

Media Scan

Friday March 5, 2021

[DEANS preparing for tourism season with new brand](#)

Tourism season is coming and DEANS want to be prepared. Destination Eastern and Northumberland Shores is ready to welcome the new tourism season with a new look. This year marks 10 years since DEANS formed, says Cindy MacKinnon, managing director. And it makes it the perfect time to have a makeover- a new look and a new brand. "About a year ago we started the rebranding process. We heard from visitors and others that yes, we're the Northumberland Shore and the Eastern Shore, but we have communities within those two shores to market.

[Nova Scotia lifts some restrictions in Halifax area due to low COVID-19 case numbers](#)

Nova Scotia announced that some of the tighter restrictions throughout the Halifax Regional Municipality and neighbouring communities announced last week are being lifted on Friday. "We're not as concerned about having cases with no known cause, and so Dr. Strang was comfortable, public health brought forth a recommendation that we would relax those and I'm happy that we're able to do that," said N.S. Premier Iain Rankin.

[Nova Scotia reports three new COVID-19 infections; active cases drop to 29](#)

Health officials in Nova Scotia reported three new cases of COVID-19 on Thursday. All three cases are in the Central zone. Two are close contacts to previously reported cases, while the other case is under investigation. "We continue to see new COVID-19 cases every day. So, it's very apparent the virus is still in our communities," said Premier Iain Rankin. "Let's continue to be vigilant. Let's keep doing what we have been doing so well to keep the virus under control, such as following our public health measures."

[Premier eyes end of June for all Nova Scotians to have first COVID-19 vaccine dose](#)

Nova Scotia hopes to have first doses of COVID-19 vaccine into the arms of all Nova Scotians by the end of June. Canada's national vaccine advisory body said Thursday that the interval between the first and second vaccines can be lengthened, which will make much more vaccine available to the province. Premier Iain Rankin said he's had preliminary discussions with Dr. Robert Strang, Nova Scotia's chief medical officer of health, on fast-tracking the immunization schedule. "It does logically follow that we ... wouldn't have to hold back the second dose so we should be able to get every Nova Scotian their first dose by the end of June," Rankin said at a news conference Thursday.

[No exhibitions in Nova Scotia this year](#)

Exhibitions and fairs won't be held in Nova Scotia this year, at least not the kind with rides and crowds. The Exhibitions Association of Nova Scotia announced the decision Thursday, in response to COVID-19 and the need to follow public health guidelines. But the release says the decision "does not preclude exhibitions and fairs from hosting smaller events that meet all public health requirements."

[Bonavista tourism operators businesses ready for whatever challenges come with 2021 season](#)

It was a decision she couldn't take lightly, but Katie Hayes felt it was the safest bet for her seasonal restaurant to remain closed for 2020. "The largest part was the unknown," said the owner of the Bonavista Social Club. "It all happened so fast, and it happened so close to the time when we'd be heading into full swing. We made the decision (to) financially to stay afloat, we could not afford that risk. We could afford being closed for one year, but we could not afford a down year."

[Liberal MLA wants details of government's plan to support tourism industry](#)

A Liberal MLA wants more details about what the government plans to do to support the Island's tourism industry [during](#) the upcoming season. Heath MacDonald raised the issue during question period in the legislature Thursday. He said many Island tourism operators are currently trying to make plans for the upcoming season and are waiting for guidance from the province.

[Ottawa, airlines close to bailout package that could soar past \\$7 billion, says labour leader](#)

The federal government is in the final stages of talks with airlines on what could turn out to be a \$9 billion support package for the pandemic-battered industry, says union representative Jerry Dias. Sources say most of the airlines are calling for financial help from Ottawa but WestJet wants the federal government to prioritize coming up with a plan to safely restart air travel.

[Toronto lost \\$8.35B in tourist activity due to 1st year of COVID-19 pandemic](#)

According to an analysis done by Destination Toronto, the COVID-19 pandemic has cost the city's economy \$8.35 billion due to a drop in tourism and hospitality spending. Also lost from reduced tourism was \$1.44 billion in unrealized tax revenue for the federal, provincial and municipal governments.

[The next phase of relaxed restrictions is now in effect across Manitoba](#)

The latest phase of relaxed restrictions is officially in effect across all Manitoba health regions. On Tuesday, the province announced changes to the public health restrictions, which came into effect on Friday at 12:01 a.m. These restrictions expire on March 25. Later in March, the province will re-evaluate and determine whether Manitoba will remain at this level or continue to reopen further. These restrictions expire on March 25. Later in March, the province will re-evaluate and determine whether Manitoba will remain at this level or continue to reopen further.

[Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine becomes 4th to receive Health Canada approval](#)

Health Canada has approved the use of Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine in Canada, CBC News has learned. Health officials will announce the approval at a media briefing today at 10 a.m. ET, multiple sources with knowledge of the approval confirmed. The U.S. health-care giant's vaccine is the fourth to be approved in Canada. The approval is expected to provide a significant boost to Canada's vaccine rollout. Johnson & Johnson's vaccine is widely seen as one of the easiest to administer because it requires only one dose and can be stored for long periods of time at regular refrigerator temperatures.