

Storm Water Photo Essay

(from files of Communications Nova Scotia)



The Sackville River overflowed, submerging a parking lot in Bedford (Communication Nova Scotia Photo)



A car lodged on a guardrail and partially submerged in flood water along the Little Sackville River in Middle Sackville, on Saturday, July 22. (Communication Nova Scotia Photo)



A car is nearly submerged at the entrance to Bedford Place Mall (Communication Nova Scotia Photo)



Water flooded over the road in Mill Village near the entrance to Sipekne'katik First Nation. (Communication Nova Scotia Photo)



At the Hanna farm a young and adult eagle appeared to perhaps think they were cows. Two white circles mark location of the eagles in the tree and on the ground. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

Increase in Nova Scotia Child Benefit

The Province is helping more than 22,750 Nova Scotian families by increasing the Nova Scotia Child Benefit. The increase will take effect on the July payment.


The Nova Scotia Child Benefit is a tax-free payment to help eligible families with the cost of raising children under 18 years of age. Budget 2023-24 invests an additional \$8 million in the benefit to help support families with incomes below \$34,000.

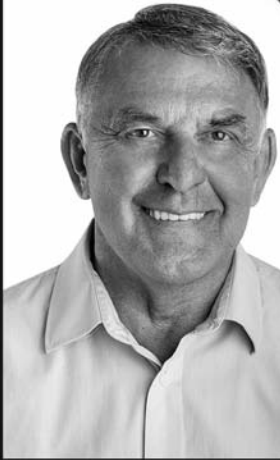
Families receiving the benefit will see: a \$250 increase for the first child and each additional child for families earning less than \$26,000; a \$250

increase for the first child and \$125 for each additional child for those earning between \$26,000 and \$33,999.

In the last two years, the annual payment for families at the lowest income level has increased by \$600 per child to \$1,525. People do not have to apply for the benefit, as it is based on personal income tax returns. People are encouraged to file their 2022 income tax returns for 2022 if they have not already filed.

More information about the Nova Scotia Child Benefit and the new rates: <https://www.novascotia.ca/coms/families/ChildBenefit.html>





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The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

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Provincewide State of Emergency Declared

A provincewide state of emergency (SOE) was declared in Nova Scotia on July 22, in response to severe flooding across the province. The following areas are currently the most affected: East and West Hants, Halifax Regional Municipality, Lunenburg and Queens counties. The order is in place to ensure the entire province is protected as the storm continues to progress. The provincewide state of emergency is an administrative function under the Emergency Management Act. This state of emergency supersedes any municipal SOE and will allow for the Province to work with its partners in a coordinated provincewide response to and recovery from this event. The state of emergency will: limit travel in heavily impacted areas; allow the deployment of key human and physical assets to aid in the response and recovery and facilitate the coordinated restoration of impacted critical infrastructure

A state of emergency remains in effect for 14 days, until August 5, unless government terminates or extends it.

NS Doctors Sign four year Contract

Nova Scotia's doctors have accepted two new four-year agreements with the provincial government. "A sincere thank you to Minister Thompson and the province for open and collaborative talks at the negotiations table. The agreements offer meaningful improvements that will lead to better access to primary and specialty care for Nova Scotians and more satisfying professional and personal lives for some of Nova Scotia's doctors," said Dr. Colin Audain, President of Doctors Nova Scotia (DNS). "This is essential to our ability to recruit and retain much-needed physicians in Nova Scotia." Throughout negotiations, the goal has been to stabilize family medicine. Without good access to primary care, the effects are being felt across the system - most acutely by family physicians themselves, who struggle to see so many in their communities without a family doctor, and by physicians in emergency departments and specialty services, as they work to support patients who don't have a family physician to quarterback their care.

Twinned Section of Highway 104 Opens

After more than three years, millions of cubic metres of earth moved and thousands of tonnes of asphalt put down, the Highway 104 twinning project is nearly complete, providing safer driving for people travelling in Pictou and Antigonish counties. In the coming days, the final 12.5 kilometres between French River and Barneys River will open to traffic, linking four lanes of divided highway from Antigonish to the New Brunswick border. The construction cost of the project is \$364.3 million, including \$274.3 million from the Province and up to \$90 million from the Government of Canada's National Trade Corridors Fund.

Partnering on Shelter Meals, Training Program

The Province is supporting a new, innovative service that provides nutritious meals to people experiencing homelessness and will offer a related skills training and work experience program. It is partnering with the North End Community Health Centre and Upward Mobility Kitchens East and investing \$720,000 in the program, which is providing meals at The Bridge, Shelter Nova Scotia and Out of the Cold locations in Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). (Ed Note: Perhaps this program might be adaptable to Colchester and Cumberland Counties, especially since Dept of Community Services has stressed a commitment to work with community partners).

The organization is an offshoot of A Better Life Foundation, a Vancouver organization that has provided meals for those experiencing homelessness in that city's Downtown Eastside for about 12 years. It is committed to working with local farmers and other providers to source ingredients, as well as diverting and repurposing food waste. The North End Community Health Centre is engaging with community partners to line up participants for the training and work experience program. The Department of Community Services is committed to working with community partners to provide services and support that meet their diverse needs.

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