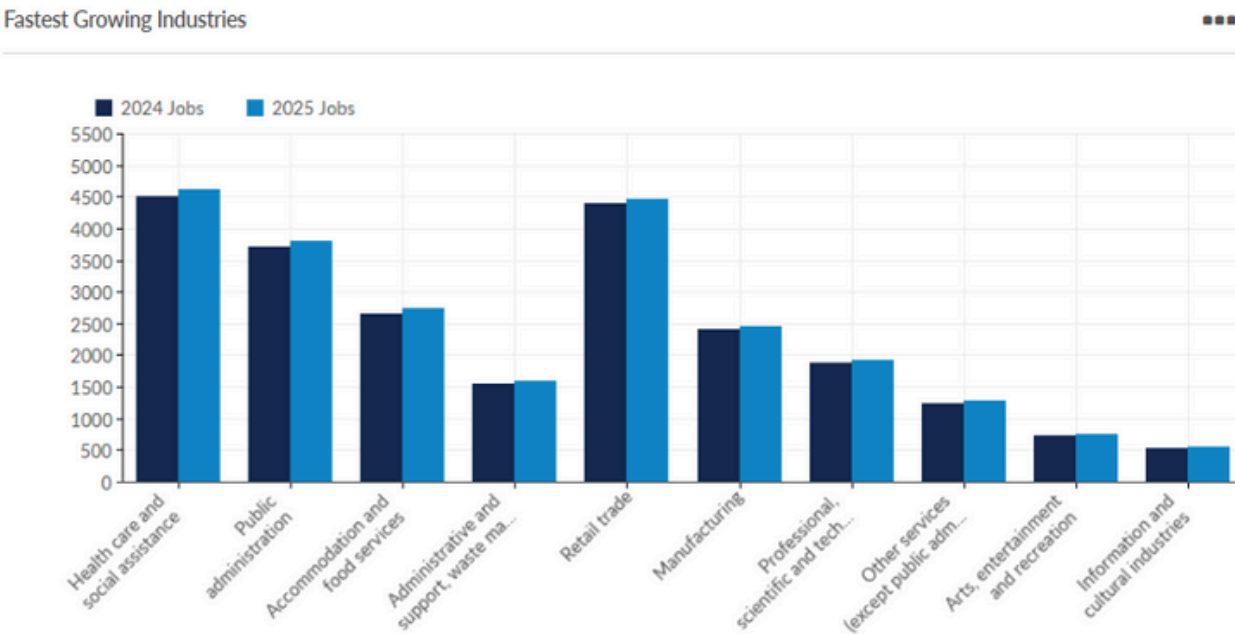
December 2024 to February 2025

FASTEST GROWING INDUSTRY AT THE 2-DIGIT NAICS LEVEL

Renfrew



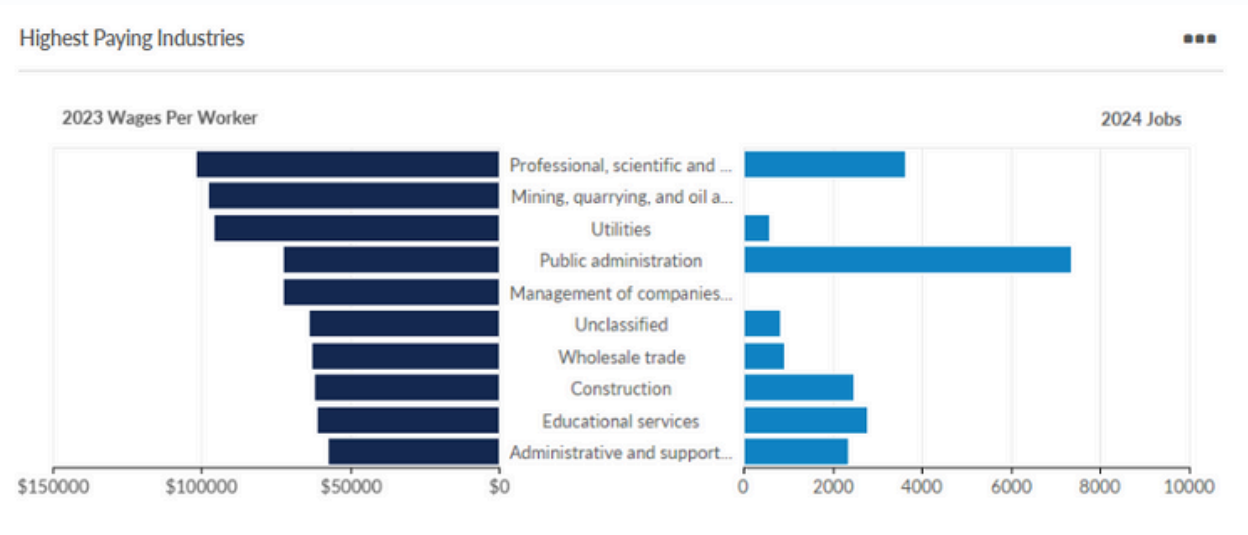
Lanark



