



**O**f all the world's *Titanic*-related cities, Halifax is surely the most poignant and emotionally powerful. Here, efforts to recover the disaster's victims were initiated and managed. Here, some 150 passengers and crew ended their Atlantic crossings in places of peace: Fairview Lawn, Mount Olivet and Baron de Hirsch cemeteries, with another 50 forwarded on to other destinations. As one walks among the stones, lost in thought and contemplation, one finally sees that April night's cost in a way that names listed in a book simply cannot evoke. Some 30 *Titanic*-related sites populate this historic city and its surrounding area.

Halifax is also a city of vibrant life, with exceptional cultural attractions, from its 19th Century Fort George atop the central Citadel Hill National Historic Site to the bustling waterfront and its Museum of Immigration and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, and the 1913-built cable ship *Acadia* (with its Welin davits!) Halifax is a place of warm welcomes and near-instantaneous friendships, great restaurants, beautiful vistas, Nova Scotian culture and fun.

And it is the site of our most ambitious convention ever, held in partnership with the Titanic Society of Atlantic Canada (TSAC). For the first time, it's a *four-day* experience, with so much to see and do: bus trips, museum visits, expert speakers, a musical tribute, great dining, memorabilia sales, a TIS-TSAC auction, and plenty of free time to explore, shop and make new friends. Indeed, TSAC members are eager to serve as our guides and showcase their unique *Titanic* knowledge, their vibrant hometown and their city's extensive maritime history. A favorable exchange rate adds to Halifax's attraction: At this writing, one Canadian dollar costs just US79¢. **And even with a full extra day of activities, our Convention's Registration Fee is unchanged from 2016!**



This convention offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn about a key chapter of *Titanic*'s story in the company of enthusiastic Haligonians who will add so much beyond what a "typical" tour guide might.

It's now time to register for **Convention 2018: Halifax!**, a remarkable, memorable four days in Nova Scotia's capital city – the City by the Sea. **Non-U.S. members of TIS, please register for the convention through TIS.**

## **Dates**

Our convention program spans four days, from **Thursday, June 21** through **Sunday, June 24, 2018**. But we strongly recommend that you consider *extending* your Nova Scotia sojourn for several additional days so you can explore Nova Scotia, from the picturesque Peggy's Cove to French-speaking Acadian villages and the spectacular Cape Breton coast. Our special hotel rates are available (upon request) for up to three days before and three days after the convention.

## **What you'll need**

Canadian law requires that all persons entering Canada carry both proof of citizenship and proof of identity. A valid U.S. passport, passport card, or NEXUS card satisfies these requirements for U.S. citizens. Children under 16 need only present proof of U.S. citizenship.

**Returning to the United States:** When traveling by air *from* Canada, U.S. citizens are required by U.S. law to present a U.S. passport book. A few exceptions to this rule and a full list of documents that can be used at *land* and *sea* borders are provided on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) website.

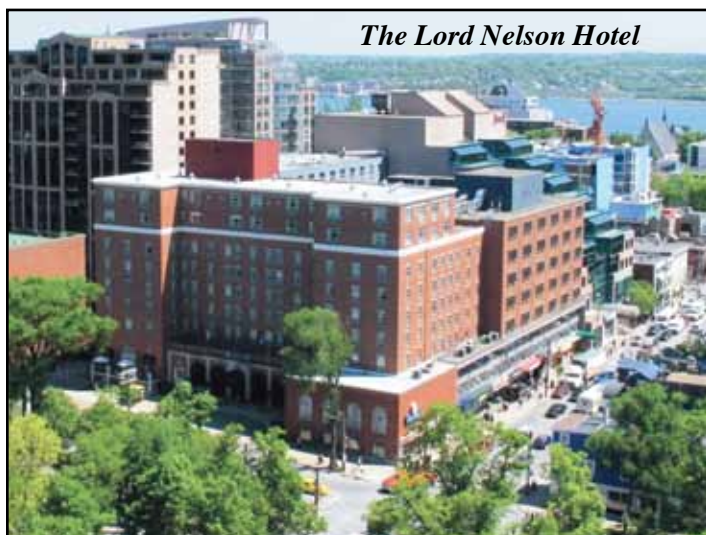
**Travel with minors:** If you plan to travel to Canada with a minor who is not your own child or for whom you do not have full legal custody, CBSA may require you to present a notarized affidavit of consent from the minor's parents. Please refer to their website for more details.

