

TITLE	IDEA	WHY	CREATOR	CREATION DATE	AVERAGE RATING	# OF RATINGS
Implement Regional and County Governments	<p>One of the biggest problems with Newfoundland and Labrador's civic governance system is that every single community is either a city or town, which is very inefficient and outdated method of governance.</p> <p>In other words, all 240 cities and towns have their own councils, staff members, town/city clerks, maintenance crews, and infrastructure management crews.</p> <p>Furthermore, having every single city or town operate on their own, also known as "Northern Ontarian Style" civic governance, also increases the costs of basic civic services such as water and sewage, road maintenance, fire crews, sport and recreational facilities, emergency service, waste management, just to name a few.</p> <p>In addition, the costs of paying municipal grants go higher and higher as the Newfoundland and Labrador Government has to pay municipal operating grants to all 240 communities.</p> <p>In an effort to modernize Newfoundland</p>	<p>Implementing Regional and County Government systems as opposed to the current civic governance system of every city and town operating on its own will generate many benefits to Newfoundlanders and Labradorians including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduced costs of civic services due to increased economies of scale and less duplication. 2. Increased tax base as every single resident within their own region or county have to pay taxes, including previous unincorporated communities. 3. Reduced bureaucratic duplication as every single community will not need town/city clerks or management staff anymore. 4. Less red tape and cliquish behaviour that Newfoundland and Labrador currently experiences due to our current outdated civic governance system. 5. Less money spent on municipal operating grants. 	NLMoose	2016-01-12T15:06:37-04:30	4.015873016	63

Government services that are transactional in nature (Motor Vehicle Registration, Land and Deeds Registries, Moose Licences, Birth Certificates, Joint Stock Registries, MCP, Student Loans, etc.) can be modernized and provided by the private sector at a lower cost while improving services to constituents. Many much larger governments in other jurisdictions have successfully done this and NL, with a population of under 550,000 people, can as well if government is willing to address what may be perceived as a politically sensitive situation. With a \$2B deficit in the current fiscal year and a looming increase in debt, the transformation towards a truly digital government should be a priority.

For example vendors would certainly bid for the privilege of building a cloud based application to replace the current Motor Vehicle Registrtrion (MVR) system; under the right business model this could be secured under a long term contract that would eliminate the bulk of current operating costs and improve the service which garners so much criticism today. Concerns about privacy and security with cloud based applications

Leverage successful models already in use in other jurisdictions

Look beyond Canada for successful implementations; which models fit NL best?

Cost reduction and improved service to constituents.

Move government towards a truly digital environment.

Staff reduction.

Supports the local ICT sector driving economic diversification.

Drive transactional government services to the web and outsource how they are provisioned to the private sector.

There needs to be a triage approach to Provincial Services and programs. A review should be undertaken of all departments and services provided and what services are used the least and therefore could be removed completely.

This review should be completed for every department and level of government, what they consume, what they provide and how they provide it.

For example - Does every Provincial employee need a smartphone? It seems like everyone got one these days. The IT budget for the province to be supplying all these phones must be tremendous.

Overspending on data packages that are unnecessary throughout the province.

Smart phones and blackberry packages should be reduced to upper management only - everyone else who needs a phone can have any ordinary cellphone for afterhours services. This should reduce spending on unnecessary data packages

Control the IT spending and decide who really needs to be contacted at all times.

Review of All
Provincial IT Services
and smartphone
packages

There are way too many small communities that cannot afford any services because the population, tax base and average age is too old and small.

Each community wants their own fire station and police station and water treatment plant, library, etc etc but do not have the tax base to Operate or Maintain any of these facilities. The result is decades of Provincial substitutities basically to support dying communities.

Just because a small town regionalizes with other adjacent communities doesnt mean that that town will lose its identity - you can regionalize towns tax bases with close communities. This will mean that one region (comprise of many towns) will have one regional council, one library, one school, one fire department, etc

There should be an immediate study completed for small Newfoundland communities in close proximity to one another where regionalization makes sense. Its time to increase thier tax bases and give some independence and pride back to these communities. They are stronger together then apart.

Efficiencies - for all services, O M of services, administration, etc

Its time to implement this where it makes sense.

Regionalize small communities

ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T19:42:39-04:30

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Ok since I have moved home from away there have been Provincial Departments that have changed their names at least half a dozen times. Each time this happens emails have to change, business cards have to change, promotional materials of the department needs to change, logos change. Etc.

Pick the core government department names and stick to them.

IF you merge departments pick one name and stick with it. As long as the department provides the services required I dont think the pubic really cares in the long run the name of the department. The IT time and expense to always be updating this must be staggering.

Provincial IT time to change directories

Provincial IT time to change emails

Provincial IT time to change prmotional material.

Again all this adminstration time and funding spent with little real return on services provided.

Stop changing government department names

ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T19:51:21-04:30

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If the Cities and Towns are large enough administratively and prefer more autonomy let them have more control of the provincial cost shared funding decisions and funding transfers between projects

Less time for Municipal and Intergovernmental affairs oversight of large communities that can administer their own funding programs.

MIGA representatives should oversee the smaller towns who have no administration. That is where their time would be best spent.

Less red tape regarding funding decisions = faster project completions and more projects completed on schedule therefore less delay claims, etc for larger communities.

Give Large Cities and Towns greater control of Funding

ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T20:00:51-04:30

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Has anyone read this outdated Act!

There is no provision for RFP's for Consultants

There is no provision for RFP's for Design Build Projects

In order to get any procurement with quotations only it has to be below \$20 thousand dollars! For Cities and Towns \$20 thousand dollars is extremely low it basically means you have to tender almost everything which means more administrative time, longer schedules, more paperwork, more red tape.

There isnt even inflation factors built into the limits for tendering. So Towns and Municipalities are handcuffed for years abiding by these limits and in reality yearly inflation means you get less and less work completed without having to tender.

Again this forces all Newfoundland communities into tendering more and more activities each year. The rest of Canada embraces all different types of procurement but we seem to be a decade behind the rest of the country.

If you want governments to be more efficient with work start here. Tonnes of Administration time can be saved if this ACT is update and allows inflation factors into funding limits.

Update the Public Tendering Act!

No section to cover pilot projects

ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T20:09:48-04:30

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I believe there needs to be a complete review of the entire Nalcor/Newfoundland Hydro/Power departments and their functions.

Do we have a redundant level in this organization?

Do we need to continue to pay exorbitant performance bonuses to executives while we are in financial crisis?

Is a \$600k to \$700k salary a bit rich for our budget? I don't think our Premier makes that much.

New thought:

Multi level management at Eastern Health. I have seen floors particularly at St Clares where there are three and four managers on the same floor on the same shift.

Thank you Mr Ball. I think you and your Government will restore lost confidence in our Government.

I think we are spending large amounts of money on redundancy in government departments.

Review multi-level governments

BobA

2016-01-12T20:19:00-04:30

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There are numerous facilities that sit unused and deteriorating around the Province that are being maintained for no purpose. Get an exit strategy, have some small departments work from home!!!! The model of every department having their own facility no matter what size is outdated.

Unused or underused Government Buildings

Get an exit strategy on all these unused buildings eating public tax payer dollars (for O M, for rental contracts, leases, etc and sell them off or abandon them or tear them down. Small departments can work from home which will save O M costs.

ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T20:37:49-04:30

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Plow one lane of the two lane highway in each direction over the winter months instead of two lanes. This will slow traffic movement over the winter months (3 months) but will decrease plowing costs, maintenance costs on equipment, etc. The public will still have one lane to get access to town for emergency services.

Reduce level of service for plowing highways in the winter

Unfortunetly the public will not be able to pass other vehicles but slower traffic may also decrease accidents due to speeding.

There are still places in Canada that has only one lane for traffic movement.

Saving with costs for Winter O M and overtime payments.

ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T20:42:30-04:30

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	<p>Alright I use to live in Alberta, Calgary actually and while living there they had triage clinics and private clinics where if you had small minor injuries (broken bones, needed blood work completed, medical scans, etc) you could opt to go there instead of the hospital.</p>	<p>Since 40% of our budget goes to healthcare this maybe worth checking out!</p>			
<p>Private health clinics for small issues</p>	<p>This freed up beds and capacity at the emergency wing of the hospital to deal with actual life threatening emergencies.</p>	<p>Our young population who are working may opt to go here instead of waiting 12 hours at the emergency room at the hospital.</p>	<p>ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T20:50:35-04:30</p>	<p>3.238095238</p>	<p>21</p>
	<p>the other day I got a text message from the hair factory confirming my appointment and asking if I was still planning to show up. with one click I said yes and the appointment showed up on my digital calendar.</p>	<p>Id love for the healthcare system to be fully digitized but maybe we have to start small. Can we at least digitize calendar appointments. If the hair factory can do it maybe our health care specialists can do it as well.</p>			
<p>digitizing the healthcare system</p>	<p>Imagine if going to the doctor and getting appointments from our health care professionals was that easy</p>	<p>This will save on missed schedules and secretary time, etc ,etc etc. And there are numerous apps and Calendars functions that can easily provide this service.</p>	<p>ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-12T20:54:30-04:30</p>	<p>3.533333333</p>	<p>15</p>

The governemnt should look into having private companies operate ferries in the province. Private comapnies have already had contracts to operate service between the island and Labrador so why not elsewhere? They could sell of their current ferry fleet and not have to worry about building any new ferries. The government would still need to subsidize travelling on the ferries but I think this could save us a lot of money.

In BC their ferry system was previously a crown corpration - unlike our system which is run by the Department of Transportation and Works - and it was later privatized. Our government should review what took place in British Columbia and whether it's worth doing here.

Could save us money on operating ferries on an anual basis and we would not need to worry about having new ferries built.

Privatize Ferries

jp42

2016-01-12T21:51:49-04:30

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Paradise has a new arena, Mount Pearl has a new pool, St. Johns has a new pool, CBS has a new City Hall. All these municipalities own the AS-Built designs to these facilities.

Bay Roberts wants a new pool, Harbour Grace wants a new arena and other smaller communities who want similar facilities cannot afford the design and construction costs.

Smaller communities save on consultant costs. The consultant and City that paid for the original design can get a lease fee for the design rights to reuse the design for another community.

Why can't the larger communities sell the designs (or lease the design rights) to smaller communities saving the smaller communities the cost of having a facility designed from scratch.

The Smaller communities save on new facilities with savings with design errors, construction errors, etc.

The consultants who did the original design for the original community can provide the construction project management and construction oversight as a consolation for not getting the design fees.

This can open the market for As-Built designs as a commodity to be traded and leased between communities and consultants. Would decrease schedules for construction and get projects shovel ready faster.

Since the As-Built designs are more accurate then issued for Construction designs this would cut down on design omissions and and contractor errors the second time these facilities are constructed.

For example for the Corner Brook Hospital why can we not rent or lease a design from the States for a smart hospital that has recently been built and work off / scale off that design instead of starting from scratch.

Sharing Designs (As Built Design Trade Market)

Excerpt from the McKinsey article states it quite nicely:

Government should adopt the Lean / Six Sigma approach to the delivery of government services. While there is an upfront investment in consulting and training of internal staff, the end result would be better service with less resources through elimination of waste and a focus on adding value at each step along the way. It requires committed leadership and follow through as well as a cultural shift in thinking about how we do things.

An interesting article, "Applying lean to the public sector" by the McKinsey Co. group talks about this:

http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/public_sector/applying_lean_production_to_the_public_sector

"Governments around the world want to deliver better education, better health care, better pensions, and better transportation services. They know that impatient electorates expect to see change, and fast. But the funds required to meet such expectations are enormous" particularly in the many developed economies where populations are aging and the public sector's productivity hasn't kept pace with that of the private sector. The need to get value for money from governments at all levels is therefore under the spotlight as never before. But cost-cutting programs that seek savings of 1 to 3 percent a year will not be enough and in some cases may even weaken the quality of service.

To address the problem, public-sector leaders are looking with growing interest at "lean" techniques long used in private industry. From the repair of military vehicles to the processing of income tax returns, from surgery to urban planning, lean is showing that it can not only improve public services

Adopt Lean / Six Sigma approach to govt services

Lynx

2016-01-12T23:54:19-04:30

3.55555556

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<p>Privatization the Newfoundland Liquor Corporation</p>	<p>I've never understood why liquor stores are government run only in Newfoundland. This is an area that could easily be turned over to private business who could run it just as well and more efficiently for profit.</p> <p>This is seen in other parts of Canada and other parts of the world.</p>	<p>Government savings through not having to own and operate and maintain facilities and staff overhead.</p>	<p>ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-13T03:08:56-04:30</p>	<p>2.52</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>Fixed link versus ferry service to the mainland</p>	<p>I realize that it may be a very long time before we can attempt such a major project undertaking such as this but from an economics perspective for decades I have heard this argument being debated.</p> <p>The ferry Service is obviously a bottleneck regarding getting goods onto the island that affects everything from groceries and fuel getting to the public during poor weather conditions to delays in construction activities waiting for construction materials to get from the mainland to the island.</p>	<p>long term ideas for economic expansion on the island.</p>	<p>ConcernedNewfo 2016-01-13T03:21:51-04:30</p>	<p>3.125</p>	<p>16</p>

Policy Innovation Labs (also referred to as social innovation labs) are collaborative ventures where stakeholders with diverse perspectives engage in workshop processes to understand complex problems and design new approaches and solutions. Labs are being used by organizations around the world and by the federal and provincial governments in Canada to tackle problematic economic and social policy issues.

An innovation lab is a focused way to develop, test and co-create new approaches to enduring problems. The lab approach crosses a variety of disciplines and themes including psychology, group dynamics and complexity theory; incorporating the application of design theory and whole-systems thinking. Their orientation is systemic—they are designed to go beyond dealing with symptoms and parts to get at the root cause of why things are not working. The lab methodology is most effectively applied to problems where there is a strong desire for a solution and a high degree of tolerance for developing, testing and refining solutions and/or strategizing about how to borrow, import or apply existing solutions.

We are facing unprecedented problems that will affect the well-being of all citizens in NL. Therefore, we need to throw out, or at least push aside, old paradigms and ways of addressing public issues; as well as tweak current strategies in innovative ways. The Premier has intimated that we have the ingenuity and potential to develop our own solutions. This will require bringing people together with specific expertise and perspectives (in a non-partisan environment and without self-interest) to research, design and test innovative approaches.

Utilize Policy Innovation Labs

ByDesign

2016-01-13T09:22:33-04:30

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Reduce Public Sector through retirement

In some departments, do not replace public sector positions when retire.

Save money with limited impact. Force leaders to be more efficient.

DMJ

2016-01-13T09:29:47-04:30

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If you are going to keep public sector employee inovative you need to invest in their continued learning. In the last 10 years, government has gone from supporting learning to out right banning it.

You can't expect new ideas and inovation out of the public service if they are denied oportunities to keep pace with the rest of the world.

You get what you pay for, if you want efficiencies you need to allow people to train to be efficient.

Invest in your employees!

a_island

2016-01-13T10:13:29-04:30

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Many government employees do not have direct contact with the public and therefore do not need a fixed location of work. Overhead costs associated with office rentals could effectively be eliminated. It would also allow government to meet CO2 reduction targets through the elimination of daily commutes by employees. Meetings and client contact is currently being conducted more and more using technology, effectively eliminating the need for a fix employment location.

This is important since a large part of departmental budgets go into rent, especially in rural areas. It will translate into immediate savings for goverment by eliminating or reducing the size of rental spaces needed. It will also eliminate commuting cost for employees making the upcoming wage freeze more patatable.

Initiate Work From Home Policy for Qualified Employees

grousehunter

2016-01-13T10:27:17-04:30

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This one is simple - just cut every single adult in the province a monthly cheque that's big enough to (barely) live on. No means testing, no policing, no bureaucracy - just a guarantee that no matter what happens to you, you'll have something to fall back on.

It's an idea whose time has come - we had a successful test in Dauphin, Manitoba, and this year Finland and Switzerland look likely to adopt the system (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/finland/12035946/Finland-is-considering-giving-every-citizen-800-a-month.html>)

Why a guaranteed income? Lots of reasons.

It eliminates the disincentive to work . Right now, it makes no sense to give up income support to move to a low-wage job, since the value of the benefits you lose isn't made up by the money you'd make. With a guaranteed income, you'd keep that plus anything you earn at work - so there's always an incentive to get into the workforce.

This is a chance for NL to become a world leader, to make government more efficient, and to create a much more flexible workforce.

Institute a
Guaranteed Annual
Income

ThinkAboutIt

2016-01-13T10:34:23-04:30

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Financial Transparency	As much as possible measures to ensure fiscal responsibility should include openness, communication and sharing. Systems which provide information about increased frequency of change (not just annual) will be needed.	In order to identify priority spending focus remains precise, as changes occur updates will be needed. Infrequent reporting often means dated information and wasted energy. This too will mean wasted funds.	smartspender	2016-01-13T16:14:49-04:30	2.333333333	6
Credit and Other Debt-Spending Cards Removal	As with any fiscally responsible management efforts, debt removal will be priority one.	Removing cards will ensure healthier fiscal management. This is a standard concept. We are fiscally unhealthy and in debt. Credit - as much as can be actioned - must be removed, in order to "get healthy" again.	smartspender	2016-01-13T16:17:18-04:30	1.5	8
90% 10% - Spend & Debt Payment + Savings	Every dollar will require 10 cents of savings. Regardless of situation, this minimum must be consistently saved.	Good fiscal management always involves pay the self.	smartspender	2016-01-13T16:20:12-04:30	1.666666667	6
Balancing Budget = Universal Tracking	Track what we spend and centralize the tracking system. There must be one main umbrella.	In order to balance the budget - a requirement - we need to know what we are spending.	smartspender	2016-01-13T16:22:51-04:30	1.444444444	9
Stop Borrowing Money	Borrowing money is short-sighted and irresponsible if you don't have a plan to pay it back.	If you don't borrow money, you don't have to 'service' it next year, or pay it back, or pay interest. This decreases expenses and increases efficiency.	TogetherAimHigh	2016-01-13T20:03:00-04:30	2.153846154	13

Many people in small isolated areas expect a level of service that cannot be financed.

In some cases these rural towns are within 100km of larger centers that have all the services. There is a high cost with maintaining buildings when the same work can be completed very close by.

Before someone comments on the cost of travelling let me put this forward: What people who reside in these small towns fail to realize is that they actually have an additional \$300 disposable income per month because they do not pay massive property tax bills. They in essence have income to pay for travel to larger sites for service.

In addition, the amount of money spent trying to recruit services ie physicians is excessive. That is inefficient. The cost of maintaining a road or ferry for 100 people... that is excessive and inefficient.

There is a huge inefficiency trying to support small pockets of population in Newfoundland. Does it make sense to have an emergency department, lab, and xray all available when 20 mins away is a large hospital?

Does it make sense to continue to support isolated communities that are only accessible by ferry? Agreeable resettlement vote or not.... there is more money spent on maintaining service to these pockets than on the larger population.

Review duplicate services provided within an acceptable drive

baygirl

2016-01-13T20:49:25-04:30

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First can someone explain why there is an Employment Services section within Municipal Affairs and a program called Community Enhancement.

Shouldn't such a program be within the Dept of Business, Tourism, Culture and Rural Development. Would make more sense since most of the funds in this program go to rural areas.

Second the Community Enhancement

Program is given out during the wrong time of year. This program is usually started in late October or early November and is used to assist any workers that were unable to obtain enough hours of employment so they could go on Employment Insurance.

The program is good in that it allows some necessary community work to get completed; provides some new job skills to individuals and allows the person to have some income support during the winter/spring (EI) instead of having to rely on provincial social services programs.

The whole catch behind the program is to

Changing the program to summer/spring/fall instead of late fall/winter will make the program more efficient for all parties involved - government will get better bang for its buck and still achieve the same outcome -to ensure individuals go on the federal EI program and not provincial social services program; communities, town, service organizations etc that apply and get CEP will get more work accomplished and be less frustrated with time of year the program comes out; employees get their hours to obtain their EI and maybe more importantly obtain new employability skills that can assist them obtain future employment.

Use of Government Programs - Community Enhancement

15-Jan 2016-01-13T21:39:35-04:30

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The current fiscal troubles faced by the province are rooted in capitalism. Capitalism exploits working people and public coffers for the benefit of a few wealthy oligarchs, and yes this happens in NL too.

If we carry out the communist revolution then there would be plenty of funding to go around. We should be receiving the benefit of the resources that are taken from here and sold at profit by capitalist corporations. Why should they get rich from our resources and from our labour?

With such reappropriated wealth, we can operate our society on the principle of 'from each according to ability, to each according to need' then everyone would be looked after and some of the work that desperately needs doing would be done.

As an innovation, the communist revolution would solve our financial problems.

Communist
Revolution

Levi

2016-01-14T08:47:25-04:30

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Centralize
Recruitment and
Staffing

There are large HR recruiting/ staffing departments in GNL, Health Boards and some agencies. Centralize all recruitment and staffing services under one department to reduce costs.

It's more efficient.

ProundNL

2016-01-14T09:51:57-04:30

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Because teachers are central to the education system they should be given more of a voice. At present, they work in an environment in which they are not allowed to speak openly and freely about how the education system is operating; in fact, they worry about the threat of discipline if they choose to discuss publicly about the issues and deficiencies within the system. If the government is truly interested in hearing how the educational system could operate more efficiently and effectively, allow teachers to voice their opinions and ideas without fear of retribution.

Examples of problems within the system:

a) Inclusion and differentiated instruction

b) Class sizes

c) Technology (operation/servicing of technology and the process that follows in order to have things repaired). According to the government, 21st century learning is a big initiative, however, that can't happen

As taxpayers we want our children to get the best education possible. Without input from those who are integral to the system (teachers, student assistants, for instance), education for our children will be compromised. At present, the system works on a theoretical level, but in practice, the operation and functioning of schools, from both an academic and financial perspective, is truly lacking.

Changes to the Education System

improvingthesyst 2016-01-14T09:52:03-04:30

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Much of the higher salaries in GNL are at the Executive level. Ensure that positions such as Senior Managers, Directors, and Assistant Deputy Ministers are funded based on the number of employees that report up and the size of the department. Small departments often do not require multiple senior managers and several ADMs.

