



Restaurants Canada

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Restaurant COVID-19 Rapid Recovery Guide for Nova Scotia *Resource for Foodservice Operators*



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There is no denying that the COVID-19 situation presents our industry, and country at large, with an incredible challenge. Restaurants have always played an essential role in communities across Canada. Beyond just providing food and drink, restaurants fulfill a human need for connection and help shape social relations. They represent a warm place for communities to gather, and support the supply chain from farm to table.

As we move into a post-COVID world, it is important to stay optimistic while also realistic about the future. Our industry is a resilient one, though it may be a while until the restaurant landscape looks the way it used to, in adversity there is always opportunity; to learn, to grow, and to change. We need to consider what the 'new normal' will look like and how we can best adapt to new consumer needs and habits.

This guide is designed to provide you with a summary of recommended practices that can be implemented in your operation. Together with recommendations from your local health departments, you can ensure a safe and secure reopening.

To the restaurant operators, employees, and the entire supply chain who make up our foodservice industry to service 22 million Canadians each day, we want to reassure you that Restaurants Canada is committed to supporting you as we navigate the effects of COVID-19.

We are Stronger Together!

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Navigating COVID-19 in Your Restaurant

In the restaurant industry, the health and safety of everyone we serve is always mission critical. This is just as true now as it was before the emergence of COVID-19.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, essential retailers such as restaurants provided critical services in their communities by ensuring safe and reliable access to food. Many restaurant operators increased cleaning procedures and instituted new ones to keep customers and employees safe. Appropriate public health measures were implemented to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 amongst employees and customers.

As the foodservice industry moves to the recovery and reopening phase, this guide is designed to provide you with a summary of recommended practices that can be implemented in your business, including:

- Food Safety
- Cleaning and Sanitation
- Health and Personal Hygiene
- Marketing
- Financial Planning

The province of Nova Scotia requires individual businesses to develop an operating plan. Over time these best practices may be adapted or expanded as measures continue to be eased, based upon guidance from federal and provincial governments, as well as public health authorities. Ensure that your operation is compliant with your provincial government and health authority reopening measures.

For the latest COVID-19 information and resources for the foodservice industry, visit restaurantscanada.org/COVID19.

[Specific provincial reopening guidance can be found on page 14.](#)



Food Safety



The food service industry is heavily regulated by federal, provincial, and municipal rules and regulations. Food safety and handling protocols have been in place for decades to prevent foodborne diseases.

Since the onset and worldwide growth of COVID-19 Coronavirus, many restaurant operators have increased their cleaning procedures and instituted new ones to keep guests and employees safe.

These guidelines are designed to address specific concerns regarding food safety and COVID-19, and to help build on already-established best practices and regulations.

- ✓ All restaurants are to ensure compliance with "[Nova Scotia Food Retail and Food Service Code](#)".
- ✓ Check expiration dates across dry, refrigerated and frozen food storage, and dispose of any foods that are past expiration date.
- ✓ Ensure that climate controls in facility are food safe (temperature, humidity, cleanliness, pest-proofing).
 - o Temperature: 4°C or below in coolers, -18°C or below in freezers and 10-21°C in dry stores.
- ✓ Store cooked and ready-to-eat food items on shelves above raw food.
- ✓ Cook all food to their recommended minimum internal cooking temperature.
- ✓ Cover food with lids or wrap.
- ✓ Use proper utensils to reduce direct hand contact with prepared food.
- ✓ Use water that is safe to drink for food preparation and cleaning activities.
- ✓ Correctly label chemicals and pesticides and store them away from food and the food preparation area.
- ✓ Keep all food items 15 cm/6 inches off the floor on shelves, racks or pallets.
- ✓ Ensure all suppliers adhere to provincial COVID-19 health and safety requirements when entering your establishment.

- ✓ Ensure that the person in charge has their approved food handler certification to keep the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak low.
- ✓ Check that chemicals used for cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting, including dishwasher chemicals, have not expired. Use test strips to confirm proper chemical concentration.
- ✓ Flushing your plumbing will remove stagnant water from the cold and hot water systems, replenishing it with fresh treated water from the well or surface water source. Flushing times will depend on the length and diameter of piping, flushing rates and system storage capacity. All appliances connected to the water system such as ice machines, soft drink and slushie machines, refrigerators with water dispensers or ice makers and produce misters must be cleaned and disinfected following the manufacturer's recommendations. Before you clean, all product in the machine must be thrown out.
- ✓ Thoroughly clean the entire restaurant upon reopening. Avoid food contact surfaces when using disinfectants.

Nova Scotia requires [trained and knowledgeable Food Handlers](#) to help ensure that food safety, personal hygiene and cleaning and sanitizing standards are being upheld. The SafeCheck® Advanced Canadian Food Safety Certification is an effective way to gain Food Safety (Food Handler) Certification that includes COVID-19 awareness.

Operators should make use of these guidelines as they relate to their existing policies and procedures and in conjunction with instructions they receive from authorities during their reopening.

Cleaning and Sanitation

Both your staff and guests must know that your restaurant is practicing accurate safety, sanitation, and health procedures to ensure their welfare. This will need to be communicated to BOH, FOH, as well as through external marketing. Now is the time to enhance your cleaning procedures and protocols with a special attention to key touch points and objects.

