



## **PASS program overview**

The Patron Accountability, Safety & Service (PASS) program has been developed to encourage and promote a safe and comfortable environment for all patrons that frequent licensed premises, as well as its staff members. The program will be piloted in HRM and then migrate to other parts of the province that are interested in introducing it to their municipalities.

The PASS program is a bar suspension program for participating businesses in HRM, with assistance from the Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia (RANS), Halifax Regional Police (HRP) Liquor Enforcement Unit and the Alcohol and Gaming Division of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations. The management, maintenance of records, administration and electronic database will be controlled by RANS.

The program will be administered by a PASS Management Committee; including two representatives of the licensed premises participating in the PASS Program, and one representative from each of the following; RANS, HRP Liquor Enforcement Unit, an appointee at large (optional) and an advisory member from the Alcohol and Gaming Division of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations. This committee shall meet on a quarterly basis to review suspensions. Suspensions of patrons may be issued for incidents that occur on or off the premises such as a weapons offence, underage drinking or violent offence.

An "Incident Report" shall be completed by the participating bar for all suspensions of six months or more. A copy of the Incident Report will be e-mailed or faxed to RANS within 24 hours of the incident occurring. RANS will maintain an inventory of all incident reports. The maximum suspension imposed shall be "Indefinite". An Indefinite suspension shall be in effect for a minimum of 12 months from the date of the incident. The Management Committee may review the indefinite suspension at any time after the initial 12 months has begun.

Persons suspended from the premises shall be served a notice of the suspension. Notice may be provided through a written notice, verbally or electronically. Suspensions in place prior to the commencement date of this program shall continue to be in effect ONLY at the participating business which issued the suspension.

Review meetings will be held by the management committee each quarter to review any contested suspensions. All parties involved will be notified of the process in advance of the meeting.