Citizens of other countries may need a passport *and* visa to enter Canada, while those of other countries might not. As soon as possible, and well before you leave your home country, visit <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp> for details.

## Getting to Halifax

**By air:** Halifax's Stanfield International Airport is served by airlines from many U.S., Canadian and European cities. For a full listing, visit <https://halifaxstanfield.ca/flight-information/flying-yhz/>. Rental cars, taxis, buses and airport shuttle services bring you into central Halifax, about a half-hour's drive away. For further details, check <https://halifaxstanfield.ca/transportation/>. Our hotel offers car service to and from the airport for Cdn\$63 (US\$50) per one-way trip, with up to four passengers, travel time about 30 minutes; it must be booked in advance directly with the hotel via e-mail to [ask@lordnelsonhotel.com](mailto:ask@lordnelsonhotel.com). An airport shuttle stops at our Halifax hotel. Price is Cdn\$22 (US\$17.60) one way, or Cdn\$40 (US\$31.25) round trip per person. Travel time is about an hour. Book at <https://maritimebus.com/halifax-airport-shuttle>. **By train:** Rail travel from Canadian cities to Halifax is available through VIA Rail via Montréal. U.S. connections can be made via AMTRAK to Toronto and/or Montréal. A list of VIA and AMTRAK routes and schedules can be found at <http://www.viarail.ca/en/plan-your-trip/customize-your-train-schedule>, and/or <http://www.amtrak.com>.

**By car:** A high-speed catamaran ferry service makes a 6-hour, 40-mph voyage between Portland, Maine and Yarmouth, NS, which, in turn, is a three- to four-hour drive (189 mi. [301 km]) from Halifax. Service presently is suspended for the winter, so check <https://www.ferries.ca/thecat/> in early 2018 to see schedules and fares. Alternatively, drive through eastern Maine and New Brunswick, and then on to Halifax. From *Boston*, this route is about a 700-mile, 10-hour drive.



## Our hotel

Our convention headquarters is the Lord Nelson Hotel, 1515 South Park Street, Halifax. A city landmark for more than 85 years, the centrally located Lord Nelson overlooks the beautiful 16-acre Halifax Public Gardens and has recently undergone a multi-million-dollar refurbishment, blending the best of heritage and modernity. Its 262 guest rooms feature every amenity, including free standard Wi-Fi Internet, a business center and a fitness facility. Parking is available for Cdn\$28 (US\$22) plus 15% tax per day in the hotel's indoor garage.

The hotel is offering a special rate to TIS and TSAC members of Cdn\$189 per night (approximately US\$149), per room (single

or double occupancy), plus 2% Levy and 15% HST tax, totaling Cdn\$221.70 (approximately US\$174.85.)

We have set aside a room block based on anticipated attendance from *both* organizations. But we must urge you to make your reservations *as early as possible* as the number of rooms is limited, and any unreserved rooms in the block will be released to the public after the May 21, 2018 cut-off date. Rooms may be reserved online or by phone until that time, subject to availability of Classic King rooms. If you require Classic 2-Queen rooms, please e-mail [ask@lordnelsonhotel.com](mailto:ask@lordnelsonhotel.com) and mention the *Titanic International Society* or group number 38829. Additional reservations requested after May 21 will be accepted and confirmed at the group rate, subject to availability of Classic guest rooms. Please contact the reservations department directly at 1-800-565-2020 or (902) 423-5130, or by e-mail at [ask@lordnelsonhotel.com](mailto:ask@lordnelsonhotel.com), again mentioning group number 38829. Remember that **after May 21**, reservations at our special group rate are at the hotel's discretion.

If you book online *before* May 21, use this link to obtain the special TIS/TSAC rate:

<https://res.lordnelsonhotel.com/booking/?group=38829>

One of the *best* parts of staying at our *official* hotel is the frequent opportunities it provides, outside the formal program, to enjoy our new friends' company.

Please note that neither TIS nor TSAC can provide roommate pairings, nor can we make hotel reservations on your behalf.

## The tentative agenda

A convention involves a huge amount of planning, coordination, negotiating, checking and double-checking. As with any such event, however, circumstances beyond TIS's and TSAC's control can cause changes in the program that follows. The following agenda is correct as of January 12, 2018:

### Thursday, June 21

2 p.m. – Registration opens; Authors and other exhibitors showcase their books, memorabilia, etc.

