

# Recommendations from the Locals, for when you come to Halifax for CSC 2016

## Information:

Pick up a copy of the free local weekly newspaper - The Coast - or read it online at <http://www.thecoast.ca/> . Lots of information regarding shows, gigs, and places to go. (Suggested by Alison Thompson, faculty member at Dalhousie University).

At the airport, stop at the Tourism desk and ask for the "Doers and Dreamers Guide". This guide can also be ordered for free on paper in advance from <http://www.novascotia.com/> (click on "Travel Guide"; the 2016 Guide will be mailed out in the spring), or viewed online.

## Accommodations:

Consider extending your stay and rent a cottage on the ocean or on one of Nova Scotia's many lakes. See <http://www.novascotia.com/> or private rental sites such as <http://www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/canada/nova-scotia>

## Getting Around:

Halifax is a very walkable city, and many attractions (Citadel Hill, Halifax Harbour) are in walking distance of the conference. The bus and ferry system also works well - see <http://www.halifax.ca/transit/Schedules/index.php> for schedules and routes. And the city bus now runs to the airport (Route 320).

## Dining / Pubs:

**Fisherman's Cover, Eastern Passage** <http://www.fishermanscove.ns.ca/> - Preserving our history and community. Fisherman's Cove is a picturesque place to visit and relax sea side. Our unique waterfront location is full of natural beauty and the gateway to Lawlor's and McNabs Islands. Fisherman's Cove offers, small shops, restaurants, rental space, and community events to all our visitors. Fisherman's Cove is a volunteer not-for-profit organization catering to the Eastern Passage and greater Halifax communities. Requires a car but worth the drive. (Suggested by Giselle Andrews, staff, Dalhousie University).

**Il Trullo Ristorante** - Kings Wharf, Dartmouth Nova Scotia (<https://www.facebook.com/IlTrulloDartmouth?fref=ts>) - Fine Italian food and wine by the ocean, with a stunning view of the Halifax Harbor and Halifax skyline. (Suggested by Giselle Andrews, staff, Dalhousie University).

**The Stubborn Goat**, a gastropub on Grafton (<http://www.stubborngoat.ca/halifax/>), has some of the best food in the city, and **Piatto**, on Hollis (<http://www.piattopizzeria.com/halifax/>), has really amazing Neapolitan-style pizza. (Suggested by John Noël, graduate student, Dalhousie University).

For Southern US-style fare, **Boneheads** on Inglis Street is finger-lickin' good. For authentic Maritime fish and chips, check out **John's Lunch** in Dartmouth. And if you are in the mood for really great tacos, **Habaneros** hits the mark.

Enjoy great fish and chips at **The Battered Fish** ([thebatteredfish.ca](http://thebatteredfish.ca)) located at several locations around Halifax. Gluten-free option is pan fried fish which is delicious as well. (Suggested by Karen Thompson, Instructor, Dalhousie University.)

**Stillwell** on Barrington (<http://www.barstillwell.com/>) for a nice selection of locally-brewed beers; they also have a beer garden along the harbourfront boardwalk. (Suggested by Erin Johnson, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

**The Wired Monk** on Hollis (<http://wiredmonk.com/>) for coffee or a light lunch. (Suggested by Erin Johnson, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

**The Loose Cannon** on Argyle (<http://theloosecannon.ca/home>) for its Scotch selection. (Suggested by Erin Johnson, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

For fine (\$\$\$) dining within walking distance of the conference, consider **Five Fisherman** (<http://www.fivefishermen.com/>), **da Maurizio** (<https://damaurizio.ca/>), **Chives** (<http://www.chives.ca/>), or **Cafe Chianti** (<http://www.cafechianti.com/>). Or walk to Quinpool Road (<http://www.quinpoolroad.ca/>) for less expensive fare (\$) where I recommend **Phil's Seafood** (<http://philsseafood.ca/>), and **Wasabi House** (<http://wasabihouse.ca/wasabi-house-halifax/>) and the classic (not changed since 1950s, and cash only) **Ardmore Tea Room** (<http://www.thecoast.ca/halifax/ardmore-tea-room/Location?oid=978258>) (Suggested by Mary Anne White, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