It's more efficient.

Executives

ProundNL

2016-01-14T10:06:40-04:30

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It is crucial that, as we deal with the crisis of the day, we do not sacrifice the future.

There will come a day in the near future when things will turn around and we will need a lot of people to operate our construction industry. If we neglect to prepare trades people today and get them to their JP status we will end up with lots of work and no one to do it.

It is important that government, in their haste, don't eliminate their plan to build a strong skilled trades/construction workforce. Eventually, the price of oil/minerals will return. If we ignore the training of tradespeople today, we will pay a price down the road when we don't have skilled employees to staff a rejuvenated industry.

Unfortunately, the next skilled labour shortage will be much worse than the last one because the aging baby boomers won't be able to come out of/delay retirement to bail us out. Today's 20 year old is tomorrow's JP...lets make sure we get him/her ready.

Maintain support for apprenticeship

NLTaxpayer

2016-01-14T10:57:26-04:30

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Perhaps the only challenge bigger than the provincial deficit is the provincial demographic.

Our population is aging at an unprecedented rate with the number of senior citizens expected to increase by 76% between now and 2035. We need to prepare for this by training more people to work in health care in areas like Home Support, Nursing, Doctors, Physiotherapy, Disability Support, Therapeutic Recreation, Massage Therapy, etc. Government should invest in training programs that create professionals in these areas.

While oil prices may fluctuate and economics may change from day to day, the only truth in life is that we are all going to get older. As the baby boomers start to need support, we need to be prepared. There are going to be a lot of them! 31,242 today becomes 52,749 by 2035.

Prepare for our aging demographic

NLTaxpayer

2016-01-14T11:05:26-04:30

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Despite what some people would have you believe, Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) are neither inherently good or bad! They are simply another option to consider when government needs to deliver a service in the most practical and efficient way possible. There are undoubtedly places where contracting out will not work. That doesn't mean you throw the baby out with the bathwater and say it won't work anywhere.

Government needs to keep every arrow in its quiver and explore all options when faced with expenditures. Unions and socialists don't want us to crack the PPP door because they are afraid it will blow wide open and they will lose their control. I encourage gov't to resist this pressure and protect taxpayer money by doing things in the most efficient way possible. If that means using govt workers fine. If it means contracting out the service I also support it.

When you create an environment in which groups compete to offer services you accomplish several things:

- 1) Get good products/services at the best possible rate.
- 2) Gov't can set the terms of the service and establish accountability measures that are more difficult to do in the public service.
- 3) Force everyone to do their very best. The contractor wants to meet their obligations and win future contracts. Unions have to pull up their socks and be the best-choice alternative and employees will recognize that their jobs are tied to their performance, not their place on the seniority list.
- 4) Create jobs. PPP's don't destroy positions...they make them.
- 5) Encourage a vibrant private sector. Most economists agree that economies built on backs of taxpayer dollars are doomed to fail. Govts need to encourage and support

Support more public-private partnerships

NLTaxpayer

2016-01-14T11:29:02-04:30

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Ensure that the heating and electrical systems in all buildings are operating at peak efficiency. This will involve seeing that regular maintenance is being carried out on the equipment and that any energy management systems are properly maintained.

Temperatures in some buildings could be adjusted downward during periods of low occupancy, as well as night setback in certain buildings.

Another area that should be looked at is the different contracts awarded for building maintenance. Can the work be done inhouse? Also the level of service provided--can the frequency be decreased.

I have seen cases where great savings have been obtained in 2 or 3 buildings and I can see where much can be saved, considering the number of buildings operated by the Government in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Operation and maintenance of all Government Buildings

winsora 2016-01-14T11:29:59-04:30 2.888888889 9

Some specialists in the health system are making significant incomes with little to no salary limits. Often, specialists can have a salary from the Health Boards and also bill for services under MCP. I suggest implementing a limit on the income that specialists can earn per year through tax dollars.

It's fiscally responsible and will reduce health care costs.

Specialists

ProundNL 2016-01-14T11:31:13-04:30 2.6 10

Give greater weight to long term perspective of decisions and don't look for only quick fixes. Sometimes the slightly greater short term cost is a might better long term decision in terms of cost, maintenance, operating costs, etc

Too many decisions are made that is the lowest cost today but has a worst net present value than a different decision, making it a worse long term decision.

Long term view

NLBaldEagle

2016-01-14T19:52:43-04:30

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Spend less on roads/highways, more on public transit

Invest in public transit.

There's a lot of talk in this forum of increasing taxes and fees, etc, which would make life less affordable for many people. Public transit in this province is deplorable. If we invest more in public transit, public transit systems such as Metrobus--the worst public transit system of any capital region in the country--this could make it viable means of transportation for many people. In order to get more people to take the bus, the level of service needs to be improved. Buses must run at least twice an hour. We need late-night buses. We need buses that run on Sunday nights. We need buses that go to the airport, and even buses that goes to and from Donovan's more than once a day. We need buses that go to the entire metro region, not just St. John's and Mount Pearl. If it was easy and convenient to get around using public transit, some families could go from two to one car. Other people may even be able to survive without a car at all. Life would become more affordable for many. If life is affordable, some people who would otherwise move away, might actually stay. Those people would pay taxes and spend money. We'd even have less drunk driving (poor public transit is strongly correlated

Avalanche

2016-01-14T20:34:02-04:30

3.66666667

12

Tax included	Whatever the final price of an item is, make that the sticker price.	<p>Having the HST/sales tax and even bottle deposit or other fees already included in the price of things would make shopping in Newfoundland slightly less annoying. Whatever the final price is, put that price on the price tag. This is how the rest of the world operates. The additional benefit is that it would be easier to compare the price of items in the grocery store. Suddenly, the price difference between milk and pop is narrowed slightly, for example, as tax and bottle deposit is added to one, and nothing is added to the other. After this is done it would be easier to add a percent or two to "unhealthy" items such as pop without anyone really noticing.</p>	Avalanche	2016-01-14T20:58:16-04:30	2.875	8
Use technology - reduce travel	<p>All too often people jump on a plane to head to a meeting.</p> <p>With today's technology most meetings/seminars can be participated in via technology ie. webex</p>	Reduction in unnecessary travel expenses.	Realist	2016-01-15T00:10:36-04:30	3.79166667	24

	Ireland found itself not so long ago financially strapped also.					
Corporate Tax Breaks to International Business for Start - Up	Reduction of corporate taxes for international business to set up shop attracted large well established companies such as Google.	Use tax incentives to attract new businesses to the province ultimately diversifying the economy.	Realist	2016-01-15T00:12:53-04:30	2.75	12
Encourage and Foster Secondary Processing	We need to encourage and foster secondary processing of products destined for export. Perhaps a tarrif on that which is not?	Increase revenue and job creation.	Realist	2016-01-15T00:24:32-04:30	3	8
Sell the Brass Busts of Former Premiers	They are the perfect height for barstools. It's obvious, really.	Increased revenue, improved posture.	selfishgene	2016-01-15T13:06:57-04:30	3.3	10
Economic Stimulus	You know those guitars, that are like, double guitars, you know?	It's fairly obvious.	BeeKeeperXL	2016-01-15T13:57:31-04:30	1.5	6

Regional Government	<p>The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador needs to study the impacts of regional governments. It is time to start amalgamating towns and cities (includes St. John's and the North-East Avalon). Government funding should be going to centralized regional governments in order to cut down on unnecessary duplication of funding. This would certainly allow for a reduction in funding as regional governments can better allocate funds for common needs.</p> <p>Too often municipalities are spending money on essentially the same services and building the same infrastructure. Start consolidating these projects to reduce government funding and increase efficiency.</p>	<p>Regional amalgamated governments prove to be more stream-lined and efficient. It is time Newfoundland and Labrador embraces this ideology and explore how amalgamated governments can help reduce the growing deficit. Not only would it improve the bottom line for the province, but it would also help improve municipal budgets and services.</p>	rws38	2016-01-15T16:21:36-04:30	3.571428571	14
Design Services	<p>The engineering design services for the department of transportation (bridge and highway design) should be privatized like other government departments.</p>	<p>To allow for innovation, efficiencies, better use of technology will result in lower cost offering .</p>	Fleigersroad	2016-01-16T00:28:32-04:30	1.9	10

Free Labrador	Letting the People of Labrador Vote on Separating For Newfoundland Labrador.	By Letting Labradorians separate it's 30,000 less people for the government to be responsible for, 50 towns, 2000kms of remote Highway, 2 ferries, dozen Diesel power plants, and Muskrat and Churchill falls. Letting Labrador become a territory we become Federal Regulated, saving the island billions,	JordanLabCity	2016-01-16T01:08:46-04:30	2.55555556	18
	Well get rid of those flitration systems, they cost a fortune. Latch it all on a few kegs and replace it with that.					
	So first off, forget the treatment plants and all the money we spends on that, we don't need it no more.					
	Next, imagine all da jobs. Everybody wants to make blue star, who don't wanna make blue star?					
Replace Tap Water With Blue Star	Finally, save me a bit a money, save everone really. Who don't buy a case of bluestar twice a week?	If they don't like bluestar they still gotta walk to the store to buy blackhorse and then they gets their exersize, solves our obesety problem too.	eversweet709	2016-01-16T01:42:25-04:30	3.2	20

Simple make a seperate department for IT, not every department have it's own.

Have a standardized IT interface, allowing for every public user to access public services from internet browsers other then Internet Explorer, such as is required by CADO (Companies and Deeds Online), while the Department of Natural Resources allows Google Chrome, Firefox and other browsers to work.

By having a standalone IT agency, possibly under Government Services, you will also be able to take advantage of the employees downtime by having them work in other departments on IT projects.

Because not everyone uses Microsoft programs and efficiency and effectiveness is what is needed to foster economic growth.

Standardize government IT

JDW

2016-01-16T19:35:17-04:30

1.5

10

Encourage departments to save money at the end of each fiscal year instead of 'penilizing' them with a budget reduction the following year.

I worked for the federal government and this was a problem year after year (I am assuming that this problem exists in the Provincial Government as well).

The month of March saw our department on a spending frenzie in an attempt to use up our allotted budget. Computers and new office furniture were a favourite purchase in March. The general sentiment was that if we did not use this money the budget for the following year would be reduced. A better system would involve rewarding spending reductions.

This is important because it would reduce unnecessary spending.

Encourage departmental savings at year-end.

cpjanes

2016-01-17T08:35:10-04:30

3.7

20

Build industry and market wild game.	<p>With vast land resources , abundance of wildlife , availability of workers and processing plants we have an opportunity. Undertake a study to look at viability to build an industry around moose, grouser, hare, caribou, seal. We've got excellent innovative chefs on the island to be involved in the process. Can we build an industry with vast heards of wild game, raised and harvested properly, cheap sources of large protein. We import most of our beef at very high prices. This strategy could save money to end users on grocery store prices, provide jobs to harvesters and give export potential to foreign markets.</p>	Way to create industry while providing lower cost proteins to households in the province.	Munalum	2016-01-17T09:39:14-04:30	2.818181818	11
		- Increase tax revenue				
		- Increase in tourism				
		- Reduction in crime				
Legalize Marijuana & Prostitution.	Legalize Marijuana and Prostitution.	- Success stories around the world regarding legalized Marijuana and Prostitution are easily found online. The pros far out weigh the cons, take the time to learn the facts and make your own decision.	boot0314	2016-01-17T13:33:47-04:30	3.333333333	15

Since the NHL decided to strip John Scott of his role as a captain in the NHL All-Star Game by sending him to the St. John's IceCaps, and the new provincial government appears to be at a loss for ideas, we should urge Premier Ball to resign immediately and nominate Mr. Scott as his replacement.

Tail of the Tape:

John Scott: 6'8", 270lbs; Born in Edmonton, AB and grew up in southern Ontario (so probably grew up surrounded by displaced Newfoundlanders); Graduate of Michigan Tech University; Best known for fighting anybody who gets in his way; Age 33

Dwight Ball: Born in Deer Lake, NL (a rare Newfoundlander from an inland community); Graduate of Memorial University; Best known as being the best of 3 weak choices for Premier.

It's important to have strong leadership in these challenging economic times. There is no stronger leadership than the big man, 6'8" John Scott - a demonstrated leader destined to wear the captain's "C" in the NHL All-Star Game before being exiled to St. John's at the behest of big city executives on the mainland. If there were ever a man who could identify with our plight and be willing to fight for us, John Scott is the man.

John Scott for Premier!

NHL All-Star John
Scott for Premier

Tbone57

2016-01-17T13:40:38-04:30

2.142857143

7

Keep in mind that the difference between a bureaucratic manager and an entrepreneurial manager is that the former, when faced with a new idea, has, as a default reaction, "NO!", while the latter's first reaction to a new idea is "YES! Let's see what has to be done to make that work!"

In regard to the health care system, here are two ideas from elsewhere that work:

1. St. Joseph's Healthcare System in Hamilton, Ontario has cut ER wait times:

<https://goo.gl/AtkZPX>

2. Christie oncology hospital in Manchester, England has a new way to bring chemotherapy to outlying areas:

<http://goo.gl/E5iFBK>

The first saves time and effort.

Here's a third idea, in the area of IT, that is widely used elsewhere:

The second saves time and effort.

The third saves money.

Here are 4: 2 in Healthcare, 1 in IT, 1 in management

3. Use free cooling instead of air conditioning for Government's data centers:

Since time = money, all three save money.

OldGuy

2016-01-17T13:43:18-04:30

2.5

6

Reduce and Integrate NLHC	NLHC has too many people working at it. It was operated as Len Simms personal fiefdom. There is a separate IT department and duplication with other govt services. It should be reduced/streamlined and integrated directly into core govt depts such as AES	There is too much duplication and waste with this organization	towniegurl	2016-01-17T13:46:26-04:30	2.571428571	7
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A classic and ubiquitous problem in industry, governments and other large bureaucratic organizations is that their Administrators favour their own interests over the interest of the organizations they are supposed to be running efficiently. The way this dysfunctional situation is accomplished is by decisions by Administrators to increase the size, number of personnel and useless infrastructure of their fiefdoms, at huge cost in this case to the economic viability of Newfoundland Labrador and its taxpayers. Nowhere is this more out of control than at Memorial University, where the administration has steadily been increasing its staff (including high level administrators) and the number of new administrative offices with no apparent useful function - at huge cost to the economy and wanton waste, as well as being in most cases directly contrary to the goals and efficiency of an academic institution.

The solution is to bring in a cost cutting independent consultant (from offshore) with no conflict of interest, to implement a detailed audit, and have the power to cut useless and counterproductive government

Reduce the number of Administrators in Gov't and MUN

Newfoundland is in a desperate economic situation due to the crash in the international price of oil, perhaps one of the greatest financial crises in its long history. With the associated loss of revenue we are headed for bankruptcies of the provincial government. This is an emergency. Drastic cuts need to be made to save money if we are to recover. My proposal addresses an important component of waste of taxpayer \$\$ (and squandering of our treasury on useless administrative costs). Combined with a diversification of our economy to include a variety of industrial (non-fossil fuel extraction) sectors (that an efficiently run MUN would promote), this ^ is essential to putting us on the road to recovery.

ianljones

2016-01-17T13:57:54-04:30

3.533333333

15

Reduce the operating costs of NLC by moving sales to commercial distributors. Wages, benefits, space leasing, heat ect can be eliminated without losing sales. Like Europe, allow the grocery stores to sell wine, liquor and beer. NLC is already co-located to Sobeys and Dominion stores. NLC using technology can track what is being sold, retain the right of product selections, plus track supply and demand. Jobs lost from NLC will be absorbed by the commercial stores. Government really has no business in selling products.

Diversify the economy and give retailers a boost. In the US, Alberta, Quebec and Europe have similar models. Why should we do it: because its 2016.

Cease NLC Sales
Outlets

eastender

2016-01-17T14:15:52-04:30

2.77777778

9

For the past number of years literal "boatloads" of road salt have been shipped to the Happy Valley- Goose Bay docks, mixed with local sand and zealously spread over the trans-labrador highway by government contractors.

-Saves the costs of tendering for and of purchasing road salt for Labrador.

Road salt has little or no effect on traction safety in arctic temperatures, and according to some of my professional truck driver friends who drive 18-Wheelers on the Trans Labrador Highway, under certain circumstances can actually create a slippery sheen of "slush" which contributes to unsafe driving conditions.

-Saves the costs of shipping road salt via ship to the port of HVGB.

-Saves the cost of trucking the salt from the HVGB docks to the contractors stockpile.

-Saves the costs of the contactor stockpiling, tarping over and mixing the salt with sand.

The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay won't use salt on local streets, and actually had it banned from being used on town streets for years. Here in this part of Labrador there are endless supplies of free sand which could be applied to the Labrador provincial roads with "no salt added" just like the town of HVGB does, which would be every bit as effective as the now used mixture of salt and sand, but without the expense and " Car Killer " properties of road salt.

-Saves the cost of repairs and frequent replacement of government vehicles compromised by corrosion, and extends their useful life.

-Increases the governments income from road tax on Gasoline and Diesel fuel as more people who don't presently want to destroy their vehicles by driving on salted roads will start using the Trans-Labrador Highway more frequently for vacation or shopping trips.

Stop using Sodium Chloride (Salt) on Labrador Roads.

Labratron

2016-01-17T14:44:20-04:30

3.692307692

13

Train More NL Doctors	We have one of the largest universities in Canada. We should be opening the doors of our medical school to the students of Newfoundland and Labrador. We should train our students to become Doctors and give them the incentive to stay in our province.	Here in rural Newfoundland it is a revolving door of foreign doctors being paid large recruitment bonuses to spend a couple years and move on. Newfoundland and Labrador has enough intelligent students that we can train our own doctors and develop consistency in medical care in this Province. I can't remember the last time I went to the Hospital and spoke with a NL doctor.	Will	2016-01-17T14:58:08-04:30	3	10
regional electrical services	instead of one massive hydro project , the citizens would be better served with small , alternative energy supply , from wind to geothermal heat pumps and beyond (solar)	when citizens are not dependant on central electrical services , massive systems are not needed , and repair becomes easier and less expensive , for the people and the government	b	2016-01-17T15:01:49-04:30	2.75	8

Make all people on welfare prove that they are looking for work, If a person is on welfare for more than one year, they should have to prove they were looking for work, there are families who have been on welfare for generations, they live all around me, I have a friend who had a business and was looking for workers, when he could not find any he went to social services and requested some names of people on welfare that they could hire and were told that they were not allowed to release that info. He then asked if they could provide 2 people so he could hire them, there response was we are not an employment service. It seems to me like it is TABOO to even mention getting people off welfare, it is never mentioned in news broadcasts by any politician, seems like the government is content to keep it out of the spotlight and just keep paying them, I know of cases where the boyfriend is working all year long and lives with the girlfriend who is on welfare, and people who work for social services, live not far from these people and they know what is going on and still nothing is being done, I know Newfoundlanders are known for being hard workers but we are also being known for abusing the system. In

It is important because we have been feeding these families for years and they have no intension of working because they have it too good now, I was told recently by someone on Welfare that she would have to make at least \$18.00 per hour just to break even with what she gets from welfare. Well if the government started to make it mandatory for welfare recipients to go back to school (paid for by government) so they could make \$18.00 per hour, we would all be better off. Or make those who are ripping off the system by living with boyfriends who work, be held accountable by government workers who just turn a blind eye to what is happening.

crack down on people making a career out of welfare.

randy

2016-01-17T15:11:44-04:30

3.893617021

47

I think we should join the United States. Canada has looked down on us since 1949, we have lost our resources, mainly the fishery, to other countries because of federal government policies. They play with out equalization payments on a whim. Our geographical location leave us out of the picture lots of times, most Canadians think Canada's East Coast ends at Halifax. Canada has away too many federal restrictions and rules in too many aspects of our lives. By and large, Canadians snicker at NLers. The U.S., when it had military bases here, provided many good jobs and salaries to a lot of NLers. The U.S. is up and coming again and getting stronger every day. We would be part of a bigger, more resourceful country that would allow us to work anywhere in that great diversification. I think we should have joined the U.S. back in 1949. There was a time I would argue the other way around here, but I think it is time now. I'm tired of our province being considered a strain on the country.

We would be part of a bigger stronger country. We would have access to a huge country for work. The U.S. plans on throwing out 11 million illegal immigrants in the next few years, we would legally fill some of those positions. Thank you.

Union pay comparisons	<p>Instead of linking the unionized class pay rates to that of union classes of other provinces, link their wages to the people they are employed by.</p> <p>Take working income of nl, remove to bottom and top outlets, then figure out a motivating pay structure.</p>	<p>This is important for several reasons. Pegging pay to outsiders, prevents us from adapting to change and turns out services into a weight dragging us down. Creating a class sheltered from the storms of reality, create once again the royal way of existence. Having people motivated to do a good job, is essential to any operation. Humans without consequences have bred the world we exist in. Breed better decision making by having us all on the same deck, not a class, or my team your team reality.</p>	DanielfoleyDFF20 2016-01-17T15:27:57-04:30	2.2	5
The Republic	<p>Declare independence from Canada and the monarchy. Enter into an economic union with the other island states of Iceland and Cuba in a three way inter dependent Atlantic-Caribbean economic and social union and declare tax haven status. Develop the agricultural possibilities of Cuba via Newfoundland and Icelandic investment and technology. Export the agricultural products from Cuba for fish and petroleum products from Newfoundland and Iceland. Finance further economic development through the inter connected financial system of the union and its profits from the tax haven banking operations. Have a common currency and government with its own Constitution of the rights of free men and universal beings.</p>	<p>Because it is the only foil to the foreign influence and power exerted against the people of Newfoundland via the catholic church, the monarchy and the rothschild global banking cartel.</p>	HermesTresmigisi 2016-01-17T15:49:11-04:30	2.454545455	11

Open a Kraft Dinner manufacturing plants in rural newfoudland. This would provide year round work (instead of seasonal employment) and decrease the cost of KD at the WalMart.

Open a Kraft Dinner Plants in rural NL

To keep rural communities alive. To provide year round work so that residents of these small communities aren't left with the stress of only having seasonal work.

