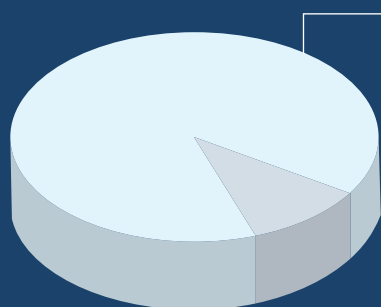


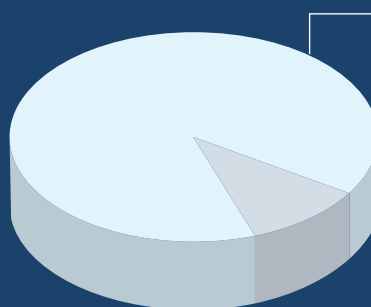
**Local international student retention after graduation is one pipeline of workers for Chatham-Kent's labour force.**



## Sectors in need of workers in Chatham-Kent



- INDUSTRIES**
- Health Care & Social Assistance
  - Construction
  - Manufacturing
  - Agriculture



- OCCUPATIONS**
- Health Occupations
  - Business, Finance & Administration Occupations

**Job vacancy rates have remained consistent, rising after COVID.**

### Windsor-Sarnia Economic Region job vacancy rates:

Pre-COVID (Q1 2018 to Q1 2020):	3.1%
Post-COVID:	4.1%
First three quarters, 2023:	3.2%

**In total, the community will need to fill nearly 17,600 jobs from replacement and growth demand by 2031.<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> From 2023 Local Labour Market Plan (p 57) by Mellor Murray Consulting Inc. and Jupia Consultants Inc., 2023 Chatham-Kent Workforce Planning Board.

# International Students in Chatham-Kent

**International students are coming to Chatham-Kent because of both Federal and Provincial policies and practices:**

- St. Clair College Chatham campus international student enrollment rose to 422 students by Winter 2024.
- University of Guelph Ridgetown Campus, had 9 international students in Fall 2023 but want to attract more.
- Lambton College contributes international students to the labour force in Chatham-Kent.

**International students are enrolled in programs necessary for the local labour market.**



Business



Early Childhood Education



Practical Nursing



Electrical Engineering Technician



Development Service Worker



Personal Support Workers



Post Graduate Agricultural Specialists



Occupational Therapist/ Physiotherapist Assistant

**The majority of international students in Chatham-Kent seek eventual residency in Canada.**

**There are international students in Chatham-Kent who want to stay after graduation but they need jobs for permanent residency and additional supports.**

# Involving the community

## Other stakeholders also want international students in Chatham-Kent:

- a. Educational institutions want to attract more students
- b. The municipality wants to increase labour market participation for growth
- c. Employers want to fill vacancies with high quality workers



## Stakeholders can work together to create the right circumstances for recruiting and retaining international students:

- a. Coordinate efforts through a stakeholder committee
- b. More information going out to future international students about opportunities, to students about supports and resources, to employers about this pipeline
- c. Promote engagement between employers and students before graduation
- d. Create links to internships and full-time employment, promote social networking; facilitate transportation, provide English-language training and other pathways to permanent residency
- e. Start tracking data on international students and their outcomes