Mike Quilliam (NRC and adjunct faculty member at Dalhousie University) recommends a lunch or dinner at the famous **Henry House Restaurant & Pub** (<http://www.henryhouse.ca/>): Henry House is a two-and-a-half-story stone house located on Barrington Street that was built in 1834. It is primarily known for its association with William Alexander Henry, a prominent native of Halifax who resided in the house with his family from 1854-1864. Henry was a Father of Confederation, co-author of the British North America Act, a provincial Attorney General, a Member of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly, a Mayor of Halifax and the first Nova Scotian to serve as a justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. The house was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 1969. Since 1968, the house has housed a number of restaurants and is currently the location of Halifax's well known 'The Henry House Restaurant & Pub'. Well known for its excellent craft beers and excellent pub food. My favourites are the "Best Bitter" or "Old Peculiar" beers (try both!) and steak & mushroom pie or the salmon club!

The best tavern food in the city is at Mic Mac Bar and Grill in Dartmouth, <http://micmacbarandgrill.com/> (Suggested by Deanna Wentzell, staff member, Dalhousie University).

Your Father's Mustache (<http://yourfathersmoustache.ca/>) is a great pub on Spring Garden Road near the conference, with its own brews. (Suggested by Ryan Sawatzky, graduate student at Dalhousie University).

### **An Evening Out:**

If it's a nice evening, take the ferry to Dartmouth, and have dinner at **The Wooden Money**, which is upstairs in the Dartmouth Ferry Terminal (<http://www.thewoodenmonkey.ca/>). The Wooden Monkey Dartmouth has a great view of Halifax harbour. They also have a large room that can be booked in advance for a large group dinner, and the restaurant features local foods. (The Wooden Monkey also has a location in downtown Halifax.) The ferry ride (see <https://www.halifax.ca/transit/ferries.php>) is the least expensive way to see Halifax Harbour from the water. (Suggested by Mary Anne White, faculty member, Dalhousie University)

For an evening out, I would suggest the **Old Triangle**, on Prince St (<http://www.oldtriangle.com/welcome/>). It has live 'East Coast'-style music every night, giving it the feel of a kitchen party. (Suggested by John Noël, graduate student, Dalhousie University).

### **Tourism and Other Suggestions in Halifax region:**

**The Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market** – the longest continuously running Market in North America and proudly hosting over 250 vendors (<http://www.halifaxfarmersmarket.com/>). Hours: Monday-Friday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Suggested by Janet MacDonald, DREAMS Program Coordinator)

Take a walk or drive to the **NorthWest Arm** (part of the ocean at the west side of Halifax peninsula) - visit Horseshoe Park, The Dingle, the Beach, and see the view of the yachts from the Roundabout. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northwest\\_Arm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northwest_Arm) for details.

**Point Pleasant Park** for walking, running, a nature escape, or hearing the waves lap on the shore. (<http://www.pointpleasantpark.ca/en/home/default.aspx>). Accessible by walking or Bus 9. I believe Shakespeare By the Sea will be open at the time of the conference (<http://www.shakespearebythesea.ca/index.html>) (Suggested by Janet MacDonald, DREAMS Program Coordinator, and Stuart Grossert, retired faculty, Dalhousie University.)

**Point Pleasant Park and the Public Gardens** are great places for children. My kids spend hours exploring the different attractions within the park (Quarry Pond, the Cannons, the beach, etc.) and watching the ducks in the gardens (Suggested by Patricia Laws, Senior Instructor)

Canoe rentals at **St. Mary's Boat Club** (<https://www.halifax.ca/smbc/canoeing.php>)-- canoe in the calm waters of the beautiful Northwest Arm. Located 10 minute walk from Dalhousie. Rentals are free. (Suggested by Janet MacDonald, DREAMS Program Coordinator)

The **Halifax Harbour ferries** are one of my favourite excursions and I see that the Woodside Ferry now runs right through the day on M-F. An early morning trip on a sunny day gives great lighting on Halifax. (Suggested by Stuart Grossert, retired faculty, Dalhousie University.)