Taxedtodeath201 2016-01-17T16:11:21-04:30

2.428571429

14

1) AES funds many individuals full cost of living. Many of these individuals are part of a vicious cycle of welfare (parents were on it etc). Breaking this cycle will promote less people on welfare and more people working in NL. Those on welfare who ARE able to work should have reviews completed yearly. For instance, proof of trying to find work or go to school. employment groups/counselling should be mandatory (pay for their transportation to and from if needed). Exploring their barriers and breaking them down. For instance, providing self-esteem enhancing programs, will help. Too many young people use welfare as it is all they know.

2) Part of this involves the NL housing. Many people are in housing by lying on their lease such as saying spouses or adult children do not live there (when they do and may work etc). Each year a worker should be permitted to visit the home unexpectedly to assess occupants living there. We should not

review of aes
services in particular
social assistance
funding; review NL
housing occupants

be making it so easy for young people to live in housing for many years. Yearly reviews need to happen. This means more leg work up front but helps NL long term. Again,

It looks at long term systemic issues of out province and promotes a positive , new workforce. Also incorporates accountability.

newfiesunrize 2016-01-17T20:37:45-04:30

3.2

10

Switch to Non-Profit

Change all government owned corporations and companies to nonprofit organizations.

This would refocus their primary aim away from "make money for shareholders" to "provide a service".

TogetherAimHigh 2016-01-17T20:44:25-04:30

2.333333333

6

We border a National powerhouse. They are our neighbours and we need to help our neighbours. In turn we will both benefit from the relationship. It is time for us to get beyond the language barriers and perceived injustices done during the Churchill Falls development. Bottom line is that Quebec bailed us out and they benefited in return. We saved face and have been sore ever since. Muskrat Falls is over budget and not finished...sound familiar! We may need them again! Quebec is not an evil villain as some politicians may have us believe but rather they acted to get the best benefit for the people they represent. Is there anything wrong with that?

We can learn a lot from Quebec and we have a lot to offer them. If both provinces decide to work together, the combined energy potential would make us both mega suppliers to the North American grid.

The majority of our province lives on an island and our reliance on an efficient and reliable transport route is paramount. Without a more reliable and faster connection to the mainland, the island will

This idea is very important because it doesn't cost us anything only our foolish pride!

Food security, tourism, economic diversification, energy sector growth, fresh fish and agriculture sales, and manufacturing are but a few of the beneficiaries.

If we continue to speak positive about our people, our beautiful province and our economic outlook, it won't change a thing. If we want to attract and RETAIN people to our province, we have to improve our situation through strategic partnerships, ease of movement (people and goods) and lower our cost of living. A partnership with our neighbour will be a step in the right direction.

" If you keep doing the same things you will continue to get the same results"...

When government funded initiatives are made appropriately visible and accessible to the right applicants, that funding can have many positive economic spinoffs. But when layers of website information have to be searched through to find a program one has heard about from someone else who accessed it (because it wasn't promoted), then eventually an application form found, program/application guidelines considered separately from the application (guidelines which may be worded differently in a .pdf document than they are on the web page for the program) - applying can become so difficult that not enough applications come in to effectively assess the worth of allocating the funding. Then, funding recieved must be reported on. But where does this information go? What is it used for? What of that information reaches areas of government who can use it?

I'd like to see government implement a platform (perhaps like this one , but specific to NL, not just one sector) by which eligible individuals, organizations or agencies can both apply for and report on funding supports so as to build the data government

Information gathered through paper application and reporting processes is not well standardized across departments who offer publically accessible funding programs. Therefore, information recieved can become perfunctory, and doesn't necessarily reach the audience who can make the best use of the information when it's most needed. Even applications rejected by one department may offer useful data which can be analyzed by other departments or offices.

Paper applications and reporting also demand duplication - for every paper application coming in, a department recieving it and potentially one or two additional departments, must also enter it into their own systems. Duplication is costly and widens opportunities for information to be lost or mis-entered. Time and money can be saved if the information needed is collected once and is made accessible in real time to those in government who need to evaluate it. Information requested can then be more quickly adapted as needed.

Modernize and standardize application and reporting

tiltroad

2016-01-17T22:01:59-04:30

3

2

Regionalization	<p>It's high time this province gets with the program and changes how we manage our land - too many small towns struggling on their own to get by. We need to create a new system, dare I say it - we need to regionalize. There's plenty of reports and studies that indicate this is needed in this province so I won't rewrite the book. Yes clearly there's a upfront cost but let's look towards the future.</p>	<p>This had been discussed much over the years - every got is afraid to take action. It's imp now to consider this as we enter a new political scene.</p>	cvramsay	2016-01-18T05:57:20-04:30	3.571428571	7
		<p>The budgetary crisis facing the Province is of much magnitude that Government will not deal with it in the short term.</p>				
Double Dipping / Triple Dipping	<p>The graveyards are full of indispensable people. With that thought in mind Government should immediately end double dipping and triple dipping on the public purse. This would also include the Chief Judge being able to call back pensioned Judges.</p>	<p>What it must do is to start with symbolic and strategic elimination of visible waste in our system that most of the public actually understands. Low dollar but symbolic messages</p>	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:16:27-04:30	3.692307692	13

The budgetary crisis facing the Province is of much magnitude that Government will not deal with it in the short term.

Close Government House.	Last time the Queen was here? She stayed in a hotel. Prince Charles and Camilla stayed on the corner of Monkstown and Rennie's Mill. Prince Edward Island, the seat of Confederation, does not maintain one.	What it must do is to start with symbolic and strategic elimination of visible waste in our system that most of the public actually understands. Low dollar but symbolic messages	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:17:44-04:30	3.866666667	15
Dismantle Executive Council.	here were 26 "executive" Deputy Minister equivalent and Assistant Deputy Minister type positions before Danny. What happened since the Smallwood era to require this? What exactly do they do?	Save money and give direct line Ministers and Deputies the power to run their Departments. They shag up? They are flicked	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:19:11-04:30	3.857142857	7
Dismantle Executive Council.	here were 26 "executive" Deputy Minister equivalent and Assistant Deputy Minister type positions before Danny. What happened since the Smallwood era to require this? What exactly do they do?	Save money and give direct line Ministers and Deputies the power to run their Departments. They shag up? They are flicked	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:19:41-04:30	3.666666667	3

Eliminate "sick leave notes" across the board for anything funded by Government. Switch to paid leave. Same as schools. What doctor is going to say to a concerned parent that little Johnny or little Mary is not able to attend school because of whatever the parents' personal agenda might be.

Eliminate "sick leave notes"	All the time wasted by medical doctors to write a sick leave note. The wasted doctor visits (during working hours) to get those notes?	Free up the time of medical doctors to treat sick people. Some physicians have a 2 week wait list for an appointment	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:21:05-04:30	3.913043478	23
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Prescriptions for generic non addictive drugs.	Stop the practice of requiring prescriptions for generic non addictive drugs. Somebody with routine asthma? 8 or 9 doctor's visits a year. If some new medical treatment comes out? Make a public announcement. For 90% of asthmatics? The same two drugs for 30 years. Pulmicort and ventolin.	Eliminate waste of patient and physician time	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:22:12-04:30	3.666666667	6
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Prison sentences of two years less a day	<p>Prison sentences of two years less a day should be eliminated today. It used to be that if they got sentenced to two years, the federal government paid 100% of incarceration costs. Adult Corrections got to decide where the convicted were housed e.g. Lakeside or Dorchester in determining where was best for their rehabilitation. The Federal Government had infinitely more rehabilitation programs.</p>	Save millions of dollars	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:23:02-04:30	3.8	5
Prison sentences of two years less a day	<p>Prison sentences of two years less a day should be eliminated today. It used to be that if they got sentenced to two years, the federal government paid 100% of incarceration costs. Adult Corrections got to decide where the convicted were housed e.g. Lakeside or Dorchester in determining where was best for their rehabilitation. The Federal Government had infinitely more rehabilitation programs.</p>	Save millions of dollars and provide better rehabilitation options / support services for those convicted. Perhaps better yet? Use prisons only for dangerous offenders	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:24:12-04:30	2.333333333	3

Set up "counties"	<p>Set up "counties" and offload authority for road maintenance; fire protection; policing costs; and education facilities to spread the burden fairly to users. Give elected members of county board honorariums for service. It is not an occupation. There never seems to be a shortage of candidates for any elected office. How many multimillion dollar homes outside City limits? Their tax load? Lower than a house on Gower Street with a 20 foot frontage. Government's costs of servicing access roads to these mansions outside Metro St. John's?</p>	Make for equitable treatment of taxpayers	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:25:27-04:30	3.714285714	7
Remove Most Temporary Foriegn Worker Permits	<p>Most people think of temporary foriegn workers as the girl who serves you coffee at the local Timmys but the fact is that there are TFW's working in NL who make over \$100,000.00 per year. Most of these positions are related to the oil and gas industry. There are service companies like Schlumberger, drilling companies like Seadrill, and shore based service and support offices that have hundreds of TFW's combined. There are qualified Canadians available to do this work, and laws are in place to demand Canadians get the jobs. All government needs to do is instruct CNLOPB to strictly enforce those laws.</p>	<p>\$10,000,000.00 annually in wages is being sent overseas when that money could be supporting our local economy. I've used a very conservative figure here. It could be easily double that amount. If a business were to start up that was going to pay that much money in wages governments would be tripping over each other to support it but not much is being done in this instance.</p>	Frank	2016-01-18T09:26:27-04:30	3.769230769	13

Elimination of advertising / donations / sponsorships	<p>Elimination of advertising / donations / sponsorships by government funded groups. We have Atlantic Lotto (have them route their ML allocation to the NL Exchequer account) or the NLC donating to this or to that charity? Their funding? Raised under authority of the Newfoundland Legislature. Any funding allocations should be at the discretion of the the House of Assembly and voted on by Members if the House of Assembly, not doled out by patronage appointments.</p>	Save tens of millions of dollars and eliminate waste	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:26:29-04:30	2	3
Elimination of administrative bureaucracies	<p>Elimination of administrative bureaucracies as dumping grounds for recycled public servants; noblesse oblige; and party cronies in Crown Corporations, Crown Owned Corporations, Boards, Agencies, Not For Profits, self appointed Advocacy Groups for this or that. Check it out. Tell Finance to compile a listed of funded groups for the disabled, the mentally challenged by type, seniors, women, single moms, married Moms, the addicted, boutique eating disorders,</p>	Provide support staff for MHA's. They are elected to support us. They should be given the tools to do their jobs. They don't do them? The voters have a remedy.	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:28:25-04:30	2.333333333	3

Centralize and track contributions
Moneys which is given as grants / contributions / partnership contribution or non tendered purchased services to not for profits should all be funded and processed through,processed through one identifiable Department. Not through 10 different departments, different municipal governments, or indirectly through Government legislated bodies. Under the present system payments can be made through many programs through many Departments under different main objects of expenditure before even factoring in other levels of Government and sundry agencies, so that it is next to impossible for even Cabinet to figure out how much has actually been expended on/to a particular group / project.

Well, while it may never reveal how much the philanthropic giving back on Fogo Island cost taxpayers, it will give Cabinet some sense of what each government funded group is getting.

Centralize and track contributions

MrClarke

2016-01-18T09:31:36-04:30

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Funding of multiple overlapping advocacy groups	<p>Funding of multiple overlapping advocacy groups , their offices, whatever organizations exist out there? Give each MHA two support staff, office space and an 800 line. MHA's are our advocates in chief. Neither could possibly have the time to review each and every issue brought to their attention by constituents but two full time staff members to support them? It could be the best investment of public moneys ever made. Nobody ever ignores a MHA. There should be a central enquiry group to coordinate the dissemination of program information to MHA's.</p>	<p>Most such groups have no real contact with those they are supposedly advocating on behalf.</p>	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:33:06-04:30	2.333333333	3
Beg Ottawa to roll the RNC into the RCMP	<p>Beg Ottawa to roll the RNC into the RCMP and eliminate the odious duplication of administrative expenses. Administrative overhead is reduced to cutting 4 cheques to Ottawa yearly. Let the Minister of Justice negotiate with Ottawa via conference call to avoid the entourage to Ottawa.</p>	<p>Save tens of millions of dollars</p>	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:34:10-04:30	1.8	5

Kindergarten / Grade One	Kindergarten / Grade One Use teacher assistants and not fully accredited teachers. It is, at best, glorified day care. This? From retired fully accredited teacher friends. It is a make work program for teachers and the provision of public funded day care.	Prevent the growth of education costs by at least 10%	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:35:08-04:30	1	7
Limit hospital access to critical care	Limit hospital access to critical care and not permit them to be used for convalescence homes for people who belong in extended or palliative care facilities	Free up hospital space to those needing it so we don't have somebody getting chemotherapy in the corridor at HSC	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:36:17-04:30	1	2
Legal Aid	Legal Aid. Bring it to a grinding halt. It was never meant to be a make work program for lawyers or endless settling the score grounds for broken relationships. How much does society owe criminals? How much does society owe those who make poor personal choices.	Save money. Provide equity.	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:37:27-04:30	1.333333333	6
Divorce / matrimonial civil actions	Divorce / matrimonial civil actions Bring in mandatory counselling on division of assets and child custody and leave the justice system out of it until all else fails. Not weeks of counselling, hours by a counsellor charging by the hour of direct contact	Save a fortune to both the public and those who have to pay lawyers	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:38:43-04:30	2	3

Let teachers teach	Teaching time. Set a mandatory minimum front line teaching "time" for all teachers. Set a maximum of paid time which can be used for endless crap meetings / discussion. Let teachers teach.	Ask a teacher	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:39:20-04:30	3.666666667	3
Dismantle Nursing stations in hospitals	Nursing stations in hospitals ? Dismantle them. Nurses, when working, should be with patients.	Free up time for nurses to nurse	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:40:37-04:30	2.6	5
Eliminate the Fisheries Department	Eliminate the Fisheries Department . The federal Government has total and absolute control over ocean fish.	Deploy some of the very competent staff elsewhere	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:41:24-04:30	3.222222222	9
Out of Province Travel	Out of Province Travel . Allow some Federal employees / officials to actually touch foot in our Province. The rush to escape our winter / spring weather and accumulate frequent flyer points.	Give frequent flyer points for conference calls.	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:42:37-04:30	1.5	4
Federal Prison	Federal Prison. Lobby Ottawa to establish a Federal Prison in metro St. John's where the infrastructure exists to support it, It would provide an incredible base of employment. Ottawa will never put a federal prison in Stephenville	Huge economic impact	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:43:48-04:30	3.25	4

Allow the capture of expenditure location	<p>Allow the capture of expenditure location across Government so that taxpayers would know how much Government money goes into Corner Brook or Wabush and how much comes into St. John's per capita. The same information could be used to determine what taxpayers pay to "subsidize" people living in splendid isolation. The same student teacher ratio used to fund teaching positions in Conception Bay South should apply to any community in Newfoundland.</p>	Cabinet will not permit this. Why?	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:44:39-04:30	1	1
End Methadone program	<p>Methadone program ? End it. Establish detoxification facilities for those in need. Break the cycle.</p>	Break the endless cycle	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:45:21-04:30	2.571428571	7
Victim services	<p>Victim services . Eliminate the program and allocate funding to cover out of pocket costs to victims of crime e.g. ambulance charge to bring an unconscious victim to hospital. What is it they actually do?</p>	The program was supposedly developed for Victims, not employment creation	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:46:31-04:30	1	1

Court Security costs . When was the last time a Judge was shot. Seeing people charged, but not convicted of anything, being lead to Court in shackles and handcuffs? Like how will they escape? Jump into the harbour in hopes of hitching a ride on a cruise ship? If they do escape? Good riddance.

Save \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Court Security costs

MrClarke

2016-01-18T09:47:07-04:30

1.5

4

Adult Education. How is it possible for anybody to have gotten through the education system while being functionally illiterate. Education has been mandatory for more than half a century. Have their ever been any cost benefit analysis of the costs of training adults? What portion of those paid to be trained actually end up employed in the private sector.

that dog won't hunt

Adult Education

MrClarke

2016-01-18T09:48:20-04:30

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Choices for Youth	Choices for Youth . I watched a heart warming article on CBC featuring two very sharp looking young people getting a warm XMAS dinner. I don't think I was in a shop or even the WORKS over the XMAS holidays without seeing a help wanted sign. What is it that prevents young people from actually going to work? That is the issue that nobody ever seems to focus on. Businesses have to go through the "incredible" costs to access foreign workers to keep their businesses operational and the blame? Low wages sell that low wage crap to the business which have simply folded in the last two years	Common sense	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:49:35-04:30	2.75	12
Drug Addiction	Drug Addiction. Nail the doctors who are prescribing abused drugs. Let them practice elsewhere	Stop the destruction of lives	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:50:21-04:30	1	1
CAP doctor visits	CAP doctor visits. How many times a month do people need to see a medical doctor or a medical specialist if they are not on life support?	Free up physician time for people who have treatable illnesses	MrClarke	2016-01-18T09:51:33-04:30	2.5	8

Review MCP Guidelines and Police Charges	<p>A number of MCP services are being billed by family doctors unnecessarily. The amount of people waiting for diagnostics is unnecessarily high and there are many people on these lists who do not require this service.</p>	Reduces costs to MCP.	mcoaker	2016-01-18T09:54:40-04:30	2.333333333	3	
Reduce Costs associated with Abuse of Leave	<p>Unionized employees of government and ABCs have sick leave, vacation leave, family responsibility leave, bereavement leave and more. The abuse of sick leave in particular is costing hundreds of millions of dollars per fiscal year.</p>	<p>Non-union employees are on a paid leave system, they get 25 days a year total to use however they chose. There is statistically verifiable data available to prove that this segment (the minority) of government employees does not abuse this leave.</p>	<p>Most union employees do not view sick leave as the discretionary leave it is supposed to be but rather treat as the equivalent of vacation leave, something they are determined to exhaust whether ill or not.</p>	<p>Abuse of leave is rampant in the unionized sector. This one change would save millions of dollars and not require any loss of service to the public. In fact service would be improved because everyone would be on the job.</p>	SeriousSolutions 2016-01-18T10:21:11-04:30	3.571428571	14

Now you know we would all do alot better, if we could just close down these grocery stores and there high food prices and just all live off one big mary every day.

Make every day Big Mary Monday, For Jesus sakes

Vegetarians can just pick off the chicken and eat the lettuce and bun

It could shape this province, even the world.

UpDaShore

2016-01-18T11:45:02-04:30

3.692307692

13

Home care

Offer to pay people to stay home to take care of an elderly and ill mother/father with additional support from the local public health office when needed.

Reduces the the cost of housing for the elderly who need constant supervision.

Jimmyo

2016-01-18T11:57:31-04:30

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Invest in finding a way to get to Flavortown

By finding a way to the mythical Flavortown with 100% sucess we can provide the familys of this province with meals that are "Straight up Gangsta" and "Simply Orgasmic"

No Government has ever found a way to get to Flavortown, therefore we would be making history

Guyferri

2016-01-18T12:50:14-04:30

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Government Departments rent and lease office space from private firms in and around the City of St. John's. The fees for these spaces are VERY costly to taxpayers. For example; The English School District (Dept. of Education) leases office and STORAGE space in Atlantic Place located in downtown St John's. In 2006/2007, there was 75 employees at this location; 15,000 square foot leased at a rate of \$20.88 per square foot. The cost to taxpayers was \$252,117.00 dollars. In 2011/20012, there was 100 employees at this location; 22,646 square foot leased at a rate of \$29.45 per square foot. The cost to taxpayers was \$666,925.00 dollars. In 2014/20015, there was 125 employees at this location; 22,646 foot leased at \$32.48 per square foot. The cost to taxpayers is \$735,542.08 dollars. This is in addition to HST, parking and other miscellaneous costs.

In fact, Provincewide, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has 299 leased properties costing taxpayers \$23.3 million dollars. Meanwhile, there are vacant school properties and vacant office spaces outside of the City of St. John's/Mount Pearl that I dont want to see your Government continue to waste our tax dollars.

With a better Chess' menu more people will move back home to stimulate the economy and experience the true meaning of flavourtown brought to us by Guy Ferri using Chess' as his tool. It will stimulate the economy.

Rental/Lease Agreements with Private Firms

DrNFLD 2016-01-18T12:52:28-04:30 3.333333333 3

Hire Guy Ferri to Re-Innovate the Chess' Menu

RoastchickenChip 2016-01-18T12:53:11-04:30 2.6 5

ORR Morning Derby	Give yer a rig a snow plow for the derby knoz	Traffic Jam	TossYerRig	2016-01-18T13:02:36-04:30	2.333333333	3
Pay Cuts	Elected provincial MHA representatives should decrease their salary as a sign that they too are willing to make sacrafices for our province. Reducing the amount to \$50,000 seems more than fair as that is a decent living wage for an individual or working family.	If every citizen of the province is expected to take a financial hit through looming austerity measusures that loom in the near future; MHA's need to show us that they to are willing to make sacrafices in the name of the greater good themselves. The several millions this saves though small is a significant symbolic gesture. Mandatory I would say if you expect to hold on to any future respect.	JP_friendlysugges	2016-01-18T13:44:16-04:30	3.3	10

Why not start getting the province prepared for the upcoming recreational marijuana wave and/or do as many states have done and go ahead and legalize before the federal govt (if possible) add a provincial tax to all related sales as those of us who smoke, eat and wash ourselves in weed do not care if we must pay taxes on it. Rather than having to resort to raising the hst in a few years pissing everyone off the marijuana tax will be paid by those who use marijuana only and will generate huge money. Also get with the times and open a bloody casino or two. Obviously plenty of money to make here and don't feed me the crap about people getting hooked on gambling because with the internet nowadays if someone wants to gamble they are gonna gamble so rather than that money leaving the province open a Casino so it can be spent here and taxes collected on it. Not to mention the other benefits of a casino such as shows and tourism benefits. Add surcharge on tickets to shows and things like that as well.

Because it's 2016

Because you plan on wasting half your term asking the public how to fix the problem you were elected to fix like Dwight you chose to lead so lead for fuck sakes had I known this was your solution to the crisis j would never have voted liberal

because there's huge money in my ideas I truly feel like you all underestimate the market for marijuana here and you can tax it as much as you like it's not gonna affect sales whatsoever

Marijuana and a Casino

Olddirtynewfie 2016-01-18T13:53:05-04:30

3.625

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However we got to point., DOES NOT MATTER.

