

Education, Skills and Childhood Development

Guided by **The Way Forward**, our government is transforming our education system, from early childhood through to K-12 and post-secondary education. Budget 2019 investments build on this momentum, providing resources to help young families, improving outcomes for students and encouraging skills development and job creation.

Early Childhood Development

Building on the additional 1,000 affordable child care spaces created over the last year, Budget 2019 allocates approximately \$60 million for early childhood development. This includes:

- ▶ \$17.1 million for the Child Care Services Subsidy Program.
- ▶ \$11 million for the enhanced Operating Grant Program which improves accessibility of child care for low and middle income families, and to expand the program to include regulated family child care homes.
- ▶ \$9.3 million for the Early Learning and Child Care Supplement Program to provide an income enhancement to qualified Early Childhood Educators working in regulated child care services based on position and qualifications.
- ▶ \$6.7 million to support 31 Family Resource Centre hubs with more than 120 satellite locations in providing a variety of community-based activities and resources for children and families.

- ▶ \$2.5 million for the enhanced Child Care Capacity Initiative to develop child care spaces in underserved areas.
- ▶ \$2.2 million for the Child Care Inclusion Program, which provides funding to regulated child care services to support the inclusion of children with exceptionalities.
- ▶ \$1 million for the Quality Improvement Grant for licensed child care centres.
- ▶ \$400,000 for bursaries and grants for professional learning for Early Childhood Educators.

Education Action Plan

Budget 2019 allocates \$13 million, an increase of \$6 million from last year, to continue the implementation of the Education Action Plan to support better outcomes for students. This includes:

- ▶ \$9 million for reading specialists, teacher librarians, and teaching learning assistants in K-12 education.
- ▶ \$2 million to support professional learning for teachers.
- ▶ \$975,300 to support assistive technology, multicultural education and provincial assessments.

- ▶ \$350,000 in learning resources for teachers to support reading in the primary and elementary grades.
- ▶ \$350,000 to introduce Social and Emotional Learning curriculum into schools.
- ▶ \$300,000 to increase Student Assistant hours.
- ▶ \$238,000 for youth apprenticeship/cooperative education.
- ▶ \$200,000 in learning resources for school libraries to support literacy development.
- ▶ \$40,000 in bursaries for K-6 teachers to upgrade math pedagogy.

Provincial Libraries

- ▶ Budget 2019 provides \$11.3 million for operating grant funding for the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board.

Post-Secondary Education

Supporting an accessible and affordable post-secondary education system in Newfoundland and Labrador that achieves the best possible outcomes and prepares students for future careers is a priority for our government. Budget 2019 includes:

- ▶ \$363.5 million for the operating grant for Memorial University, which includes \$54.1 million for the Faculty of Medicine. This is the highest public investment as a percentage of a university's general operating revenues of any university system in Canada.
- ▶ \$87 million in operational funding for College of the North Atlantic and its 17 campuses.
- ▶ \$78.2 million to maintain current tuition levels for Newfoundland and Labrador students, which reflects an additional \$4 million for Memorial University and \$1.1 million for College of the North Atlantic in 2019.

Skills Development

Budget 2019 provides funding for programs and services to maintain the province's skilled workforce and prepare Newfoundlanders and Labradorians for emerging opportunities and future labour demands. This includes:

- ▶ \$161 million is available for investment through the Labour Market Transfer Agreements, which will help people prepare for, find and maintain employment.
- ▶ \$13 million in provincial funding for employment and training programs.
- ▶ \$6.1 million to support youth in employment and career related activities.
- ▶ \$700,000 to build capacity and provide more flexible training in the apprenticeship system by increasing offerings online.

In Budget 2019, we are taking steps to build workforce capacity and assist the private sector through strategic investments totaling \$1.9 million in training programs at College of the North Atlantic. These include such things as:

- ▶ A new 18-week Aquaculture Training Program, which will begin this fall at the Burin Campus.
- ▶ A new nine-month Geological Technician Program, which will begin this fall at the Grand Falls-Windsor Campus.
- ▶ A new non-destructive testing program for the aerospace sector will be delivered at the Gander Campus.
- ▶ \$339,000 to expand the Student Mentorship Program that will provide 100-140 students with on-the-job experiences in high-growth industries.