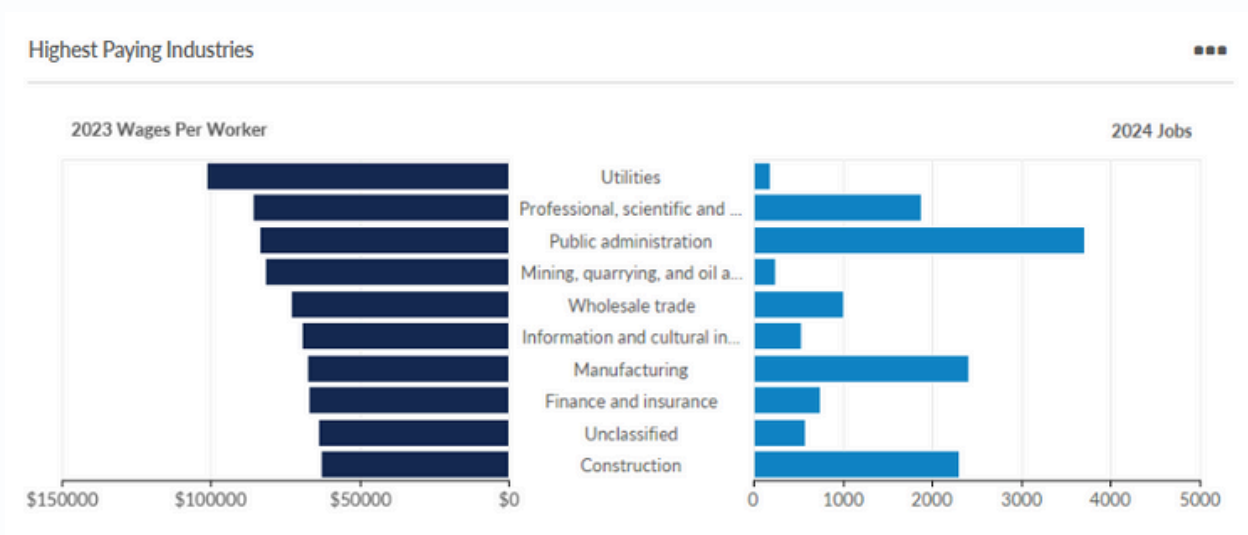
These graphs show the highest paying industries according to a place of work status at the 2-digit NAICS classification in Renfrew and Lanark Counties.

