

The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Continued from page 6

Atlantic Canada Outperforming Much of the Country on Consumer Credit Health

New TransUnion data shows Atlantic Canada is quietly outperforming much of the country on consumer credit health a surprising shift as many larger provinces continue facing elevated debt pressure. Highlights from the Q1 2026 Credit Industry Insights Report: Newfoundland and Labrador saw delinquency improve by 12 bps year-over-year, New Brunswick improved by 10 bps and Nova Scotia and PEI both improved by 9 bps and National delinquency rates remain elevated overall, but several Atlantic provinces are showing meaningful stabilization. The data suggests smaller housing markets and lower household leverage may be helping Atlantic Canadians weather affordability pressures more effectively than some larger urban markets.

Premier Thanks Chief Medical Officer of Health

Premier Tim Houston thanked Dr. Robert Strang, Nova Scotia's Chief Medical Officer of Health, for his exceptional service to Nova Scotia on June 25, as he accepted his retirement notice, effective December 2026. Dr. Strang will retire after 27 years working in Nova Scotia's healthcare system.

"Throughout his nearly three decades in the public service, Nova Scotians have experienced Dr. Strang's caring, compassion and sense of community - and his unwavering commitment to protecting the public's health," said Premier Houston. "I'm sure I speak for many when I say we greatly appreciate everything he's done, especially his guidance and leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Strang began his career in Nova Scotia's healthcare system in 1999 as the medical officer of health for the former Capital District Health Authority. He joined the Government of Nova Scotia in 2007 as the acting deputy chief medical officer of health before becoming Chief Medical Officer of Health later that year.

He has served under five premiers and helped lead Nova Scotia through the H1N1 and COVID-19 pandemics. During his time in government, he has been known as a strong and effective leader who is passionate about public health.

In 2020, Dr. Strang was awarded the Lieutenant-Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Administration for his ongoing leadership in the province's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A search for a new chief medical officer of health will begin soon.

Province Strengthens Bar Safety

New rules for bar security staff that took effect Monday, June 1, will make Nova Scotia a Canadian leader in training and screening requirements. Under the changes, which apply to all licensed establishments, security staff must have a criminal record check and provide results to the employer; they must complete training in both security and responsible alcohol service; and they must perform their duties without compromising public safety.

These new rules were developed in response to incidents involving bar security employees and patrons.

The new regulations will improve oversight of bar security employees and modernize the province's liquor licensing system. Other key changes include: Introducing monetary penalties for liquor licensing infractions and allowing employees under 19 to serve - but not pour - alcohol in lounges; this change will help address ongoing labour shortages.

With the updates, Nova Scotia will become the only province in Canada to explicitly establish training and screening requirements for bar security employees under its liquor control legislation, including penalties for non-compliance. The regulations are part of the government's commitment to improve safety while modernizing regulations for restaurants and bars.

continued on page 8

News from our Provincial Capital - Tom Taggart

Continued from page 5

in our area. This is the result of a tremendous amount of commitment and dedication by the leadership of that organization.

It is no small task to navigate the system, and get the approvals and the funding for a project of this significance. Mostly this is accomplished by large established not for profit organizations out of the city or large urban centres.

The Lower Onslow preschool leadership is working hand in hand with the Masstown Market / Jennings Family to construct this new modern facility along Hwy 2 in Masstown. It is pretty cool, as I am told, that two of the local contractors that will be constructing this building, Culigan Construction and Masstown Hardware Limited were previously students of the original Lower Onslow Preschool. To all those involved in making this a reality, I

say thank you very much.

Staying with this theme of young people. As Deputy Speaker of the NS Legislature I will be travelling to Victoria BC next week to participate in the 62nd Annual meeting of the Canadian Parliamentary Association. I am honored to be presenting at one of the business sessions. This session is about Engaging the Next Generation and New Canadians in Democracy and the Parliamentary Process.