The **Halifax Waterfront** for a leisurely stroll (<http://my-waterfront.ca/waterfront/halifax/>) Take a walk along the waterfront for a taste of Atlantic Canadian culture and hospitality. There are museums, restaurants, souvenirs and much more. Stop at a food kiosk for a casual bite, or make a day out of it by taking a ride on the Harbour Hopper and learning about the history of Halifax. (Suggested by Chelsi Wicks, graduate student, Dalhousie University)

For a transit-based adventure, take Halifax Transit Route 15 to **York Redoubt National Historic Site** for gorgeous views of the strategic mouth of Halifax Harbour as you explore a key British and Canadian fortification. The transit system also has frequent Halifax-Dartmouth ferry service that that gives great views as you cross the busy and historic Halifax harbour. For transit information, see <http://www.halifax.ca/transit/schedules/index.php> (Suggested by Jan Rainey, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

**York Redoubt** offers some excellent history and views of the water and it's reachable by Bus #15, hourly from the Mumford Terminal. The views of the Bedford Basin from Routes 81 or 90 are also great for those who like water and history. Hemlock Ravine Park is at the end of Route 81. (Suggested by Stuart Grossert, retired faculty, Dalhousie University.)

Another good view of Halifax is from St Paul's Cemetery/Sinnot Hill Park, off Geary St and Windmill Road in Dartmouth. (Suggested by Stuart Grossert, retired faculty, Dalhousie University.)

Visit the **Art Gallery of Nova Scotia** <https://www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca/visit-halifax>; admission is free on Thursdays from 5 to 9 pm, and the gallery is close to the conference.

Go for a **hike** on one of our terrific hiking trails - see <http://www.halifax.ca/trails/>

Visit the spectacular new Halifax Central Library (<http://halifaxcentrallibrary.ca/>). Also, the Hydrostone Market in the North End (<http://www.hydrostonemarket.ca/>) is a special place with some of the best places to eat in Halifax. It feels a bit like a village in the Cotswolds to me. (Suggested by Russ Boyd, Conference Chair).

Go roller-blading on the Oval at Halifax Commons, which is within walking distance of the conference. Roller blades are available to borrow, no charge. See <https://www.halifax.ca/skatehrm/> for details. (Suggested by Rob White, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

## Tourism Suggestions Further Afield in Nova Scotia:

Visit one of the **Nova Scotian wineries**: <http://www.novascotia.com/explore/top-25/nova-scotia-wine-tours>

**Peggy's Cove** (<http://www.peggyscoveregion.com/>) is a hot spot for tourists, so I will mention that along the way on Highway 333 is a great spot to eat. It called the **Finer Diner** (<http://www.finerdiner.ca/>) and we have never had a bad experience there. And the setting is beautiful on the outdoor patio. And lastly, the fish & chips are second to none! (Submitted by Mike Lumsden, staff member, Dalhousie University.)

**The Bistro - Port Williams** ([www.theportpub.com](http://www.theportpub.com)) for stunning views from their deck, great (in house) brewed beers (you can get a 5 mini glass taster set to start with), excellent kitchen and a good selection of the best NS wines. (Suggested by Stan Cameron, retired faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

Visit the '**Planter's Ridge**' vineyard, 1441 Church St., Port Williams (<https://www.plantersridge.ca/>), but use the back way there from The Bistro. Small Vineyard which makes a stunning Red (Quintessence) and a great white (also called Quintessence). Never believed you could make a drinkable Red in Nova Scotia until I met this one (Bishop's stock the red but not the white, that is vineyard only, otherwise try Pier 21 market on (I think) Saturdays). I buy the Red either at the NSLC on our weekly visit to Kentville, or the Red and White from the vineyard on the way to Kentville. (Suggested by Stan Cameron, retired faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

**Pete Luckett's vineyard** in Wolfville (<http://luckettvineyards.com/>) is worth a visit for lunch, but be sure to drink his Tidal Bay white. His Pillar Box red belongs, in my view, to the category of 'you can't make a decent Red in NS'. (Suggested by Stan Cameron, retired faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