We must face " REALITY "

If, we continue down the path of spending beyond our means in combination with borrowing, we will face a future of nothing more than interest payments. It is takeover of our "quality of life" and Country by " FINANCIAL WARFARE ."

Many will face a spike in thier mortgage's interest rate, this will leave many in a situation of FORCLOSURE. This is why we must tackle household debt., and transfer home equity into a pension security plan.

Though government does not get involved in personal finances., when we view the total picutre of household debt coupled with the rising cost of living , we can see a vulernabitly in our Country emerging. One where a large number of people can become HOMELESS in a very short period of time. This is why we must merge all levels of government into one focal point and that single focal point being the individual.

Poverty reduction seems to big a issue.

Much of taxpayer's money, as well as, donations are spend on this casue. However, many which avail of these services and programs witness waste and are left wondering where all the donations are going.

Many who are living in poverty, do want to work but can not maintain full time employment due to wide variety reasons. However, when we take a brief amount time and shift a small percentage of the current amount of money being on this issue into actual problem solving with those in poverty. We would be targetting our effects on closing the gap instead of wasting more money on stopping the bleeding.

When we create Service Canada Jobs for those in poverty using social housing units as a form of pay. we are tackling issues head on with real needs being addressed in real time with real people.

When home eqiuty is used as a form pay; we would be able to create jobs based on the mworthman

The Municipal Assessment Agency is a bureaucracy whose only function is to provide data that allows municipalities to determine what share of the municipal taxes will be paid by each property owner in the municipality. From the MAA website..... "The vision of the Municipal Assessment Agency is that of a professional organization meeting the property assessment and valuation needs of our clients in an effective and cost-efficient manner." Wow!

Being efficient and cost effective are great as long as they are applied to the right things. Doing the wrong things really well is worth nothing! It's time to revise our method of collecting municipal taxes to one that is not based on property values. Property owners generally enjoy the same level of municipal services regardless of the assessed value of their property yet we collect municipal taxes from them based on their assessed property value. Why?

Implementing this idea will eliminate an annual cost of \$5.4 million and activity that provides no value (no change to taxes collected by municipalities, only data on how taxes will be shared by property owners).

Will also remove the issue of retired people on fixed incomes who have been in their homes for many years having their taxes become unaffordable due to increasing assessment values.

Simplify Municipal Tax Collection/Eliminate Municipal Assessment Agency

Simplify the determination of municipal taxes by taxing all property owners equally based on the services delivered. (i.e. may be 1-3 rates for residential owners based on

MarkHam

2016-01-18T14:19:28-04:30

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I understand you probably have a multitude of people speaking different things and offering an opinion. I am sure you have very little time, so I figured I would offer two of my notions as to what would help move this province forward a little.

First:

Amalgamation. Yes. I said the horrible word but in the spirit of cooperation and not the concept of towns/cities being absorbed together. I know there had been a NEAR concept of the North East Avalon, but I think part of the problem in NL is the disconnection of the rural areas. Perhaps NL needs to consider Regional Management similar to the County system that is in NS. Maybe it could similarly follow the electoral districts (except the NE Avalon being a single county or Regional Municipality).

We need to focus growth regionally and get cooperation. Too many towns are at odd over costs and services (look at that fire in Cornerbrook Area where services were just no permitted to be used because the other municipality didn't pay). I would be for HST increase IF that increase was directly channeled to a county or such.

This way, I would easily, for example, choose the RONA in my neighborhood so that the taxes go to support my services - and this Municipality tax nightmare can be reduced!

Encourage towns and communities to grow businesses and be business freindly.

Municipal
Restructuring and
HST adjustment

JasonDawe

2016-01-18T14:21:03-04:30

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	<p>We need to really look at moving people around cheaply - more so in the NE Avalon. Let a private company propose to build and operate a transit service that connects the NE Avalon. Let them run it and recoup expenses.</p>					
Public Transit	<p>Stop the endless bickering between communities for transit responsibility.</p>	<p>We need to find better ways to move people around that is greener and more efficient.</p>	JasonDawe	2016-01-18T14:41:39-04:30	2.75	4
Adopt Open-Source Technologies	<p>Government could adopt open-source alternatives to expensive proprietary technologies. For example, governments in Europe and developing countries have migrated to QGIS mapping technology, saving \$100k's each year. Such an initiative here would compliment new open-data policies and would immediately make NL a progressive provincial leader in information technology industry.</p>	<p>The technology industry in Newfoundland and Labrador has blindly followed North American traditions, typically behind by 5-10 years. Taking steps to jump ahead of this curve could cut operating expenses dramatically and encourage quaternary industry to set up locally. In turn, this could diversify the economy with jobs for a younger demographic.</p>	sjnflider	2016-01-18T14:46:20-04:30	3.789473684	19
Elect Trump	<p>Trump will make America great, and Newfoundland greater. If we accept Trump as overlord and supreme leader of Newfoundland he will rid us of all the evil inefficiencies in government. Trump will guide us through these harsh times and bring greatness to our island nation!</p>	<p>It is time to make Newfoundland great again! nl4life</p>		2016-01-18T14:46:33-04:30	2.333333333	6

While looking at the Municipal Assessment Agency annual report I noticed that they have \$871,403 in a "Severance reserve fund". The following note refers to the fund:

“Severance pay is accounted for on an accrued basis and is calculated based upon years of service and current salary levels. The right to be paid severance pay vests with employees with nine years of continued service and accrues to a maximum of twenty years and, accordingly, no provision has been made in the accounts for employees with less than nine years of continued service. The amount is payable when the employee ceases employment with the Agency. The cash amount of the accrued severance package is segregated into a reserve fund.”

I expect that this practice is spread all across the provincial government and their agencies. Enough is enough. Eliminate this practice.

Compensation paid to any employee by any employer must be competitive with the employee's and the employer's next best alternative. Private employers don't offer severance packages (except for terminations) and if other government employers will offer it then let that employee go to the mainland and take the offer. There's lots of other people in the province that will be qualified to step in and replace them without the benefit of a severance package. And if the employee isn't willing to move to the mainland well, I guess that living here without a severance package is better than their next best alternative.

The rich compensation packages (pension, banked sick days, pension packages) that our provincial employees receive must stop. We can't afford it now... and never could.

Eliminate Severance Pay

MarkHam

2016-01-18T15:00:41-04:30

1.75

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Alright so I know what you're thinking "the nazi's were really bad", but hear me out. So as a province we've pretty much proven we can't govern ourselves, this website is proof enough of that. But rather than give up governing responsibility to Canada or Britain like we did last time, why don't we give it to one of our own, to govern with complete authority. The rise of facism in germany brought on a new era of efficiency to the country and the world, with them going from a bankrupt nation to a global superpower, they lifted themselves out of poverty and brought enourmous wealth to their country. As well their intellectual environment was unprecedented, leading to technological innovation that is the basis for much of modern science. This all stems from the fact that the people of Newfoundland have been repeatedly taken advantage of by foreign countries. Those damn mainlanders are the source of a lot of our debt. We pay them enourmous sums of money, for very little in return. I say we keep labrador, leave Canada and work towards a wealthier and more efficient government without all the beurocracy and waste associated with lengthy debates and processing time. We just

Our provincial government can't get anything done, they just sit around trying to get elected again so they can stay on the payroll. I mean the first thing this government does amidst a financial crisis is say they arent going to do anything. We need to cut out all the unneccesary waste in government and just have one guy telling us what to do. I am not advocating for any of the discrimination or genocide associated with the nazi party, just the political hierchy of a facist government.

Fascist Revolution
Give free darts to
skeets

Give a few darts to the hurtin bys in da bride. We loves the darts by.

merica

2016-01-18T15:14:42-04:30

1.444444444

9

KilbrideHaF

2016-01-18T15:29:24-04:30

3.285714286

7

Complete a full review of the NLC with complete visibility. Review likely to include;

Stopping all upper management from getting countless free alcohol

Stopping upper management from frivolous travelling that is being done

Get rid of Steve Winter, a PC appointment

Get rid of the CIO, are you kidding me, a CIO for NLC. (Connected to Cathy Dunderdale, go figure)

Stop so much marketing and eliminate so much choice, it has driven costs too high, so much so that another warehouse was needed and high cost for continuous deliveries to the stores.

Increase profitability of the NLC

Changes at NLC

NLISMYHOME

2016-01-18T15:45:27-04:30

3.636363636

11

Welfare as a base for a living Wage ..

Insurance is expensive . As someone who has knocked personally on thousands of doors, Over and Over again, I heard "I work and your better off than I am.

The Drug Card ..

Has become incentive to NOT WORK.. many people for variety of reasons are on some type drug.

Again, OVER and OVER again I heard many people describing situations where much of thier disposable income was going towards thier child's drug costs.

The same coverage provided to those on welfare should be offered to all people.

Reality ... needs to be the focus

This comes with a cost of course. However when we add up the cost of those who are going on WELFARE to get the drug card

We can not continue down this path. The day will come for a complete cut off of any social saftey nets.

Eg. average rent is \$ 1,000

Drug costs and needs must be addressed

REAL LIFE PROGRAM

average light bill is \$ 200

mworthman

2016-01-18T15:46:30-04:30

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A major issue with the NL ferry system is that it's run as a govt department with all the standards and procedures of a bureaucratic government department.

Turn the ferry system into a crown corporation under a board of some bureaucrats, some people from the ferry user committees and some engineers who understand the system. Give the new corp a strong service-oriented mandate. Provide the same level of funding (to start) as current and then reduce it over time.

With luck, we should have a better ferry service for less money as time goes on.

Because the ferry system costs too much while providing an inferior service.

Fix the ferries

Uber_newf

2016-01-18T16:30:49-04:30

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We should be able to fire teachers	<p>It's currently next to impossible to fire a teacher, which leads to underperformance among teachers. Teachers have some of the highest job security in the country which doesn't make much sense considering they have one of the most important jobs in the world. We need significant educational reform so that we can advance our society and stop being a province everyone regards as stupid, and we can't do that if our teachers have no incentive to even do an adequate job. We should also stop stigmatizing trades, not everyone should go on to university, we are a province rich in natural resources and we need people to work the mines, the fisheries, and the oil rigs. We don't all need to be doctors or lawyers, especially since the people who train as doctors or lawyers usually end up leaving.</p>	<p>Because we are pouring money into a broken educational system that doesn't reflect our province's needs or wants. All of our promising students end up leaving the province rather than staying here. Success has begun to be defined as leaving Newfoundland for better opportunities.</p>	merica	2016-01-18T16:54:11-04:30	2.5	12
Ban studded tires	Ban the use of studded tires	<p>We all want to drive on safe and well-maintained highways. Studded tires are responsible for premature wear on our roads that cause ruts and damaged asphalt unnecessarily. Those ruts create a year-round hazard, and drive maintenance costs due to premature resurfacing. They're banned in other provinces and they should be banned here as well.</p>	Cut_waste_not_s	2016-01-18T17:29:52-04:30	3.277777778	18

Farming	Offer government land up to people who wants to start farming and you'll have an increase in produce and population give the land they will come	Produce is a producer of employment	Omg	2016-01-18T17:37:31-04:30	3.964285714	28
	<p>As earlier, it's not my idea but, rather, one that was in an article. As we used to say in IT back in the 70s and 80s, "Whenever possible, steal code." That is, don't try to reinvent the wheel, unless absolutely necessary. Here's the link to John Neill's Unipart company's method that, "At its heart, ... seeks to engage every single employee within an organisation. It aims not only to motivate them, but also to equip them with the skills to become their own consultants; to diagnose problems and then to create the solutions that will make a dramatic difference."</p> <p>https://goo.gl/gfJld7</p> <p>Here's the Guardian article on how he would hope to help the NHS in the UK:</p> <p>http://goo.gl/nWufIN</p>					
Listen! John Neill of Unipart (UK Company) has an idea.	Yeah, yeah, yeah; I know: What's the difference between the Unipart Way and the ideas of Edward Deming that raised Japanese manufacturing quality?	Efficiency, quality, cost. Oh, for cryin' out loud, just read the first link.	OldGuy	2016-01-18T17:54:18-04:30	1.571428571	7

Lower the drinking age	<p>Lower the drinking age to 16 for beer and wine and 18 for liquor to stop having to enforce the underage drinking laws. We know highschool kids are going to drink, so why not let them drink beer so they aren't blacking out on liquor and getting killed. Much of Europe already has 16 as their legal drinking age for beer and wine because it helps teens ease into drinking, rather than going wild when they turn 19. We'll also make more money from legal alcohol purchases rather than them getting it illegally.</p>	<p>We'll save money breaking up high school parties and make money selling beer.</p>	merica	2016-01-18T18:30:04-04:30	3.375	8
Annex with Russia!	<p>Why not boost our economy with real leadership from Mr. Putin? Why not give him a call and overthrow just like Crimea. Soon we all can speak Russian, be employed, and drink vodka!</p>	<p>Its necessary ^^</p>	jonwoot	2016-01-18T18:57:53-04:30	3.91666667	96

The cost of health care delivery is alarming- 38% of our budget. The rate of obesity in N. L is also alarming and if we could find an effective way to address this problem undoubtedly the diseases associated with this would decrease which could result with significant savings in health care. Government don't have to come up with new monies for this, just channel monies in grants (Health and Wellness or New Horizons)

My suggestion would be to:

(1) make it mandatory for all Municipal Councils to budget a minimum of \$20. per tax payer as part of their budget for program I am suggesting

(2) to encourage them to partner with neighbouring councils and have all these monies put in one pot. Hire a full time fitness person that would be mobile and would travel to 5 different sites per week offering exercise programs and information sessions, bringing in guest speakers monthly to help educate and motivate our population about eating healthy, exercising regularly, etc.

Over the years I see significant monies being granted to various community groups throughout the province. I am sure these monies are used wisely, however, I feel that we could do maybe better things if some of these monies were directed towards the program I am suggesting. Speaking for my region, which encompasses a number of small municipalities and local service districts I feel individually we can do little, however, together we can do something fantastic--- have a full time, highly qualified employee who can deliver quality programs that are accessible and affordable for all. Applying for a grant for a community is not the way to go anymore. We have to think regionally and this would be a great regional project.

A good health and fitness program, delivered by a qualified individual at strategic places in our region every week of the year is the way to go.

Addressing Obesity
issue in Health Care

Sheila

2016-01-18T19:25:03-04:30

3.733333333

15

Re-Referendum 1949: Joining the US	The US economy seems to be a lot stronger than ours at the present, and would have greater work options than our neighbours to the left. Cut the health care budget by severing from Canada and joining the good ol' US of A.	Reduces expenses. Better trade routes.	ShyContributor	2016-01-18T19:35:46-04:30	2.333333333	6
Get rid of public sector unions	After working for years at Eastern Health, as well as many years outside of Eastern Health, I for one feel the Union politics are a huge drain on the organization. I have spoke to numerous managers who feel they cannot effectively manage without union roadblocks. Don't get me wrong, there are many many well educated hard working individuals under the various union banners, but these folks cannot be rewarded for their actions, meanwhile the lazy are protected. If all government sectors are in the same senario with the tail wagging the dog, it's no wonder we are in such a financial mess. Get rid of the union's ability to control management, and perhaps you may see managers start making proper decisions.	I've seen first hand that lazy folks can waste resources while getting ahead due to being there longer. I've had numerous managers tell me it's too bad so and so can't do this or that, since there will be grievances filed by the union. It's a shame so much money is wasted on dead weight, while good individuals leave for the public sector.	concernedinhealth	2016-01-18T19:46:26-04:30	3.526315789	19

Newfoundland really needs to step up it's game. Thats why the adult industry needs to come to Newfoundland and make new jobs. Working in adult video sets in easy and requires no education. We don't need schools anymore. Plus most people in the adult industry make over \$100,000 a year. We can hire smart people to build the sets for these adult films. Newfoundland now will have a new prospering industry as 50% of men watch adult videos. Imagine the tax on these videos guys...

Requires not much funding, no education, easy workforce, nice new industry

Fund Adult Videos

jonwoot

2016-01-18T20:31:44-04:30

3.828947368

76

When wages of public servants are compared to similar private sector wages, it has been found that public servants are paid 18%-37% more. Also, they work an average of 6 hours less per week.

So my argument is that with the huge amount of people in this province on the government payroll (69,285 people in 2011) a wage decrease would save a huge amount of \$\$\$. (Take an average salary of \$50k and an 18% wage decrease. Multiply that by the near 70,000 public servants and the magic number in saved wages is between \$630,000,000!!)

This would make the salary for hours worked when comparing public and private very similar. (6 hours a week is 15% of a 40 hour week).

Overpaid jobs with almost certain security with early retirements and good pensions and benefits?? All paid for by tax dollars?? Time for change!

Public servants wage decrease

hardtruth

2016-01-18T20:44:56-04:30

2.111111111

18

This site has probably cost the taxpayers a bit of money for the government to set up, and I for one would be okay with that as it gives we the people an opportunity to express our ideas and voice concerns... except the whole lot of ye are like a bunch of skeety youngsters! Replace tap water with blue star? Team up with Putin? Darts to skeets? Elect trump? You joke, but this affects all of our lives and you won't be laughing if we don't do something soon. So please, if you don't have something worth saying, then just stay out of it.

because this is not a joke; grow up or give it up, your call

Don't Feed the Trolls

workless_livemor 2016-01-18T21:11:36-04:30

3.736842105

19

Sort of like an alternative to a salary cut, this will be like the opposite of overtime. Only require full time positions to work at 30hrs per week at 105% pay. If workers wish to continue working 40 hours per week, they get say 80% of their pay for those next 10 hours. In total, those that work 40 hours will basically receive their normal salary (so no one should complain). Poking around through the internet there seems to be articles to support that a reduced work week could yield more productivity per hour and improve worker health/happiness. You may easily find lots of workers content to work a bit less. If you get lots of workers interested, you may be able to employ a new junior person for every 5 workers that take advantage of this flex option and still save money. Extra free time may allow people to adopt healthier lifestyles (cooking, exercise, etc.)

And while we are at it, lets really try to not use overtime. If it is snowing outside, everybody just gotta sit tight and stop driving around. It's just reckless.

No layoffs, no cuts, saves money, improves efficiency, improves worker happiness. Win-win-win-win. Worse case scenario, no one takes advantage of it and then there is no harm done. Best case scenario, everyone takes advantage of it and all of a sudden we can afford to employ more people for less money.

Voluntary Reduction from 40hr Work Week

Brian

2016-01-18T21:39:18-04:30

3.869565217

23

I have one idea to put forward - it is called the Government (Employee) Savings Plan (the "GSP"). Having close family members who have worked in Government, I know for a fact that come the end of the fiscal year (meaning the last month or final weeks), there is a rush to "spend" the Government budgeted funds. Basically the budget amount has to be spent or the Department will "lose it". Anything that can be done to "get the money out the door" is done (obviously within the constraints of that Department).

The problem here is two-fold - first, money is wasted on items that wouldn't necessarily be purchased otherwise and second, the money is gone from government coffers.

Based on the above, the Government may be able to obtain cost savings without greatly affecting services based on the consistent or habitual year end "spend".

I'd propose the following solution:

It is a method or incentive program that has the collective "input" of all government employees that could achieve considerable cost savings annually.

Government (Employee) Savings Plan

1) Create a Government bonus scheme called the Government Savings Plan ("GSP") - provide employees an incentive to not

DBennett

2016-01-18T21:47:09-04:30

3.181818182

11

1 reduce the number of civil servants
2 Institute a user fee of 20.00 for all medical visits to a Dr or hospital
3 crack down on social service abuse

All 3 items are being abused

efficiency ideas

daveg6425

2016-01-18T21:56:35-04:30

2.571428571

7

Early Retirement

Right now we have a large proportion of our public service ready to retire as they represent the baby boom generation. Retirement is unavoidable and it will lead to a large reduction in high paying positions that may not need to be replaced but which can be phased out. The baby boom generation is heading to retirement regardless of when and if we can control this move than we can benefit from it.

Penalties

Right now there is a large amount of people that would retire and thereby leave the public service but they would have to take a reduced pension or lose their benefits. If we would eliminate these penalties they would retire as soon as possible. The government only gains a small amount from these penalties

Job Analysis Survey

The government needs to conduct a thorough study of government positions

Replacement Matrix

Cutbacks mean younger workers AKA the replacement workers. If you do direct layoffs they eliminate the younger staff which will be needed in the next few years to replace the retiring workers. Eventually creating a necessity to hire new people who have less experience and thereby cost the government more in the long run.

Strained Public Service

Right now anyone can see the public service is strained to deliver the services necessary. If we cut out the new workers than that strain will be the worst possible on the system. We need to cutback on management positions rather than the workers in the field.

Conclusion

The future is going to tough but we have faced worse economic crises before, I hope this time we will not overreact and make things worse.

Allow Early Retirement without Penalties

Geoffrey_NFLD

2016-01-18T22:48:03-04:30

3.583333333

We build a machine...	That can re-seal pull tabs. Then we bops down to ultramar and spends everyone's EI checks on pull-tabs and cash out the winners and buy more until you got a ton of losing tabs. Then you re-seal em, put em in machines at the bars for a quarter more than you bought em for.	It's sustainable. You can even get people to throw out the pull tabs in a special bin and reuse them! Plus ultramar needs the extra business with the price of gas.	cbunicycleguy	2016-01-18T23:43:13-04:30	3	6
Contact the ghost of Joey Smallwood	He can probably give some pretty good tips considering the amount of awful ideas on this dreadful webpage.	Joey was smart, b'ys.	lolsa1	2016-01-19T01:02:49-04:30	3.22222222	9
Feed us!!!	Industrial greenhouses and farms to create jobs and feed the population.. Food is kind of important... Highest cancer rates in the country. You are what you eat	Can't live without food	Alickiboombom	2016-01-19T06:25:46-04:30	2.83333333	6

There are many ways to improve the living standards of NL. It's only because we elect incompetence on a daily basis that the entire country is in dire trouble.

