

# **Education, Skills and Childhood Development**

Affordable and accessible child care, coupled with investments in education and skills development, is paramount in a modern economy. Through Budget 2020, we will ease pressures on young families and provide the tools for lifelong learning across the education spectrum. These investments, and collaboration with our education partners, will contribute to a stronger economy today and into the future.

#### **Early Childhood Development**

To create affordable access to quality early learning and child care experiences, Budget 2020 includes:

- Introduce \$25 a day child care in 2021, which will ease pressures on young families and allow parents to enter/return to the workforce.
- \$62 million for early childhood development programs that support families, educators and operators of child care services.

#### **Education Action Plan**

Progress has been made in improving the K-12 education system for students, teachers and the wider school community through the Education Action Plan. Actions supported by a Budget 2020 investment of \$22 million will ensure that children have access to an education system that is more responsive to their strengths and needs. Budget 2020 includes:

- \$18 million for reading specialists, teacher librarians, teaching and learning assistants and English-as-a-Second Language teachers.
- \$2 million for teacher professional development.
- ▶ \$550,000 for libraries and reading.
- ▶ \$600,000 increase for student assistant hours.



#### Technology to Support Digital Learning

A \$20 million purchase of laptops for all teachers, and Chromebooks for all junior high and high school students across the K-12 education system. This will support the ability of students to continue their learning outside of the classroom, while providing teachers with the tools they need to effectively deliver remote instruction.

# **Public Libraries**

 \$11.3 million for the Provincial Information Library Resources Board.

# **Post-Secondary Education**

Investments in post-secondary education lead to positive outcomes across the province's economy and communities. Budget 2020 recognizes that importance and includes:

- \$363.2 million for Memorial University's operating grant, which includes \$54.1 million for the Faculty of Medicine and \$68.4 million to continue current tuition levels for Newfoundland and Labrador students.
- \$87.9 million for College of the North Atlantic and its 17 campuses throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. This also includes \$14.9 million to enable the continuation of current tuition levels for Newfoundland and Labrador students.

### **Skills Development**

In collaboration with community and industry partners, through Budget 2020 we will strengthen the provincial workforce and position it to capitalize on new opportunities as they emerge, with an investment of over \$160 million. This includes initiatives designed to increase the participation of underrepresented groups such as women and youth in the provincial workforce.



\$25-a-Day Child Care in 2021

# \$22 million

investment in K-12 for extra resources



**\$20 million** 

for laptops and Chromebooks



Over **\$160 million** for Skills Development