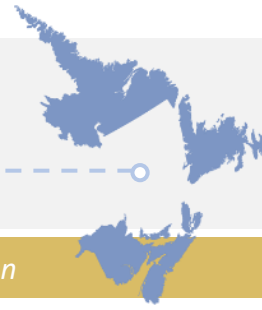


# In the News

Atlantic Region



MARCH 2026

A monthly summary of labour market news for the Atlantic Region

## Highlights

*(News published March 1st – 31st 2026)*

- EverWind Fuels has announced about \$240M in funding from Nuveen that will fund the start of construction this year on the first phase of 4 wind projects that could be operational by 2028.
- Ottawa's pledge to spend to \$1B to upgrade the facilities at CFB Gagetown is expected increase staff from 6,000 to 8,000 service members.
- The N.L. Government has reached a major milestone agreement to advance the Bay du Nord offshore project with partners Equinor and BP that will provide up to \$6.4B in direct revenue to the province during Phase I and over 31M person-hours of work over 25 years.
- P.E.I.'s Health Minister has announced that the province will add 200 private long-term care beds, at a cost of about \$100M.
- The Government of Canada has announced a \$200M, 10-year investment in a multi-user spaceport near Canso, operated by Maritime Launch Services.

## Industry Updates

Haddock quotas in southwestern N.S. and southern N.B. will be cut from 7,128 tonnes to 3,069 tonnes on April 1. This will be a 57% reduction in an industry valued at more than \$14M in 2022. DFO states that haddock levels have been in decline since 2016.

### Newfoundland and Labrador

The Government of Canada has announced a \$16M investment in defense funding to support five local companies in Newfoundland and Labrador in the development and manufacturing of critical equipment and technologies, supporting over 115 highly skilled jobs. The companies are PAL Aerospace Ltd., Virtual Marine Technology Inc., Solace Power Inc., CoLab AI Inc., and Rutter Incorporated.

Ontario-based NordSpace, the company behind the spaceport in St. Lawrence, has been conditionally approved to receive \$8.3M in federal funding aimed at developing the country's space launch capability. NordSpace attempted a number of commercial space launches from the Burin Peninsula during the summer of 2025.

St. John's Dockyard is looking at expansion and upgrades to its marine vessel repair and maintenance facility in St. John's Harbour to accommodate larger vessels such as those working in

the offshore oil and gas industry. The work will include replacing the existing piers and construction of a new larger marine lift, as well as additional berths.

The N.L. Government has reached a major milestone agreement to advance the Bay du Nord offshore project with partners Equinor and BP that will provide up to \$6.4B in direct revenue to the province during Phase I and over 31M person-hours of work over 25 years.

### Prince Edward Island

UPEI's medical program has 20 students currently undergoing training to become doctors at the Island's new medical school. It takes six years to become a fully trained doctor, four years on their degree and two years of medical residency.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has come to an agreement with its Mexican counterpart that will allow fresh Canadian potatoes to be shipped to Mexico for consumption or processing. P.E.I. growers will benefit from expanded market access.

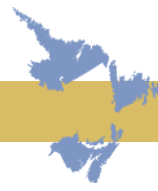
P.E.I. farmers are welcoming the \$27M in funding that will be issued over two years through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's youth employment and skills program (YESP). The program provides students with work opportunities and assists farms in hiring them.



Employment and  
Social Development Canada

Emploi et  
Développement social Canada

Canada



A federal investment of \$8.5M will fund 40 AI projects throughout Atlantic Canada. Many of the companies are located in N.S. and N.B., however Wellfish Tech in Charlottetown will receive \$50K to engage expertise in AI training and validation.

### Nova Scotia

The Government of Canada has announced a \$200M, 10-year investment in a multi-user spaceport near Canso, operated by Maritime Launch Services, which will be used to launch satellite-carrying rockets into orbit. The site will support the operational needs of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Department of National Defence.

The Government of Canada has announced plans to build 400 military housing units at CFB Halifax, which is the largest military base in Canada by population, with over 10,000 personnel. This is in addition to 48 previously announced units and follows the recent announcement of 200 units for CFB Greenwood.

A federal investment of \$8.5M will fund 40 AI projects throughout Atlantic Canada. Among those receiving funds are CKF Inc. (\$224K), FLOQER (\$294K), Volta Labs (\$557K), Dalhousie U (\$200K), Kardio Diagnostix (\$200K), Pluragon IT (\$49K), Digital NS (\$387K), CharliAI Inc. (\$487K), Event Temple (\$367K) and AGADA Biosciences (\$576K).

