



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Bob Donegan, Ivar's Restaurants
206-587-6500 | BobD@KeepClam.com

Ivar's Puts Acres of Clams & Salmon House in Hibernation

SEATTLE – September 24, 2020 – Ivar's is closing its Acres of Clams and Salmon House full-service restaurants on Sept 28 until the spring. Our fish bars on the sidewalks in front of each restaurant will remain open, as will our full service restaurant and fish bar in Mukilteo. The company's 19 seafood bars throughout Puget Sound will remain open.

Background

The Covid19 pandemic and resulting restrictions have caused Ivar's to see significant drops in customer visits in our full service restaurants on Pier 54 and at the Salmon House on Lake Union. When the Governor closed all dining rooms in March, we lost virtually all of our revenues but our expenses continued. When the Governor re-opened restaurant dining rooms and outdoor decks, we re-opened our full-service restaurants but they have been doing a small fraction of past business. Like many restaurants, we made adjustments by installing additional cleaning equipment, personnel and systems to try and keep our employees and our customers safe. We have also reduced our expenses in almost every category, we have tried offering expanded menus, more delivery services, but the full service Acres of Clams and Salmon House on Lake Union restaurants have not approached break-even sales.

"Without cruise passengers, conventions, tourists, banquets, Sounders, Seahawks, and Mariner fans, and workers in the downtown offices, there are few people eating in our full service restaurants. We fear when the weather changes and the rains return, we lose outside dining and we won't have any customers," said Bob Donegan from Ivar's.

Our Ivar's Seafood Bars and Kidd Valley locations in neighborhoods which rely less on tourists and outdoor dining have seen increases in customer counts as well as increases in pick-up and delivery orders. They will remain open. The company's sports division will remain ready to open food booths in stadiums if fans are allowed to attend games.

Our chowder plant in Mukilteo, which produces all the soups and chowders for our stores and thousands of grocery stores and club stores like Costco, has seen strong sales and will continue to produce soups around the clock.

We hope that sufficient advancements are made in fighting the COVID19 virus by next Spring so that we can re-open these iconic Seattle full-service restaurants. We will closely monitor the medical advances and recovery of our economy and look at re-opening these locations next Spring. We hope to be able to decide by spring of 2021 whether we can re-open these restaurants.

We want to thank our landlords, the A.F. Gilmore Company and The FANA Group of Companies, for their support and willingness to work with us to allow this change and temporary closures. We needed our landlords to modify our leases and business relationships and they kindly stepped up and agreed to do so. We can't thank them enough.

We highly value all of our employees and will make all efforts to assist those affected by these temporary closures at the Acres of Clams and the Salmon House full service restaurants to transfer to one of our Ivar's Seafood Bars or Kidd Valley locations, or to our Ivar's Chowder Plant in Mukilteo.

About Ivar's

Ivar's Restaurants opened on Seattle's waterfront in 1938. Today, there are 19 Ivar's fast casual Seafood Bars and one full service restaurant: Ivar's Mukilteo Landing. Ivar's Seafood, Soup and Sauce Company markets and sells its award-winning soups, chowders and sauces nationally and internationally. The company also operates regional stadium concessions including T-Mobile Park, CenturyLink Field, Husky Stadium and Cheney Stadium. Learn more at www.ivals.com or follow Ivar's on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).