

» Understand Nova Scotia, New Brunswick & Prince Edward Island

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK & PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND TODAY 218

With the fisheries and mines in sharp decline how will these provinces keep their populations stable?

HISTORY220

Pirates, Vikings and settlers moved in while others got kicked out; Atlantic Canada's history reads like a riveting paperback.

ROCKIN' THE ATLANTIC COAST 227

Long winters keep everyone inside to get creative. In summer out comes the music, and festivals attract international acts.

WHAT'S FOR SUPPER 231

Simple or transformed by the hands of master chefs, Atlantic Canada's seafood and earthly bounty is nothing short of spectacular.

GET OUT!.....236

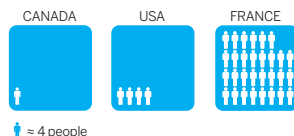
Whale watching, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, biking, surfing, skiing...how could you stay indoors?

LAY OF THE LAND 241

Thar she blows! Don't hit that moose! And yes, those fossils are billions and billions of years old.



population per sq km



Nova Scotia, New Brunswick & Prince Edward Island Today

There's No Place Like Home

Until recently, you could sit down at any dinner table in Atlantic Canada, and hear the same thing:

'My ____ [fill in the blank: sister, cousin, neighbor] just left for Alberta to work in the oil fields.'

Outward migration, or 'outmigration,' has been the single biggest issue facing the Atlantic provinces over the last 15 to 20 years, but the region is finally experiencing a small rebound. As the provinces' traditional industries – fishing, logging and mining – continue to fall deeper into decline, a small glimmer of hope is coming from newer industries – particularly gypsum mining and offshore oil and natural gas. Although Alberta's oil fields offer high-paying industrial jobs, and plenty of people still leave to make their living where it makes economic sense, the quality of life, low cost of living and hope of finding work closer to home is keeping an increasing number of folks on the Atlantic coasts.

Nova Scotia has been the mover and shaker of the crowd by becoming a hub for Canada's defense and aerospace sector (which also tips into Prince Edward Island). In fact, a surprising 40% of the country's military assets are found in this low-key province. Meanwhile, the artsy folk of its capital, Halifax, have hurdled the city into the fourth-largest film industry in the nation, and small businesses, manufacturing and technology are all growing sectors that are keeping more and more young graduates from the city's universities employed. In other provinces, small-scale businesses add to the ever-plodding-along agricultural economy.

- » Population: 2.34 million
- » Unemployment rate: 10.5%
- » Median family income: \$60,236
- » Average life expectancy: 82 years

Top Nonfiction

- » *A Whale for the Killing*, Farley Mowat
- » *The Hermit of Africville: The Life of Eddie Carver*, Jon Tattrie
- » *My Cross-Country Checkup*, Walter Stewart

Good-Read Novels

- » *The Shipping News*, E Annie Proulx
- » *Mercy among the Children*, David Adams Richards
- » *Fall on Your Knees*, Anne-Marie MacDonald
- » *Anne of Green Gables*, Lucy Maud Montgomery

Modern Artists

- » Alex Colville, realist
- » Mary Pratt, still life
- » Alan Syliboy, aboriginal
- » Maud Lewis, folk
- » Graeme Patterson, industrial
- » Mario Doucette, Acadian