Use of Approved Cleaning Products

Per guidance under development from the Public Health Agency of Canada:

- ✓ Use only approved hard-surface disinfectants that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN). A DIN is an 8-digit number given by Health Canada that confirms the disinfectant product is approved for use in Canada.
- ✓ Updated list of disinfectants with evidence for use against COVID-19 - [Click Here](#).

Disinfecting Procedures

- ✓ Thoroughly clean the entire restaurant upon reopening. Clean and sanitize food contact surfaces. Clean and disinfect all other surfaces.
- ✓ Update cleaning schedules and logs to reflect increased disinfecting for high touch areas including door handles, front of house counters, restrooms as well as in the back of house.
- ✓ Clean and disinfect shared equipment such as kitchen equipment, credit card machines, point of sale stations, safety vests, headsets, etc., after every use.

- ✓ Clean and disinfect any other equipment by suppliers and subcontractors including dolly's, and janitorial equipment.
- ✓ When cleaning tables between every seating, any cutlery, salt and pepper shakers, sauce dispensers, or other items must be removed and cleaned then sanitized or disinfected. Tables should be left empty until the new guest arrives and only those items needed should be provided to customers.
- ✓ Clean and disinfect reusable menus. Paper menus should be recycled after each customer use.
- ✓ Make hand sanitizer available for staff and guests.
- ✓ Have deep cleaning response plan in place, in the event an employee(s) tests positive for COVID-19.

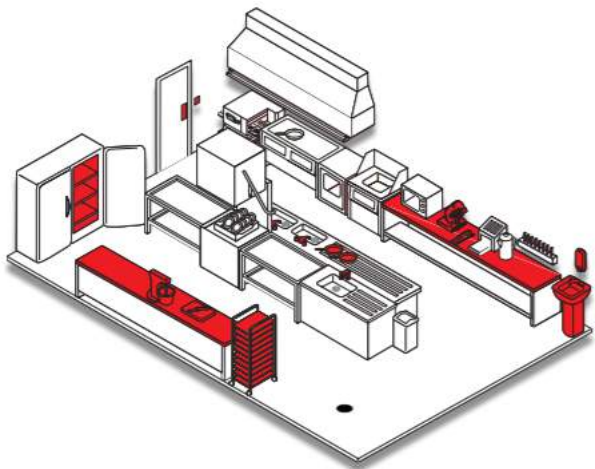
Key Touch Points

High risk infection areas need to be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis to protect against pathogen spread. These key touch points include areas where traffic is high, bodily spills may be frequent or where there is a generally low level of hygiene.

- ✓ Clean all areas frequently, as to your standard cleaning procedures.
- ✓ Maintain excellent hand hygiene.
- ✓ Use a disinfectant with a virucidal/bactericidal claim to disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- ✓ Deal with blood and bodily fluid spills immediately.
- ✓ Manage laundry, kitchen utensils, and medical waste in accordance with safe routine procedures.



Back of House



door handles



taps



switches



utensils



dispensers (loaded,
in good order, clean)

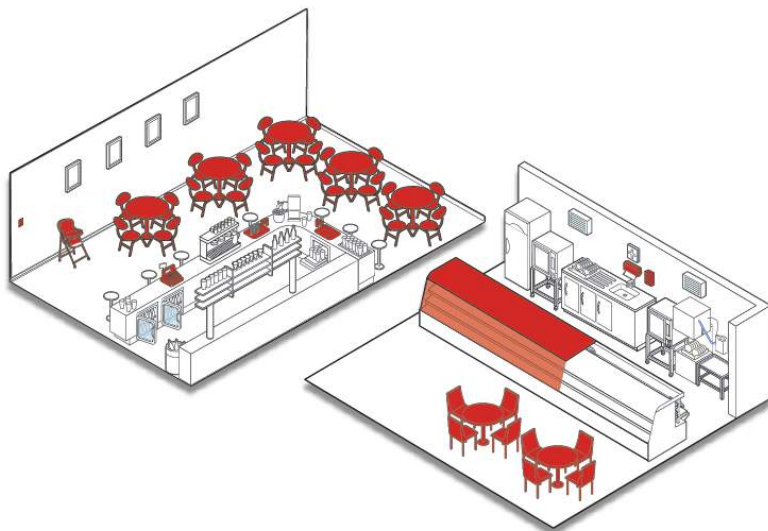


food contact
surfaces



hand contact areas

Front of House



sneeze guards



chairs



all handles (not only
doors)



table tops



dispensers (loaded,
in good order, clean)

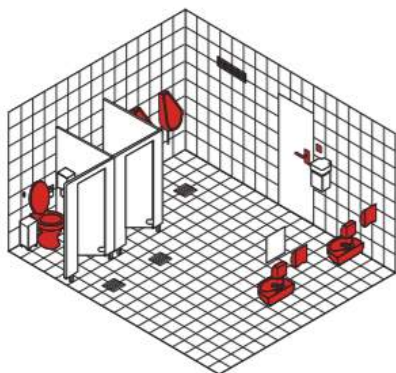


tablets/menus



switches

Restrooms



door handles



bathroom handles,
toilet flush, shower
control, taps



switches



toilets (seats,
splash walls)



dispensers (loaded,
in good order, clean)

Images provided by Diversey Inc.

