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As the first Indigenous president of the Canadian Bar Association, Brad Regehr is putting systemic racism on the docket / **C1**



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2020

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WEATHER: MAINLY SUNNY. HIGH 15 — LOW -2

'Like I've been run over by a truck'

ICU doc sick with COVID opens up

KEVIN ROLLASON

DR. OWEN MOONEY has been on the front lines of the pandemic for months, working long hours in intensive care to help people with COVID-19 fight for their lives.

Now, Mooney himself is ill with the novel coronavirus.

The doctor, who works in intensive care at Health Sciences Centre, St. Boniface Hospital and Grace Hospital, began feeling sick within a half-hour of arriving for his Sunday morning shift at St. B. He immediately left; within an hour, he had full-blown symptoms.

Mooney received a rapid test at 1:30 p.m.; by the evening, he received the news he had tested positive.

Since then, he has been isolating in the basement of his family home. His wife and two teenage children were given nasal swab tests Monday and are still awaiting the results.

"I tell people it is like I've been run over by a truck," Mooney said by telephone Tuesday.

"It is definitely something my body hasn't seen before. I feel a little bit of energy today. The last two days, it takes a concerted effort to walk to the bathroom and get back and not want to pass out... but what will I be like in two days? There is fear of the unknown," he said.

"When I get back to work, I will definitely have insight into how (patients) are feeling."

Mooney said, based on his experience, he has a mild case. "For me, it has sapped all the energy from me and I have a relatively bad cough."

Meanwhile, Susan Krepart said she doesn't see much of her husband — literally.

"I put food on the floor outside the basement door, and I see an arm sweep out and get it," she said.

"I'm sure he will recover and that I will be fine and the kids will be fine, but who I am worried about is my mom and my grandmother who is 97. Seeing how sick this makes you, I can see how people with underlying issues can really get hit by this."

Mooney got sick on the same day an open letter to Premier Brian Pallister signed by about 200 doctors (including Mooney) was released to the public and media, asking for the province to do more to get spiralling COVID-19 numbers under control.

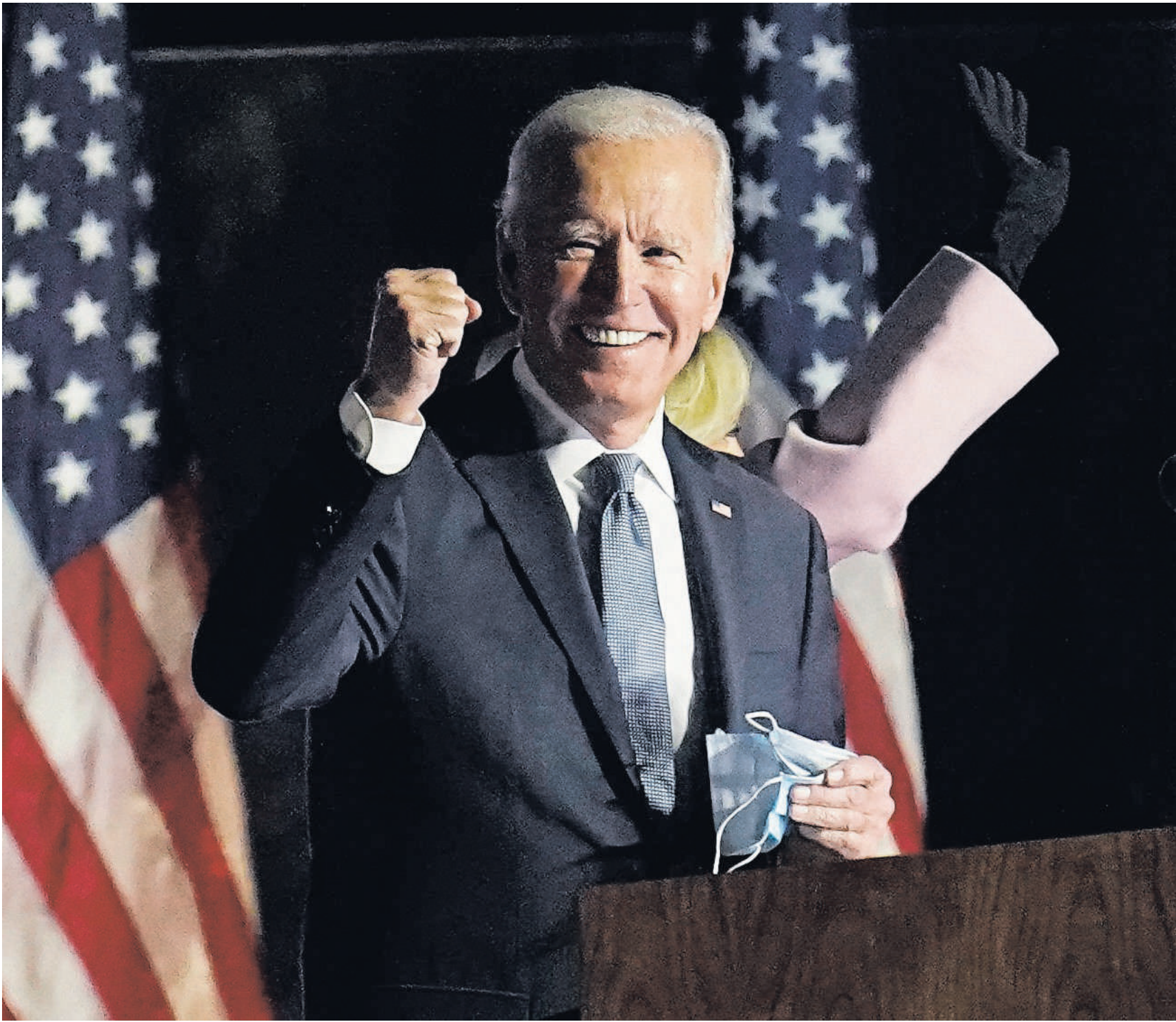
"I know it is an impossible situation the province has been put in, the balance between economic cost and the cost of life," he said. "To shut down so no lives are lost, is that reasonable for a province? Probably not, but I would say things need to be tougher and the time to act is now."

