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Out-of-this-World Events

As Atlantic Canada’s largest science centre, the Discovery Centre is the inventive choice for one-of-a-kind meetings and events in Halifax. Located on the city’s historic waterfront, the Centre’s renovated industrial building provides an impressive atmosphere that includes a 4-story atrium, glass elevator, 9-metre video screen, harbour views, and sky-high ceilings. 40,000 square feet of flexible floor space accommodates up to 800 guests and showcases over 200 STEAM-themed (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) exhibits.

From a seated dinner in our soaring top-level space, to a standing reception in one of five unique gallery settings, meeting and event attendees have the added pleasure of enjoying interactive exhibits, immersive Dome Theatre shows, science demonstrations, and recess challenges guaranteed to entertain and inspire. An on-site event management specialist is always on hand to help create an unforgettable experience.

Features & Facilities include:

• Unique Gallery Spaces
• Program Rooms
• Executive Boardroom
• Multipurpose Rooms
• Dome Theatre
• Innovation Lab
• Licensed Catering
• Complimentary Wi-Fi
• Harbour Views
• Four-level Atrium
• Glass Elevator
• Wheelchair Accessibility
• Facilitator-led entertainment and experiences
Visitor Lounge

A brilliant space on our top floor overlooking Halifax’s active seaport, the Visitor Lounge is the Centre’s most versatile space for a variety of functions. Day-to-day, this level hosts a lounging area, café, and our children’s gallery, RBC Someday Street, which retracts to provide an ideal space for sit down dinners and lectures, and the café easily converts to a bar or food station. With floor-to-ceiling windows that provide incredible views and natural light, this area can be dressed up or down to fit your event theme.

Capacity: Standing - 225, Theatre - 200, Dinner - 120
Nassim & Rhonda Ghosn
Multipurpose Room

This room is an excellent space for meetings, breakout sessions, and team-building challenges. Floor-to-ceiling, south-facing windows provide plenty of natural light and outstanding views of the seaport. It’s a perfect area for your team to showcase presentations and conduct brainstorming sessions with access to white boards and LED Smart TVs.

Capacity: Boardroom/Classroom - 24, Theatre - 40

Boardroom

Tucked away within the administration area, the Boardroom is the ideal space for intimate meetings.

Capacity: 14
Level 2
Features & Amenities

- Galleries
- Program Rooms
- Accessible Washrooms
- Sink/Water Access
- Elevator

Galleries

Host your reception in an incredible atmosphere of educational and interactive exhibits that provide entertainment for guests of all ages. Our three Level 2 Galleries are themed around health, flight and energy and house over 100 exhibits for guests to enjoy. STEAM-inspired experiences are a great fit in this setting with our Science on the Spot demonstrations.

Capacity: 150
Program Rooms A & B

These rooms are ideal for larger meetings, small trade shows, and as a homebase for corporate group visits. The two rooms adjoin and may be reserved separately, together, or in combination with the floor’s gallery space. Fitted with screens, white boards, and pin boards, this is also a great space for creativity and communication.

*Combined Capacity: Boardroom/Classroom - 48, Theatre - 80*
Level 1

Features & Amenities

• Lindsay Construction Orientation Gallery
• The Bill & Janet Murphy Ocean Gallery
• Main Entrance & Admissions
• Discovery Shop
• Accessible Washrooms
• Family Washroom
• First Aid
• Elevator
• Coat Check
• Multipurpose Room

The Bill & Janet Murphy Ocean Gallery

The newest addition to the Discovery Centre, The Bill & Janet Murphy Ocean Gallery explores the essential role the Ocean plays in the welfare of our planet through wet and wondrous interactive exhibits. Ideal for standing receptions and announcements, double your capacity by booking in conjunction with the Lindsay Construction Orientation Gallery.

Capacity: 150
Dome Theatre

Step inside the immersive Dome Theatre and take a guided tour to another galaxy, planet, or nebula! Complete with amphitheatre style seating, surround sound, and a Digistar-5 projection screen system; the Dome Theatre provides a one-of-a-kind experience with presenter-led star shows and full-dome films. This space is also ideal for lecture-style meetings with the ability to project your presentation slides or video in full 16:9 ratio.