Health and Personal Hygiene



Nova Scotia's Covid-19 Protocol for Proof of Full Vaccination for Events and Activities - <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/COVID-19-Protocol-for-proof-full-vaccination-events-activities-en.pdf> and <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/proof-full-vaccination-required-poster-en.pdf>

From the HPA Order - Businesses and organizations that host discretionary, non-essential events and activities, as set out in the COVID-19 Protocol for Proof of Full Vaccination for Events and Activities, located at: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/COVID-19-Protocol-for-proof-full-vaccination-events-activities-en.pdf>, must: (a) verify proof of full vaccination from each patron/participant before they engage in the activity or event, and each volunteer who hosts, leads or organizes the event or activity unless they have been granted an exception in accordance with the Protocol; (b) only retain information collected under subsection (a) if the patron/participant or volunteer provides their consent and destroy it on the earlier of their withdrawal of consent or termination of this Order; and (c) only use the information collected under (a) for the purpose of confirming that the patron/participant or volunteer is fully vaccinated prior to engaging in the event or activity in compliance with this Order and may not use it for any other purpose.

Ensure your staff and guests know that your top priority is their health and safety. Guests will be sensitive to hygiene, now more than ever. Surfaces, uniforms, and anything else that guests can see should be tidy and clean.

Customers

- ✓ Implement policies and post signage where customers can be refused entry if displaying signs of fever and/or cough, or symptoms of COVID-19.
- ✓ Customers are required to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon entrance and prior to their meal.

Staff

- ✓ Stagger start times and/or minimize contact during sign-in.
- ✓ Limit the number of employees allowed simultaneously in break rooms to allow for physical distancing.
- ✓ Appoint a Health and Safety Point Person for every shift to ensure protocols are being adhered to and education is provided.
- ✓ Have the supervisor do roll call and sign-in for staff, provide separate pens, or have staff text the supervisor when they start. If staff sanitize their hands after signing in, there is no need for separate pens.
- ✓ Clean any sign-in electronic devices between users.
- ✓ Implement a pre-work screening "health check" for employees at the beginning of each shift which may include temperature checks.
- ✓ Do not allow staff on-site if they are sick or might be sick; they should return home or stay home.
- ✓ Establish a clear policy [based on Nova Scotia guidelines](#) for what is expected of workers if they get sick, have symptoms, or if an exposure is reported at the restaurant or store in accordance with provincial labour legislation.
- ✓ Provide separate lockers or sealed bins/bags for employees to store their personal items. Do not allow staff to leave any items overnight.
- ✓ With larger staffs, use communication boards or digital messaging to convey pre-shift meeting information.

✓ From the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) staff should:

- Practice physical distancing by keeping more than two metres (six feet) apart from coworkers and customers as much as possible.
 - There should be workplace policies and messaging to inform workers and customers to stay home if they are feeling unwell. If feeling unwell, please visit the COVID-19 assessment tool online.
 - Wash their hands at the start of their shift, before eating or drinking, after touching shared items, after using the washroom, after handling cash or credit/debit cards, after touching common items, after each transaction if contact was made, and at the end of their shift. At a minimum staff should wash their hands a minimum of every 30 minutes.
 - Avoid touching their face.
- ✓ Where handwashing after each transaction is not possible, establish clear procedures to have separate staff handle cash transactions than those serving customers.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

✓ Use of PPE should be aligned with guidance from [Nova Scotia Public Health Authorities](#).

Masks

- ✓ Masks are to be worn by all staff in all public areas of the restaurant, including kitchen and preparatory space of a restaurant.
- ✓ Customers must wear a mask except when consuming food or beverages, and must be seated while consuming food or beverages
- ✓ "Masks" means a commercial medical or non-medical mask or a home-made mask (made as per [PHAC instructions](#)) that covers the nose and mouth.
- ✓ Employees should be reminded not to touch their faces.

Gloves

- ✓ Proper hand hygiene is recommended. If gloves are required, avoid cross-contamination, and do not touch your face, eyes, nose or mouth. Operators may want to consider wearing gloves when asked by customers.
- ✓ Disposable gloves must be changed as frequently as applicable to avoid cross-contamination, such as when:
 - o Changing tasks such as handling cash.
 - o When changing waste / recycling receptacles.
 - o Gloves are soiled, torn or damaged.
- ✓ Wash hands thoroughly before wearing the first pair of gloves, when changing gloves wash hands before wearing the next pair.



Physical Distancing

While in your restaurant, customers will need to adhere to the changing guidelines on physical distancing. It is important to make the best use of your exterior and interior spaces to provide the best and safest experience for customers.

