



For Immediate Release
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PRESS RELEASE

Celebrity Oyster Shucking Competition Promotes Local Aquaculture Products and Wines

Halifax, N.S. - Sip 'n Shuck, a celebration of Nova Scotia's local aquaculture products and wine, will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at the Delta Halifax Hotel. In addition to sampling quality mussels, oysters, clams and wine, attendees can cheer on celebrity contestants vying for the rights to the Nova Scotia Oyster Shucking Crown.

"We have amazing local seafood and wines here in Nova Scotia," says Janice Ruddock, executive director of Taste of Nova Scotia. "Sip 'n Shuck is a chance for producers to promote their products and an opportunity for consumers to pair local seafoods with our award-winning Nova Scotia wines...the celebrity shucking competition adds a new twist to the event."

Celebrity competitors for the eighth annual Sip 'n Shuck include:

Dawn Sloane - Councillor District 12, Halifax

Brad Dryden - Morning Show Host, C100

The Honourable Ron Chisholm - Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture

The Honourable Chris A. d'Entremont - Minister of Community Services, Minister of Acadian Affairs

Nancy McConnery - Women's Provincial Curling Champion

Each competitor will be given eight Nova Scotia oysters to shuck in a specific period of time. They will be judged on speed and quality of shucking.

The Sip 'n Shuck event includes a unique menu of Nova Scotia aquaculture products prepared by executive chef Sean Doucet and his Delta Halifax culinary team. Mussels, oysters, hard shell clams and other local seafood will be paired with Nova Scotia wines, beer and sparkling ciders. Dave MacIsaac and Louis Benoit will provide entertainment for the evening.

Tickets, \$35 per person, may be purchased from the Taste of Nova Scotia office at (902)492-9291 ext. 114 or taste@tasteofnovascotia.com. Tickets are also available at the door.

Sip 'n Shuck is sponsored by Taste of Nova Scotia, Winery Association of Nova Scotia, Delta Hotels, Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia, Select Nova Scotia, and Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Aquaculture.

For more information about Sip 'n Shuck, visit www.winesns.ca.

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