

Media Scan

Wednesday September 23, 2020

[Halifax tourism sector to see \\$900M in loss with continued decline, council told](#)

Businesses in downtown Dartmouth and Halifax will be in it for the long haul when it comes to recovering from the pandemic. While most sectors have entered the stabilization phase of Halifax Regional Municipality's COVID-19 economy response and recovery plan, Wendy Luther says some are still suffering. "Some segments of our economy and our society were hit much harder than others," Luther, president of Halifax Partnership, told Halifax regional council during a recovery update Tuesday. The tourism industry is in deep as the pandemic resulted in cancelled events and restricted travel.

[Halifax gives green light to ride-hailing services such as Uber, Lyft](#)

Halifax regional council has approved new rules that will allow transportation network companies such as Uber and Lyft to operate in the municipality. Drivers will have to get criminal background checks every year, along with the child abuse registry and a vulnerable persons check. Coun. Tony Mancini voted in favour of the motion.

[COVID-19 presents new opportunities for Cape Breton](#)

The majority of Canadians now realize that COVID-19 is not going away anytime soon. While there is hope for a vaccine, it is doubtful we will return to life prior to March 2020 as we knew it. There are going to be lasting impacts for all of us as living and working in times of a pandemic become the new normal. The impact on the economy and workers will be prolific and lasting.

[Lights, camera, action: Low COVID numbers in N.S. create boom in film industry](#)

Nova Scotia's film industry is enjoying a rare boom this fall. Those in the business give much of the credit to the province's low rate of COVID-19. More than a dozen large and small productions got started mid-summer and are continuing into the fall. "It's pretty apparent that our [COVID-19] numbers are low and that's great for us to be able to come back to work," said Mark Kenny, a lighting technician. Kenny has been working on the series Chapelwaite, the adaptation of Stephen King's short story Jerusalem's Lot.

[New travel-related case of COVID-19 identified in Nova Scotia's western zone](#)

After going two weeks without reporting a new confirmed case of COVID-19, a new case of the disease has been identified in Nova Scotia. The provincial government said Tuesday that the new case is related to travel outside Canada and is under investigation by Public Health. The case is located in the Nova Scotia Health Authority's western zone, which has now seen 56 confirmed cases of COVID-19.

[Big gamble at Sober Island Oysters as owners ride out Teddy](#)

The owners of Sober Island Oysters made a \$2 million bet that Teddy isn't going to devastate their operation like Dorian did last year. They considered sinking all their gear into the mud last week, but then didn't because the forecast didn't look that bad. On Tuesday afternoon they were drinking rye whiskey in their oyster shack and hoping the gamble pays off. They'll know the result at dawn Wednesday once the second blast from Teddy passes over their Eastern Shore oyster farm.

[FIN Stream extends access thanks to Teddy](#)

Teddy is expected to steal the show at FIN Stream. The film fest, which is online this year, is extending the access to streaming because of the storm which is expected to cause power outages throughout the province.

[New certification program to help sell foreign investors on East Coast development opportunities](#)

A timely program is going to give land owners with commercial and industrial development potential a marketing boost geared towards foreign investment. Atlantic Canada Certified Sites is a new accreditation program similar to one implemented with some success in Ontario, making it the second of its kind across the country. The goal of the certification process will be to give direct investors around the world some assurance that these properties will meet their needs.

[COVID-related racism, lack of tourists combine to devastate Montreal's Chinatown](#)

Anti-Asian racism and the loss of tourism due to the COVID-19 pandemic have combined to devastate Montreal's Chinatown and leaders are asking all levels of government for help. Paul Li, owner of Patisserie Coco, said he's scared for his bakery's future. "We cut more than half of our staff here and we also lost somewhere from 70 to 80 per cent of our sales," he said.

['We need to bend the curve down, now': Ottawa's top doctor takes decisive action as cases spike](#)

Facing down the largest-ever one day spike in local COVID-19 cases as fears of a potentially crushing second wave mount, the city's top public health official took decisive steps Tuesday to try, once again, to flatten the curve. Ottawa's Medical Officer of Health Dr. Vera Etches invoked an order under the Health Protection and Promotion Act requiring anyone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, signs and symptoms of the disease, close contact with a confirmed case, a pending test result, or "reasonable grounds to believe they have COVID-19," to isolate for 14 days or until COVID-19 is ruled out, and to provide information about one's close contacts to public health as soon as it's requested.