Customer areas:

- ✓ Post [Nova Scotia approved signage](#) promoting physical distancing upon entry.
- ✓ Display signs in multiple locations that indicate the maximum number of customers and staff that a restaurant can accommodate at any one time.
- ✓ Size of parties cannot exceed that of current [Nova Scotia Public Health Authority restrictions](#).
- ✓ Mark direction of travel, to designate entrances and exits, pick up areas, and washrooms.
- ✓ Physical distancing of two metres (six feet) is required between parties.
- ✓ Demarcate floor with markers for any areas where a line up may occur (restrooms, pick up areas, etc.) and/or provide directional signage to indicate flow through the restaurant as well as outside.
- ✓ Where furniture cannot be removed to adjust for physical distancing, mark certain tables and chairs unavailable for use.
- ✓ Temporary table dividers may be installed to make social distancing easier for restaurants with communal seating or larger tables.
- ✓ Where practical, separate booth seating with physical barriers or maintain physical distance.
- ✓ Physical barriers are required at the bar when a customer is seated within 2 metres (6 feet) of a station where glasses/dishes/utensils or food items are stored or used or where drinks are prepared.
- ✓ Barriers are required where a patron is seated next to someone who is not in their bubble and 2 metres distancing is not possible.
- ✓ Washroom capacity may need to be adjusted to allow for physical distancing. You may consider limiting washrooms to one guest at a time.
- ✓ Customers in an Eating Establishment, Lounge, or Beverage Room Liquor Licensed area are required to remain seated for service.

- ✓ All food establishments may offer in-person dining to 50% of full legal capacity of the food establishment.
- ✓ Ensure no group of patrons shall have more than 10 persons at a table.
- ✓ Maintain a minimum physical distance of 2 metres (6 feet) between tables, and barriers may only be used to achieve the 50% capacity and not exceed it.
- ✓ Must cease in-person dining service to customers effective 11:00p.m. and close to in-person dining customers by midnight, but may continue take-out, drive-thru and delivery after midnight.

Staff areas:

- ✓ Train staff on physical distancing and how to best serve food with the least amount of contact.
- ✓ Create separation from action stations or open kitchens. Separate guests from the kitchen or plating team with high, clear dividers if the distance between guest and staff is less than six feet.
- ✓ Where possible, stagger workstations or insert a barrier, so employees avoid standing directly opposite one another or next to each other.
- ✓ Employees are required to wear a face covering when physical distancing of 2 metres cannot be maintained.
- ✓ Use, when possible, directional arrows on the floor in kitchen settings to control flow of traffic and reduce interaction and crossover between cooking and clearing areas.
- ✓ Remind third-party delivery drivers and suppliers of internal distancing requirements. Provide separate entrance if possible.

Practices for Specific Model/Format

In a full service dining environment:

- ✓ Consider a reservations-only business model or call-ahead seating to better place and space customers.
- ✓ Provide clear guidance to customers that they show up only at their designated time.
- ✓ Remove waiting area seating and create a process to ensure customers stay separate while waiting to be seated - could include floor markings, outdoor distancing, waiting in cars, etc.
- ✓ Clearly designate takeout/pick-up locations when separate from dine-in operations.

In a quick service restaurant environment:

- ✓ Demarcate floor with markers for any areas where a line up may occur (order stations, pick up areas).
- ✓ Provide clear signage and guidance to guests regarding ordering and pick-up areas, including mobile orders.

In a dining environment with self-serve areas:

- ✓ Buffet recommendations - Regulate the flow of people in one direction.
- ✓ Post signage about hand hygiene and place hand hygiene stations near the start/end of the buffet line for easy access.
- ✓ Patrons must wear non-medical masks when going through lineups.
- ✓ Implement enhanced frequency of changing out, or cleaning and sanitizing lids/tray covers and serving utensils (ex. minimum every 2 hours).
- ✓ Remind patrons to use new plates, cutlery, cups, etc., when returning to the buffet area.
- ✓ Consider putting extended sneeze guards in place.
- ✓ Recommend using individually wrapped stir sticks, straws, utensils, condiments.
- ✓ If providing a “grab and go” service, stock coolers to no more than minimum levels.

Reducing Contact

- ✓ Bring customer items only once they are seated: glasses, cutlery, rolls, condiments (as needed), etc.
- ✓ Don't touch water glasses or coffee cups when refilling.
- ✓ Tables should be cleared one at a time to reduce potential for cross-contamination.
- ✓ Leverage technology where possible to reduce person-to-person interaction, eg. Mobile ordering, menu tablets, text on arrival for seating, contactless payment options.
- ✓ Build physical separation between customers and staff for counter service and payment settings.

Communicating Your Safe Dining Commitment

- ✓ Graphic wrapped panels can provide a quick experience and organize the customer flow.
- ✓ Use window graphics to bring your message and commitment to a safe dining experience to both inside the restaurant and on the street level.



Marketing

The COVID-19 pandemic provided restaurants with the opportunity to connect with their audiences via social media. We saw operators growing their audiences as they created compelling content like tutorials, recipes, and live demos of home cooking. As restaurants begin to reopen, once again establishments are provided with the chance to engage with their newly-gained audiences over social media and through various marketing efforts, create excitement about the idea of opening their doors.

As budget is top of mind, focus your marketing efforts on low-cost options and earned media. The idea of 'Four-Walls Marketing' is imperative in this situation. This strategy refers to the physical appearance of your business, the attitude and appearance of your employees, and the type of experience you create for your customers. Restaurants working to win back customers and instill customer confidence, should ensure that they are remaining consistent throughout all marketing efforts and hitting all 'four walls'.

Here is a checklist of marketing 'to-dos' as you navigate your reopening:

Social Media

- ✓ Announce your reopening on all your channels.
- ✓ Announce new operational changes via social media (ie. service hours).
- ✓ Let customers know about any changes or increases to health and safety procedures via social media.
- ✓ Any specials or limited edition products or services should be announced on social media.