Those interested in plants and plantsfolk should visit **Baldwins Nursery** in Falmouth (<http://baldwinnurseries.com/>) for the most eclectic selection of plants. Take exit 7 off the 101 at Falmouth and follow the Baldwin nursery signs to the back of nowhere. Rob Baldwin is a most knowledgeable plants man, possibly a successor to Captain Dick Steele. Bob is also very well connected to the plantsfolk of NS and can give good introductions to their hidden gardens. (Suggested by Stan Cameron, retired faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

The best **pie shop** in NS is in the back streets of Berwick - anyone in the town will give directions to the current best in town. Get to Berwick on route 1, and stop off at the Briar Patch Nursery just outside Berwick. It has one of the best collections of Hostas in the Maritimes. It is connected in some way to Baldwins. (Suggested by Stan Cameron, retired faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

Those with children to entertain should try the zoo in Aylesford (**Oaklawn Farm Zoo**, <http://www.oaklawnfarmzoo.ca/>) at big cat feeding time. Gail has the largest collection of big cats in Eastern Canada and raised most of them from cubs. She goes into the enclosure with most of them to feed them. Sadly her most friendly bear has died of old age so the kids can no longer feed it peppermints at its feeding time. (Suggested by Stan Cameron, retired faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

The **Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum** (<http://atlanticcanadaaviationmuseum.com/>) is by the airport and a great place to spend some time exploring the different aircraft. (Suggested by Patricia Laws, Senior Instructor, Dalhousie University)

Another place to visit is the **Saturday morning market in Wolfville**

(<http://www.wolfvillefarmersmarket.ca/>) All manner of farm and valley artisan goods on sale, including the guy from Longspell Point Farm who has resurrected and grows hard Red Fife Wheat and gets it stone ground into wholewheat bread flour. I get it from him and mix it with regular wholewheat flour to make the daily family bread. Red Fife came to Canada onto David Fife's farm in Ontario in 1860, it thus predates all the new strains of wheat, which some claim are one source of modern obesity. David Patriquin (retired Biology prof at Dalhousie) is one of those involved in the re-introduction of these heritage wheat strains (Maritime Heritage Wheat Project (1998)). (Suggested by Stan Cameron, retired faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

Visit one of the many **famers' markets** in Nova Scotia (said to be the most per capita in Canada). Check <http://farmersmarketsnovascotia.ca/> for locations and open times.

Do you golf? Golf Digest named **Cabot Links in Cape Breton** as the top new golf course in North America for 2015. I had a research visitor from San Diego who really came just to play Cabot Links and he said it was spectacular. See <https://www.cabotlinks.com/golf/cabot-cliffs/> for the breath-taking views. (Suggested by Mary Anne White, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

A great full-day tour by car of the coastal region to the south-west of Halifax (called the **South Shore**) would include a stop at Peggy's Cove (<http://www.peggyscoveregion.com/>), then on to Mahone Bay ( <http://www.mahonebay.com/>) and on to Lunenburg ( <http://www.explorelunenburg.ca/>). If you only have a few hours, go to Peggy's Cove early in the evening and watch the sun set over the water.

Visit Martinique Beach (<http://www.novascotia.com/see-do/outdoor-activities/martinique-beach-provincial-park/1745>) or Lawrencetown Beach (LawrencetownBeach.com). The latter is especially known for surfing. (Suggested by Norm Schepp, Conference Program Chair).

Two other amazing beaches are Crystal Crescent (<http://www.novascotia.com/see-do/outdoor-activities/crystal-crescent-beach-provincial-park/1865>) and Conrad's Beach (no website but it's on google maps). The latter is very sheltered with shallow water that might be warm enough for a dip in June. For a list of many excellent beaches, see <http://www.halifaxsociable.ca/top-10->

beaches-in-halifax-you-need-to-go-to/ ) (Suggested by Mark Obrovac, faculty member, Dalhousie University.)

Visit “Hope for Wildlife” (<http://www.hopeforwildlife.net/visit.html>), a facility that rehabilitates injured wildlife. (Suggested by Deanna Wentzell, staff member, Dalhousie University).

Visit Kejimikujik National Park (known locally as “Keji” – see <http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/pn-np/ns/kejimikujik/index.aspx>). (Suggested by Cheryl Stanton, staff member, Dalhousie University).