



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 2, 2022

Press release: Spring Flavours culinary event series set to showcase local producers from across Nova Scotia

<u>Farmers' Markets of Nova Scotia</u> (FMNS) and <u>Friends of Agriculture Nova Scotia</u> (FANS) are excited to announce a series of three culinary events taking place across Nova Scotia this spring. Spring Flavours is a small plate sampling feast that will showcase many of Nova Scotia's amazing local producers, farmers, brewers, and chefs.

Each location will be unique with regional vendors, so guests are invited to attend several events. Guests can choose between an afternoon sitting (2pm to 4pm) or an evening sitting (4pm to 6pm) at each of the three unique event locations:

- Sunday, April 10, 2022: Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, Port Hawkesbury
- Sunday, April 24, 2022: Louis Millet Community Complex, New Minas
- Sunday, May 1, 2022: Halifax Brewery Farmers' Market, Halifax

Tickets are for sale now and can be purchased by <u>clicking here!</u> Tickets are \$50 each and include unlimited samples of food and beverages over the course of a two-hour period.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to celebrate the arrival of spring and the abundance of top-quality local food and drink that our province has to offer", says Justin Cantafio, Executive Director of FMNS. "The time has finally come to get out, come together, and celebrate our fantastic local producers!".

Sponsored by FANS Scotia, an impressive and growing list of local food and beverage vendors have been selected from the client list of FarmWorks Investment Cooperative and vendors through the Farmers' Markets of Nova Scotia Cooperative.

"Spring Flavours will feature food from the heart, for body and soul, produced close to home for all of us", says Linda Best, Chair of FANS, and Director of FarmWorks. "Please join us to meet many outstanding Nova Scotian providers and enjoy delicious, nutritious taste sensations. Bring your family and friends!". Linda Best and the FANS team have spearheaded ten April Flavours Dinners in the HRM and Annapolis Valley and are pleased to sponsor Spring Flavours in three locations this year.

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The list of confirmed vendors is growing by the day, with plans to have at least 20 in attendance at each location. Here is a sample of some of the vendors you can expect to see at one or more of the three Spring Flavours events:

- Axe To Grind Foods
- Barrelling Tide Distillery
- Big Spruce Brewing Company
- Boxing Rock Brewing Company
- Bramble Hill Farm
- Bungalow Beans Coffee
- Cape Breton Farmers' Market
- Carte Blanche Kombucha
- Chili Chili Bang Bang
- Chocolaterie By-The-Sea
- Dr Kombu Brewing Company (Solas Kombucha)
- Duck Duck Mousse Catering
- Food Fantastique / Dining on the Ocean Floor
- Jazz's Sweets & Treats
- Jojos Elderberries
- Lahave River Berry Farm Inc.
- The Larder
- Lunenburg Rum Cakes
- Lunn's Mill Beer Company
- Ma Bell's Country Condiments
- Maritime Express Cider Co.
- Milk Street Cheese Company
- Molotov Cuisine
- MoorBern Farm
- Moth + Moon Farm & Apothecary
- Petite Patrie Chocolate
- Pickled Pink Traditional Food & Drink
- Ponds Country Kitchen and Gardens
- Sable Shortbread Company
- Shivani's kitchen
- Spicy Kitchen NS
- Still Fired Distilleries
- The Sugar Free Kitchen
- Sydney Street Pub and Cafe
- TwinAitch Food for Thought
- Waugh's River Gardens
- Wayfarers' Ale Ltd
- Wheelhouse Coffee Co.



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About Farmers' Markets of Nova Scotia

Founded in 2004, FMNS is a non-profit cooperative serving as Nova Scotia's farmers' market sector association. With over 40 unique members representing over 1,500 owner-operated businesses across the province, our cooperative is the unified voice of our region's farmers' market sector. Our cooperative advances growth and prosperity for our member farmers' markets and their vendors through training, resources, advocacy, promotion, and community. Together, our organization and our members are building a cooperative and dynamic farmers' market sector cultivating successful businesses, vibrant local economies, and healthy communities.

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Our cooperative's member farmers' markets are small business incubators, job creators, and hubs for social and economic activity. They're the places where producers and vendors sell directly with their target market, where entrepreneurs find a low-overhead venue to create and develop their minimum viable product, where artisans showcase and sell their wares, and where new Canadians ply their trade. Our cooperative's farmers' markets are also a driving force in Nova Scotia's buy-local movement and the trendsetters that launched and continue to bolster the province's thriving agri-tourism industry.

About FarmWorks Investment Co-operative

FarmWorks Investment Co-operative Limited was incorporated as a for-profit Co-operative on May 18, 2011 by an association of community leaders concerned about social, economic and cultural needs. FarmWorks promotes and provides strategic and responsible community investment in food production and distribution in order to increase access to a sustainable local food supply for all Nova Scotians. There is significant potential for agriculture and food production to benefit health, employment, and the Provincial economy.

FarmWorks Community Economic Development Investment Fund (CEDIF) enables Nova Scotians annually to purchase common shares in a diversified portfolio of businesses that yield meaningful financial returns on investments. These investments provide subordinated debt financing for farms, food processors, and value-added food producers, helping to increase the viability and sustainability of agriculture and the security of a healthy food supply.

FarmWorks creates meaningful partnerships with investors and with loan recipients, with businesses and other lenders. These partnerships contribute to the growth of food-related enterprises across the province.

FarmWorks Directors and Advisors identify enterprises that will successfully and sustainably increase production and profitability, and work closely with them to mentor and promote their businesses. Guidelines for measuring and reporting outcomes are in place for supported businesses and for the Board.