

Media Scan

Friday October 16, 2020

[Canada's COVID Alert app now available in Nova Scotia](#)

Canada's COVID-19 Alert app is now available in Nova Scotia. The app, which can be downloaded through the Apple or Google Play app stores, notifies users if they may have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. "As a province we have all shown a steadfast commitment to flattening the curve and keeping COVID activity low," said Premier Stephen McNeil in a news release. "As we learn to live with the virus, COVID Alert is another tool that will help keep ourselves and our communities safe and healthy."

[WestJet's retreat from Atlantic Canada pushes the federal government into a corner](#)

Two hours after WestJet announced on Wednesday that it was curtailing its flights to and from Atlantic Canada, an email went out to all MPs and senators from Liberal MP Chris Bittle, parliamentary secretary to Transport Minister Marc Garneau. "The COVID-19 pandemic has had a tremendous impact on all aspects of the Canadian economy, but few industries have been more negatively impacted than the air sector," Bittle wrote in a letter first obtained by Radio-Canada.

[N.S. restores 2 newly protected areas to Mi'kmaq names](#)

The Nova Scotia government is making good on a promise to protect 10 more pieces of land, but the status of a proposed wilderness area that would affect a potential gold mine remains in question. The protected sites announced Wednesday include two that are historically significant to the Mi'kmaq. The McGowan Lake Wilderness Area is being renamed Katewe'katik, while the Pleasant River Wilderness Area will now be known as Pu'tlaqne'katik.

[Nova Scotia introduces \\$250 COVID-19 test for essential work, travel](#)

Nova Scotia is expanding its COVID-19 testing for essential work or travel and reducing the cost to get a test. The province has made a deal with PRAXES Medical Group, a Halifax-based company that provides emergency telehealth services, to test those who require proof that they do not have the virus. The test costs \$250 plus HST, according to a news release Thursday from the Nova Scotia Health Authority.

[Devour! The Food Film Fest celebrates 10 years Oct. 21-25](#)

Devour! The Food Film Fest is proving that hybrid is just as mouth-watering as the original with an in-person and digital festival combo. This year marks the 10th instalment of the festival, coined *Devour! 9.5*, to reflect travel restrictions and smaller in-person gatherings, during the five-day event, October 21-25. *Devour! 9.5* will serve up 44 films through a combination of in-person and digital screenings including 19 feature-length films and 25 shorts.

[Five people in custody after police respond to weapons call at Halifax hotel](#)

Police have taken three men and two women into custody after a weapons call at a downtown Halifax hotel early Thursday morning. At approximately 6:15 a.m., police responded to a report that a woman was being held by a group of people who were believed to be in possession of weapons at the Hollis DoubleTree Hotel located at 1649 Hollis St. Officers Central Patrol Division, Emergency Response Team and a K9 team attended and located the woman.

[New book showcasing Nova Scotia beauty aims to inspire travellers](#)

Joy Laking's new book, "The Painted Province-Nova Scotia Through an Artist's Eyes," has GPS coordinates so people can visit each place.

[Re-imagining Nova Scotia in a post-pandemic world](#)

It's been about eight months since COVID-19 drastically changed the way people live in Nova Scotia. Now a series of online public discussions will examine how to pave the way to recovery. The Reimagine Project is being put on by Dalhousie's Faculty of Management, and they've paired academic experts from across the province with community members to explore what a reimagined Nova Scotia might look like.