- ✓ You may wish to provide a special discount or exclusive offer to your audience on social media (ie. '10% off if you show this Instagram post').

Email

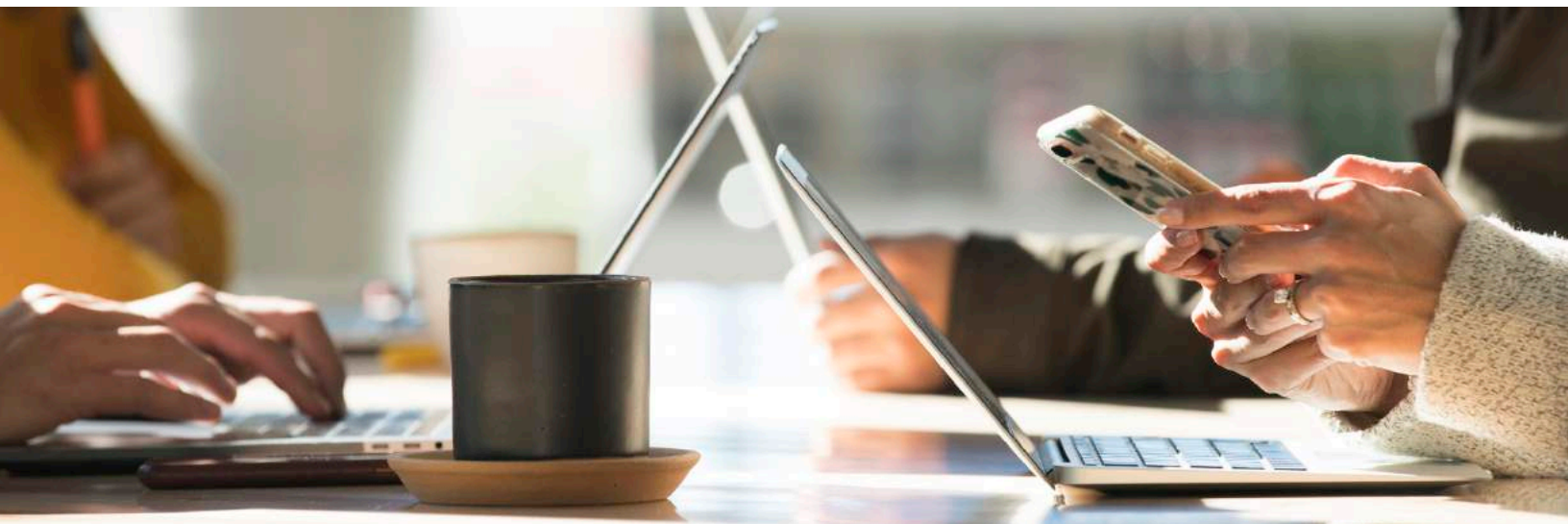
- ✓ Send email to your customer database to announce your reopening; in that same email, inform customers about any changes or adjustments to operations.
- ✓ You may wish to provide an exclusive offer in email.
- ✓ Avoid sending too many emails and clogging up inboxes.

Website/digital presence

- ✓ Ensure that your website is updated with all relevant operational information.
- ✓ Google Business should also be updated with relevant information.
- ✓ Be sure that you let customers know of how they may wish to order delivery or pick-up.

Customer Service

- ✓ Staff should be trained to understand and practice all updated health and safety procedures.
- ✓ Your staff are the face of your brand, ensure you make all customer service, cleaning and sanitizing practices highly visible to your customer.
- ✓ The customer service experience should extend beyond dining-in, even after reopening; operators can include follow-up messaging to customers who order delivery or handwritten emails.



Financial Planning

The financial landscape for most, if not all restaurants, has changed due to the impact and fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. As provinces start to move into the recovery phase, it is important to not only take into consideration the health of staff and customers, but also the financial health of your business. How might your current financial situation change? How could your initial projections now shift?

Assessing liquidity needs, revising cash flows, and completing “what if” analyses is necessary to project the financial requirements for your business in the coming months. Now is the time to examine your business and its current situation, then you can start to plan your response strategies, and perform the necessary steps to help weather the COVID-19 crisis.

PREPARE your current financial picture, including but not limited to:

- o Staffing
- o Operating expenses (utilities, marketing etc.)
- o Food and menu
- o Lease/rent
- o Revenue
- EXPLORE potential new revenue streams
 - o Dine-in
 - o Takeout/Delivery
 - o Pop-ups
 - o Meal kits
 - o Pantry/grocery items
 - o Bar/Alcohol
 - o Gift cards
 - o Lease/rent options (ie. leaseback)
- PLAN by projecting different budgeting scenarios
 - o Sales forecasting
 - o Cash flow projections
 - o Profit/loss projection
 - o Forecast difference expense/income scenarios

Once you’ve outlined the numbers, prepare a business recovery plan. Be sure to schedule regular profit/loss check-ins due to the dynamically changing recovery environment.



Training

Nova Scotia Food Handler Certification

<https://novascotia.ca/nse/food-protection/food-hygiene-course.asp>

SafeCheck® Advanced Canadian Food
Safety Certification

<https://www.safecheck1.com/product/food-handler-cn/>

SafeCheck® Workplace Food Delivery Driver
Safety (FDDS)

<https://www.safecheck1.com/product/wps-dds/>

Personal Hygiene Refresher (No cost)

<https://www.safecheck1.com/rc-safecheck-learning/>

Provincial Resources, Tools and Signage



Nova Scotia

As businesses prepare to reopen as part of Nova Scotia's relaunch strategy, resources are available to help keep you, your staff, and your customers safe.

