

In the News

Atlantic Region

LMI
LABOUR MARKET
INFORMATION

A monthly summary of labour market news for the Atlantic Region

JULY 2026

Highlights

(News published July 1st – 31st 2026)

- Maritime Launch Services said Germany's Isar Aerospace will spend about \$100M to build a Spectrum rocket launch complex near Canso, Nova Scotia.
- The Government of Canada is investing \$50 million in Natural Products Canada to support the commercialization of agri-food technologies and strengthen domestic food production.
- Federal, provincial and municipal governments are investing more than \$32.3 million in 17 water and wastewater infrastructure projects across central and eastern Newfoundland to improve municipal services, support housing development and strengthen community capacity.
- Three levels of government funding totalling nearly \$9 million has been announced for water infrastructure improvements in four New Brunswick communities.

Industry Updates

NS, NB and PEI and Natural Resources Canada have signed an agreement to examine greater regional co-operation on electricity systems. The initiative will assess opportunities for coordinated planning, transmission development, system operations and future energy investments, while evaluating potential cost savings, reliability improvements and long-term electricity infrastructure needs across the Maritime region.

Newfoundland and Labrador

The NL government recently announced \$9M in Municipal Capital Works Funding. The province's transportation Minister further stated that more funding is expected to be announced soon.

The City of St. John's has awarded a contract for the construction of a new \$19.4-million fire station in Goulds.

Self-managed home care workers in NL received a \$2/hr wage increase on July 1st, moving the hourly rate to \$19.05.

Prince Edward Island

Canada, PEI and the Town of Three Rivers are investing over \$5.9M to upgrade water and wastewater infrastructure, increasing system capacity, reliability and flood resilience while supporting new

housing development and long-term community growth.

Three levels of government will invest \$9.1M to build water and sewer lines in Souris, which will support a new 90-lot subdivision.

Nine provinces, including PEI, have signed an agreement to expand direct-to-consumer alcohol sales across provincial borders.

Nova Scotia

The Government of Nova Scotia has approved the 158 turbine Ocean Lake Wind Project in Guysborough County.

St Barbara Ltd. has proposed a 15-Mile Processing Hub in northeastern Nova Scotia. The project will involve 1,600 construction and 950 operating jobs.

Nova Scotia Health says its initiative to offer employment to all graduating Dalhousie University health-care students is improving recruitment outcomes.

New Brunswick

The Government of Canada is investing \$5.9 million in the Prince Edward Island-New Brunswick Interconnection Expansion Project.

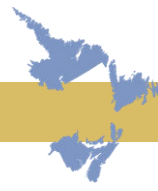
Three levels of government funding totalling nearly \$9 million has been announced for water infrastructure improvements in four New Brunswick communities.



Employment and
Social Development Canada

Emploi et
Développement social Canada

Canada



Canadian Copper Inc. has purchased the shuttered Caribou Mine near Bathurst and plans to use its processing mill for minerals extracted from the nearby Murray Brook project.

Job Creation

Newfoundland and Labrador

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is investing approximately \$31M to build 344 new affordable rental units at 33 sites across the province. The units, to be delivered through the provincial housing agency, are expected to be completed within 18 to 30 months.

Nova Scotia

The Government of Canada has selected German company Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems to build up to 12 submarines for the Royal Canadian Navy. The move is expected to create 100,000 jobs nationwide including roughly 50,000 jobs in the Halifax area.

Lockheed Martin Canada is expanding its Nova Scotia workforce by up to 320 positions over five years, building on more than 500 existing employees in the province.

The Nova Scotia government says momentum is building in the province's mining sector through the launch of a new Mining Roundtable and the restart of Scotia Mine's zinc operation in Cooks Brook. The project is expected to create about 150 direct jobs.

New Brunswick

Following the acquisition of Ravelin REIT by Halifax-based Clarke Inc., new owners of Brunswick Square are pursuing redevelopment opportunities to reduce retail vacancy and attract new tenants. Plans include offering competitive lease terms and exploring retail, educational, research, health, innovation and community-focused uses for vacant space in Uptown Saint John.

The Government of New Brunswick and Vitalité Health Network have launched PRISME, a new initiative designed to strengthen mental health expertise and improve access to care. The program will provide advanced mental-health training and certification opportunities for family physicians and nurse practitioners, while supporting recruitment and retention efforts for healthcare professionals.

New Brunswick announced the completion and acquisition of 13 new public housing units in Fredericton and Oromocto. The project supports construction activity and forms part of a broader provincial housing initiative that has delivered 200 new public housing units since 2023, with additional units under construction and in development.

Layoffs

Nova Scotia

Rogers Sports & Media has shut down NewsRadio 95.7 (CJN1-FM) in Halifax. The move is one of six station closures nationwide, totalling 230 jobs.

The University of King's College is looking to cut 14 positions from its existing staff of 124. Jobs will largely be lost through voluntary retirements, and the goal is to cap the university's 2026-27 deficit at \$500K and balance its 2027-28 budget.

The Nova Scotia Provincial Housing Agency is restructuring operations by eliminating 32 positions and creating 25 new roles, resulting in a net reduction of 7 jobs as it centralizes administrative functions and service delivery.

Economic Reports

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced the 2026 Atlantic mackerel quota will rise from 500 to 1,500 tonnes, despite stocks remaining in the "critical" zone. The increase will improve bait access and lower costs for lobster and tuna harvesters in Atlantic Canada.

BuildForce Canada forecasts continued growth in New Brunswick's non-residential construction sector, driven by major infrastructure projects including the Mactaquac Hydro Dam refurbishment and NB Power investments. While residential construction activity is expected to decline over time, an aging workforce and upcoming retirements may create labour supply challenges across the construction industry.

Newfoundland and Labrador Health Services (NLHS) states that it is struggling to keep the Urgent Care Clinic on Stavanger Drive open 12



hours a day. As a result, NLHS has had to revert to a virtual-doctors-only service on several occasions. Additionally, it has yet to open its long-awaited urgent care clinic in Mount Pearl, due to a lack of staff.

Nova Scotia Health

Nova Scotia Health says its initiative to offer employment to all graduating Dalhousie University health-care students is improving recruitment outcomes. About 40% of this year's graduates have already accepted positions, including registered nurses and physician assistants, while negotiations continue with many others as the province works to strengthen and retain its health-care workforce.

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