Dr. Anand Kumar, an intensive care physician with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and professor of medicine at the University of Manitoba, works with Mooney, and calls him "a good doctor."

"He is a great guy and incredibly good with his patients... It is hard because we now lose him, but all the people he may have had significant exposure with, the doctors and nurses, will also have to self-isolate."

● DOCTOR, CONTINUED ON A2
● 'MOTIVATION' QUESTIONED / B1

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION



PAUL SANCIYA / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden speaks to supporters early this morning in Wilmington, Del. The election vote counting stretched into the morning hours — and likely beyond.

Biden says 'keep the faith,' holds slight edge over Trump as vote counting goes into overtime LONG NIGHT, LONGER WAIT

JONATHAN LEMIRE, ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN AND ALEXANDRA JAFFE

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump won Florida, the nation's most prized battleground state, as he and Democrat Joe Biden on Tuesday battled to the finish of an epic campaign that will shape America's response to the surging pandemic and foundational questions of economic fairness and racial justice.

The two men were locked in tight races across the country, with Trump also claiming the battlegrounds of Ohio and Iowa while Biden won Minnesota, a modest prize the president had hoped to steal.

Races were too early to call in some of other fiercely contested and critical states on the map, including North Carolina, Georgia and Pennsylvania. The president, by early today, had retained many states he won in 2016 and, as long predicted, the race in part seemed to rest on the three northern industrial states where Trump most surprised the Democrats four years ago: Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania.

Biden, briefly appearing in front of supporters in Delaware, urged patience, saying "we believe we're on track to win this election."

"It's not my place or Donald Trump's place to declare who's won this election," Biden said. "That's the decision of the American people."

Trump also tweeted he was going



PATRICK SEMANSKY / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

to make a statement — he hadn't at press time, 12:30 a.m.

Millions of voters braved their worries about the virus — and some long lines — to turn out in person, joining 102 million fellow Americans who voted days or weeks earlier, a record number that represented 73 per cent of the total vote in the 2016 presiden-

tial election.

Early results in several key battleground states were in flux as election officials processed a historically large number of mail-in votes. Democrats typically outperform Republicans in mail voting, while the GOP looks to make up ground in election day turnout. That means the early

margins between the candidates could be influenced by which type of votes — early or election day — were being reported by the states.

Florida was the biggest, fiercely contested battleground on the map, with both campaigns battling over its 29 electoral college votes.

Trump adopted Florida as his new home state, wooed its Latino community, particularly Cuban-Americans, and held rallies there incessantly. For his part, Biden deployed his top surrogate — former president Barack Obama — there twice in the campaign's closing days and benefitted from a US\$100 million pledge in the state from Michael Bloomberg.

Control of the Senate was at stake, too: Democrats needed to net three seats if Biden captured the White House to gain control of all of Washington for the first time in a decade. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky won re-election in an early victory for the Republicans, and GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, a close Trump ally, fought off a fierce challenge to hang on to his seat.

The parties traded a pair of seats in other early results: Democratic former Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper defeated incumbent Sen. Cory Gardner, and in Alabama Republican Tommy Tuberville knocked off Sen. Doug Jones. The House was expected to remain under Democratic control.

● ELECTION, CONTINUED ON A2



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