



## Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia

*Working with the food & beverage sector since 1947*

*1560 businesses - 26, 300 jobs - \$1.3 billion sales*

Visit our Website

**Happies of Holidays to All**

## UPDATES

### **Current Restrictions for Restaurants:**

- food establishments and liquor-licensed establishments can operate at 50 per cent capacity
- they must have physical distance between tables; barriers may only be used to achieve 50 per cent capacity but not exceed it
- there is a limit of 10 people per table
- they must stop dine-in service at 11 p.m. and close by midnight; takeout, drive-thru and delivery can operate later
- only one performer is allowed

### **Government Temporarily Expands Access to Lockdown Program and Worker Lockdown Benefit**

Click [here](#) for full details.

### **Do You have Savings in your Tax Assessment?**

Many areas have lower business volumes and items that impact tax assessment. You should seriously consider challenging your tax assessment. Many have experienced a lowering of their assessment because of a poor business climate. Halifax has a good example where the core area is still experiencing low sales and no traffic. This warrants a look and challenge of your tax assessment.

No matter where your restaurant/bar is located in Nova Scotia you have been impacted so a review of your assessment is important.

There will be a webinar in early January by the Downtown Halifax Business Commission and we will let you know the details soon. Turner Drake will be the presenter.

# SUPPORTS & RESOURCES

## New One-stop Digital Technology Resource for Tourism Businesses

Improve your online presence and digital marketing with a new one-stop resource for digital technology services, training, and support.

Delivered in partnership between Tourism Nova Scotia and Digital Nova Scotia, DigiPort is an online hub where you can connect with qualified digital service providers for one-on-one support and access articles, videos, tip sheets, webinars and more to help you be more visible online, reach more potential customers, and close the sale.

### **How do I access DigiPort?**

You can register for a login at <https://nsdigiport.ca/>.

When you register, you will complete a self-assessment to determine your current skill level and goals so you can receive customized content based on your needs.

DigiPort is available to tourism businesses and organizations that are based in or regularly conduct business in Nova Scotia. There is no cost to register for DigiPort.

### **What will I find on DigiPort?**

- **Resource Library** – articles, tip sheets and templates developed by digital experts specifically for the tourism industry to help you create your digital marketing strategy, create and deliver engaging content, and measure your results.
- **Webinars and Workshops** – see the learning calendar for upcoming live webinars and workshops on a range of digital topics including social media marketing, website development, analytics, search engine optimization, content development and more. Recorded webinars will also be available through DigiPort.
- **Videos** – a series of animated video tutorials to help you build your skills in digital marketing, social media management, search engine optimization, online sales, and e-commerce. Coming soon!
- **Connect with Digital Experts** – under Meet the Experts, you can connect with Digital Nova Scotia's network of qualified digital service providers. See the resources they've created for the tourism industry and book a virtual meeting for one-on-one help at no cost.
- **Digital Adoption Programs** – learn about and apply for programs delivered in partnership between Tourism Nova Scotia and Digital Nova Scotia to help you improve your online presence. Stay tuned for calls for applications.

[Register for DigiPort Now](#)

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## Labour, Skills and Immigration's (LSI)

*Employers' Guide for COVID-19 and Communicable Disease* which is now available at the following link:

<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/employers-guide-for-COVID-19-and-communicable-disease.pdf>. This document defines what a communicable disease is, looks at applicable legislation under the Nova Scotia Occupational Health and Safety Act, talks about prevention measures, assessing the hazard, how to implement controls, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE's), etc.

If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact LSI at 1-800-9Labour.

# STATS, TRENDS, INFO

## Forecasting global restaurant trends for 2022

Read full article [here](#)

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## **TRENDS – OCTOBER 2021**

Nova Scotia's All-Items Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 5.4% year-over-year in October 2021, ticking upwards from the 5.2% year-over-year increase in September. Nationally, consumer prices were up 4.7% from a year earlier, following a 4.4% increase in September 2021.

The increase at the national level was the fastest pace since February 2003. Statistics Canada noted that the national prices increase were attributable to higher transportation prices (+10.1%) driven by higher energy prices (+25.5%). Gasoline prices (+41.7%) drove energy prices higher as shortages in other energy sources led to an increase in the use of oil for power generation.

Food prices accelerated to a 3.8% year-over-year in October, led by higher meat prices (+9.9%) with higher input costs, temporary closures, supply chain disruptions, and strengthening demand. Prices for fresh or frozen beef (+14.0%) and processed meat (+8.5%) contributed to rise in meat prices in October.

Passenger vehicles prices rose 6.1% as supply was limited amid global semiconductor chip shortage.