All businesses and organizations operating during the COVID-19 pandemic are required to have an operational plan.

Provincial Reopening Resources

- ✓ [Nova Scotia Food Retail and Food Services Code](#)
- ✓ [Food Hygiene \(Handling\) Courses](#)

Other Provincial Resources

- ✓ [Working during COVID-19](#)
- ✓ [COVID-19: occupational health and safety](#)

To be successful during the economic relaunch, businesses should continue acting responsibly by following public health and physical distancing measures and using good hygiene and disinfecting practices.

Contact your local Public Health officer for more information.



Proof of Vaccination

16.7 Businesses and organizations that host discretionary, non-essential events and activities, as set out in the COVID-19 Protocol for Proof of Full Vaccination for Events and Activities, located at: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/proof-full-vaccination-required-poster-en.pdf>, must: (a) verify proof of full vaccination from each patron/participant before they engage in the activity or event, and each volunteer who hosts, leads or organizes the event or activity unless they have been granted an exception in accordance with the Protocol; (b) only retain information collected under subsection (a) if the patron/participant or volunteer provides their consent and destroy it on the earlier of their withdrawal of consent or termination of this Order; and (c) only use the information collected under (a) for the purpose of confirming that the patron/participant or volunteer is fully vaccinated prior to engaging in the event or activity in compliance with this Order and may not use it for any other purpose.

Video Lottery Terminals

The Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation (NSGC) has developed the following plan that operators in the Nova Scotia gambling sector will adhere to in addition to guidelines outlined by federal and provincial health authorities:

✓ [Sector Reopening Plan \(PDF\)](#)

For more information visit the NSGC [website](#).

Darts, Pool and Table Games

Darts

- ✓ Players must respect the physical distancing requirements in the Public Health Order.
- ✓ Individual dart boards must be spaced so that at no time will players at different boards be within the physical distancing limits. This may result in an overall reduction in number of playable boards.
- ✓ Players are encouraged to bring their own darts.
- ✓ If players do not bring their own darts, the darts must be sanitized after each use.
- ✓ Communal chalk cannot be used.
- ✓ Players should thoroughly wash or sanitize their hands before each game.

Pool/Billiards

- ✓ Individual tables must be spaced so that at no time will players at different tables be within the physical distancing limits. This may result in an overall reduction in number of tables available for use.
- ✓ Players must respect the physical distancing requirements of the Public Health Order.
- ✓ Players are encouraged to bring their own pool cues.
- ✓ If players do not bring their own cues, the cues must be sanitized after each use.
- ✓ The balls and rack must be sanitized after each game.
- ✓ Contact with the cue ball, ie when a scratch occurs, should be limited to one person per game for placement and repositioning allowed with the use of the cue.
- ✓ Communal chalk cannot be used.
- ✓ Players should thoroughly wash or sanitize their hands before each game.

Shuffleboard/Foozeball/Hockey

- ✓ Tables must be spaced so that at no time will players be within the physical distancing limits of other patrons.
- ✓ Players must respect the physical distancing requirements in the Public Health Order.
- ✓ Tables including handles, stones, balls etc must be cleaned and sanitized after each use.
- ✓ Players should thoroughly wash or sanitize their hands before each game.

Playing cards is prohibited.



Re-Opening Checklist

Front of the House

- ☐ Arrange dining room and patio tables and bar seating to accommodate social distancing requirements.
- ☐ Wipe down and sanitize tabletops, seating and bar tops – de-gum as needed.
- ☐ Clean tables, bases and level tables as needed.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize hi-chairs and booster seats.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize all bottles and shelves.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize ice bins, refill bins.
- ☐ Clean, sanitize and re-start frozen beverage machines per manufacturer's instructions.
- ☐ Clean, sanitize and re-start coffee, espresso and tea machines – check and replace filters.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize all soda and beer lines.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize mats and carpeting.
- ☐ Clean trays and tray holders.
- ☐ Clean and refill caddies including all tabletop condiment items.
- ☐ Wash and sanitize all placemats.
- ☐ Inventory and clean all glassware, cups and saucers, dishes and serving pieces – reorder as needed.
- ☐ Inventory beverages and liquor, place orders as necessary.
- ☐ Wipe down all under-bar units, inside and out, and restock as needed.
- ☐ Add Hand Sanitizer Station to entryway of restaurant.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize menus and menu holders, print new menus if applicable.
- ☐ Clean and/or dust windows and window sills, plants, décor items, light fixtures.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize server station, stock with all items as needed.

Take-Out and Delivery

- ☐ Inventory take-out containers, cups and bags.
- ☐ Investigate tamper-proof labels.
- ☐ Set up to-go procedures for deliveries and pick-ups.