HIGHEST PAYING INDUSTRY

Renfrew



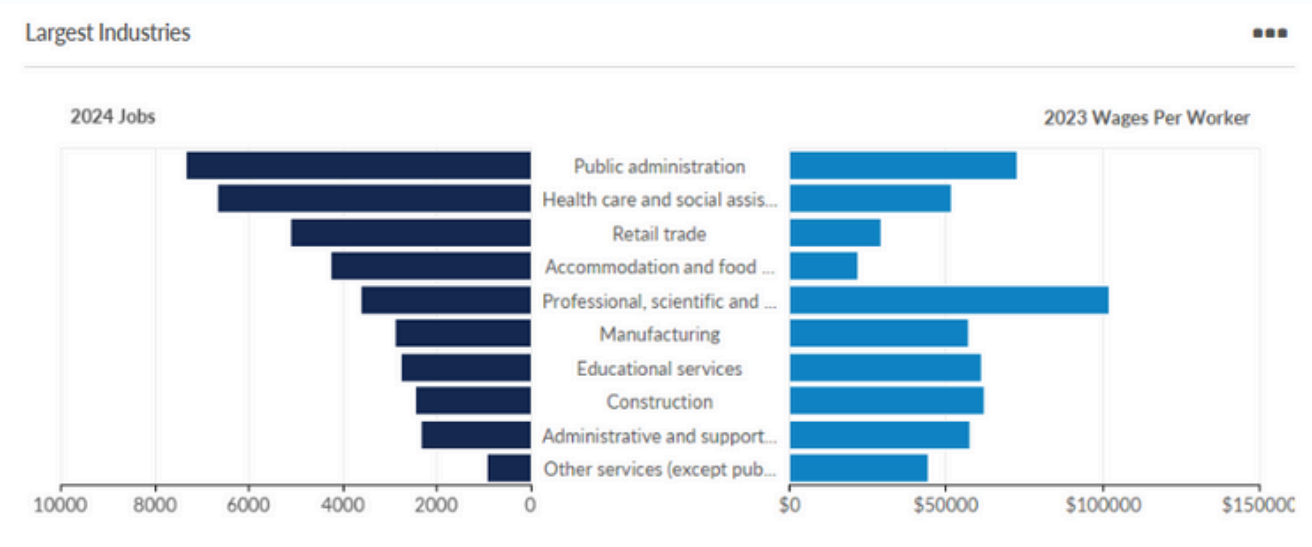
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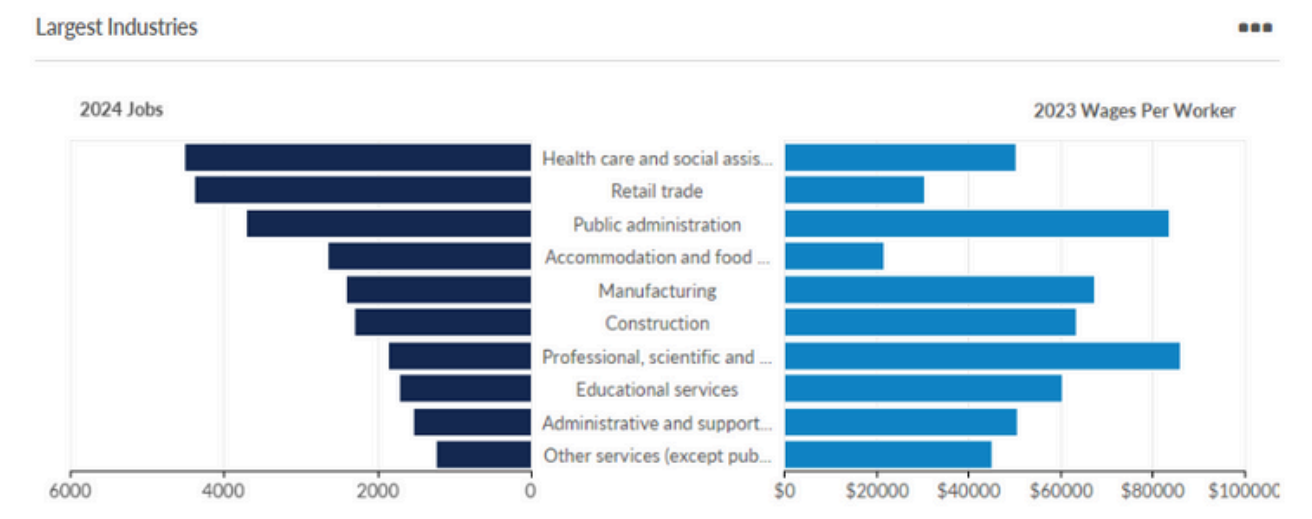
These graphs show the highest paying industries according to a place of work status at the 2-digit NAICS classification in Renfrew and Lanark Counties.