### **Impact of COVID-19 on the Consumer Price Index**

Statistics Canada continued special CPI program measures for October 2021. As products become available for consumption again they are re-introduced into CPI calculation with an adjustment factor so that only that index's price movement impacts the calculation. ([March 2021 Technical supplemental](#)). Caution should be exercised with the 12-month change in the travel tour and air transportation indexes. Cruise-based travel tours, accounting for 0.03%, are the only item with special treatment in October 2021 .

## **PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

### **Winterscapes 2022**

The popular buy local Saltscapes is creating a performance driven, cost effective opportunity to boost your regional winter marketing effort called Winterscapes 2022! Click [here](#) to view rates!

### **Ready, Willing & Able (potential support workers for your business)**

- Ready, Willing & Able was founded in 2015, specifically to promote employment in the Autism and intellectual disability population – a population that has comparable skills to the general labour market.
- The key barrier for this population is getting past traditional employer hiring practices – on the job, the results are excellent.
- The attached 4 page business case is more than compelling as to why a business should consider inclusive hiring – especially for entry level roles where turnover is 7%.
- Approximately 2-4% of the population of HRM identifies as having Autism or an intellectual disability, 10,000-20,000 people.
- Employers do not get shown how to be inclusive- I work with solely with employers to show them how to be inclusive and support hiring managers every step of the way.
- I present interested applicants to employers via our network of community agency partners (who support job seekers) in HRM and beyond – if there is a hire, the agency partner becomes part of the employer/employee support.
- Our program is government funded, our work is zero cost to employers.
- A key pillar of Ready, Willing & Able is equal work, equal pay, no subsidies.
- We have national partnerships with Costco, Value Village, Deloitte, Home Depot, Purolator, Loblaw to name a few...our website [www.readywillingable.ca](http://www.readywillingable.ca) shows more

Contact: [andrew.smith@inclusionns.ca](mailto:andrew.smith@inclusionns.ca)

## Nanotech Eco Solutions

Locally owned and operated in Chester, Nova Scotia, is excited to announce the launch of our brand-new online store. In the past few months, we have been working diligently to build our online store to serve our clients 24/7.



Our online store offers our clients the opportunity to shop our first cleaner and degreaser product line, PURENES. Our products are 100% organic, bio-degradable, chemical and toxin free! PURENES cleans with technology not chemistry. Please visit our website at [www.nescdn.com](http://www.nescdn.com) to browse our online store. Questions may be directed to [info@nescdn.com](mailto:info@nescdn.com) or by call/text to 902.299.8843

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**PRESS**  
reality



Our friends at [My Apparel](#) are doing a promotion where they give back to charities and causes.

Our mission at Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia (RANS) is to continuously make a positive impact for the restaurant industry of Nova Scotia.

RANS will receive \$2.00 for every purchase from the [RANS Collection](#) and it will be used directly to help support our amazing industry!

Check out the collection [here](#).

Please feel free to share this awesome promotion with your staff, friends, family, and colleagues.

## THANK YOU

# Happy Holidays, one and all!

On behalf of RANS, thank you  
for all that you do to support the  
association.

*All the Best  
Gordon & Natasha*



## MEET OUR BENEFIT SUPPLIERS

We are able to offer our members a wide range of services and support thanks to our benefit suppliers:

- Preferred credit card rates [SONA](#)
- Print and design [KKP](#)
- Financial services [Stream Financial](#)
- Business & general insurance [Gateway](#)
- Home & auto insurance [MyGroup](#)
- Group benefits: health/medical [SBW](#)
- Glassware [Jymline Glassware Ltd](#)
- Advertising discount [SaltWire Network](#)
- Point of sales systems [Pineapple Bytes](#)
- Pest and wildlife control [Orkin](#)
- Draught system design & installation [BeerTech](#)
- Expertise in IT solutions [Codoholics Consulting Inc.](#)

If you are currently a member of RANS or would like to become a member and access the discounts, rates, and services provided; please contact [natasha@rans.ca](mailto:natasha@rans.ca) or 902-429-5343 ext 1.

## OUR SPONSORS



## NSLC PROMOTIONS

**Our Promotions - January 3 - February 20, 2022 (P8)**

[Licensee Only Offers](#)  
[Limited Time Offers](#)  
[Air Miles® Offers](#)

# SUBMISSIONS

We are in search of Business Bite submissions from our members! If you have an event, new product/service, or interesting trends/stats to add to one of the newsletters and/or our social media, please send to [natasha@rans.ca](mailto:natasha@rans.ca).

We are excited to see them!

