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Weather



TODAY:
30 PER CENT
CHANCE OF
SHOWERS

HIGH OF 16
LOW OF 6



TUESDAY:
60 PER CENT
CHANCE OF
SHOWERS

HIGH OF 14
LOW OF 4



WEDNESDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF 14
LOW OF 3



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 19
LOW OF 2



FRIDAY:
CLOUDY
PERIODS

HIGH OF 19
LOW OF 4

It's public market time for local producers!



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

Some of you may have taken up gardening last year and if you did, likely your appreciation for freshly grown produce was born. There is nothing quite as sweet as carrots, lettuce, cucumbers and beans grown in ones own backyard going from dirt to the stove after a good wash and seasoning. For those who don't possess a green thumb nor the desire to get their hands dirty, the local public markets that are organized in so many towns in the spring operating weekly through to the fall are a welcome site and a must stop every Saturday morning. Well, it's that time of year again!

Local Potton producers will be displaying a variety of goods that often include: sale of ready to plant seedlings, first produce of the season vegetables, meat, fish, herbs, flowers, baked goods, maple syrup, honey, crafts and depending on the season, local honey, berries and more. Visit www.potton.ca or www.facebook.com/Potton-en-Bref-Plus for details and information or call Gwynne Basen at 450-292-0732.

The Public Market in Mansonville will open on May 22 (Saturday) and



PHOTOS COURTESY

James Eby and his wife, Joan Westland-Eby (Mayor of Bolton-Est) at Bolton Est Public Market operates weekly from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the "Place de la Grange Ronde" Round Barn site in the middle of town, located just across from the Mansonville Catholic Church, where the retirees hold a weekly flea market in the basement of the church building with bargains and items galore.

The Bolton-Est Public Market (a market that has been operating online as well) will start meeting under the tents in Bolton-Est. For information visit <https://www.facebook.com/MarchePublicBoltonEst> This market boasts a variety of products and a warm, inclusive atmosphere where many gather each week to purchase the local honey products, breads and fresh produce including fresh farm eggs. Most will suggest a stop at the Saint-Etienne-de-Bolton Coop du Grand Bois Bistrot for a delicious treat as well.

The markets are operating with Covid regulations and measures in

place. The safety and well-being of the community and vendors is always of utmost importance. It is best to check the information sources above if you need more information.

These public markets are designed to bring healthy, fresh and diverse produce to all who stop by. They provide a perfect opportunity for parents to teach their children about good, nourishing food choices as well as giving individuals with special dietary needs the access to a variety of in-season produce. Stopping by a public market allows local producers to bring their labour of love to the public. The continuity of local public markets thrives based on the support of those who stop by to purchase from the vendors. In a time when buying local is so needed, I encourage you all to include a stop by your local market or markets this spring, summer and fall.

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François.
There were no new deaths in the Townships over the weekend, and changes to the number of people in hospital were only slight, with 34 hospitalizations and five in intensive care.

The story for the province as a whole, however, was more positive. The daily reports over the weekend were consistently under 1,000 cases, with 919 cases Friday, 958 on Saturday, and 960

on Sunday. As a result the total number of people infected since the start of the pandemic rose to 358,134, but the number of active cases in the province dropped to 8,519. There were 18 new deaths recorded over the weekend, but the number of hospitalizations and people in intensive care dropped to 539 and 124 respectively.

Today marks the beginning of what Health Minister Christian Dubé has taken to calling "the week of the youth" in the

provincial vaccination campaign. On Monday appointments open for those aged 30-34, followed by those aged 25-29 on Wednesday, with 18 to 24 year olds coming in on Friday. As of Sunday morning the province was reporting 3,718,074 doses administered across the province so far, accounting for a first dose in 41.9 per cent of Quebecers. In the Eastern Townships 211,634 doses have been administered so far.

Ben by Daniel Shelton