LARGEST INDUSTRY BY SIZE

Renfrew



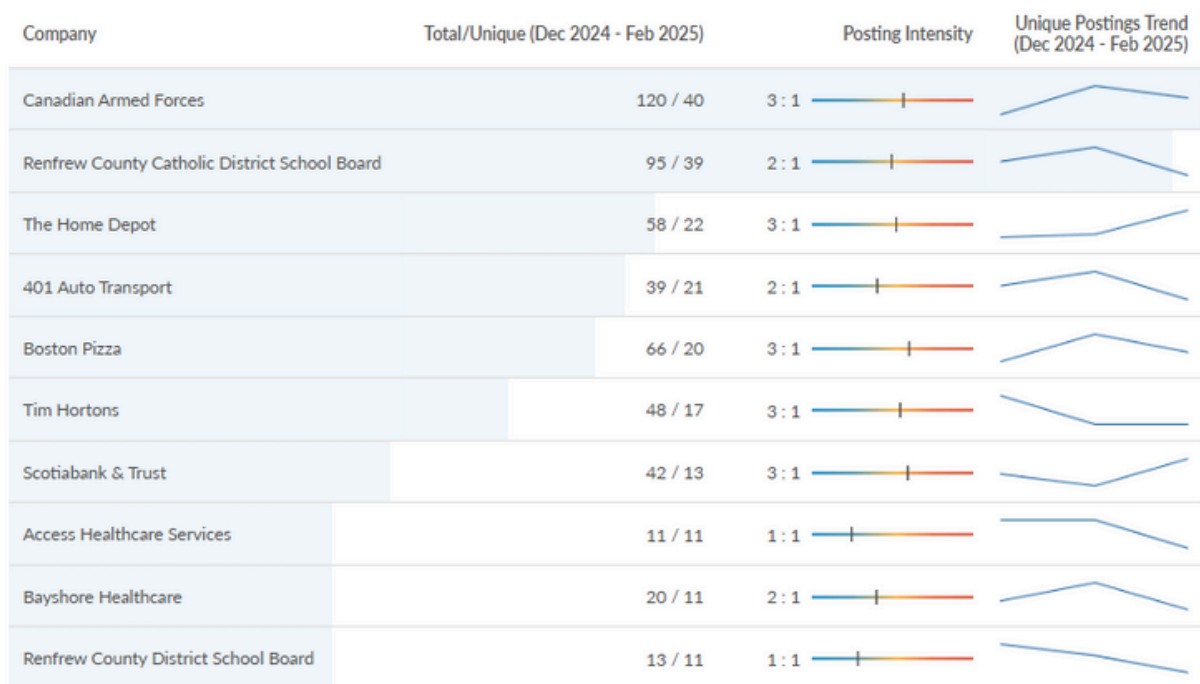
Lanark



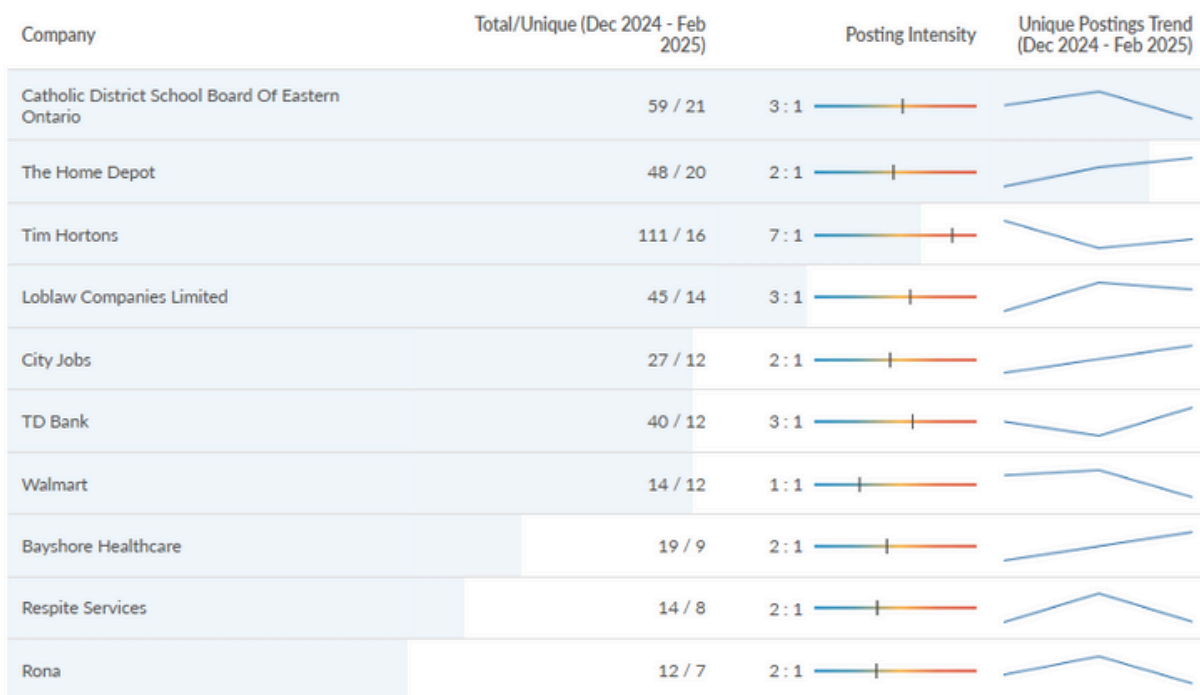
These graphs show the highest paying industries according to a place of work status at the 2-digit NAICS classification in Renfrew and Lanark Counties.

WHO'S HIRING IN OUR REGION?

Renfrew



Lanark



These graphs show the top companies job postings according to a place of work status at the 2-digit NAICS classification in Renfrew and Lanark Counties.