4-5 p.m. – Introduction to Halifax with Dee Ryan-Meister, president of the Titanic Society of Atlantic Canada. Overview of the city, its *Titanic* connections, the Halifax Explosion and why Halifax is known as the "City of the Dead."

5:15-6:15 p.m. – Presentation by Israeli author Eli Moskowitz: *The Jews of the Titanic*. Book signing to follow.

6:15-7:30 p.m. – Welcome Reception, with cash bar. Visit authors' and exhibitors' tables and mingle with members from both societies.

7:30-8:30 p.m. – Presentation of *Living Titanic* with Rosalee Peppard, a special musical remembrance and tribute to Hilda Mary Slayter, Halifax's only *Titanic* survivor.





## SS Atlantic monument



### Friday, June 22

9 a.m. – Depart for the Halifax cemeteries.  
9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. – Tour the three *Titanic* cemeteries of Halifax with memorial services at each: Mount Olivet (Catholic, 19 graves), Fairview Lawn (non-sectarian, 121 graves), and Baron de Hirsch (Jewish, 10 graves).

12:30-1:45 p.m. – Lunch with the group at a restaurant near Fairview Lawn Cemetery. (Separate checks!)  
1:45-2:30 p.m. – Bus to the SS *Atlantic* Heritage Park, site of the 1873 loss of White Star's *Atlantic*, called "the 19<sup>th</sup> Century *Titanic*," with the loss of more than 530, including all women and all but one of the children.  
2:30-4 p.m. – Tour the park with Bob Chauk, TSAC member and diver, who has extensively researched the *Atlantic*. Visit the museum, craft shop, and enjoy its well-known blueberry cake, coffee and tea.  
4:45 p.m. – Return to the Lord Nelson.  
4:45-6 p.m. – Free time.  
6-7:30 p.m. – Reception with food stations and cash bar.  
7:45-9 p.m. – Titanic International Society president Charlie Haas presents the story of the unique telegrams documenting the Halifax-based recovery efforts.

### Saturday, June 23

9:30 a.m. – Bus departure for the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic for a group tour.  
12-1:30 p.m. – Lunch with the group at the Auction House Restaurant. (Separate checks!)  
1:30-3 p.m. – After lunch, a tour of St. Paul's Anglican Church and St. Mary's Basilica, where funerals were held for *Titanic* victims. Stops at other *Titanic* sites in the area.  
3-6 p.m. – Free time; explore the Citadel, the waterfront, the shops, or what you will. Bus transportation available at a set time for return to the hotel from the waterfront.  
6 p.m. – Cash bar opens.  
6:30 p.m. – Gala Dinner begins. (Period attire welcome!)  
8 p.m.-10 p.m. – Auction; TIS and TSAC share the proceeds.



### Sunday, June 24

10 -11:30 a.m. – TIS Business Meeting. (While only TIS members may vote on questions put before the meeting, TSAC members are cordially invited to attend.)

### The Convention adjourns.

(Sunday afternoon – Optional afternoon tours with Dee Ryan-Meister and members of TSAC: St. George's Round Church on Brunswick Street, site of the funeral for the Unknown Child [Sidney Goodwin], or a trip to the Dartmouth Heritage Museum and Christ Church Cemetery, site of a memorial to *Titanic* victim George Wright.)

## About Saturday's auction

One never knows what treasures will emerge for sale at one of our [in]famous auctions. (Once known as the "Midnight Madness Auction," which sometimes concluded at 2 a.m., we now convene earlier to encourage better attendance, insane "bidding battles" and lots of fun!)

We ask each TIS and TSAC attendee to bring and contribute one or more items to be offered for bids. Those traveling by air to Halifax should bring flat and/or unbreakable items that can be easily and safely packed in your *checked* luggage. Bidding will be in Canadian dollars, and "cash only" will prevail. At the auction's conclusion, proceeds will be evenly split between TSAC and TIS. Presidents Dee Ryan-Meister and Charlie Haas will share auctioneer duties.

We hope you'll contribute and support the treasuries of both organizations and have a rollicking fun time!

## What's next?

**Step One:** Visit <https://res.lordnelsonhotel.com/booking/?group=38829> to make your room reservation online, telephone the hotel at (902) 423-5130, or e-mail the hotel at [ask@lordnelsonhotel.com](mailto:ask@lordnelsonhotel.com), mentioning group number 38829 or Titanic International Society.

