

*Spring 2003*

**A Must See New Attraction in New Brunswick** - The Olivier Soapery, Canada's Soap Economuseum<sup>®</sup>, is a living museum of the traditional craft of soap-making in the early 19th century. The Olivier Soapery offers guided tours on the history, the art and the evolution of skin care through the ages. A unique historical interpretation of soap-manufacturing and skin care. Demonstrations are available daily for soap-making. [www.oliviersoaps.com](http://www.oliviersoaps.com), [www.economusee-atl.com](http://www.economusee-atl.com)

**Expedition Cruising in Newfoundland & Labrador** – 1,000 years after the Vikings cruised the Newfoundland & Labrador coastline, modern-day cruise passengers have the opportunity to sail the same route. The new expedition-style cruise vessel, the S.V. Caledonia, is Canada's largest 'Tall Ship', and in 2003 will cater diverse and exciting itineraries to 90 passengers on eleven of its eighteen scheduled sailings. This elegant vessel promises expedition cruising with all the comforts of modern amenities while ensuring the integrity of 'Old World charm'. Gourmet meals, guest lectures and the authentic attractions of the Viking Trail are highlighted against the backdrop of Newfoundland & Labrador's vast and accessible natural environment - whales, icebergs, sea birds, ecological reserves, fjords, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, rare flora, remote islands, and unique culture. [www.vikingtrail.org](http://www.vikingtrail.org)

**World Theatre Congress & Festival** - Where the world makes a scene! From July 13-19, 2003, hundreds of International actors from all over the world will perform on stages across the province of Nova Scotia. Audiences will be able to choose from among the best theatre productions in the world. This marks the first time this event has been held in Canada's East Coast. The first plays performed in North America took place in 1606 at "Le Theatre de Neptune" in Port Royal, Nova Scotia. The Port Royal Habitation was the earliest European settlement in North America north of Florida and is one of the most historically important sites in North America. This event, combined with Nova Scotia's a rich and diverse cultural product, spectacular scenery and our famous hospitality offers an experience not to be missed. [www.festival2003.ca](http://www.festival2003.ca)

**International Shellfish Festival** - In September, the Charlottetown Waterfront will come alive with the sound of shellfish cracking open accompanied by the strains of fiddle music. The International Shellfish Festival is Prince Edward Island's annual tribute to some of the world's best seafood. PEI mussels are famous around the planet, while Malpeque oysters are prized for their fresh sea taste. And who can resist a traditional Island lobster supper? Don't miss this event in Charlottetown, September 19-21, 2003. [www.peishellfish.com](http://www.peishellfish.com)

**Experience the 'World's Capital For All Things Acadian' - New Brunswick and VIA Rail Canada** - The *Ocean*, linking Montreal and New Brunswick by night, will provide you with a train journey that will delightfully charm you with its friendly ambiance, unique dining experience, cozy sleeping accommodations, warmth and friendliness. Fall asleep in Quebec and wake up in New Brunswick where you will experience authentic Acadian *joie de vivre*. With an early morning arrival in Bathurst, New Brunswick your Acadian adventure begins as soon as you step off the train. From award-winning attractions, entertainment and secluded stretches of white sand beaches, the Acadian Peninsula is the heart of Acadie...vibrant and alive. VIA Rail will bring you to the center of it all! [www.TourismNewBrunswick.ca](http://www.TourismNewBrunswick.ca) or [www.viarail.ca](http://www.viarail.ca)

**Newfoundland & Labrador: 'Earth's Geological Showcase'** - On June 10, 2002, Newfoundland & Labrador's newest attraction opened its doors. The Johnson GEO CENTRE, an \$11 million geological museum, tells the story of our planet, illustrated through the geology of Newfoundland & Labrador. The GEO CENTRE was built in a natural rock basin originally filled with peat covering glacial till and boulders. The site was excavated and the CENTRE constructed to fit the empty space. Only the impressive three-storey Reception Hall is above ground; the remaining 85 percent of the building's 2,970 square metres of floor space is underground. The CENTRE features large-scale suspended planets, exciting and interactive displays, a state-of-the-art theatre, and walls of natural exposed rock. [www.geocentre.ca](http://www.geocentre.ca)