Back of the House

- ☐ Empty, clean and sanitize ice machines and bins.
- ☐ Wipe down exterior and tops of ice machines/bins.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize floors, mats, shelves, bins.
- ☐ Check status of all refrigeration and freezer units, including working thermometers, clean or replace as needed.
- ☐ Check all foods in freezers, walk-ins and discard as required.
- ☐ Wipe down and sanitize all sandwich/prep units including cutting boards.
- ☐ Initiate start-ups and/or performance checks on gas equipment per manufacturer's instructions.
- ☐ Replace fryer oil.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize broilers, griddles, ovens, toasters and other cooking equipment.
- ☐ Clean and check for proper operation of hoods, filters, ductwork, fans, belts and fire suppression systems – Clean and/or replace hood filters as needed.
- ☐ Check pilots and burners for proper operation and calibrate ovens. Adjust if necessary.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize all worktables, under-shelves, utensil racks and serving lines.
- ☐ Inventory, clean, sanitize and restock utensils, cutting boards, knives, mixers, blenders, food storage containers.
- ☐ Inventory, inspect and discard as needed dry storage products. Wipe down and/or replace/refill storage containers.
- ☐ Clean and sanitize shelving units and ingredient bins.
- ☐ Inventory all food items and place orders with suppliers. Take into consideration any new menu items/changes.

- ❑ Make sure grease traps, floor drains are operational.
- ❑ Inventory and restock janitorial supplies including approved cleaners and sanitizers.
- ❑ Clean and sanitize restrooms.
- ❑ Add additional hand sanitizing stations at exit/entry points.

Facilities, Financial and Cash Management

- ❑ Bring POS systems up to date to reflect menu and/or pricing changes.
- ❑ Confirm credit card system is online.
- ❑ Check fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, exit signs and emergency lighting.
- ❑ Check status and schedule maintenance services.
- ❑ Test HVAC systems.
- ❑ Inspect exterior of property. Clean up and freshen landscaping.
- ❑ Check outdoor signage for proper operation.
- ❑ Clean parking areas.
- ❑ Contact landlord with any issues.

Management – Training, Staffing, Safety and Promotion

- ❑ Inventory first aid kits and worker PPE supplies. Train staff in PPE procedures.
- ❑ Hold re-opening training for staff including new guidelines and policies.
- ❑ Re-start utility services in advance of re-opening.
- ❑ Review and adjust budgets and projections for the new normal in 6, 12 and 18 months.
- ❑ Train staff for the new safety conscious consumer.
- ❑ Communicate your re-opening to your customers by updating your website, and social media channels with opening hours, menu changes and cleaning standards implemented.
- ❑ Create and send e-mail blast announcing reopening.

Items To Consider For Purchase

- ❑ Thermometers for temperature checks of employees.
- ❑ Sanitization stands at front door, bathroom areas and counters.

- ❑ PPE for employees.
- ❑ Cleaning products with approved specifications (ie >70% alcohol).
- ❑ Approved kitchen, dining room and bathroom disinfectants.
- ❑ Physical distancing decals/signage flooring.

Processes To Document or Update

- ❑ Restaurant reservations process or leave a name and callback practice, which may also serve to have customer information.
- ❑ Contactless order fulfillment for takeaway operations.
- ❑ Policy/procedures for what is expected of employees if they get sick, have symptoms, or if an exposure is reported at the restaurant or store.
- ❑ Employee training in the process and communication of new/enhanced cleaning and sanitization processes.
- ❑ Sanitization schedule with cleaning log posted in common area (front of house) and in bathrooms.
- ❑ Cleaning and sanitization processes for cleaning surfaces in contact with guests (tables, pin pads, menus, etc).
- ❑ Cleaning and sanitization processes for kitchen, back of house.
- ❑ Nightly cleaning and sanitization process.
- ❑ Process for enacting future roll back or shutdown of operations.

Items To Create

- ❑ For staff areas, Notice of Health Care Facilities Contact information (numbers of medical clinics, hospitals, and mental health support centres).
- ❑ Reduced Occupancy Load statement (visually available for customers and officials).
- ❑ In-room dining floorplans denoting reduced occupancy load.
- ❑ Physical distancing guidelines for entering, exiting, queuing and seating.
- ❑ Visitor's log, for suppliers and other service staff coming to the restaurants that is easily accessible and up to date.

www.restaurantscanada.org

PROPER HAND WASHING

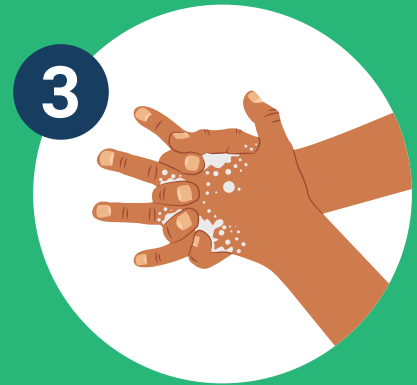
Washing your hands frequently with soap and water is the best way to reduce the spread of germs.



Wet your hands with warm running water



Add soap and scrub for 15-20 seconds



Wash backs, thumbs, between fingers, and under nails



Rinse off soap under running water



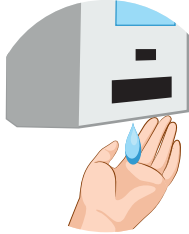
Dry your hands with a clean towel



Turn off tap with a towel

When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be used if hands are not visibly soiled.

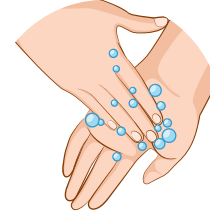
How to **Apply Hand Sanitizer**



Use hand rub dispenser.



