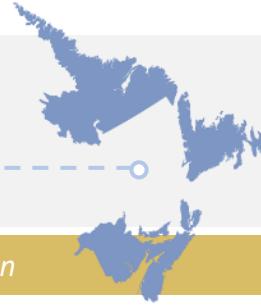


In the News

Atlantic Region



A monthly summary of labour market news for the Atlantic Region

NOVEMBER 2025

Highlights

(News published November 1st – 30th 2025)

- Moncton's BioScript Solutions is getting up to \$230K from Opportunities NB to help fund up to 30 new full-time jobs.
- ACOA will invest over \$2M in seven Island agri-food businesses in order to modernize their equipment and facilities.
- MDA Space Ltd. has signed a deal to invest \$10M in Maritime Launch Services Inc. to help them develop Spaceport Nova Scotia, a commercial orbital launch complex near Canso.
- St. Mary's Bay Fisheries plant has been destroyed by fire. The fish plant was the largest employer in the region with over 300 workers during its peak season.
- Maine's Woodland Pulp has halted Canadian timber imports due to increased costs from new lumber tariffs. Dozens of N.B. producers are expected to be impacted.

Industry Updates

Newfoundland and Labrador

Fischells Salt Dome (Bay St. George), owned by Triple Point Resources, is a new clean energy storage project now moving forward following a study that confirms its stability and suitability. The company hopes to register the project by March 2026 after completing a feasibility study and community engagement process.

Canada Lands Company, a Crown corporation that specializes in the development and revitalization of former federal lands, has announced the next phase of development for the St. John's neighbourhood of Pleasantville, that will feature up to 1,000 new housing units with a variety of housing types. Construction could begin as early as Spring 2026.

The N.L. Federation of Podiatric Medicine says that a lack of regulation is contributing to the podiatrist shortage in the province, where only 11 podiatrists currently practice (all within metro St. John's). They would like to see the creation of a regulated college (N.L. is the only province that does not have one), as many doctors complete their schooling in Ontario and don't return home because they can't practice to their full scope.

Prince Edward Island

ACOA will invest over \$2M in seven Island agri-food businesses in order to modernize their equipment and facilities. Funding went to East Point Potato, Hakkers Produce, Nabuurs Gardens, PEI Mussel Farm, Power Farms, P.E.I. Potato Institute, and Victoria Potato Farm.

Roughly half of the potato fields that were infected with potato wart will be bought back from the P.E.I. government through a new \$10.5M program. There were 37 fields impacted by potato wart, which distorts the potatoes and makes them unable to be sold.

The Atlantic Police Academy has opened a new \$5M Atlantic Tactical Training and Innovation Centre at its facility in Summerside. The training centre is designed to mimic real-life scenarios to train both police and fire cadets in a hands-on environment.

P.E.I. announced plans to spend \$1.6B on major infrastructure projects such as a new hospital, elementary schools, bridges and roads over the next five years.

Nova Scotia

The N.S. Government has announced the following funding for forestry innovation projects: The Forestry Innovation Transition Trust (\$1.8M), The Association for Sustainable



Employment and
Social Development Canada

Emploi et

Développement social Canada



Forestry (\$800K over the next year) and Forest N.S. (\$1M over 2 years). About 6,400 people work in N.S.'s forestry industry, with 2,700 direct full-time jobs and another 3,700 spin-off jobs.

The new N.S. Lung Wellness Clinic, funded by biopharma company GSK Canada, will be opening at the end of November at Dalhousie University (Halifax). The clinic will serve as a training facility for respiratory therapy students. N.S. Health says it currently has 37 full-time vacancies for respiratory therapists which doesn't include those from the IWK, long-term care facilities or private clinics.

The Government of Canada has announced over \$29M in funding toward developing a defence lab for classified research projects at the Centre for Ocean Ventures and Entrepreneurship in Dartmouth. The facility will focus on research in areas such as AI, biotechnology, autonomous systems, Arctic research and ocean technology.

MDA Space Ltd. has signed a deal to invest \$10M in Maritime Launch Services Inc. to help them develop Spaceport Nova Scotia, a commercial orbital launch complex near Canso. MDA Space is also expected to become an operational partner.

New Brunswick

Organigram's Moncton location has spent \$9.3M in LED lighting, which is expected to increase its yield by 10%. The Moncton facility, which employs over 700 workers, is expected to hit

record production levels and increase its staffing levels as well.