*Capacity: 65*

Lindsay Construction Orientation Gallery

The Lindsay Construction Orientation Gallery provides incredible views of the Centre from top to bottom. This space is ideal for standing receptions, podium lectures, and announcements. Impress your guests with a display on a 9-metre screen and 6 colour-changing globe lights matched to your brand or theme. Located just outside the immersive Dome Theatre, pair these two spaces together for the ultimate in networking, mingling, and entertainment.

*Capacity: 75*
Level 0

Features & Amenities

- WILSONS Featured Exhibit Gallery & Atrium
- Michelin Corporate Foundation Innovation Lab
- Elevator

WILSONS Featured Exhibit Gallery & Atrium

This 5,000-square foot area is an ever-evolving space as it is home to visiting exhibits from around the world, changing three to four times per year. This space is great for hosting themed events and receptions. Use the Atrium, located adjacent to the gallery, for standing receptions and networking while your guests interact with some of the world’s best travelling exhibits.

*Capacity: 200*

Michelin Corporate Foundation Innovation Lab

This creative space is ideal for small, out-of-the-box meetings and brainstorm sessions.

*Capacity: 40*
The Discovery Centre has a range of on-site static and portable AV equipment and accessories available to suit your needs including:

- 2 mobile 70” LED Smart TV digital displays
- 9-metre video screen
- 6 colour-changing globe lights
- Cisco Telepresence (Web X) with 54” Digital Display
- Mobile PA System
- Centre-wide PA
- Podium
- Staging
Centre Experiences
Take your event to the next level with our facilitator-led STEAM experiences.

**Live Science Shows (20 minutes each)**
Break out of your meeting for the most memorable science lesson you’ll ever have! Our enthusiastic STEAM Facilitators will stun onlookers with a series of visually astounding and educational experiments.

**Scavenger Hunt (45 minutes)**
Explore the Centre’s Galleries during opening hours with our bespoke Scavenger Hunt. Designed to help guide your group through the many STEAM themed exhibits, this experience provides direction for your self-guided visit. Why not break your group into teams and make a game of it!

**Science Busking (20 minutes/hour)**
A fantastic addition to any event at the Discovery Centre! While your guests mingle and network, our STEAM team will engage small groups with short, sharp science experiences from ‘magic’ tricks to musical straws and hands-on, minds-on critical thinking challenges.

**Private Dome Shows (25 minutes)**
An amazing addition to any meeting or event, provide a private, one-of-a-kind Dome Theatre experience with presenter-led star shows and full-dome films.

**Teambuilding (60-90 minutes)**
Breakout of your business meeting, encourage team-building and put your best and brightest to the test with a Corporate Recess challenge. Through our immersive programs, led by STEAM Facilitators, your team will be encouraged to work on creative problem-solving techniques and communication skills that will enhance team performance.

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Are you looking for entertainment that fits into your themed event?
Ask about customized additional programming.
Catering

We are pleased to offer excellent catering options for your next meeting or event at the Discovery Centre. For more information or to view menus, please visit our website or contact our Events Coordinator.

RCR Hospitality Group

RCR Hospitality Group is the exclusive food and beverage provider for all after-hour events at the Discovery Centre including dinners, receptions, and bar service. RCR is well-known for their experience and passion for creating memorable events, and their culinary team is happy to work with you closely in designing your menu. The sky is the limit!

E: ayla@rcr.ca
T: 902.418.5543

For smaller groups and daytime meetings we are more than happy to recommend a number of options for breakfast, breaks, and lunch. Ask for details.
Frequently Asked Questions

May I view the venue prior to booking?
Yes, please just contact our Events Coordinator to make arrangements.

