

# Seniors, Children and Inclusive Communities

Accessible, inclusive, and age-friendly communities are essential to Newfoundland and Labrador's social and economic well-being. Through **The Way Forward**, we are working closely with community partners to deliver better services and achieve better outcomes for older adults, seniors, children, families, and persons with disabilities.

## Healthy Aging

Budget 2019 supports the continued development of age-friendly communities, including:

- ▶ An additional \$270,000 for 50+ clubs. These organizations will be eligible for our new seniors' social inclusion initiative.
- ▶ \$95,000 for the Age-Friendly Newfoundland and Labrador Community Grant Program which helps municipalities plan for an aging population.
- ▶ The introduction of a new and improved financial assessment process for long-term care and community support services that is easier, person-centred, client-friendly.

## Income Supports

To support low-income seniors, individuals, families and persons with disabilities, Budget 2019 includes:

- ▶ \$66 million for the Newfoundland and Labrador Income Supplement. Since 2016 \$243.8 million has been invested, benefiting approximately 155,000 individuals and their families.

- ▶ \$57 million for the Seniors' Benefit. Since it was increased by \$250 in 2016, government has invested \$209 million, benefiting approximately 47,000 seniors and their families each year.

## Community-Based Care

To support the delivery of care and programs in the home and community, Budget 2019 includes:

- ▶ An investment of \$1.7 million for the Home Dementia Program for individuals living with moderate or advanced dementia and their caregivers to receive support at home from a physician or nurse practitioner through remote monitoring technology.
- ▶ Through a Home First philosophy, diverse teams of health professionals will work together to provide timely access to home support, rehabilitation, nursing and social work services, and end of life care to help people remain in their own homes as long as possible.

## Supporting Children and Families

Budget 2019 reflects our government's commitment to support the health and well-being of children and families. Budget 2019 includes:

- ▶ \$10.2 million for maintenance and repair of public housing properties.
- ▶ \$7.39 million for the Supportive Living Program and Provincial Homelessness Fund to prevent homelessness.

- ▶ \$376,000 in funding for the Single Parents Association of Newfoundland and Labrador to provide programs and services to single families, such as the Single Parent Employment Support program.
- ▶ \$500,000 for Happy Valley-Goose Bay's Housing Hub Shelter to assist those who are homeless.
- ▶ Exempt the clawback from income support eligibility, Canada Pension Plan Disabled Contributor's Benefit, Canada Pension Plan Surviving Benefit, and child support.
- ▶ Extending maternity, adoption and parental leave and select benefits from 52 weeks to 78 weeks for public service employees.

## Inclusive and Accessible Communities

Our government is committed to creating inclusive and accessible communities that support all citizens. Budget 2019 includes:

- ▶ \$3.1 million to modernize and renovate public rental housing, including accessibility needs.
- ▶ \$400,000 for the Accessible Taxi Program for companies to purchase an accessible taxi, and the Accessible Vehicle Grant to support individuals or families to acquire accessible vehicles or adapt an existing vehicle to be accessible for personal use.
- ▶ \$300,000 for accessible, affordable transportation through the Newfoundland and Labrador Community Transportation Program which supports active living and healthy aging, as well as promotes social inclusion and individual choice.
- ▶ \$94,500 for the Para-Transit Grant for the City of St. John's to deliver an equal access public transportation system for persons with disabilities.

- ▶ \$75,000 for inclusion grants to non-profit community organizations to make their facilities and events more accessible.
- ▶ Improved cost-share ratios for communities to initiate municipal projects that improve transportation networks and provide places for residents to gather.

## Poverty Reduction

- ▶ Budget 2019 includes over \$284 million in more than 100 poverty reduction initiatives.

## Vehicle Renewal

- ▶ Increasing the discount for seniors when they renew their vehicle. At the counter renewals will be less than \$100 and online renewals will be below \$90.
- ▶ 10 per cent reduction on vehicle registrations for veterans.



### Income Supplement

A qualifying family of four with two children:

**\$910 per year**



### Seniors' Benefit

Adults aged 65+:

**\$1,300 per year**

Total 2019 Investment

**\$123 million**