The N.B. government is implementing its Psychiatry Resource Strategy to help address recruitment, retention and support for psychiatrists across N.B. The province has over 31 vacancies and has had difficulty recruiting psychiatrists into rural areas.

Port Saint John reports that 2025 was its busiest cruise season, with 196,626 passengers and 81,560 crew members visiting the port. It is estimated that Port of Saint John contributes over \$85M to the Bay of Fundy economy.

The N.B. government will invest \$30M for a new endoscopy suite at the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital Centre in Moncton. The suite will be modernized and expanded into a 13,800-square-foot space, allowing doctors to screen, diagnose and treat diseases.

Job Creation

Newfoundland and Labrador

The N.L. Government has announced \$3M in annual funding to hire 50 new snowplow operators to expand to 24/7 snow clearing on certain routes between December and March. Job listings for heavy equipment operators have already been posted along with a full list of routes.

Prince Edward Island

A new P.E.I. resident has launched a healthy snack business called Nutty Golac. The product has sold so well

that it has been hard to keep up with production. Nutty Golac's products have no added sugar or preservatives and are vegan and gluten-free.

P.E.I.'s first private magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) clinic opened in Summerside. The Summerside Diagnostic Imaging Centre is located at 107 Walker Ave.

Nova Scotia

The N.S. Government has approved the environmental assessment for Setapuktuk Wind Project, owned by EverWind NS Holdings Ltd. in partnership with Membertou Development Corporation. The Guysborough County project is set to begin construction in late 2026 and is expected to create 350-400 construction jobs over a 2-year period, and then 20-35 full-time jobs once operational.

The N.S. Government has announced the establishment of a new compliance unit to combat illegal activities in the fish buying and processing sector. The unit will include a licence compliance analyst as well as 4 inspectors responsible for monitoring, inspecting and investigating regulatory compliance and acting on offences.

The N.S. Government has announced \$4.5M in funding for the Splash of Color Children's Centre in Middle Musquodoboit to add up to 76 new child-care spaces. The new facility, beside the current centre will house the additional spaces, is expected to open in August 2026.



New Brunswick

Moncton's BioScript Solutions is getting up to \$230K from Opportunities NB to help fund up to 30 new full-time jobs. The company provides specialty health care and helps manage drug treatment plans and purchases for patients with rare and chronic diseases.

Opportunities New Brunswick will provide the Smart Energy Company in Hampton a \$125K payroll rebate to help create up to 10 new jobs. The company develops solar energy systems for businesses and is in the process of scaling up operations.

A collaborative care team in the Edmundston area is expanding and will add four nurse practitioners, a doctor, three LPNs and two administrative staff. The N.B. government will provide \$788K to help with the expansion, allowing more patients to be served.

Layoffs

Canada Post expects to lose up to 30,000 employees to retirement or voluntary departure over the next 10 years as it tries to control costs. The crown corporation had management layoffs earlier this year. The union that represents 55,000 mail carriers is still doing rotating strikes while in mediation.

Newfoundland and Labrador

Metals giant Rio Tinto has announced an unspecified number of layoffs at its N.L. operations in Labrador City and St. John's citing targeted structural changes. United Steelworkers Union has said the layoffs in Labrador are non-union staff positions that include office, frontline supervisors and managerial jobs.

Serco, the private company that provides non-military services at 5 Wing Canadian Forces Air force Base in Goose Bay, has announced the layoffs of 5 civilian employees. These include a customer service manager, mechanic, supply operative, workforce planner and a HR coordinator.

St. Mary's Bay Fisheries plant has been destroyed by fire. The fish plant was the largest employer in the region with over 300 workers during its peak season. The owners hope to find a way forward to bridge the gap between the construction of a new plant and getting it operational.

New Brunswick

Maine's Woodland Pulp has halted Canadian timber imports due to increased costs from new lumber tariffs. Dozens of N.B. producers are expected to be impacted. A wood yard near Sussex went from shipping 50-70 loads per week to only five and laid off some staff.

Economic Reports

Fraser Institute

A 2024 Fraser Institute report has N.L. is in its global Top 10 list of mining investment jurisdictions. The Labrador Trough produces over 30% of the country's high-purity iron ore. Mining Industry N.L. says the mining sector needs support due to the expense of exploration.

Prepared by: Business Intelligence and Labour Market and Analysis, Service Canada - Atlantic Region

For further information, please contact us at: ATL-LMI-IMT-GD@servicecanada.gc.ca

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