

Opening Statement

Wilfred Bartlett
Green Bay South

From the district of: In 1993 the district of Green Bay: 1996 Windsor-Springdale: Now Grand Falls-Windsor-Green Bay South, who knows what it will be called next year.

Born in Rural Nfld & Labrador, at a place called Lushes Bight and that will be my final resting place.

My role here today is to represent rural NL or as my friend Clarence Moss refers to me as a voice of the common people, I often refer to myself as a voice in the wilderness **no one hears me**

Things are a lot different in Rural NL than inside the over pass

There is only one thing that has kept Rural NL going since the collapse of the ground fish is that a lot of our people have found jobs in Northern Canada, working in the oil and mining and other industries and because of the shift work and their way paid back and forth was able to keep their families home and in doing so keep the community alive.

I always said I am one of the luckiest people living in NL: of my 6 children, 4 are living close to me, 4 grandchildren married and living close to me and 8 great grand children but now the grandchildren are coming out of school and Leaving the province because there are no jobs here because of the loss of jobs in the forestry and fishery and they will not be coming back because they are building their homes and raising their families where the jobs are

I aint no Wade Locke but I know how to balance a budget. I have been in small business most of my life and one of the most challenging was the fishery where prices varied from year to year. Weather and catch rates played a big factor in the bottom line. By managing prudently I have succeeded in surviving and providing for my family without leaving any debt for my family when I pass on

But my children, grand children and great grandchildren will be paying for the rest of their lives the debt that the Government are passing on to them and a projected 5 year deficit will only add to their burden.

Government should take a lesson from the fishing industry in bad times watch the spending and in good times put some away for when things are Not Good.

Letters Jan 12, 2008

Feb 7, 2011

May, 2013

Government has been wasting money over the years because of poor planning or not the right people managing their Departments.

Replacement bridge in Brighton **\$600,000 vs \$100,000**

Ferry(Grace Sparkes) St. Brendon's population 2011 census 147

Cost **27.5 million**

Crew of 8 per shift plus 2 on wharf to catch lines

Many trips with no passengers

Ferry(Hazel McAssic) Long Island, Little Bay Islands same story

27.5 million

Island Joiner 200 litre per day

Replacement 2200 litre per day

Snow clearing, plows traveling back and forth on highway a couple of days after snowfall doing nothing.

We have a large Public Service that I understand is the largest in Canada by population

Government is not in the business to provide employment and should only hire on staff who are needed to provide public services and if some of these services can be provided cheaper by contracting out, I am all for it, after all it is our money that is being spent.

These are only a couple of examples I could provide a lot more but time won't permit.

One of the problems the Government has is that people want everything

I grew up in a time where my family took not what they wanted but what they needed and there is a Big difference. I want to leave for my children what my Grandparents left for me

Let's get our house in order, get our debt paid down while our economy is strong and leave a Province that our children and their children can be proud off.

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