



## The Mug-Up Minute

January 16th, 2026

*Put the kettle on and take a moment for some fresh news from Newfoundland and Labrador's tourism industry!*

### In the News?

#### **Canada could lose 4,000 restaurants in 2026, new report suggests**

Canada is expected to lose 4,000 restaurants nationwide this year, a new report by Dalhousie University's Agri-Food Analytics Lab suggests. ([Learn More](#))

#### **NL projects receive \$1.6 million in federal climate adaptation funding**

Twenty-five Newfoundland and Labrador communities will receive funding to help plan for flooding, erosion and other climate risks. ([Learn More](#))

#### **Canadian Culinary Championship 2026**

Chef from Newfoundland and Labrador is taking the national stage at the Canadian Culinary Championship 2026. Click the link to learn more about our local talent and this exciting event! ([Learn More](#))





## Member Resource Spotlight

Tourism in Newfoundland and Labrador plays a vital role in our province, employing more than 20,000 people and contributing \$1.14 billion annually to our economy. With over 2,700 tourism businesses operating across the province, having access to a strong workforce is more important than ever.

Hospitality NL's Tourism Job Board is designed to help our members attract qualified, motivated candidates for seasonal, part-time, and year-round positions. Whether you're hiring for peak season, expanding your team, or filling specialized roles, this platform connects your business with job seekers who are actively looking to work in tourism.

### Why use the Job Board?

- Reach tourism-focused job seekers across Newfoundland and Labrador
- Promote your business and employment brand
- Fill positions faster and more efficiently
- Support workforce growth across the industry

Hiring now? Post your job openings on the Hospitality NL Tourism Job Board and start connecting with candidates today.

[Learn More](#)



## Exclusive PAL Airlines Discount for Hospitality NL Conference and Trade Show

### Attendees

As a proud corporate sponsor of Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador, **PAL Airlines** is offering a special flight discount to support travel to the HNL Conference and Trade Show!

Use promo code **HNL 2026** when booking flights **into and out of St. John's (YYT)** for travel between **February 21?28**.

Take advantage of this limited-time offer and book your travel early to secure the best availability. We're grateful to PAL Airlines for helping make event travel more accessible for our members!

# Exceptional Experience

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR



### Exceptional Experiences Program ? Applications Now Open

Applications are now open for the Exceptional Experiences Program, a provincial designation recognizing tourism experiences in Newfoundland and Labrador that are intentionally crafted, deeply rooted in place, and delivered with care throughout the guest journey.

This designation celebrates experiences that go beyond amenities to create genuine connections to our people, culture, and communities. It's not about size or polish, it's about how the experience feels, from the welcome and storytelling to the moments that surprise, delight, and last long after the visit ends.

Designated experiences receive enhanced marketing exposure, trusted third-party validation, and greater visibility across provincial tourism channels, helping build confidence and convert interest into bookings.

Eligible experiences must be TAP approved, operating for at least one year, and demonstrate consistency, authenticity, safety, and a clear "wow" moment for guests.

The Exceptional Experience designation applies to a specific tourism experience offered by a business or organization. It is not a designation of the business, operation, or organization as a whole.

[Learn More](#)

**Reminder: Hospitality NL Board Nominations ? Deadline Jan 25**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION ✓**

**NOMINATIONS ARE  
NOW OPEN**



**Hospitality NL is inviting members to run for our Board of Directors.**

Open positions include:

- 2 Directors at Large
- Small Accommodations Sector Rep
- Large Accommodations Sector Rep

**Nomination deadline: Jan 25, 2026**

Bring your experience and passion for tourism to help guide our industry forward!



**HOSPITALITY**  
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

## 2026 Conference & Trade Show

February 24-26, 2026  
St. John's, NL  
at the



Join us for the 2026 Hospitality NL Conference & Trade Show, happening February 24-26, 2026 at the JAG Hotel in St. John's!

We're bringing together tourism professionals, leaders, and partners from across Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada for three days of learning, networking, and celebration.

What to look forward to:

- ? Engaging sessions and expert speakers
- ? Incredible networking opportunities
- ? A vibrant trade show featuring the latest in tourism products and services
- ? The Tourism Excellence Awards Gala



## 2026 Cruise Vision Award

The Cruise Vision Award recognizes an individual, organization, or business that has made a meaningful contribution to the growth and future of cruise tourism in Newfoundland and Labrador. This nomination form is designed to be quick and easy to complete. Thank you for helping us recognize leadership across our province.

[Click Here - Nomination Form](#)

## RECYCLING ELECTRONICS AND SMALL APPLIANCES.



Did you know that many of the electronic devices and small appliances found in your hotel can be recycled for free through our regulated Recycle My Electronics program?

The Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA) is an industry-led, not-for-profit that manages the only government-approved end-of-life electronics recycling program in the province.

Our program includes electronic devices and small appliances such as:

- Phones (cellular and landline)
- Radios and clocks
- Laptops, tablets, and computers
- Irons and hair dryers
- Printers and copiers
- Microwaves and coffee makers
- Keyboards, mice and cables
- Toasters and tea kettles
- Chargers and docking stations
- Displays and TVs

[Full List of Products](#)

[Book My Pick Up](#)

# National Tourism Workforce Summit

Getting Organized.  
Setting an Action Plan.



WEBINAR

19 January 2026 1:00 pm ET



Join policymakers, industry leaders, educators, and workforce professionals for the **National Tourism Workforce Summit** — a focused **90-minute webinar** examining today's tourism labour market and what comes next.

This session will highlight key workforce trends, pressures, and opportunities, assess what current strategies are working (and where gaps remain), and present **practical, forward-looking recommendations** that require collaboration across government, industry, education, and community partners.

**Who should attend:**

- ? Government and policy professionals
- ? Employers and industry leaders
- ? Education and training providers
- ? Workforce and economic development practitioners

**What you'll gain:**

- ? A concise, research-driven overview of labour market conditions
- ? Insight into effective workforce strategies
- ? Actionable recommendations for cross-sector collaboration

The summit will inform the development of a new **Tourism Workforce Blueprint 2030**.

 **January 19, 2026 | 2:30 PM (NL Time)**

 **Register today and be part of shaping the future tourism workforce.**

[Register Here](#)



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**



This email was sent by Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador, 71 Goldstone Street (Suite 102), St. John's, NL, A1B 5C3.

To unsubscribe [click here](#). If you have questions or comments concerning this email, please contact us at 1-800-563-0700 or [hnld@hnld.ca](mailto:hnld@hnld.ca)

## ENEWS SIGN UP

Sign up for Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador's weekly eNews to keep you informed.

enter email address

**SUBSCRIBE**



(<https://www.facebook.com/HospitalityNL/>)

## MAIN OFFICE

71 Goldstone Street (Suite 102)  
St. John's, NL  
A1B 5C3

**Monday to Friday**  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

**Saturday to Sunday**  
Closed

Phone: +1-709-722-2000  
Toll Free: +1-800-563-0700  
Fax: +1-709-722-8104



(<https://www.instagram.com/hospitalitynl/>)

**READ CURRENT NEWS ([HTTPS://HNL.CA/NEWS/](https://hnl.ca/news/))** Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador