

Budget 2014

Shared Prosperity, Fair Society, Balanced Outlook

Five Things to Know About Budget 2014

1. Shared Prosperity, Fairness, Balance

- A return to surplus in 2015-16.
- Enhancements to benefit seniors and individuals with low incomes.
- Reductions to the small business tax rate, ensuring a fair and competitive tax environment.
- Investments in social programs and economic development so that residents share fully and equally in the province's economic growth.
- Strategic investments in education, health care, families, communities and the economy.

2. Creating First-Rate Education Opportunities

- \$50.6 million over five years to eliminate provincial student loans, replacing them with non-repayable, upfront grants.
- \$35.4 million for universal, full-day kindergarten, and to enhance early learning opportunities to benefit children and families.
- Maintaining the best pupil-teacher ratio of any province in the country.
- \$39.8 million to continue the development of a skilled workforce, through support for apprenticeships and labour market training.
- \$5.1 million to continue the post-secondary tuition freeze.

3. Providing Quality Health Care

- \$3 billion in total for health care for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.
- Over \$42.5 million to support healthy child development and to enhance child care services for families with young children.
- \$24 million to enhance cancer treatment, which includes \$7.1 million for the coverage of new drug therapies under the NLPDP.
- \$350,000 to expand the provincial vaccination program, including greater access to influenza vaccines and second dose chicken pox vaccine for children.
- \$712,000 for a smoking cessation program benefiting eligible individuals on low incomes.

4. Building Strong Communities

- \$200 million, three-year municipal capital works program for high priority areas such as clean drinking water, road improvements and upgrades of wastewater systems.
- \$4.5 million for new fire trucks, including a one-time \$3 million increase in funding over last year, to support the tireless work of 5,900 volunteer firefighters.

5. Encouraging a Vibrant Economy

- Over \$1 billion to encourage economic growth, and to spur innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Maintaining our investment in the Muskrat Falls project.
- Tax decreases will see \$600 million in savings for the people of the province this year.