EverWind Fuels has announced about \$240M in funding from Nuveen, an American asset management

company, that will fund the start of construction this year on the first phase of 4 wind projects that could be operational by 2028. These include Windy Ridge and Kmtnuk (Colchester), Bear Lake (Hants) and Upper Afton (Antigonish).

### New Brunswick

The N.B. and federal governments will spend \$210M over the next two years to help non-profit developers build up to 1,200 affordable new homes across the province. The N.B. government also aims to supplement low-rent housing over the next 20 years, with \$90M in spending.

New Brunswick-based Organigram Global Inc. has agreed to buy Berlin-based Sanity Group GmbH at a cost of about \$268M. Organigram is Canada's largest cannabis producer and is currently undergoing a \$9.3M modernization project at its Moncton facility.

Max Steel Inc., located in Clair, N.B. will receive a \$750K investment through the Regional Tariff Response Initiative, to help the business adopt new technologies and fortify its supply chains. Max Steel designs, fabricates, welds, and cuts steel structures.

Ottawa is looking to work with the N.B. government to help accelerate the timeline for the \$579M Sisson Mine project. There has been little recent progress on the mine due to low mineral prices, but NATO allies want new sources of tungsten outside of China.

## Job Creation

### Newfoundland and Labrador

The RCMP are working to staff the Carmanville detachment (60 km's north of Gander), which currently has no officers on site, with 2 full-time officers as they deal with staffing shortages in rural detachments. In 2025, the RCMP hired 52 new officers in the province, across 42 separate detachments.

### Prince Edward Island

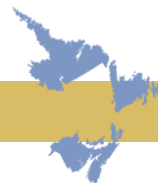
P.E.I.'s Health Minister has announced that the province will add 200 private long-term care beds, at a cost of about \$100M. The beds are expected to be ready in the next 18 to 24 months.

Health P.E.I. says wait times for non-urgent mammograms have increased due to the Island's growing population. There are 10 medical radiation technologists on the Island, and Health P.E.I. states that recruitment is ongoing for additional technologists.

### Nova Scotia

The Government of Canada has announced \$3.25M for three Dartmouth-based companies—MilAero Electronics Atlantic Inc., GSTS, and Survival Systems Ltd.—to help strengthen Nova Scotia's aerospace and defence sector. The funding will help purchase new equipment, develop/test new technology, implement specialized software, and expand both facilities and staffing.





Halifax has approved plans by developer Joe Ramia to turn the Mic Mac Mall parking lots into a major development that will create about 2,800 housing units. Phase I includes a new transit terminal, 17-storey 400-room special care housing facility, and a 13-storey addition to the west side of the mall that will include parking, as well as office and entertainment space.

### New Brunswick

Ottawa's pledge to spend up to \$1B to upgrade the facilities at CFB Gaagetown is expected increase staff from 6,000 to 8,000 service members. The influx of new residents will boost the economy and will require improved infrastructure and more housing.

Construction of the Atlantic Science Enterprise Centre in Moncton is underway and expected to be completed in 2032, at a cost of \$600M. Work began in 2023 and will require 200 workers to complete. Once operational, the facility will employ 700 people.

Sai Krishna Foods, a N.B.-based manufacturer of handmade samosas, is opening a new food production facility in Cap-Pelé. The new facility has modern equipment to increase production, and plans to expand into national retail chains across Canada and hire more staff.

## Layoffs

### Newfoundland and Labrador

The building that housed Landings Restaurant in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's was destroyed by fire. The building was also home to a new food processing facility focusing on healthy, ready-to-go meals made with local ingredients, along with a retail store that was only weeks away from opening.

### Nova Scotia

Acadia University (Wolfville) has laid off 31 unionized and non-unionized staff in administrative and service areas as they face financial challenges due to stagnating funding and a decline in international enrolment. No cuts were made to academic and teaching positions. The school's 2025-26 budget anticipated a \$2.8M deficit.

A \$9.4M cut to N.S. Community College's operating grant is anticipated to result in approximately 230 jobs lost (60 job losses every year for the next four years). This year's provincial budget includes \$196.4M to support NSCC operations, along with \$25M over five years to modernize training equipment and learning environments.

### New Brunswick

The N.B. government is projecting an almost \$1.4B deficit in its 2026-27 budget. To combat debt the N.B. government will cut about 1,400 civil service positions (at a savings of about \$100M) over three years, add a toll booth and close some parks.

## Economic Reports

### Statistics Canada

A new Statistics Canada report found that in 2025, 71% of women aged 25 to 64 years old had earned a college or university degree, compared to 57% of men. Growth in job openings are projected to be mainly in management and positions requiring post-secondary education.

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