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News Release

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Record number attend 14th annual job fair at NMCC

Aroostook County - As the challenging economic times persist nationwide and in Aroostook County, many area residents haven't given up hope searching for employment. That was evident as a record number of more than 560 individuals attended Northern Maine Community College's 14th annual job fair on March 10.

Participating in the County's largest job fair were 50 businesses interested in hiring employees or simply educating the public about their organization. The majority of the businesses that attended were from Maine and other parts of New England.

One of the participating businesses, Vestas-American Wind Technology Inc, traveled from New Hampshire to Maine in search of recruiters for their company. This marked the first year Vestas appeared in the NMCC job fair and reflected the fact that the college will graduate New England's first Wind Power Technology graduates this May.

"Vestas is starting a new project this summer and the business plans to set up 33 new turbines in the New Hampshire area," said Terrence M. Daigle Jr., site manager for Vestas, "When the need of finding qualified recruits arose within the company, we decided to participate in this job fair since NMCC has a Wind Power Technology program and the students attend this fair in the hopes of finding a job." Daigle noted that many resumes were being received and that he foresaw success in the businesses recruitment process.

The other new businesses and returning businesses attending the job fair were pleased with the record turnout. "It has been beneficial for our company to attend such an event," said Robert Canney, human resources manager of Naturally Potatoes, "The turnout rate has been such a success for our company that we plan to return in the future."

"Within an hour of opening the doors to the public I was already pleased with the number of individuals who attended this year's job fair," said Ruth White, regional director of Early College for ME program and event coordinator, "The fair had an excellent turnout and I'm pleased that the students and community members took advantage of such an opportunity."

Most hiring representatives were impressed with the interest individuals had about their organization, but also pleased with the amount of resumes their companies received throughout the day.

“When speaking with many different hiring representatives, they spoke about the large number of resumes that had been dropped off for the businesses to ponder over, when ready to hire that future employee,” said White, “Since there were over 560 people attending this job fair, it was essential to drop off a resume, to allow the hiring representative to have a better recollection of you when it came time for their company to hire an employee.”

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David Stone (left) stops to discuss job opportunities with Douglas Cyr, human resources manager of Irving Woodlands. Irving was one of the 50 businesses participating this years NMCC job fair.



Dianna Leighton of the Mark and Emily Turner Memorial Library is seen with NMCC's own library staff Kim Ferguson and Gail Roy at the job fair.