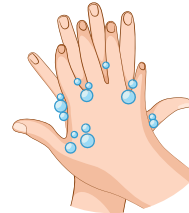
Cover hand fully.



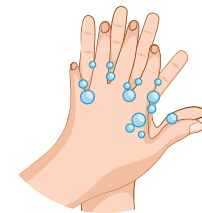
Fingertips in hand palm.



Rub hands palm to palm.



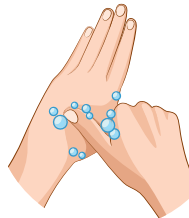
Right palm to back of left hand with
interlaced fingers and vice versa.



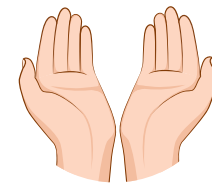
Palm to palm with fingers interlaced.



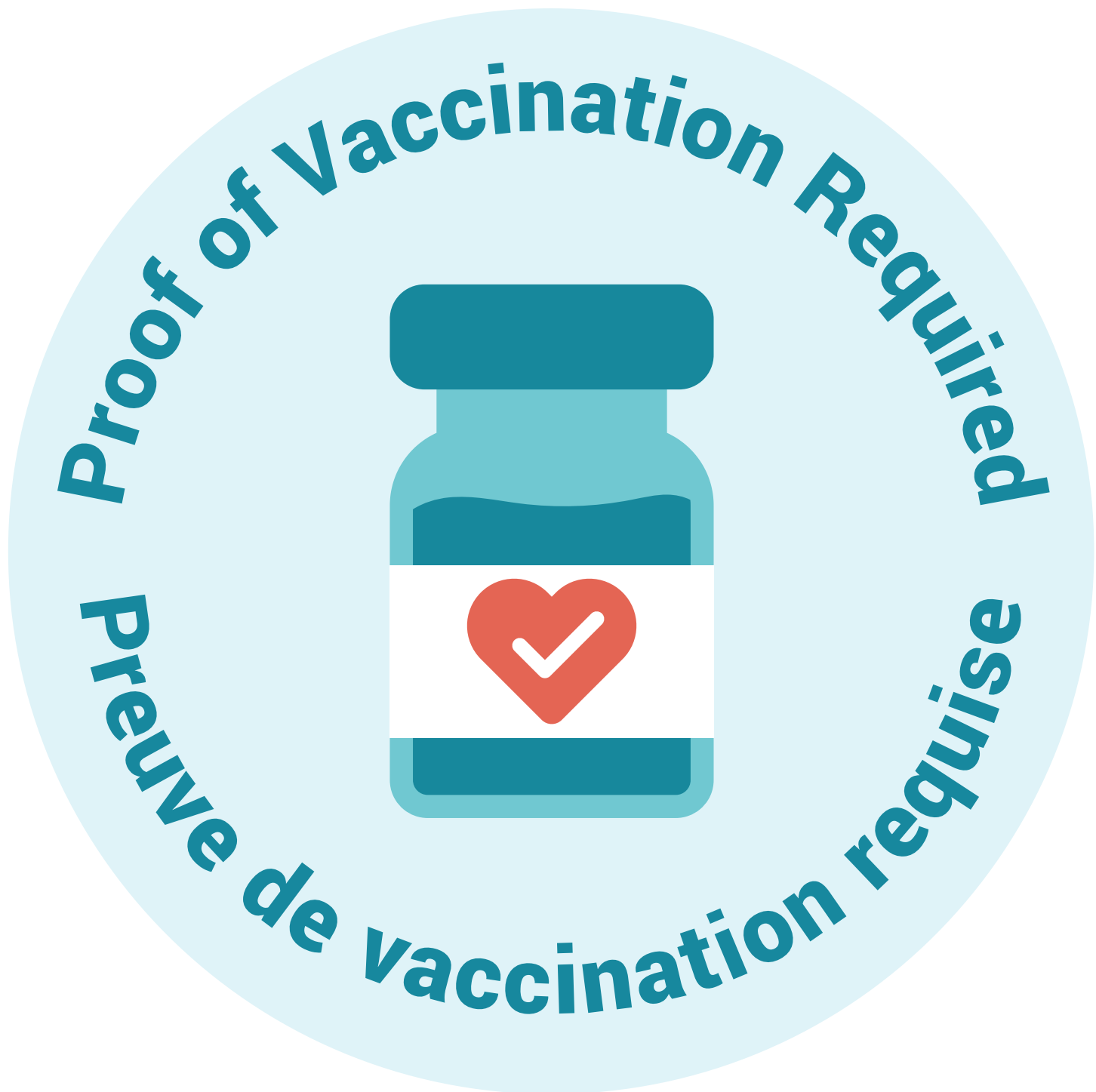
With closed fingers.



Thumbs in hand palm.



Allow hands to air dry.



Proof of full COVID-19 vaccination required under the authority of the Health Protection Act. Download your Nova Scotia COVID-19 Proof of Full Vaccination by scanning the QR code.

Une preuve de vaccination complète contre la COVID-19 est exigée en vertu de la loi sur la protection de la santé. Téléchargez votre preuve de vaccination complète contre la COVID-19 de la Nouvelle-Écosse en scannant le code QR.