First off:

Split from Canada. No questions asked

Second

New currency, the Canadian dollar is infinitely unstable due to its low trading value. Not to sound crazy but convert to the Icelandic Krona. Then put those corrupt bankers in jail and become the fastest growing economy in the world. Off of get this, natural thermal energy. Newfoundland doesn't exactly have hot springs popping up but it does have water and wind. More jobs and more electricity to sell, it's cheaper to sell it to the USA then keep it

Third

Establish yourself as a self-reliant nation with an extreme immigration mindset, only let in what you need and keep people with

Simple, even if some ideas are employed it's better than this nonsense. If you think NL is bad look at Ontario. There's a complete sell out to capitalism

Big idea, so little time

Viable option

2016-01-19T07:18:33-04:30

1.857142857

7

The idea of removing penalties is a good idea the number of people who are ready to retire because of frustration is high. I think an outside group of people should be selected from retired gov. employees to look at the structur of staffing from mansger positions to front line staff. In the past the front line has been the first to be cut reducing the service to the public and adding stress on the people left doing the front line work. I suggest a closer look at middle and upper management to find places where retirement could occur without affecting service delivery.This is the reason we need an out side person to look at the positions instead of current management.

Moral is low on front line employees. They see themself as targets for cost savings. This affects there quality of work and service to our public suffers. Plus the removal of higher paid positions will be a grater saving to the government. The people being removed should not be peanalized on there pensions for early retirmrnt.

Early Retirement

stringer

2016-01-19T08:47:14-04:30

3.33333333

6

In many cases, individual divisions have one or more vehicles at their disposal, yet many go unused on a regular basis. Cars sitting unused are expensive as they deteriorate over time (rust, seized brakes, etc).

A viable solution could be to minimize light vehicles and institute a system whereby a pool of cars is available. Users can reserve a car through a database, receive keys, and have access for a period of time - much like Zipcar.

While more challenging, because of specialised work tasks, light trucks could be managed in a similar way. Pickup trucks outfitted with a standard set of gear (fire extinguisher, first aid kit, safety cones, lights) could be available as well.

This program would work especially well in areas with many vehicles (ie, Confederation Building). If vehicle management were centralized in this fashion, it could create economies of scale where a single group is responsible for ensuring vehicles are fit for service and have a full complement of safety gear. Currently, the most-frequent user of a

Institute Zipcar-like system for Fleet Vehicles
Make the government vehicle fleet more efficient by sharing vehicles amongst departments, especially light vehicles.

zero33

2016-01-19T09:31:05-04:30

3.375

8

<p>Modern information architecture with collaboration, protection, transparency and innovation as its guiding principles adds value to something the public at first glance might see as boring and low on the priority list. But stop and think for a minute, information is very valuable and if we can harness it like oil, it will pay dividends. Just think one stop shopping for all you information needs in government and red tape and jumping through hoops to get the right information a thing of the past. Modern, safe, innovative and transparent government, that's where the future is going to be because that's where the trust is going to be.</p>	<p>Our economy has changed a lot over the last 30 years but the basic structure of government hasn't kept pace. Sure, many new isolated innovations are in place like Blackberries, LEAN and business apps to register your car on the web. The business drivers for these tools seem to be getting around existing non supportive structures like overly restrictive interpretations of legislation and long line ups. Modern information architecture can assist employees and the public to use information at government's finger tips to work together not around each other.</p> <p>People want to go to work every day and do a good job for themselves, their families and their province. Government needs to adopt best practices from today's modern work environment where employees and information interact with each other to serve the people of the province not just the legislation or the regulations. Let's get back to what public service is about, serving the public.</p>				
<p>This is big and complex initiative. So let's start with a pilot project and have the Department of Finance create and adopt a modern information architect. Its leadership, insights and success will be a road map for the rest of government.</p>	<p>Let's get to a point where legislation, regulation, business practices and service are</p>	Feedback	2016-01-19T09:50:36-04:30	2	2
<p>If your in the 200k earning you have to have private insurance like blue cross and pay to visit our doctors</p>	<p>200k ya have too pay</p>	Omg	2016-01-19T11:05:38-04:30	1.6	10

Online voting	Elections need to be streamlined and cheaper	Newfoundland needs to get smarter	Omg	2016-01-19T11:21:26-04:30	3.75	12
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	Have government agencies put recycling programs into place. Use electronic databases where possible instead of such large paper trails. This will not only reduce costs by saving on printing paper, but help reduce the amount of paper waste and even obtain extra funds by having every office having a recycling plan.	The environment is being polluted beyond repair and the paper being wasted is inconcievable. Every government office should have recycling programs in place to reduce paper costs especially the natural resources sectors.	neotrout	2016-01-19T12:16:01-04:30	2.8	5

We are inefficiently providing health care services to many small communities.. We need to look carefully at what the community needs, as opposed to what it has always had. We need to look at centralizing some services, especially specialist services. At the same time, we can improve overall service with strategic investment in technologies like telehealth.

We could start by taking a rural community (eg St Anthony), and come up with a list of what it really needs in terms of health care services. We can then prioritize what should be funded. We need to accept there may be large existing health care facilities that may need to close or be scaled back. Some of those funds can be diverted to cover services that are a better fit.

I'll bet there are services being funded that either have a low need, or could be delivered in a much more efficient and higher quality manner using telehealth technologies.

Change the model of healthcare in rural communities.

This would need to be done in a community by community basis. I think it would be best to approach it, not so much

We need to look at large scale changes. Our health care system is persisting from a model that worked in the 1950-60s, when we had a much larger rural population that was younger and healthier. Health care at that time was not nearly as specialized as it is today.

We now have an older, sicker, and shrinking rural population. A lot of these people have chronic illnesses and are not getting the care they need. They spend way too much time travelling to get the wrong care from the wrong provider at the wrong time. In addition, health care has become much more specialized.

Do we really need 1 surgeon working in isolation? Or is it better to have a group of 3-4 working in one centre, pooling their skills, covering call, etc and working to their full scope of practice? If we close that underutilized OR, we would save hundreds of thousands of dollars. Some of that money could be reinvested to strengthen things like chronic care and home care.

Taking away health care services is not

adg

2016-01-19T13:25:50-04:30

4.055555556

18

* Tourism: focus needs to be placed on a younger market. Newfoundland and Labrador has a product base that is extremely conducive to the 30-50s market internationally. We need to get our focus out of the 55 plus Canadian market, focusing primarily on Ontario. Our current focus is more the "Acorn Stair Lift" market than the younger hip market that our product can attract. We are becoming known for culinary, hiking, nature based products, sometimes in spite of ourselves.

* Parks versus Heritages funding: The vast majority of our current tourism product investment is in built infrastructure. (Ferryland, Barbour Premises, Grenfell Centre, Labrador Interpretation Centre, Northern Peninsula Salmon Interpretation Centre) This type of spending requires ongoing financial support with little or no return on investment. Our natural history however, needs only protection and minimal investment in maintaining and interpreting nature's story, and allowing private operators to build business around it. Take for example the Witless Bay Islands. Bay Bulls and area have several boat tours, kayaking tours,

How can government be more innovative or efficient to provide quality services at lower costs?

The idea helps focus our investment where it has the greatest opportunity to create maximum return on investment and save money.

Bonavistamiss

2016-01-19T13:30:24-04:30

3.727272727

11

Focus on preventative medicine/health culture	<p>In other countries (i.e. Finland, Denmark) there is a health culture. This could be anything from taxing unhealthy foods, to creating bike paths and incentives for healthy activities, to requiring annual check-ups that could help catch health issues when they are more manageable and not such a pressure on the system. NL needs a push into a more healthy lifestyle because there is still a large segment of our society that sees a healthy lifestyle as foreign, and living a sedentary life with poor food and drink choices as the norm. We need to move from the 'sunday drive' to the 'sunday ride'. Part of this is informing people about what is healthy, part of it is providing incentives (the carrot), and part in providing disincentives (the stick) for increasing healthcare costs in the future through actions today.</p>	<p>The greatest reductions in healthcare costs can be made in reducing the need for healthcare. This is a longterm project, but we have to start now if we want to avoid overburdening the healthcare system unnecessarily in the future.</p>	Rikki	2016-01-19T15:00:45-04:30	4.117647059	34
corner brook hospital	<p>to spend \$ 900,000 on a new hospital is nuts, there are only 18,000 people in the area,,,,,, simply fix up the one that is there and spend the balance on a necessary project,,, simply one of Danny's whims. Yes reality can be a bitch since a new hospital is sexier.</p>	<p>a unnecessary expenditure of \$700,000 that we do not have.</p>	holydickens	2016-01-19T15:07:57-04:30	3.5	6

Step 1. In many areas of government, we have people who have inadequate training or experience relevant to their positions. This includes physicians, psychologists, educators, administrative assistants, physiotherapists, management, clerks, and so on. No level of professional is exempt from this. The problem with hiring "good enough" is that we end up with more challenges and less efficient production of work. As a province, we need to recruit the best people for the positions rather than hiring the person who has been around the longest or the person we know personally or the one who was "good enough." We have some outstanding people here in the province and we can recruit others from elsewhere.

Step 2. Hold people accountable for their professional behaviour. Professionals should be held accountable to the level of performance that is the standard in their fields. It is not good enough to say "this is way we have been doing things for 30 years." Standards change and improve over time. NL professionals need to be held to those standards. For example, a physician should not be able to not do continuing education

The public relies on government employees to be knowledgeable and reliable. However, the system that exists allows for people to have stagnant skills and not be accountable for their actions. This leads to less efficiency and thus, money spent on lower standard of work.

Hiring the best people and hold them accountable.

In recent years recreational fishing rules restrict fishing cod to three weeks (plus) one and limits the daily catch to five fish per person. This makes for inefficient harvesting, reduced tourism potential, endangerment of life, a headache to enforcement, and an unnecessary destruction of stocks. Also, it places the catch concurrent with the capelin run, resulting in a lesser quality of product.

Newfoundlanders and Labradorians should have the privilege of fishing cod when practical and convenient to do so. Seasonal tags can be issued. There should not be restrictions on daily catches as long as catches are for person consumption and maintained within tag limits.

During the catch period, harvesters have no concept of their needs and invariably catch a total far in excess of what they can consume. Following a winter of freezer burn, spring dumping is often the result. People with the privilege of a year round catch would enjoy a fresher product, waste less product, fish more efficiently, and have more disposable income to pay taxes.

Lobby Feds for year round food fishery.

crunchtime

2016-01-19T16:02:36-04:30

3.666666667

3

Newfoundland is made up of many tiny communities which have zero intentions of developing. Some of the reasons for this are that the communities are too small, meaning that the resources are also too little, and because the towns are so small, the leaders of each town only take it on as a part time job or see it as management to keep everything from falling apart.

Since 1978, China has had the most unprecedented growth in history, and part of it is because they incentivized public service while also creating a meritocratic system.

For NL to do this:

- first you'd need to amalgamate small communities into larger ones.

- have a full time leadership of each new town

- create an incentive system which promotes growth, rewarding with either promotions, bonuses, or community resources, etc, - whatever works for the people involved.

Creates motivation where there is none

Gives communities more strength

Ensures that effective leaders are gaining experience and rising in provincial, and possibly federal politics

Amalgamation,
incentivization,
motivation,
optimization,
utilization

PatrickW

2016-01-19T18:57:27-04:30

3.8

10

Rather than funding all individual home care arrangements look at "shared home arrangements" where feasible. Residents of seniors apartment complexes can share home care workers. The current practice is one home care worker to each person who qualifies. One worker could work with several people in the same building or there could be several workers hired for a complex and the hours for everyone needing home care could be extended (helping people stay at home longer). Currently, there could be four (or more) workers in one complex working with 4 clients all during the same hours.

In seniors complexes or apartment buildings, shared home care could result in very significant health care costs savings and improved community care (as shared hours could be longer than individual hours once resources are pooled). This may work best with private home care agencies providing the staff and scheduling.

Shared Home Care

Ebenezer

2016-01-19T19:42:28-04:30

3.75

4

Settlers to Canada were offered a quarter mile square of land (80 acres) sufficient to feed a family and provide enough surplus to trade for other goods. We have huge quantities of crown land but are treated like feudal serfs. The cabin lots available aren't large enough to do anything useful (like grow food for the family). Crown land should be available to anyone that wants to create a homestead and the parcel size should be large enough for a family to be self sufficient.

This is important when things go bad. We should have the option of opting out of the system and becoming self sufficient. This is impossible when the most basic things like land are legally kept out of reach. BTW, land reform is a problem all over the world.

Land Reform (homesteads)

foobar

2016-01-19T19:49:12-04:30

2.857142857

7

Opportunities for promotion based on skills and performance not seniority

One of the biggest issues in healthcare at the moment is the stronghold of the unions on the employer to run an efficient and effective organization. As one of the largest employers in the province our health care organizations hold very little power to promote the right people into the right positions. Instead promotions and lateral movement within the organization are based almost solely on seniority. This is an archaic way of running any business and leads to massive inefficiencies from both employees who are disenfranchised with the system for not being recognized for hard work and from putting the wrong people with the wrong skill sets in management and higher up positions. There is little incentive for people to work hard at their job as there is little opportunity for growth in their career until they have the hours to beat the next person in line to the job (I'm not saying that lots of health care employees don't work hard at their job- I know that is far from true just that the motivation to do so is lacking because of the system). Any person that has ever studied organizational behaviour is aware that people need to be empowered in their jobs and feel in control of their own

Unions at one point had a very important role to play but today in the situation we are in they are creating a system in which both employee and employer are disadvantaged (and by extension the entire province). There are many hospitals and health care systems across Canada that are not unionized and are running thriving businesses. An organization is only as good as its employees and if health care is not able to fire the poor employees and the ones who are not pulling their weight/ suited to the job and is not able to promote and offer better positions to the people that they see potential in, the ones that have proved themselves in the work place or potential employees they would like to recruit from outside the organization it will not be possible to have a sustainable health care system in this province. There needs to be a complete overhaul in terms of healthcare and the systems in place. The way of operating that has been status quo for many years needs to be reconsidered and reworked. Health care needs a long term strategic plan and investing in human resources, succession planning and employee empowerment is one of the best places to start.

Dla

2016-01-19T19:50:55-04:30

3.875

16

There are two main hospitals in this province that need replacing. Both the Corner Brook and the Waterford hospitals are in desperate need of replacement, so that the people of this province may be given the best care possible. Therefore, if we were to build both of these important institutions together, in the same facility, this would greatly benefit those who live on the west coast of the province, who will then not have to travel as far to get the latest in medical treatments, and it will provide those who depend on the Waterford for mental healthcare a brand new, state of the art facility in which they can be given the proper care.

This is important to provide the people of our province with the highest quality of healthcare, while saving government money, as one facility will be built instead of two, and these state of the art hospitals will provide this care for years to come if we build them with the latest technology, and the best building methods.

Corner Brook Hospital

westcoast21

2016-01-19T20:07:41-04:30

2.5

8

Ask the people of this province are they eilling and more importantly, ABLE to pay a light bill that is at least DOUBLE what it is now????

Anyone remotely connected to this project will tell you that it is being very poorly run and the cost overruns will be enormous!!!

Come on government, start helping the people who are funding this project. If we have the capability to make power out of our natural resources and do it in a profitable way and sell this power off island, use some of that profit to give the taxpayers a better rate, not a double bill.

Question: IF, and I mean IF, the study on the efficiency comes back on the project to be true and transparant...what will the government do?

MUSKRAT FALLS OVERVIEW

lakemelville

2016-01-19T20:24:50-04:30

3.8

5

This 15 month public consultation is a pure waste of time. We elected you to govern, not to keep campaigning!!!! Go to work with your ideas, if you have any and do the damn job you were elected to do and the public consultation will be on the campaign trail in 4 years and we will let you know how you're doing. Transparant??? Accomplished....we can see right through you and tihs silly wastefull exercise. This forum is great, technology is wonderful, stay off the bus and go to work!!!

It's a waste of time to do this. Whatever the government does from the ideas if it happens to not work I can hear t now..."We simply did what the people wanted"
Enough smoke and mirrors amd BS. Get the job done that you so desperately wanted. You mean to tell me this Liberal Party had no idea what they would be doing if and when they got elected??? Please....

GET OFF THE
BUS!!!!!!

lakemelville

2016-01-19T20:31:03-04:30

2.75

4

It wasn't so many years ago that a different government said we were broke, then started to spend like crazy, especially when the price of oil went crazy. Hopefully we have learned from our mistake.

First of all, the government is too big and spends too much. Whether it be in a bloated public service, unnecessary capital works projects, doing services in house that could be contracted out, or just being more lavish than it needs to be. Basically government needs to learn to live within its revenue. A easy saving is in the number of public sector employees, there are too many.....if you can nap and post on facebook all day, is your position really necessary? There are way too many administrators. The irony is with all the nurses, LPNs,etc, the stories of neglect in our hospitals are terrifying. The work done by the department of highway can be done by contractors, the savings alone in equipment will be in the millions (each plow is over six figures). Maintenance is something that can also be contracted for. Do we really need all the leasted office space, all the

Government as grown too big and bloated and become too wasteful for the size of the economy. It needs to live with in its means. This can be done by downsizing, reducing capital expenditure to only necessary projects, and contracting and/or privatizing services currently provided by the public service.

Taxes cannot rise and must be lowered to put more money into the economy. Supporting grassroots economic growth and promoting a culture of entrepreneurship. And stop the megaprojects, which end up giving us no gain at best.

Smaller
Government, Less
Taxes, Different
Attitude

JohnSmith

2016-01-19T21:43:32-04:30

2.6

5

Have one Ministry of Health to oversee all of the provinces hospitals and government run clinics. Eliminate duplication of services by the current Eastern, Central and Western Health organizations. In these tough times make work needs to be eliminated. Job losses are inevitable in government as money runs out and the return to a have not Province status for equalization is not an option as there are no have Provinces from which to take from. Time to realize a Province with the population of Hamilton Ontario does not need nor can afford the waste that is currently happening in our management bloated (and broke) health care system. Regional input can still be had with committees made up of volunteers.

Reduction of expenses and utilizing monies for health care and not management. As our aging populace requires increased care all money spent should have a direct result. Management duplication is a waste of tax dollars.

Health Region
elimination

tgif13

2016-01-19T22:11:08-04:30

3.875

8

I find it staggering the amount of paper that is used in government. From my experience and conversations I've had with others there is no way it can't be a major drain on budgets. Every single document, e-mail, contract and countless other piece of paper used can easily be stored, send and received without ever having to be printed. Why physical paper must still be used sometimes to correspond with our citizens through mail, the real saving come from getting rid of paper within the departments. This may seem like a very small issue that won't save very much money, but if we find solutions to other little inefficiencies like this it can add up quick. The technology is here, and it's time to use it.

This idea is important for 3 simple reasons: One, current technology has made paper correspondence and file keeping nearly obsolete; two, it puts incredible strain on the environment to convert trees into paper just to be wasted; and three, it is an example of where our government can save money without reducing the quality of services being provided.

Government investment in wind power, potentially one of the cheapest sources of energy available to us, would be of great benefit to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. We can all vouch for the fact that we have a lot of wind around here, so why not put it all to good use and create some cleaned electricity with it? Wind turbines could be built in, and then assembled in our province. And can go off to all places to be installed. Jobs will be created in manufacturing, construction, and engineering, and the entire province will reap the benefits of selling this limitless supply of energy. Wind is just one option to diversify our economy, that will give the most benefit to the people of our province.

Wind Energy provides a safe, sustainable alternative to fossil fuels, and would create thousands of jobs in our province. Their relative cheap cost of installation and maintenance leads to the ability to sell the energy for attractive prices to out of province buyers, while our province still makes money.

Wind Power

westcoast21

2016-01-19T22:49:43-04:30

3.33333333

3

Pepsi is da main reason the HSC is on wheels all the time, youngsters got it in their mouts da moment they're off da boob! There's no debating it we're the biggest in all a Canada, our guts are all fallin apart, know one even knows if the water's any biy fit to drink cause we don't even bother.

Missis next door to me drinks 2 2l's a day! A day! She wakes up in the morning, opens a 2l bottle, sticks in a straw and away she goes! Das not even fit, you're better off smoking a pack a darts, and everyone goes off da head when someone goes for a dart! Why don't we start goin off a people for pepsi?

Now I feels for all them people up at Browning Harvey but I figures we gets everyone off da pepsi and we're gonna need some a dem raw juice diets, clean it all out after all the pepsi rotted it all to bits.

Cause pepsi's like liquid smokes. You all knows I'm right.

Get Rid of Pepsi

eversweet709

2016-01-20T00:07:17-04:30

3.22222222

9

Sick days for civil servers inthis province has gone out of hand. Past governments were too afraid of the unions. Bring the sick days down to a realistic number. Any additional days you go on short term disability.

Important to get full value from the people you employ

Sick Days

Nobjr

2016-01-20T07:41:42-04:30

4

16

Listen to these ideas	<p>Here's an idea. Have someone read these ideas and impliment many of them. There are a lot of ideas I've read here that would help our economy and would cost very little to impliment. Some are foolish I know, but there are others that make sense.</p>	<p>First, it would show that the new government is truely listening, not just making a show of real reform. Second, and most important, is that a lot of ideas would only bring in smaller amounts of money to the economy but if enough small ideas were implimented it would add up to a significant amount. You were always told to look after the pennies and the dollars will look after themselves. There is truth in that. Make public every idea that you impliment to show that we aren't just wasting our time here.</p>	Frank	2016-01-20T08:33:41-04:30	3.66666667	9
Digital Signatures	<p>Digital Signatures on routine forms within government.</p>	<p>The use of digital signatures can result in less resources used (paper, toner, wear/tear on printers), faster processing (no need to print forms), and greater security.</p> <p>Many processes require the use of "wet-signatures" on electronic forms. This means and electronic form must be filled out, printed, signed, and often emailed to another person where this process is repeated.</p> <p>More training on the use of digital signatures and form development could help a great deal with "paper pushing".</p>	zero33	2016-01-20T09:03:58-04:30	3.86666667	15

A conservative approach to budgeting is prudent at all times when dealing with the public purse. From 1946 - present, the average inflation-adjusted price of a barrel of oil has been \$41.65 (source: http://inflationdata.com/Inflation/Inflation_Rate/Historical_Oil_Prices_Table.asp).

