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## Labatt Breweries to close Toronto plant

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[CBC News](#)

Labatt Breweries of Canada plans to close its Toronto plant in November, a move that will put 265 people out of work.

The closure will leave Labatt with one Ontario plant in London.

"This decision was a difficult one to take and follows considerable debate and analysis," said Carlos Brito, the president of Labatt Breweries of Canada.

"After an extensive review of our brewery network, the Canadian management team has decided to cease major brewing operations in Toronto on Nov. 4, 2005 with the brewery site formally closing by the end of the year," he said in a release.

Labatt said it is facing excess capacity, particularly in central Canada.

The company said new investments will be made and jobs will be created at its London brewery.



Workers at the Toronto brewery were called at about 4 a.m. EST to a meeting where they were informed of the closure plans.

In September 2004, Labatt said it would close its brewery in New Westminster, B.C., in April, a move expected to put nearly 150 people out of work.

É FROM SEPT. 8, 2004: [Labatt closing brewery in New Westminster, B.C.](#)

Founded in 1847, Labatt is owned by InBev SA of Belgium.

Labatt's main Canadian rival, Molson, has one Ontario brewery in Toronto. The company closed its plant in Barrie, Ont., several years ago.

Labatt and Molson are in a fierce fight for market share. Both brewers have about 44 per cent of the Canadian beer market.

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