When can I host my event?
Most of the Centre’s venue rentals are available outside of normal operating hours. **Daytime Events** are possible, but usually limited to the Boardroom, Ghosn Multipurpose Room, and Program Rooms A & B, and select times for the Dome Theatre. All day-time event spaces are available from 9:00am to 4:00pm including set-up and breakdown time. **Evening Events** may begin as early at 5:30pm depending upon format and are flexible in duration. An additional fee is applicable for those continuing past 5 hours or 12:00am. Please note that Mondays & Tuesdays the Centre is closed to the public however, event rentals remain available. The Centre is closed on the following holidays: Good Friday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year’s Day.

What is not included in the rental fee?
Food and beverage, technical equipment & labour, event coordination, security, additional experiences offered by the Centre, and full Centre access are not included in the rental fee.

Are there special rates for not-for-profit organizations?
Yes, the Centre offers a discounted rate of 15% for some room rentals to registered NPOs.

What is the cancellation policy?
Notice of cancellation must be submitted in writing. In the first instance, we will offer an opportunity to find an alternative date. Deposits received upon booking are non-refundable.

May I decorate the space?
Absolutely! However, no decorations or lighting may be placed on displays and exhibits, confetti cannons and smoke machines are not permitted, and other items (i.e. live plants, open flames) may be prohibited in gallery spaces.

Is it possible to have live or recorded music during my event?
Of course. The Discovery Centre is bound to collect and remit licensing fees on behalf of SOCAN and ReSound. Both of these organizations levy fees in Canada for all events in which recorded music or live entertainment is engaged. Fees for both, plus HST, will be automatically applied to your contract and invoice. Fees range depending on capacity. For more information, please visit www.socan.ca and www.resound.ca.

Location
1215 Lower Water Street, Halifax, NS B3J 3S8

Parking
The Discovery Centre does not have designated parking but you can find pay and display lots on Marginal Road and Lower Water Street including Halifax Seaport, Cunard, and Via Rail Halifax locations. You may also find metered street parking close-by on Morris Street, Hollis Street, and Terminal Road. To note, some parking is free on weekends and evenings after 6:00pm.
Level 0

- WILSONS Featured Exhibit
  Capacity: 200
- Atrium
- Michelin Corporate Foundation Innovation Lab
  50' x 20' | Capacity: 40
- Program Room A
- Program Room B
- Combined Capacity: W/ tables - 48
  Theatre - 80
- Nova Scotia Power Energy Gallery
- IMP Aerospace Flight Gallery
  Capacity: 150
- Medavie Health Gallery

Level 1

- Multipurpose Room
  W
- Discovery Shop
- Front Desk
- Lindsay Construction Orientation Gallery
  30' x 30' | Capacity: 75
- Immersive Dome Theatre
  Capacity: 65
- Nassim & Rhonda Ghosn Multipurpose Room
  44' x 10' | Capacity: W/ tables - 24,
  Theatre - 40
- Visitor Lounge
  90' x 25'
  Capacity: Standing - 225, Theatre - 200, Dinner - 120
- Administration
- RBC Someday Street
- Servery
- Staff Lounge
- Boardroom
  24' x 18'
  Capacity: 14

Level 2

- Program Room A
- Program Room B
- Nova Scotia Power Energy Gallery
- IMP Aerospace Flight Gallery
  Capacity: 150
- Medavie Health Gallery

Level 3

- Multipurpose Room
  W
- Discovery Shop
- Front Desk
- Lindsay Construction Orientation Gallery
  30' x 30' | Capacity: 75
- Immersive Dome Theatre
  Capacity: 65
- Nassim & Rhonda Ghosn Multipurpose Room
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- Administration
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- Servery
- Staff Lounge
- Boardroom
  24' x 18'
  Capacity: 14

Discovery Centre Floor Plan

- Entrance
- Coat Check
- Washrooms
- Elevator
- Stairs
- Fire Exit
- First Aid

Events & Venue Rentals
Thank you for your interest in hosting an event at the Discovery Centre.
Please note that all venue rental inquiry forms must be submitted at least two weeks in advance of preferred event date.

For questions or inquiries, please contact:
E: events@thediscoverycentre.ca  |  T: (902) 492.4422 x 2223
www.thediscoverycentre.ca/events/venue