Knowing this, the responsible approach in recent years for budgeting over the long-term would have been to base the budget on oil coming in at \$40. During peak years, an assumption of \$60 oil, even when trading at twice that amount, would have been prudent, as history clearly indicates that the higher prices were not sustainable.

BTW, it took me about five minutes to find the historical price of oil, transfer that to a spreadsheet and calculate the average. Surely, our finance department and decision-makers could have done the same in recent years.

By budgeting more conservatively, we are likely to find ourselves in a budgetary surplus situation more often than not, which would provide funds to cover those periods when the price of oil dips below average, as is the case now. Just because the oil revenues are there doesn't mean that we have to spend them. Budget wisely, spend wisely. We'd all be better off.

it would pretty much be just like cigarettes.

1. Tax it. Lots of revenue.
2. We aren't as bad as the states but it will cut down on arrests of minute amounts leading to possession charges which honestly aren't worth the police's time let alone the public's money.
3. Keeps these small time "crooks" out of jail and off needing public funding.
4. Let's the police focus on the bigger harder drugs that are starting to come into the province more and more. Marijuana is not a dangerous or "important" drug in this war on drugs the media likes to perpetuate.
5. It's been shown to help a lot of medical problems. Even better than some expensive drugs which helps cut some medical expenses on the people and province.
6. Can provide a lot of potential jobs through dispensers and even potentially growing. Which would be another idea altogether. Take some of our unused land (we've got lots of it) and turn it into farms to grow it.)

Preface this by saying I don't like weed. It smells like shit and I don't see the point. That being my idea is to legalize it. Give it a standard and tax it.

Trudeau has already seen the possibilities and potential, which is why he is attempting to legalize it. Not to (just) gain the young vote like a lot of people accuse him of. You have to look no further than Colorado to see all the benefits. It's already been tried and proven, why nobody else has followed their lead is mind-boggling.

Legalize marijuana

Cmonsense

2016-01-20T10:08:20-04:30

4.06666667

15

Leadership needs to learn to delegate, and should be encouraged to do so. Too often I see management completing work that should be done by their employees and by doing this they have no time to actually manage and lead their employees. I know many times they are just trying to help - but they need to put trust in their employees that they can do their jobs.

For instance; signatures. DMs, ADMs and Directors need to start relinquishing these responsibilities to other staff. It creates too many bottlenecks and slow-downs waiting for a very busy individual to sign off one document. Sometimes documents are on their desks so long they collect dust.

Also, if they can't delegate this process since it's too important - then make it a priority to complete the signature process within a timely process.

Without delegation; we get more bureaucracy, slow-downs, secrecy and red-tape. Also, it reduces trust which is vital to organizational success.

Delegate

AuroraBorealis

2016-01-20T10:56:58-04:30

3.666666667

3

<p>Reform, restructure,accounta bility</p>	<p>1) restructure government offices and municipalities. Cut out some of the middle men. 2) accountability and spending. Where are all of the dollars going? Where is money needed where can it be held? 3) get rid of muskrat falls it's a sinking money pit that has yet to be proven as an asset to the people of NFLD. 4) more equity and royalties for NFLD in NFLD resources. 5) stop basing budgets on volatile commodities like oil. Be realistic!!</p>	<p>It's stream lining the government, cutting out the higher wages , making less steps in processes there for making things more efficient. Make government ACCOUNTABLE for where they have spent tax dollars, ask people what they need not what YOU want. Stop giving breaks to billion dollar companies. Companies in Alberta oil fields made billions and now look at all the stranded workers that the country has to help while the oil companies still make billion dollar profits. Stop trying to be like Alberta!!!! As you can see they are i</p>	<p>NewfieRN</p>	<p>2016-01-20T11:43:02-04:30</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Relocate and reduce CNA</p>	<p>Relocate the head office to St Johns and reduce the number of upper administrators by 25%.Reduce the number of schools to 8 with hubs stragetically located through NL.Hire staff through private agencies to prevent/limit nepotism.</p>	<p>Because it will save Millions with out affecting education.</p>	<p>Opinionated</p>	<p>2016-01-20T11:43:41-04:30</p>	<p>4.142857143</p>	<p>21</p>

There is far to much money and time spent by departments/agencies all under the same government fighting over land use.

It is time for government to prioritize land use and put an end to all the time and money being put into each department trying to prove up and hold on to each other's requirements for the land. Designate land as forestry, agriculture, mineral, cottage development, and natural areas/conservation.

Saves time and money spent by departments and agencies arguing over resources.

Just make the designation and stop the fighting. Each department can then Go forward spending their time managing and enhancing their specific industry and landbase rather than fighting over it and industries will have a stable long term resource to plan their business around.

Provides businesses secure resources for long term planning

allows departments to focus attention on managing and enhancing landbase for their specific resources.

Prioritize land use

tuckamore

2016-01-20T12:16:01-04:30

3

1

A lot of good ideas are being posted as a result of this exercise. Many of them may seem small or inconsequential, but taken together, can make a reasonably significant difference in overall efficiency, best practice and cost savings. The devil is in the details - please don't overlook them when considering the more obvious "big picture" items.

Simple inputs can lead to significant results, including cost savings, efficiencies and best practice.

Don't dismiss the little things

ILoveNL

2016-01-20T14:07:36-04:30

3.714285714

7

Disband the Public Service Commission and utilize existing Independent HR Firms for any new hires. Given the amount of hires should be decreasing over the next few years, savings could be had by disbanding the Public Service Commission and all its salaries and overhead. Many of the affected employees can find employment in the private sector.

In terms of efficiency, no one can be hired by Government or any of its agencies of Crown Corporations unless they are hired by the Independent firms. Any one below the ADM Level or not a direct Political hire, such as EA's, etc. must be hired in open competitions to ensure the best people are hired for the positions without interference from Government. This will stop the current practise of appointing people into positions of authority due to cronyism and favouritism.

The PSC does good work, but it is not efficient, nor is it completely independent. Too much political interference see people move into positions because of who they know, and thus the province loses out on the best employees.

Too many positions bypass the PSC and people get appointed or placed into jobs without due diligence or a competition.

HR firms could bid on this work, ensuring a fair and competitive environment and ensuring the government is getting the best employees at the lowest cost.

If shutting down the PSC is not an option at least make sure every position below ADM gets hired in a public, open and transparent competition free from appointments.

Use arms length HR firms, disband Public Service Commission

TheTownie

2016-01-20T14:13:52-04:30

3.285714286

7

Remove the 55 year old requirement for people to retire who have 30+ years in. Give them the incentive to retire rather than bump into a less senior position should layoffs occur.

This achieves the following:

Allows people who have 30+ years but are not of retirement age to actually retire without penalty. Give them the full pension they deserve. This will speed up attrition and reduce payroll immediately as the funds move from payroll to pension, and the people get paid less. As many positions won't be filled, this results in immediate savings, and those positions that are filled, will see a reduced pay scale with less senior employees moving into the lower part of the scale.

Saves money on payroll without laying off people.

Remove age restriction on Retirement

TheTownie

2016-01-20T14:19:48-04:30

3.692307692

13

Check it out here. <http://www.noulab.org/>

Social Innovation Labs - Take a close look at what NB is doing.	It's time to try new approaches to consultation and collaboration. While it would be foolish to suggest that there is one magic way to mobilize the most innovative ideas, innovation/solutions labs have the potential to fully define the issues, corale cross-disciplinary, multi-interest perspectives and seek solutions to complex social problems. In fact NB's mission is to "tame complexity".	"Every one of us has an important role to play as we take on the challenges of today, and leverage the significant opportunities ahead. I have every confidence that by working together, we can achieve that." - Premier Ball	Collaboration doesn't just happen. It needs to be carefully seeded and cultivated.	ByDesign	2016-01-20T16:46:59-04:30	3.33333333	3
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Better to say what you are going to do and do it (well) rather than say you will do all (with best of intentions) but end up spread so thin nothing is done right.

Govt is over committing and unable to deliver. Lack of consistancy, loss of flexibility, and confused standards can result.

After several year of cuts and efficiency reviewsd, it follows that if you are cutting resources, your scope of delivery will likely be affected. Needs to be understood by all.

When all is said and done - more will be said than done!				lancecove	2016-01-20T19:32:31-04:30	2.5	2
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Go Ahead - Break My Heart...	Tell me it is going to hurt, why it must, and then pull the band aid off quickly. Get it over with. Recovery will happen and heal.	Don't drag the inevitable out - very inefficient.	lancecove	2016-01-20T19:34:58-04:30	3	3
Stop Trying To Herd Cats Stop Trying To Herd Cats Stop Trying To Herd Cats	Too many depts working at odds with incongruent agendas. Oh, and the duplicity of agendas, mandates, work.	One government approach. There is a matrix organizational approach which has pooled support across large organizational span and clusters of specialized divisions that centralize the subject matter expertise. Engineers and accountants are examples.	lancecove	2016-01-20T19:40:46-04:30	3.666666667	3
Embrace Agriculture, Aquaculture and the Fishery	Embrace and invest in Agriculture, Aquaculture and the Fishery as industries that utilize renewable resources and promote food security.	Each of these industries have much more potential than we take advantage of. NL can become a producer of its own food and that for the world.	Realist	2016-01-20T21:10:42-04:30	3.916666667	12
Digital Forms and Applications	Most government departments have 30 - 50 forms they use on a regular basis. Having digital versions of the forms would allow for co-workers to share information faster. Gov. dept should also provide an online versions of any applications required for programs or services to the public on their website. The applications would have mandatory fields that could prevent delays for the public and employees	It would streamline how a lot of information is passed around government. It could also make it easier for people in remote locations to fill out information that is required for a program or service. The required fields on a digital form should ensure that all necessary information is completed prior to submitting.	techie	2016-01-20T22:33:52-04:30	3.857142857	7

Mandate Memorial / Grenfell to Diversify Economy	<p>You have a group of university educated people who basically teach 2 semesters. Have these individuals work on developing collaboration economic plans that will spark the economy to produce revenue. Have these individuals become basically "corporate think tanks" to leverage their education and actually do some real work to help build Newfoundland and Labrador rather than suck it dry through teaching.</p> <p>Why not put their education to work?</p>	<p>Whereelse are you going to get the most educated people to work for you put them into a mode to think / develop the economy? They're already on the payroll. Why are we paying for consultants?</p>	NLMoneySaver	2016-01-20T22:44:27-04:30	3.5	4
Make government data openly available and accessible.	<p>The government collects, analyses and interprets huge quantities of data on the province's population, natural resources - both renewable and non-renewable, and its industry. Much of this data and the results from them are then shelved, rather than being published and released for public use, despite the fact that said data was collected and analysed using tax-payer money.</p>	<p>This data could potentially be a gold-mine of information for individuals wanting to embark on a new enterprise requiring access to large quantities of start-up information capital. Access to vast quantities of information may mean the difference between success and failure for the types of industries the province wants to attract - information and technology based services.</p>	prsvns	2016-01-20T23:13:20-04:30	3.9	10
Electronic Service Delivery	<p>Reduce field operations footprint and move to electronic self-service.</p>	<p>More efficient delivery model and ability to reduce infrastructure costs.</p>	divad	2016-01-20T23:31:54-04:30	3	2

MCP Annual Fee	Annual fee \$50 per card holder Approx 500,000 Newfoundlanders Labs, equals 25,000,000 back into your hands. Maybe thats enough to leave our public service workers alone this time, we suffered enough.....	Places money back into government, and reduces the amount that each department is required to cut.	Winter2016	2016-01-21T09:18:46-04:30	3.25	4
Make politicians work longer for a pension	Make them work double there time. 4 terms instead of two, What makes them any better to recieve a full pension after 8 years, and public service has to work 30, which 30 is better then the lower income people at walmart/ canadian tire, etc , but 22 years less for the same percentage pension wise. I mean give me a break. They dont even contribute 20% what they put in.....	Because public service can't be cut any further, we have reduced our resources enough. From Staffing to budgets, to pay....	Winter2016	2016-01-21T09:27:06-04:30	4.193548387	31

Expand what pharmacists/ nurses are able to do now to include providing reference/ doc note when have cold/ flu	<p>Having nurses and/or pharmacists be able to provide doctors note for flu/ cold would streamline the health care system and reduce congestion. During the winter months each year, the hospitals and clinics are plagued with those with the flu/ cold and are not able to work because they need a doctors note. We all know that going to the hospital much of the time, can make us get worse as it spreads the virus and we also know that many of us continue to go to work despite being sick for a number of reasons and one being that we may be out of Doctors notes.</p>	<p>Having a more streamlined approach for this type of conditions would reduce wait times, congestion, spreading of virus, pressure at hospital, etc. Perhaps this is not the best suggestion for this but something should be set up to separate this type of illness from other more important issues.</p>	blueeyes	2016-01-21T09:30:52-04:30	3.833333333	6
Examine Unnecessary Areas for Merger	<p>Look at places like OPE, ATIPP (Justice), Rural Secretariat (BTCRD), Public Engagement (Cab Sec), Open Gov (Cab Sec/OCIO/Stats) .. does it really need to be a boutique department with its own staffing/executive? Women's Policy Office could be a subset of Health and Community Services, same with Seniors, Wellness, and Social Development, or at least combine the two. See about partially used staff and merge with broader responsibility.. Climate Change for example!</p>	<p>Some of these services must be provided, but may be able to use a shared DM/ADM, similar to minister. 100's of thousands saved.</p>	onTheGo	2016-01-21T10:18:38-04:30	3.714285714	7

Consolidate some schools	<p>On the burin peninsula there are k-12 schools very close to each other. St. Lawrence has a k-12 school, 9 kms away is another k-12 school in Lawn and another 20km away in Lamaline is another k-12 school. The population in this area cannot warrant three k-12 school in such close proximity. If, for example, St. Lawrence and Lamaline school closed, and the children were bused to Lawn (the central location), the bus run would still be less then some other parts of the province.</p>	<p>Consolidating services can save money. Other areas are similar to this example I am sure.</p>	austinavery	2016-01-21T10:30:31-04:30	3.625	8
Charge a premium for sick leave	<p>Sick leave is a form of insurance. If it is worth having it should be worth paying for. A refund of premiums could reward its non use.</p>	<p>It will reduce the careless use of sickleave.</p>	KPAM	2016-01-21T10:59:02-04:30	2	5

I'm sure we have enough wind, why are we not trying to obtain more energy from it? Then use that energy to power the province in a clean environmentally friendly way and even sell some of that energy outside the province, not give it away like the leaders of NL have done since it's existence.

I think we need to look at how to sustain energy from the wind in the future, green energy is becoming more and more important globally. We should have the people and resources to get something moving on this front, well for now anyways...

BUT WE CAN'T GIVE ALL THE ENERGY AWAY FOR 35 YEARS for nothing, OR BASE THE PRICE ON A SET AMOUNT .. LIKE OIL FOR 80\$ A BARREL

Wind Farms

neotrout

2016-01-21T11:00:31-04:30

3.833333333

12

Establish strategic partnerships with the insurance industry to establish countermeasures to issues which lead to Insurance pay outs.

For example, there are bridges in the province where the deck develops black ice. There are many solutions but no budget. Installation of a brine system triggered by humidity and temperature will eliminate the formation of ice. How much \$ will the Insurance industry contribute to the resolution of the problem?

Partner with the Insurance Industry	If challenged, most departments could develop a list of such partnerships	Increases government revenue while decreasing the costs to the medical system	ThomasBeckett	2016-01-21T14:15:09-04:30	5	1
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Allow 2 years for maternity leave	Many children are limited if they are younger than 2 years of age for licensed childcare. In recognition of this, it could be suggested that maternity leave be extended to two years. This would reduce the need for childcare (which is a huge issue currently) and allow parents to stay home additional time with their child. This would also allow maternity placements to provide up to two years of employment for others seeking a job position.	Reduce stress/ need for childcare. (especially the lack of spaces for children under 2 years) Allow parents additional time home with children Provide a longer placement for those seeking temporary employment.	blueeyes	2016-01-21T14:26:07-04:30	2.75	8
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Modify existing new entrant program. Allow individuals to have small hobby farms to promote a healthy lifestyle and to eat more local and healthy foods.

Increase number of birds available without a quota. Other provinces allow an individual to have more birds without a quota to support the local small farmer. (Nova Scotia, etc.)

This would support individuals to stay in rural areas.

This would improve/ support a healthy lifestyle

Promote Small Scale Farms

Encourage new people to start a farm

blueeyes

2016-01-21T14:37:35-04:30

3.894736842

19

First, the elephant in the living room. Much of the debt is accumulated interest charged instead of the actual principle originally borrowed. While free enterprise dictates a "cost/risk of lending" and so, unfortunately, we have to accept financing charges on private business transactions like car leasing, mortgages, and credit cards, etc., nothing gives an unelected third party the right to make money off of the workings of government without producing any tangible labor, products, or services itself. The governments in Western countries have in the past (before this scam) printed their own money and lent it to themselves at no interest and paid themselves back from the tax revenues they collect. Why would the government need to get a third party to type up credit into existence on a computer screen? No paper actually exists for much of our total money in circulation and it is just created out of thin air by the banks with no gold backing it are anything like that.

To save money in an obvious way.

Stop paying interest.

tech2008

2016-01-21T14:59:30-04:30

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0

Health Care and Computer Engineering.

That is the future of Canada. We need more engineers and healthcare providers and less bureaucrats. At the moment, a go to post secondary program for many people is business administration because its infaluable. It's also the most bureaucratic. It's a program that creates and teaches bureaucracy. You can get any job with it though because governement and big business is bureaucratic. Small business isn't but it leads the growth in our economy.

Info Tech. should be the new business administration program because the future of our economy is digital. Newfoundland can either be cutting edge or stuck in the past.

By substidizing health science programs you are encouraging people to learn a pure science that can be used to innovate but at the same time is investing toward our aging population (for those non innovative types).

The best way to direct your economy is by how you spend money, not by how you tax it. How you tax will not redistribute wealth as people can just curtail taxation.

Spend you money more wisely.

Substidize Select
Post Secondary
Educational Program

stephane05

2016-01-21T16:33:08-04:30

3

2

Richard Alexander has been promoting the idea of handing government services over to the private sector because competition is going to save money and solve our problems. Keep in mind, that government services are a monopoly. Once a company wins the contract, there is not competition, and because these are complex government services, the contracts will be long - ie, 10 years, and government will be locked in. Bear in mind that the private sector is not doing this for free - they've got to build in a healthy profit margin out of our tax dollars - what will their profit be? 30%? More? How low will the wages of employees go to encourage efficiency, and what impact will that have on the economy? Auditors General across Canada have repeatedly found that in the long run, taxpayers pay more for, and get less service.

I fear government is going down a road which will save more money in the short term but will result in good jobs becoming McJobs with no security and low pay, which will undermine the economy in the long run, in exchange for private sector profit.

Don't privatize government services

Binky

2016-01-21T17:27:57-04:30

2.714285714

14

The provincial vehicle registration system could be changed in several ways.

THE FEE

The registration fee need not be a flat amount for all vehicles. The fee could be a variable amount based on a percentage of the vehicle's value. If the fee was based on a percentage (i.e. 1% of blue book value), the resulting fee would be more in line with the age and class of the vehicle. A new car worth \$30,000 would incur a fee of \$300.

The structure could include a minimum and maximum registration fee. Minimum fee could be as low as \$50 for older vehicles that are no longer listed in the blue book.

This would make the fee more equitable. People who can afford more valuable vehicles would be taxed higher than those that can only afford a \$1000 old beater. To make this easier for people to swallow, it could be phased in over time.

These changes would raise more funds, reduce costs, improve efficiency, and make the fee structure more equitable.

Change the Vehicle
Registration System

ELIMINATE STICKERS

SkipperJim

2016-01-21T18:22:12-04:30

3.714285714

7

Currently, there is an epidemic of speeding and running red lights in St. John's and the surrounding area. This is leading to more dangerous roads and increased numbers of accidents.

Traffic cameras can solve these problems while providing a revenue stream. While the initial outlay would be relatively high, the benefits would outway the cost. In addition, the reduced number of accidents would decrease pressure on the medical system and reduce insurance rates.

To reduce the cost of this, a smaller number of cameras could be placed (out of sight) and randomly moved about. Once the cameras are moved, the citations from the previous location would be issued. Drivers would never know which roads and intersections were being monitored.

New revenue stream, safer roads.

Install Traffic
Cameras

SkipperJim

2016-01-21T18:56:40-04:30

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4

Today we live in towns and municipalities with land either going to waste or otherwise wasted. Government should take stock of properties within and bordering build up areas and put in place measures to ensure that prime land is put to the best use.

For instance we should no longer tolerate cemeteries on land suited for the living. If people don't have the sense to save space and money by cremation, give them the choice of a cemetery built on bogland.

Waste not, want not.

Take Control Over
Land Use &
Development

crunchtime

2016-01-21T20:08:25-04:30

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It's not my idea. Here's a quote from mathematician Tom Baird's excellent article on the Independent's website:

"Raising tax rates on high income earners can generate significant revenue, despite claims to the contrary. In 2013, it was estimated that a new tax bracket on income over \$100,000 would raise \$12-18 million for each per cent increase . Thus a 4 per cent increase would raise \$50-70 million per year. Even better would be to increase the tax rate on all income over \$70,000, which by my rough calculations bring in roughly \$80-\$100 million. (For comparison, raising HST by 2 per cent would generate about \$200 million according to Memorial University economist Wade Locke .)"

See the full article at:

<http://theindependent.ca/2015/04/21/lets-raise-taxes-on-the-rich/#sthash.2rd5Wi5y.dpuf>

Because it will work.

Increase taxes for the wealthiest people in the province

sarahsmellie

2016-01-21T20:36:31-04:30

3.66666667

6

Vehicle Fleet
Management Car
Rental Pool

Vehicle Fleet Management should maintain and control the use of all gov't vehicles. If a dept requires a vehicle they submit a request and sign the vehicle out for the specific duty.

Seasonal operations would have access to the vehicle for the block of time required.

Departments that have daily used vehicles, still use them, but the vehicles are audited by VFM.

