



Is your shop as environmentally friendly as it can be? A new report released this spring says most Canadian small-business owners have implemented practices such as expanding recycling, reducing electricity usage and using more “green” products in their businesses. Owners are motivated by their personal views on protecting the environment for future generations, the report says. Half of small-business owners say cost savings from getting “greener” in

their practices is also a factor in going greener.

—*Canadian Federation of Independent Business*



Automotive apprentices make an average of \$34,273 per year in Canada. That’s \$1,483 more than the Canadian median wage of \$32,790. Apprentice salaries range from \$24,000 (entry level) to \$48,000 for the most experienced apprentices. The average salary for technician apprentices is \$38,025.

—*neuvoo.ca*



Almost 20 years after the last major revisions to Canada’s environmental protection law were made, the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) is going to be updated. A new parliamentary report released in June concluded that CEPA is outdated and needs strengthening. The report made 87 recommendations. They include a requirement for chemical producers to prove “chemicals of high concern” are safe before they’re used in product manufacturing. Environmental and health groups are applauding the report and its recommendations.

—*Environmental Defence*



Albertans earn the highest average hourly wages in Canada. Last year, six of Alberta’s seven economic regions were among the top 10 in Canada for the highest average hourly wage. The highest is \$36.50 per hour (Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake, Alta.). The lowest average hourly wages are in the Maritimes and Quebec. In the Maritimes, the lowest average hourly wage is \$19.40, in the Edmundston–Woodstock, N.B., economic region.

— *Statistics Canada*