Over the years I have had the opportunity of speaking to and answering questions from different high school classes in Colchester North. I have always found them engaged and just one more example of the confidence I have in our future community leaders.

Tom Taggart, MLA Colchester North, (0) - 902-641-2335, tom.taggartmla@gmail.com

Province Launches New Seafood Sector Strategy

The new Nova Scotia Seafood Sector Strategy will help the industry adapt, compete and create more economic benefit for Nova Scotians. Kent Smith, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, released the strategy today, June 24, at Sea Star Seafoods Ltd. in Clark's Harbour, Shelburne County. The three-year strategy aims to help seafood businesses respond to challenges including rising costs, labour shortages and global trade uncertainty.

"The seafood sector is one of our strongest natural assets and has enormous potential to grow," said Minister Smith. "This strategy provides a clear and practical road map to improve services, strengthen partnerships, expand market opportunities and better support businesses across the seafood sector."

Key actions include: Launch the Seafood Sector Innovation Hub for applied research, innovation, technology adoption and commercialization support; the 2026-2027 budget includes \$1.5 million this year and ongoing annual funding for this priority commitment; improve programs and funding to grow sector innovation, efficiency and resilience; grow Nova Scotia's aquaculture sector; provide support for product diversification, value-added processing and full product utilization; offer expanded market diversification funding and supports; the 2026-2027 budget includes \$4 million over three years for this priority commitment; improve processes, policies and workflows to support faster approvals and improve communication of services and supports for the seafood sector.

The strategy clearly defines specific roles for the government and opportunities for industry and is built around four pillars: industry

growth and innovation, market and product diversification, operational efficiency, and communications and collaboration.

Research, sector analysis and input from industry

representatives, partners and stakeholders helped shape the plan. It reflects a shared goal of a seafood industry that is diverse, efficient, resilient and known worldwide for premium quality and sustainability.

Quick Facts: Seafood is Nova Scotia's top export industry; it employed about 19,000 people in 2025 and Scotia seafood exports were worth about \$2.2 billion in 2025.



Warfarin INR tests done IN-STORE.

Call for details!

Guardian

Bayside Pharmacy
6044 Highway #2
Bass River
Tel: 902-647-2552

Hours of Operation:
Monday 9:30-7
Tuesday 9:30-5
Wednesday 9:30-5
Thursday 9:30-5
Friday 9:30-5

We administer the Shingles Vaccine. Prevention is the best medicine!!

We offer FREE local delivery - just let us know if you can't make it in and we will bring your prescription to your door!

Our pharmacists perform minor ailment prescribing!

Thank you to all of our loyal customers!

Sincerely,
Todd MacKinnon, Pharmacist Owner

Tom TAGGART

SHOP LOCAL
SUPPORT LOCAL



Tom Taggart MLA Constituency Office

Location - 10653 HWY 2 Masstown, B0M 1G0

The building beside Masstown Petrocan

Contact Info - 902-641-2335 or Toll Free 1-844-395-3896

Email - tom.taggartmla@gmail.com

Hours - 8:30am - 3:30pm

Use the lower level entrance - Look for the Entrance Sign in the Parking Lot

"Congratulations to all the Class of 2026 Graduates"

WE ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS

AVG. CloudCare™

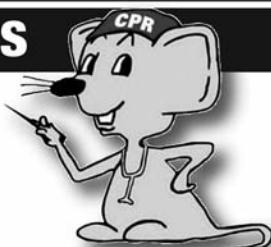
Is a virus driving you crazy?
Bring it to us for CPR - \$83 + HST

Need antivirus Software?
AVG Antivirus - \$50 + HST for two years

www.failSAFE-computer.com

10 Dominion Street
893-2171
askus@failSAFE-computer.com

Proudly Educating our Customers in Plain English



- COMPUTER & LAPTOP SALES
- WIRELESS/ROUTER SECURITY
- VIRUS & SPYWARE REMOVAL
- CABLES & ACCESSORIES
- OPEN: Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30
Saturday 9:00-1:00