Maintenance on these vehicles would be done at gov't depots again and not sent to private shops where the costs are substantially higher for the work done (again another misconception that private work is cheaper).

Funds would be transferred to the VFM from the Departments through internal invoices.

Too many unused vehicles on lots that could be used by someone else. This is wasteful because other Departments rent or buy vehicles that aren't needed.

Departments that rarely use vehicles should be able to "rent" them internally for specific activities.

This cuts out expensive rentals from private companies altogether.

Rarely used vehicles have unnecessary maintenance costs. When they finally use them, they need to be sent for repairs, dead batteries...ect.

Then there is the depreciation of the assets that were barely used.

This would also cut out the attitude that a specific employee "owns" a gov't vehicle.

A problem with this new system is that people won't "take care" of a vehicle they don't own (in most cases I doubt they do now). But VFM can keep up with that through audits on rental and return.

GeoffStarling

2016-01-21T20:57:27-04:30

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<p>Stop Trying to Reinvent the Wheel</p>	<p>There are a lot of programs and divisions trying to create things from the bottom up.</p> <p>These programs and divisions already exist with the Federal Gov't or other Provinces. We don't need to build them. Copy these programs and tweak them to NL.</p>	<p>It's a duplication. We need people to run these programs. We don't need to reinvent a program into a lesser version of something that we know already works Nationally/in other Provinces.</p>	<p>GeoffStarling</p>	<p>2016-01-21T22:03:46-04:30</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>cut gov members and public service workers</p>	<p>Cut MEmbers salarys by 15 percent public service by seven percent also cut Hyrdo ceo and mamngemt by twenty five percent freeze their bounis do all this for three years. Tax higer wages over 60.000 thaht it for now</p>	<p>Its inportant because rich are getting richer poor will always be poor ore money for treasury</p>	<p>scanner</p>	<p>2016-01-22T00:27:09-04:30</p>	<p>1.833333333</p>	<p>12</p>

The Gov't wastes way too much money at the end of the Fiscal year. The use it or lose it mentality is archaic. It is counter productive. Please modernize the Fiscal system to allow a little wiggle room.

The Dept should be able to Earmark savings for specific projects or uses in the future years without budget penalty in the next fiscal year. There is a major problem of "we, don't have enough money for that project this year, we will try to do it next year if we find money".

It never gets done. They waste the money replacing things that don't need to be replaced or duplicating items for the sake of spending the money. Meanwhile the buildings are falling apart, they can't get the proper lab equipment...got the scientists...can't run the tests. It is one of the most frustrating situations.

It's a total "can't see the forest for the trees" situation

There is no wasted budget money, the department spends money on what actually needs to be done.

This will save millions per year and provide for much more effective use of Gov't Funds.

Like magic things that were put off for years can be done.

For example, do you think WhiteHills Depot would be in the shape it's in right now if we had this plan? They've been talking about replacing/fixing the building for over 20 years. The building is falling down, they have metal brackets holding up the walls and the last time I was there you could literally see through cracks in the walls to the outside.

Fiscal Year Roll Over
(Surplus Earmark
Projects)

Each department should be able to layout an Earmark plan: Short term, mid-term, long-

GeoffStarling

2016-01-22T00:48:55-04:30

3.66666667

3

Government to assist with local food supply security system. Look at existing and new framing opportunities. Prices of improved foods are skyrocketing with variable US dollar.

Produce more local foods. Utilize green houses, process summer crops (fruits/berries) and promote local products. This will create employment, local business and offer residents lower cost items.

For example; Why import strawberries when we grow the best tasting product. Increase farm production utilize food (fish) plants to quick freeze and package. Quality can be equal.

Our Province relies too heavily on imported foods, if the ferry is delayed by a couple of days then the supermarket shelves are empty. Given extremely high cost of foods, there needs to be more focus on local products, which creates business and lowers purchase price.

Increase Local Food Supply

terry1

2016-01-22T06:34:27-04:30

4.157894737

19

Look at fixed link between Labrador and Island, the tunnel. This absolutely should have been part of the Muskrat Falls project, missed opportunity to properly run the cable and offer transportation link.

The tunnel would link the Province and the rest of Canada. No costs associated with ferry contracts, maintenance, operations, wharves, salaries, etc. Place a toll and allow the users to pay indefinitely.

Similar tunnels throughout the world with much larger distances. The technology is available.

Immediate impact on tourism, industry, food and all materials cost.

As long as we use ferries we will be indebted for life. The cost of operating a ferry system will continue to increase while a tunnel is one time fixed cost. This is a major infrastructure project which the Federal Government could review with the ambition of linking the country once and for all.

Revue Fixed Link

terry1

2016-01-22T06:43:03-04:30

3.818181818

11

Look at revenue model from current MMSB board/system. How is revenue being spent, what percentage is on administration versus programs.

Why are we continuing to ship rubber tires out of the Province to be burnt. Is there better use, job creation and revenue model. Similar issues with other recycled materials; plastics, cardboard, electronics.

Are we getting the most benefit from this Provincial agency. Is our environment being protected are we creating jobs, revenue with current policy. Or is this a consumer pay organization with little benefit to the residents.

Revue MMSB
(Provinces recycling management)

terry1

2016-01-22T06:48:50-04:30

3.857142857

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RDC was created under previous government to develop new high tech and related business opportunities. A new agency which previously part of Government department. Now has new building, new administration and operation cost. What has been the uptake on this program, what has been the measured project success, how many jobs and how much revenue has resulted.

Has their annual (multi-million) dollar budget been fully allocated or has it had been unspent.

Time to bring this initiative back in to the Department of Innovation and Business. Reduce double administration, streamline process and lower program cost.

The RDC program can be administered within Government Department and no need for external agency. This was an initiative of previous government when oil revenue was high and now needs to be corrected.

Revue RDC
(Research and Development Corporation)

terry1

2016-01-22T06:55:16-04:30

2.428571429

14

Reduce costs

Too many meeting and storage rooms have no light switches - the lights are on in these, often empty, rooms 24/7/365. We want to turn them off when we leave, but we can't. Please fix this.

Save energy

Set example

Install light switches in meeting rooms

ILoveNL

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<p>Enhanced support/partnerships with community-based organizations</p>	<p>My suggestion is that government create a new paradigm of support to the community based, non-profit organizations and charities it provides core funding. These groups provide high quality innovative solutions to societal issues for a premium much less than government can provide "in-house". Instead of just providing core-funding and walking away, the government and community based organizations should become equal partners at the table to address societal problems, whether these be health, educational, environmental, economic, etc.</p> <p>Models exist for performance-based funding for community groups receiving core funding support. Core funding partners and the community organization work together as partners and equals to create targets for success in the address of the mandate of the organization. Achievement of targets results in the maintenance of core funding; surpassing targets results in an increase in funding; and not attaining targets results in a re-evaluation of funding level support.</p> <p>In the provincial election the Liberal Party</p>	<p>Public-non-profit partnerships will create stable and sustainable organizations that tackle complex social, economic and health related issues that plague our province in a more cost-efficient manner than government can currently provide. It will provide strong organizations with incentives to be innovative in their approach to</p> <p>Multi-year commitments allow organizations to focus on sustainability and provide stable work environments for young professionals. The community sector is becoming more of a destination of choice for young professionals looking to make an impact in their communities. Short funding cycles with the constant spectre of unemployment negatively affect community based groups ability to attract and maintain strong candidates. Regular turnover affects the achievement of the mission and goals of the organization.</p> <p>The non-profit sector is a net contributor to the provincial economy and further partnership with the government will allow this sector to stabilize, grow and continue to contribute to the economy and have greater</p>	<p>NP16</p>	<p>2016-01-22T11:02:45-04:30</p>	<p>0 0</p>
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The current Government has proposed that all Depts/Agencies come up with ideas and how to cut 30% of its expenditures, and be prepared to do so immediately. I think this is a very inefficient process, as no high level manager would recommend that his funding be cut, or his position is not necessary. What you will find is the low level and front line workers who would be the ones to suffer. As we all have seen from the PC government initiative of cuts straight across the board, most of those layoffs have been already hired back as they were considered essential. Some Depts/Agencies may have the room to cut in certain areas which may total upwards of 35% while other Dept/Agencies are only able to cut 10-15%. This is where I feel the Auditor General could help the Province.

The Province has entered into an agreement with a Consultant for about \$1million to conduct a review of Muskrat Falls. The people conducting this review will be Professional Accountants, just like those working at the Auditor Generals office. The AG currently has a reporting phase, termed

My idea is important as I have outlined above. This would not cost Government any more money and they would receive a professional opinion from an outside source.

Utilize the Auditor General

Pasadena7

2016-01-22T12:49:31-04:30

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I have worked within 3 separate divisions of public sector over the past 26 years: social service, education and healthcare. I have seen a big difference between the amount of documentation that is required to hold workers accountable for the work provided to the public in each case. By far, the greatest amt. of data entry/documentation time occurs for me in healthcare sector. There are multiple copies that must be made of things like consent forms, attendance slips, client letters, client reports, client goals, client handouts, client data collected on visits, statistics for time spent on the visit and for at least 85% of every second of one's working day, client referral mgmt. system data entry for every kind of contact that is completed in 10 minute units such as phone calls, consults in the hallway with a fellow team member, dealing with phone messages from clients, etc. The amt. of "overhead" per client contact seems to have grown with the advance of electronic documentation mostly since we are also hanging on, in most cases, to a paper chart as well (which also must be maintained). Its time for us to make a decision as to the one form of accountability we need and then stick to doing just that.

streamline and reduce to a mline data-entry/documentation per unit of public contact time

- 1) It will save space, time, money, professional's time and sanity so that they can get on with serving the public efficiently and effectively by whatever means is best resourced to do so.
- 2) It will mean taking an honest look at things we do now that could be done in less time and with less paper and/or electronic documentation required. Eg., instead of doing an interview with a patient in person do it via telehealth if the in-person contact does not require physical manipulation or close examination of the client.
- 3) It will enable more face to face (either in-person or via telehealth) contact time with clients of the gov't system.
- 4) It will mean less managers, administrators are needed to paper-handle and/or manage data entry requirements.

Full day kindergarten not going to be an easy transition for many children. Children in urban areas have access to day care and more extensive pre-school programming. In more rural areas, pre-school exists at 1 hour per week, and kinderstart being a couple of hours a month. To go from this to full days, every day of the week, is quite a big leap.

Additionally, adding full day kindergarten comes with a financial cost as well as a social and emotional cost to the children. More teaching resources will be needed to carry out this plan. Perhaps this new government can put this idea on hold until our revenues increase to a level that not only makes it easier to hire additional teaching staff to handle full day kindergarten, but additional revenue can help create a more extensive pre-school program province wide. This will help the transition to the full day kindergarten.

Delay the idea for now, but take a look at it again (with investment in to pre-school) a few years down the road when revenue increases.

My idea is important for several reasons. It stops government from having to spend additional money on teaching resources to support full-day kindergarten, and it also gives government a couple of years to really flesh out this idea and put the appropriate resources in place both at the kindergarten and pre-school levels, once revenues increase.

Keep Half Day Kindergarten

drexxa

2016-01-22T15:18:58-04:30

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The Province should consider implementing legislation that creates parameters in which neighbouring municipalities are required to ensure minimum shared services. This does not necessarily force amalgamation where it isn't wanted, but sets the stage for communities within reasonable proximity to work together on minimum shared services. As an example, 2 or communities within 25 km of each other would be required to implement a common recreational committee, fire services, town council building, etc. There's no reason to think that 2 municipalities could have distinctively different town councils working out of the same building if they wish to maintain independent community identities, but they could certainly share admin staff, dog catcher, etc.

Savings would be realized by the communities which, in turn would minimize on any funding requirements from the Province (eg. 2 or more fire trucks).

It is important that Newfoundlanders and Labradorians work more closely together in areas where physical separation is minimum. There's no need for 2 adjacent communities to have 2 separate fire trucks, 2 separate water supplies, 2 soccer fields, etc.

Legislation
Mandating Sharing
of Municipal
Services

stjude

2016-01-22T21:57:07-04:30

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The Province should consider electronic communications as an alternative to postal service. Recently I paid a parking ticket by phone only to receive a receipt in the postal mail a couple of days later. The cost of the postage was 80 cents. The ticket was only \$10. There was no reason why that receipt could not have been emailed to me as a PDF file. The Province should adopt a "digital first" approach to any business it conducts, whether internal or interacting with the general public.

The suggestion to take a "digital first" approach is one that aligns with the times. Whether you're purchasing from eBay, Amazon or any of the online commercial stores, your receipt is received via email or as part of the purchase check-out process. As postal costs increase, the return on revenues for tickets, fines or other forms of taxation are further eroded. We need to maximize as much as we can on provincial revenue sources without eroding it through historical and outdated formal processes.

Digital vs Postal

stjude

2016-01-22T22:03:40-04:30

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The Provincial Government is obviously required to conduct business that sees staff needing to move about. This must be at a high cost for locations such as St. John's Metro and Corner Brook. The Province should consider a review of all related courier/cab costs in these areas with an option to establish internal services where it makes financial sense. It's a simple mathematical consideration. If the total amount of courier/cab costs exceed that to establish a Government-equivalent service for your own needs, then maybe it's time to do so. There's obviously a logistical consideration (ie. 2 internal cab/courier services cannot be at 5 locations if needed at the same time), but a careful analysis of these related costs could see a business case to establish a Government-equivalent service for Government employees and courier requirements; particularly in areas with larger volumes of Government offices and activity.

The Province needs to conduct simple business case analysis of circumstances where consumption of goods and services from the private sector are excessive.

St. John's Metro
Cab/Courier Services

stjude

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The Province should consider establishing a Request for Proposals that would establish a credit system for air travel. In effect, it would represent a standing offer agreement for air travel that establishes a flat rate "per kilometer" travel for Government business. The SOA could see 2 or 3 accepted proposals that represent provincial, national and international travel. Some of the smaller airlines would likely be able to offer a better discount rate for provincial/domestic travel while the larger airlines may be better positioned to offer a more favourable rate on national and international travel. Establishing a fixed "per kilometer" rate would ensure a consistent "best price" scenario and minimize on added costs that are often associated with last-minute or peak-period travel.

The Province of Newfoundland Labrador might even consider a regional SOA that further adds incentive for airlines to consider discounts. This could include the other maritime provinces or simply a cross-base of all local public-funded bodies (health boards, school boards, etc.).

Volume purchasing represents opportunities for significant discounts.

Volume Purchasing (SOA) on Air Travel

stjude

2016-01-22T22:19:37-04:30

2.33333333

3

Prenatal Screening	<p>Currently, all pregnant women are offered maternal serum screening prenatal testing to test their fetus for abnormalities including spina bifida, Down's syndrome, and trisomy 18. This test has a very high false positive rate (approx 10%), a "positive" meaning that the baby is at high risk, but in the end turns out to be healthy. A small number of these are actually positive meaning the baby has the condition specified. Any moms who get a positive result are offered an amniocentesis. This amniocentesis procedure can only be done by a specialized obstetrician, and requires the assistance of a specially trained nurse. The sample is then analyzed. From my research it appears that the cost to the province of the procedure and analysis is over \$1000, it is invasive (long needle inserted into the womb) and carries some risk to the fetus. The same procedure is offered to pregnant women of advanced maternal age or who are high risk because of family history. In addition to the cost of the procedure, the province may be responsible for travel expenses if the patient is not close to St. John's. There is a non invasive blood test called Harmony Cell Free DNA testing that can be done at a cost of approximately</p>	<p>Not only will this save the government money, it makes quality healthcare diagnostics more available province wide. It is win-win. For example: A woman in Labrador was told her baby is at high risk for having Down's syndrome after the maternal serum screening. She has the option to fly to St. John's to get an amnio, but does not have the \$1500 to pay for her flight and hotel upfront, even though she would get reimbursed for most of it eventually, so she cannot get this test and has to spend her whole pregnancy worrying that her baby may very well have Down's syndrome. This would likely have an affect on her mental health. Since she is high risk and has no amnio to say otherwise, she will almost certainly have many more appointments with her family doctor and local obstetrician as well as extra ultrasounds, all of which carry a high cost. Another mom may live in St. John's but is not willing to increase her risk of miscarriage, a known possible complication of an amniocentesis. This test would allow her a risk free way to know her baby's diagnosis. Another mom in may choose to go ahead with the procedure. Assuming the cost of the procedure is approximately \$1000, replacing</p>	TrishaBrown	2016-01-22T22:29:40-04:30	3.625	8
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The Province might consider establishing a "Highway Maintenance Tax" for visitors of our Province. Citizens of this Province pay fees associated with vehicle registrations and drivers' licenses that are intended to contribute to the upkeep of our provincial roadways. However, visitors who drive come to our province across the ferry systems and/or rent cars out of our airports do not. A HMT tax collected by our ferry systems that bring visitors from the mainland, as well as the same tax applied to local car rentals could offset that gap and add to the public coffers.

A cornerstone of any tax system is the fairness of application. If the people of this province are expected to pay fees to maintain our highways, visitors who use those same highways should be expected to contribute.

Highway
Maintenance Tax

stjude

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The Province might consider a revised tuition subsidy plan that puts greater emphasis on post-graduation benefits to the Province. Today we are fortunate to see low-cost post-secondary opportunities for our children, but those low-costs are likely unsustainable. Maybe the Province could consider a conditional grant system that results in similar breaks on tuition costs, but directly tied to the benefits being returned to the Province from graduates. In essence, graduates who remain in our Province and ultimately contribute to the economy of the Province should see greater rewards than those who take the low-cost tuition advantages of a university/college completion to other provinces/countries. If the costs for tuition is currently

\$1200/semester at MUN, consider hiking it to \$1800/semester, but provide incentives to post-graduates who remain in this province (build homes, raise families, contribute to the economy). This could be in the form of a direct grant (\$1200/year for up to 5 years beyond graduation) or an added tax refund incentive that equates to a similar amount for an average income of \$100,000.

It's highly advantageous to any community when its post-secondary offerings are affordable to its citizens. Newfoundlanders and Labradorians continue to be very fortunate in this regard. However, if the Province are inserting public funds into its post-secondary institutions, it's only appropriate that the Province be the primary beneficiaries of those benefits.

Reduced Post-Secondary Tuition Tied to Local Benefits

stjude

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Family-Care Leave Benefit	<p>The Province should work with the Federal Government to try and establish a "Family-Care Leave Benefit" comparable to that currently made available as a parentel leave benefit unde the Employment Insurance Program. This woud apply to circumstances when a parent has a diaabled child at home, a senior requiring home care, or other similar circumstances where the Province would be otherwise on the hook for home care or other medical services. This would assist families who might otherwise be unable to afford homecare services as well as miniize on the requirements of the Province to step in and provide costly alternative services.</p>	<p>The best people look after family members is other family members. This could be a win-win scenario as financial incentives are established that allow family members to take care of their own, while minimizing on home care costs to the Province.</p>	stjude	2016-01-22T22:54:11-04:30	3.5	2
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Notwithstanding that there are those that have physical/mental disabilities that put them in a socially disadvantaged category requiring social services, there are many others that are otherwise physically and mentally able. This latter group should be provided with bonus incentives tied to community service. There are many seniors in this province that could use assistance digging snow in the winter, lawns cared for in the summer, etc. Otherwise, there are parks and schools that need garbage picked up, community groups that need help, etc. I have no idea what the financial offerings are to those that receive them, but if it's \$200/week as a basic offering then maybe there could be a \$50/week bonus to those who contribute to their community by signing up and following through on simple requirements of the community. Some hard-nosed people might push to see this as something that should be forced on those on social benefits, but I am an advocate for basic services to every citizen, while providing incentives for those that put in the work to deserve more.

The benefits that come in life are largely achieved through hard work. A social safety net system should build incentives that promote these values, build the right attitudes, and ultimately help the community along the way. The real world is not one that sees rewards that come from a "free ride". Our social service offerings need to imitate the real-world to affect these people in a positive and constructive way.

Tying Community Service to Social Benefits

The Province should consider a tax formula that ensures a steady base of taxation on gas, yet does not unfairly burden citizens when gas prices rise. Right now the gas tax is built on a fixed per litre formula (ie. fixed percentage model). Right now it looks to be roughly 26.5 cents per litre. That means that gas that is 50 cents per litre (before taxes) costs consumers 86.5 cents per litre with taxes applied. Similar, gas that is \$1 per litre (before taxes) has a similar added tax of 26.5 cents per litre.

Obviously gas that has a low base price is tied to an economy with lower oil prices (per barrel) and vice versa. If gas prices are high, the Province is benefitting from a revenue stream from basic oil prices and may not need as much tax revenue at the pumps. Conversely, low oil prices would typically translate to a lower direct revenue return and lower gas prices at the pump. If gas prices are lower, the public could be more accepting to a slightly higher tax model at the pumps, but would like to see a break at the pumps when pump prices are higher.

Our tax system needs to fairly blend the needs of Government for revenue while not adding unnecessary burden to consumers (tax-payers) when situations change that see more favourable tax streams from other sources as a direct relationship. Governments should establish base tax revenue sources that match the while not making a cash grab when circumstances present themselves that see tax revenues exceeding the needs of the Province to balance its books.

Elasticity Gas Tax

Could the Province consider an elasticized

stjude

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2.75

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In larger municipalities where school busing is a requirement, the affiliated school board should consider staggered start times for its schools that would allow companies that provide school bus services to re-use their buses rather than needing more buses to transport all students at the same time. One could only assume that such efficiencies for these companies would see a smaller overhead that would translate to lower costs to school boards. Primary/elementary schools could start at 8:30am and finish at 2:30pm, junior high schools could start at 9am and finish at 3pm, and high schools could start at 9:30am and finish at 3:30pm. This would allow the same bus to be used to transport kids to/from each of these school levels on the same day.

Companies need to make money, but before they can they also need to offset their operating expenses. A busing company that has 15 busing routes for 9am will need 15 buses. The same company that has 3 non-conflicting scheduled routes for 15 busing routes could get away with as few as 5 buses. 5 buses cost less to purchase, maintain and staff than 15 buses. If it costs the busing companies less to operate, one would expect some of those savings to go into their bidding process and ultimately translate to savings for the school board(s) and Province.

