



J.D. Irving, Limited is forecasting over 6,800 hires over the next three years. About 87 per cent of the jobs are expected to be for Atlantic Canadian positions, a news release said Monday.

Photo: BNI Archive

🕒 Published 16 hours ago



Telegraph-Journal

SAINT JOHN • J.D. Irving, Limited is planning to hire over 6,800 full-time employees over the next three years across Canada and the United States, with a majority of them in New Brunswick and the Maritimes.

The company is expected to hire more than 2,700 students over the same time period, according to a statement released Monday.

Colleen Baxter, vice-president of human resources at J.D. Irving, Limited, said that Atlantic Canada is expected to account for 87 per cent of the jobs filled through to 2022.

Seventy-four per cent of the jobs will be filled in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia alone, Baxter said.

"We are a company focused on investing in the talent and potential of our people and offer a unique opportunity to join one operation and grow a career with many of our businesses," Baxter said in Monday's statement. "Our strategy is to keep talented people home, bring them home and to welcome newcomers."

That includes about 400 positions requiring immigration.

Mary Keith, vice-president of communications for J.D. Irving, Limited, said the company always looks to hire locally first. But in situations where there is a shortage of available workforce in certain sectors, she said the company looks around the globe to bring talented workers to Canada.

"There is a real value that comes with diversity," explained Keith. "From driving innovation to a diversity of ideas, we're already seeing the impact with over 20 countries represented at our Union Street building" in Saint John.

Susan Wilson, director of immigration with J.D. Irving, Limited, and said the company's immigrant recruitment team works with provincial and federal partners to help identify workers based on the required job opportunities.

"It's an exciting time related to this field, and we're excited to continue to stay ahead of the learning curve," she said. "We're learning and we're laying the foundation."

That includes piloting programs to ensure that families are able to settle into their communities and prosper, Wilson said.

Language training social integration are important elements to help make families feel welcomed and accepted, she said, noting "we want ... these folks to continue to stay."

The forecasted job openings are based on anticipated retirements, business growth and normal workforce turnover, the statement said, and most opportunities will come in areas like operations, shipping, supply and logistics, retail sales and engineering.

J.D. Irving, Limited, one of the province's biggest employers, operates in both Canada and the United States with a workforce of more than 16,000 employees.

🕒 Published 16 hours ago