**Deadline for booking rooms is May 21, 2018**, but *do not wait* until then, as our rooms already will have been booked! Check-in time is 3 p.m.; check-out time is noon. TIS and TSAC cannot arrange room sharing, nor make reservations on your behalf.

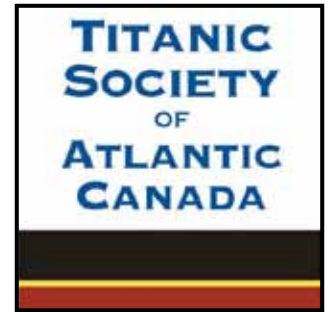
**Step Two:** Complete the *Convention Registration Form* on the next page and mail it *with your payment* to Bob Bracken, Convention 2018, 47 Van Blarcom Avenue, Midland Park, NJ 07432-1852 USA to **arrive** by March 30, 2018. **PayPal:** You may also send the information asked for on the form on page 4 by e-mail to Bob at [robertbrac@yahoo.com](mailto:robertbrac@yahoo.com), and then forward payment via PayPal, using "**payment@titanicinternationalsociety.org**" as your "Send to" address, selecting "U.S. dollars" as the currency. Be sure to enter the full U.S. dollar amount for the convention registrations you are making, *excluding* any PayPal fees.

**Important: Convention registrations received after March 30, 2018 are subject to a \$25 surcharge, as preliminary commitments to hotels and vendors already will have had to be made by that date.** Please remember: Once your convention registration has been received, TIS and TSAC will make *final* arrangements on your behalf, and we regret that *no refunds* can be offered if cancellation later should become necessary.

**Questions? Please phone trustee Sandy Gallo at (619) 261-4040, e-mail her at [sandarte@aol.com](mailto:sandarte@aol.com), or e-mail treasurer Bob Bracken at [robertbrac@yahoo.com](mailto:robertbrac@yahoo.com).**

## Maritime Museum of the Atlantic





# Convention 2018: Halifax! Registration Form

**Please read all directions carefully! Please print clearly.** Use this form to register for the convention by *mail* and pay by *check\**, or see the PayPal instructions (below) to register and pay online. *Be sure to make your room reservations directly with the hotel.* We suggest that you make a copy of the completed registration form before you send it to Titanic International Society.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (with area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Names of others attending with you: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Convention Registration Fees @ US\$250/\$275\* per person ..... US\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enter # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Per-person registration fee includes all convention activities:** *Thursday* Welcome Reception with exhibits and author tables; Ryan-Meister, Moskowitz and Peppard presentations. *Friday* bus trip to the three cemeteries and the SS *Atlantic* Heritage Park; food station reception and Haas presentation. *Saturday* Maritime Museum of the Atlantic admission fee and bus transport; tours of St. Paul's Anglican Church and St. Mary's Basilica; Gala Dinner and auction; *Sunday* Titanic International Society business meeting. Also convention printing, decorations, public room fees, audio-visual equipment, memorial service flowers, all related service charges and taxes, etc.

**Enter the number of each dinner entrée that you are reserving:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Beef entrées      \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken entrées      \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon entrées      \_\_\_\_\_ Other†

\*Registration fee is \$250 per attendee if **received** by TIS on or before March 30, 2018; \$275 each if received after March 30, 2018. Payment via check in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank, made payable to "Titanic International Society." Mail the registration form **with payment**, to Robert Bracken, Convention 2018, 47 Van Blarcom Ave., Midland Park, NJ 07432-1852 USA, to arrive on or before March 30, 2018.

**PayPal users:** Submit all information asked for above via e-mail to [robertbrac@yahoo.com](mailto:robertbrac@yahoo.com), and send your payment via PayPal, using [payment@titanicinternationalsociety.org](mailto:payment@titanicinternationalsociety.org) as your "Pay to" address, being sure to remit the full amount to TIS, *excluding* PayPal fees.

**Important: If you will be unable to attend *Thursday's* or *Saturday's* events due to your Halifax arrival/departure times, please contact Sandy Gallo at (619) 261-4040, or e-mail her at [sandarte@aol.com](mailto:sandarte@aol.com) before submitting your convention registration and payment, to discuss a possible reduction in your registration fee. Do this only after your flight details have been confirmed.**

Remember to book your room *directly with the hotel* before **May 21, 2018**, sooner if possible. **If you do not have a current passport, please obtain one.**

†Vegetarian and gluten-free entrées also are available; Contact Sandy Gallo, contact information above, for details.

## See you in Halifax!