**Celebrate Lunenburg's 250th Birthday** – Lunenburg, founded in 1753, was the first British Colonial settlement in Nova Scotia, located just 92 kilometers outside Halifax. The first settlers were from Germany, Switzerland and areas of France. The 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations will include an Anniversary weekend, June 7 & 8 with a re-enactment of settlers landing at Rous Brook, followed by an Historic Regiment Encampment. A Founding Families Reunion will be held July 10-14<sup>th</sup> with genealogical workshops and reunions. Rounding out the series of celebrations will be Sail Lunenburg 2003, taking place August 14-17<sup>th</sup>, when Tall Ships from around the world will sail into Lunenburg Harbour. [www.explorelunenburg.ca](http://www.explorelunenburg.ca)

**Prince Edward Island is Canada's Birthplace** - Canada's founding fathers first met in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island in 1864. Since then the nation has grown and prospered. And now we are celebrating! Visitors to Charlottetown can see the chamber where the momentous discussions took place as well as tour the new multi-media interactive exhibits in Founders' Hall. Guided walking tours are also offered. Best buy: pick up a Heritage Passport for admission to both sites, a walking tour and lunch. [www.visitcharlottetown.com](http://www.visitcharlottetown.com)

**Historic Garrison District** - Set behind a wrought iron and stone fence, Fredericton's Historic Garrison District recalls the drama, the glory and the often harsh reality of our military past. In 1784 Fredericton became the headquarters of the British military operations in the new province of New Brunswick. This area remained a British Garrison until Canadian Confederation in 1867 when the responsibility of the defense was turned over to the new Canadian government. The first buildings on this site were made of wood and later replaced by stone structures, many of which have been restored to their original appearance. The Historic Garrison District is both a National and Provincial Historic Site and is the setting of many programs and activities during the summer months. [www.city.fredericton.nb.ca](http://www.city.fredericton.nb.ca)

**A Jug of Wine** - According to legend, in 1679 a Newman and Company vessel loaded with port wine left Portugal for London but was driven off course and spent the winter in St. John's, Newfoundland. When the ship returned to England the following spring, her cargo was found to have improved in flavour. From then until 1996, Newman's Celebrated Ruby Port was aged in Newfoundland - much of it in the romantic stone vaults located on Water Street. Newfoundland & Labrador's only historic wine vaults offer visitors an interpretation of the Province's remarkable association with port, along with a variety of programmed events. In addition to being open daily during the summer months, visitors can attend special events such as concerts, readings, guided tours and wine tasting. [www.historictrust.com/newman\\_visitor.shtml](http://www.historictrust.com/newman_visitor.shtml)

**New Developments at Nova Scotia's Grand Pré National Historic Site** - A new multi-purpose Visitor Reception Centre will open at Grand Pré National Historic Site in late summer 2003. The new facility will include a multi-media theatre and exhibits on Acadian history, including the infamous Deportation of 1755. Grand Pré is the site commemorating the Acadians of the Minas Basin during the 17th and 18th century. The site also includes sweeping gardens; memorial church with paintings and stained glass exhibits. [www.grand-pre.com](http://www.grand-pre.com)

**Touring the Island, PEI style** - Prince Edward Island is ideally constructed for touring by bicycle or on foot. The province's tip-to-tip Confederation Trail is now complete, and new sections are still being added. As well a variety of trails are maintained in the Island's provincial parks and in PEI National Park. A new wildlife management initiative has opened up some special areas for public access including the Mount Stewart Wildlife Management Area. It features diverse wetlands, salt marshes, dyked marshlands and fresh water ponds. The 477-acre site boasts a new gravel-base trail named Pigot's Trail, which connects to the Confederation Trail and takes a route along Allisary Creek. [www.peisplay.com/trails](http://www.peisplay.com/trails)