Staggered School Schedules

stjude

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The current fiscal year runs April 1st of one year to March 31st of the following year. The timing around the fiscal year leads to a very inefficient model for funding for new projects and services. In any given year, the budget is released in early April, interim funding provided for a few weeks, and then before you know it the summer months see vacations that generally slow down the business of Government.

As an example, imagine for a moment that TW is required to replace a bridge within a single fiscal year. They are unable to do anything until the budget is confirmed. Likely this risks any work from being carried out in April. Interim supply is generally only provided for basic Departmental operating expenses for the first few weeks so May is likely a loss. By the time the actual budget is released, TW sees many of its engineers, architects, consultants, etc. all interesting in taking 2+ weeks vacation through June - August. In effect, the majority of the work starts in September and now there's a race with the clock to see the work completed by March 31st or risk the funding expiring. Either the work is rushed or the timetable for

Budgets are regularly delayed. Many projects need to be done in the summer. In other circumstances, projects don't get underway until September because so many public servants are on vacation for the summer. The fiscal year needs to tie to the practical elements that otherwise affect a timely execution of the plans from that budget. If it's important to tie the Provincial budget to the Federal budget then start the fiscal year on June 1st. If we want to see summer infrastructure projects starting as early as possible and taking full advantage of the summer months, then start the fiscal year on January 1st.

Redefine the Fiscal Year

stjude

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Governments are notorious for reputations that see under-performing employees rarely dealt with unless directly tied to fiscal constraints (ie. staffing reductions). In the absence of a performance monitoring review system, the Province needs to consider its options to deal with under-performers that are not considered HR issues, but simply not effectively contributing to the overall benefits of the Province as a comparative to the salary dollars expended to the position. In many ways, its focus would be those that exemplify the stereotype of a Government worker "that does very little all day". This needs to be balanced with appropriate labour concerns of ensuring fairness to employees.

The Province should consider a board or committee that is tasked with conducting cost-benefit analysis of employees who are deemed not to be HR issues, but not carrying out an effective level of output as directly tied to the salary investment the Province makes to that position. The Province has thus far proven to be a problematic environment for dealing with under-performers. Yet, these individuals contribute to the fiscal challenges

It is only fair to expect a regular full day's effort for full day's pay. Government is always challenged to ensure a robust system for dealing with under-performing employees that can often take years to deal with as a matter of progressive discipline. There needs to be a quicker and alternative way to deal with such circumstances. A cost-benefit board/committee could ensure a fair balance of Government's interests while also protecting the workers.

Independent
Employee Cost-
Benefit Review
Board

Maritimes Public-Sector Shared Procurement Arrangement	<p>The Maritime provinces should consider areas where a combined stading offer agreement could result in greater financial advantages based on increased volume opportunities for bidders. Whether its pens, paper, computers, or vehicles one would assume that a shared arrangement that sees financial savings for each province would be preferred over any need to keep purchasing autonomous within provincial jurisdictions. Unless its services that are required directly (and uniquely) in each jurisdiction, there are likely many items on standing offer agreements that could equally exist in a shared SOA arrangement at lower volume discounted prices. The potential to supply 100,000 pens per year rather than 10,000 pens per year are quite likely to see a much improved costing-per-unit bid from prospective suppliers.</p>	<p>Provinces need to work together to establish partnerships and more favourable arrangements that maximize on volume purchasing.</p>	stjude	2016-01-23T00:28:16-04:30	3.66666667	6
Junk Food Tax	<p>Increased taxes on foods/drinks that have a high amount of fat or refined sugars. Take the money earned here and give subsidies to healtier foods. Denmark already does this...there is a reason they're the happiest country in the world!</p>	<p>This idea would help people to be able to afford healtier food, leading to overall less health issues and in the long run less load on the health care system. The population should also be healthier, because lets face if, if you are on a strict income which is cheaper cola or milk?</p>	darrena	2016-01-23T09:19:38-04:30	4.037037037	27

The prison system costs a lot. How many people are repeat offenders who don't learn? How much money is spent on re-entering them into the system each time? I believe everybody should be given 3 chances; the third time you're sent to jail you are put to death as clearly the jail time and/or the rehabilitation hasn't worked.

To be clear, this should apply only to a specific amount of crimes for example only violent/sexual crimes (assaults, murders, armed robberies). I don't believe drug use, shoplifting, prostitution or civil torts should be included.

Less money spent on prison fees and hopefully less crimes of this nature after the 2nd jail term. There should also be less people in the general public who are unable or unwilling to change their ways.

3 Strikes and You're Out

darrena

2016-01-23T09:58:29-04:30

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The RCMP are a professional organization and at this time appear to be short staffed in many areas of NL and as a result are no longer visible in many communities. This has lead to people breaking laws committing crimes knowing that their chances of being caught are very low. Increased funding would allow the RCMP to spend more time in local communities on the highways reducing crime preventing excessive speeding and accidents.

Crime prevention preventing accidents would save money lives. The money saved would more than offset increase funding for the RCMP.

Increase RCMP Budget

daynl

2016-01-23T11:00:49-04:30

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Forget all these failed programs and divisions trying to deal with the obesity and lack of access to facilities. Trickle down spending is not effective for these types of programs. They would be much more effective if you allowed people to control their own physical recreation spending.

The Gov't should provide a \$500 income tax exemption for every person. Families would also get this for their child (but not if they claimed the same child under the Federal Child Fitness Tax), but the parents can claim it for themselves.

You can only get this credit if you file your taxes with a form specifically from a recognized fitness business or non-profit sporting league or activity organization and along with a receipt showing payment.

One or more programs could be added together to reach the \$500 limit.

If you are a recognized member (and user) of a specific non-profit physical activity association, you may be able to donate your exemption to organizations, i.e. The East

It's a no lose situation. \$500 per person would save more than that in health/mental care. Long term it will pay off many times over.

It would be a "pay for play" system, you can only get this credit if you file the form from recognized businesses and associations. The Gov't would regulate who was recognized.

It wouldn't have a negative impact on existing businesses or services. People would be given the choice of supporting the services you use, leading to an increased variety of sports and activities we didn't think our population could support (the biggest challenge to small communities trying to offer solutions).

More jobs and more taxes collection.

It would allow universal access to anyone who wanted it, to gyms or physical wellness programs.

This program would go a long way to help mental and health problems in NL.

\$500 Health/Activity Exemption (income tax)

Minimizing taxes for larger companies, allowing them to grow and expand. Through the expansions they will have to hire, and in doing so, creating more jobs for those in the province. If more people have jobs, less of tax payers money will go to welfare (which is stupid anyway, unless you are on disability, go get a job, why should the middle class pay for you to do nothing, for no reason other than the fact you are uneducated clearly need try harder) and can go to other things that are of more importance. Since more people have jobs, they have more money to spend, thus purchasing more products services and allowing the companies to grow, therefore creating a cycle.

There are many well-educated people in Newfoundland (everybody these days is going to Memorial or College), putting faith in their capabilities to let their careers flourish by allowing them to keep more of a profit to invest in growing of their careers is better than making those who worked hard to get an education suffer because the people who didn't work hard need their welfare checks.

It's important because you have to create jobs somehow. If allowing the big companies makes jobs, then you should be all for reducing their taxes. We need to stop coddling those who are not willing to put in the work for a booming economy. Hard working tax payers should be seeing results in the economy for the work they put into it.

If you don't want to do this, make education in schools more difficult so only the smartest get secondary education then they can figure out how to fix this.

This is already a concept used in other cities in Canada and the USA. Here's the difference:

Emergency Rooms: used for life-threatening emergencies (i.e., heart attack).

Urgent Care Centres: used for non-life-threatening emergencies (i.e., broken leg) and anything less serious than that.

The establishment of a pilot project Urgent Care Centre in the metro area could be used to gauge it's use and function within our province which could then lead to further establishments around the province.

Wait times at the ER are pretty extreme at times if your condition is non-life-threatening and the staff are extremely overworked and, therefore, cannot always devote the necessary time and attention to each individual patient.

Urgent care centres would allow the ER to focus on priority cases which a separate location deals with the rest, improving wait times, creating healthcare jobs, and streamlining public access to emergency and urgent health services.

Establish Urgent Care Centres

emilywalsh

2016-01-23T14:56:01-04:30

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Under our present system of government anyone can run for political office. There is no restrictions placed on colour, creed, or intelligence. The result is that an individual can get elected solely on the basis of some virtue not related to an ability to serve the public. For instance, some may argue that Justin Trudeau got elected based on his looks. This causes a great deal of unrest and as we all know "a house divided against itself can not stand" (Mark 3:25).

It is time that government establish a means test, one that all who stand for election must pass before running. The best approach here is to introduce an IQ test. That way someone can be illiterate and still qualify, while someone with an IQ of 60 (say) would not qualify.

The same idea could be applied to political appointments, thus lessening the controversy there.

This idea would insure more qualified people running our province...better people, better government.

Qualified Politicians
Based on IQ

crunchtime

2016-01-24T09:35:54-04:30

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Explain how you'll use these ideas	<p>And what kind of process went into deciding this was the way to go. The voting is useless, and I hope to God you're not planning on paying any attention to it. This is all window dressing. You needed to come up with ideas yourselves and then present them for feedback.. the good ideas are getting lost in repetition and the people who are treating this as a lark. I certainly hope at some point you'll bring in a group who takes getting these opinions seriously.</p>	<p>Because this platform lowers my faith in the Liberal party I've supported for quite some time.</p>	onTheGo	2016-01-24T10:24:55-04:30	3.714285714	7
Cut travel pay for gov workers	<p>Cut the tax free travel pay gov employees receive when they are required to travel 20kms away from their work area/depot. There are workers in this province who receive close to \$70 tax free a day who work in areas where they can throw a rock at their home.</p>	<p>It is an unnecessary benefit when employees work so close to their own home.</p>	Rusty	2016-01-24T13:10:06-04:30	3.555555556	9

Legislation, regulation, and policy and the procedures to implement those policies should have deadlines attached and staff should be held accountable to meet those deadlines.

When government employees do not have deadlines for implementing policies it wastes time and money. Procedures should have deadlines attached to them and staff should be held accountable to those deadline. For example; the Community Relocation Policy that is administered through the Department of Municipal Affairs has been going through the process with Little Bay Islands for nearly three years, five years if you go from the date government first came to the island to meet with the town. It took a year for the department to conduct a Cost Benefit Analysis, (in this day and age of technology one would think the figures would be at their fingertips as it was government information they were accessing), it took another year, for voting purposes, to vet the few inhabitants as to who was a full time resident and who was a seasonal resident. Again, with technology and the access to information that was given by the residents to the department this should have been accomplished in days, not years. The appeal process for those unhappy with the residency decisions by government went very quickly, BECAUSE IT WAS CONTRACTED OUT, and in business time is money. So it

Establish deadlines

LBI2016

2016-01-24T14:09:00-04:30

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Currently the NL government wastes millions each year in the ambulance service because there is no central dispatch system and it has been poorly managed. Multiple times, on a daily basis, two ambulances are used in times when only one is needed (i.e. An ambulance from Central NL brings a patient to drop them off in St. John's and returns to Central empty. At the same time, an ambulance from St. John's will bring a patient to Central and come back empty). A central dispatch would be able to coordinate these calls and ensure there are no wasted resources.

Another issue involves the improper use of ambulances by NL residents. Currently, patients often call for ambulances simply because they have no other mode of transportation, not because they actually need one. Personal care homes and public nursing homes also call for ambulances to transport patients to appointments who are perfectly capable of sitting in a wheelchair and taking a GoBus. This system is abused by physicians who authorize the use of these ambulances for non-medical reasons.

Because it will not only save significant money, but will allow resources to be available for times when real emergencies occur.

Optimize use of Ambulances

nlmedic

2016-01-24T15:46:41-04:30

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Change the School Year	Right now kids get 3 months off in the summer for really no other reason than that's the way it's been done. Why not have the year broken up by four shorter breaks rather than one long break.	Kids lose a lot of what they learn in school over the 3 months of summer, if you break up the school year into 4 even pieces kids will end up being a lot better educated.	merica	2016-01-25T00:59:40-04:30	1.571428571	7
CNA and Provincial Services	Use CNA campuses as community service centers. Stop renting space in communities and start utilizing CNA campuses to provide services within communities where there is a CNA campus.	This provides a one-stop shopping solution for individuals looking for services and places the College at the heart of the community. This will also allow campuses to better focus on economic development and training with communities and develop short-run programs to address local training needs. This will help government save money by not renting multiple spaces for services and better support CNA.	kbussey	2016-01-25T07:22:14-04:30	3.5	4

I suggest that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development should evaluate the continued necessity of Public Exams for High School students. Many provinces in Canada no longer mandate standardized testing as a component of high school graduation requirements.

With the creation of the NL English School District, I believe that this provincially based school administration should ensure standardized learning objectives and evaluation methodology. This would eliminate the necessity for government administered Public Exams for level 3 high school courses.

Elimination of high school public exams would allow cost savings for the

Administration of this program. The NL English School District is a provincially based school authority that could be tasked with implementation of standardized learning objectives and evaluation.

The elimination of the Public Exams would also promote a more continued and evolving evaluation of a student's knowledge.

High school public exams

Corbinnl

2016-01-25T10:15:40-04:30

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I have reading idea's and comments around individuals on income support. I currently work in the employment field and have contact with many persons on income support. Your current system is set up to be mostly a telephone/ mail service with the exception of a person in St. John's at Regatta Plaza. The absence of a one on one caseworker who meets with the individual to me is a deficit. The people I meet on income support for the most part have barriers occurring that has brought them to the point of needing assistance hopefully temporarily. When income support is treated mainly as a financial issue like Employment insurance the human factor is not taken into consideration on the onset. In saying that there is a lot of work being done by great workers within the department. I am reading comments here online about person's on welfare and it's a little heart wrenching. I think by having a caseworker who they meet in person and have contact with adds a layer that can only help in moving people forward towards making changes in their lives and moving them away from any dependence on income support. Ontario Works currently meets with clients after the online or telephone

I believe that when people are struggling that the best way to help and move them forward is through one on one work with them. This is especially true with individuals on income support of applying for it. I currently help people from time to time with applications and they are upwards of 20 plus pages of documentation. I am not sure what happens with applications that don't have a community member to help.

Income Support
Client Centred
approach

SBrowne

2016-01-25T11:21:31-04:30

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Government should offer a series of concessions to public sector workers to entice them to accept wage rollbacks of between 5-10 percent, including a 1 week shutdown of government per year at the Christmas/New Year holiday. These would include:

- putting 2% of the 5% rollback into an escrow account and paying it back during the 1 week shutdown. So effectively it is a 3% rollback and a 1 week Leave Without Pay. Similar to approaches taken in the past in Ontario and NWT/Nunavut.

- offering a further 5% rollback to identified employees who can effectively telecommute or "work from home". There are literally 100's of public sector workers who do important work but who do not necessarily need to be in an office on a daily basis. The quality of life improvements, cost savings on transportation, meals away from home and especially child care, would be an enticement to many to accept a further reduction in pay.

The public service needs to accept some sort of reduction in pay or work hours across the board. If they are truly a "union", they should be jumping at offers that limit job losses and absorb the impact across their entire bargaining unit.

Incentives to accept Wage Rollback

A 5% rollback could also be more enticing if it was presented as a one day per month

OsoPeligro

2016-01-25T14:09:40-04:30

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Consolidating Services	Health Boards each have an HR Division, plus other administration divisions. These can be consolidated. I was employed with a line department and HR / Payroll, etc was through a provincial dept. / office.	Cost saving	Doreen	2016-01-25T14:21:28-04:30	3.5	4
Abuse of Sick Leave and the Back log that it creates!	If Monitoring Employee Performance is maintained on a weekly basis by Management, and a quota is given to what each employee is responsible for on a daily/weekly basis this would certainly alleviate the back logs. In addition, too many employees abuse the sick leave and in return causes back log within a department. Therefore, back logs create Overtime, and that should never be if the employee is dealt with from the beginning through their performance!	To have Managers be strict on the employees job performance, and to assure of the wasted time that occurs on a daily basis! All these internal morale programs create more wasted time than there should ever be! Cut back on the idle chit chat that occurs and the gossip throughout each office and this should cut back on the back logs, therefore over time would not be required!	Lou	2016-01-25T15:13:40-04:30	2.875	8
Listen to front line nursing staff	Speak to nursing staff and other staff that work with patients everyday. Not a manager. Many times these staff can tell you ways to run a department better than a manager because the manager is not familiar with the areas they are managing, ie. ..they have never worked in that area. They recognize cost saving measures because they work with it every day.	It could save our government hundreds of thousands of dollars.	HOYK	2016-01-25T16:58:17-04:30	3.1	10

I have been postponed several times by MD specialists and later learned they were on a fully paid medical sabattical. Some have postponed me twice.

Specialist Medical sabattical	Full time support staff still show up at work and get paid for nothing.	Cut this type of benefit but you will have to look harrd to uncover it in specialist lists at HSC ETC.	moonman	2016-01-25T20:32:23-04:30	3.5	2
Greater use of technology	Greater use of interactive real time technology by MHAs and staff to conduct meetings	Would minimize travel claims and expenses	lassybuns	2016-01-25T21:13:00-04:30	3.66666667	6
Apply Lean Principles to Health Care System	Apply lean principles to health care to reduce wastage and costs.	To drastically reduce wasted \$ by ineffeciencies.	catharowe	2016-01-26T09:24:02-04:30	3.4	10

Complaints are as petty as twitter trolls - but solutions are golden.

If we have solutions and are asked for solutions honour that. In this light I LOVE THIS SYSTEM! There may be some ways to add things to this system to improve it but it's brand new so lets improve as we go!

Here's my improvement list:

1. Read the solutions first and don't put up solutions without real names of real people that are qualified in advance. They should be real solutions not jokes and lude comments!

2. The voting system doesn't work - people don't get it when you post it to social media, they vote on the FB post not the post here. There needs to be a way to share and vote without having to register.

I love this system -
And it needs
improvements

3. Pay a penalty - \$1000 fine for all people who use this system to ridicule, defame, and

Implementing these ideas creates a constant state of improvement for this awesome platform!

TinaOlivero

2016-01-26T09:53:09-04:30

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CYFS travel	<p>Why should taxpayers pay for taxi's and hotels for the parents to visit their children that have been removed from their care? This would be HUGE savings for our government. I'm sure if the parents are not able to find their own way, there must be a more cost efficient way.</p>	<p>I feel this pot of money can be spent more wisely.</p>	rural83	2016-01-26T09:55:39-04:30	3.5	4
Barter System	<p>Under our present methods of doing business the federal government is in a prime position to tax us. When our tax dollars go to Ottawa, we have a devil of a time getting them back. We need to implement a new method of doing business whereby our money don't get taken away in the first place.</p> <p>Early in our history everything was done by barter. If a person required a ditch dug, he would give the worker a pig (say). The same could be done today. If a person needs a prescription filled, he could bring the drugist a blueberry pie or a quintal of fish. The book keeping alone would drive the feds nuts and they would be forced to leave us alone.</p>	<p>This idea would create a wealthier province. The federal government would not want such a system in place and would offer us better deals to prevent us from implementation.</p>	crunchtime	2016-01-26T11:27:00-04:30	3	2

unreal!!!! Here's a government that was elected by the people to govern our province and make good with election promises. Now that they're in power they are turning the table, it's all smoke and mirrors. Instead of carrying out their campaign ideas and promises, they are putting it back in the laps of ordinary citizens to come up with a plan, or plans, to turn things around, money saving ideas that they already know what needs to be done, but don't have the guts to carry out on their own in fear of looking like the "bad guy". Instead, let the citizens come up with the so called ideas so they can be the masters of our own destiny, so the government can make statements like " we didn't want to do this but you, the people are the ones who suggested the ideas and we only listened and did as we were told". Another example of wasting (stalling) time and spending money to buy time in hoped that the price of oil will rebound to save the day and then everyone will forget about what was and move on until the next election. I for one, will not be part of this exercise and give the government exactly what they're looking for, a way out of this mess and an excuse to pin it on the citizens

HOLD THE
GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABLE

because it's the bare bones truth

Socrates

2016-01-26T12:07:49-04:30

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Government Office Buildings	In central newfoundland we have numerous departments in different buildings with rent and heat, etc... , why not build a big building and put all offices in one.	To cut cost.	Bud	2016-01-26T14:50:27-04:30	3.777777778	9
Access to ArcGIS Online	Please give us access to ArcGIS Online Organization accounts. This can be provided at low or no cost if we work with small datasets and maps and don't process online. The output online maps and web apps can provide the public with a lot of information that they can access on their own, reducing service costs and printing costs. The application is very easy to use. For example, ArcGIS Online can be an efficient gateway to the governments Open Data initiative. All the Geospatial Datasets can be provided on ArcGIS Online for the public to freely access, without having to download and learn a free GIS like GRASS. ArcGIS Online can also provide a private GIS space for groups in different areas to work together. The Web AppBuilder can provide the public with web apps for, say, tourism areas around the province. Most web apps can be provided for free, but others can be revenue-generating. There are unlimited ideas that can be generated with ArcGIS Online, if we only had access.....	ArcGIS Online Organization accounts will allow us to provide the public with government information and data, to reduce service and printing costs. Other ideas include allowing us to build web apps to showcase our province, collaborate with colleagues building GIS datasets, etc. etc.	Zebo	2016-01-26T14:52:29-04:30	3.8	5

There are too many people in Newfoundland that are on Income Support, Government paying for people to sit home all day watching tv. It is time for this to stop. Why can't work projects be brought back, why can't people on income support work? or better yet let them get their income support but they have to work at government offices, schools etc... to help with backlogs.

People talk about cutting Government jobs, if this would happen who would pay for their income support. Government needs to bring factories etc into the province and income support clients need to work in them.

It would save the government millions.

Income Support

Bud

2016-01-26T15:55:04-04:30

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The recent change to retirement age from 55 to 58 negatively impacts on the value of any attrition plan the government may want to implement. If public sector employees have 30 years service when they reach 55 they should be able to retire without penalty to their pension.

Layoffs will have dramatic impacts on the economic climate of this province along with negative impacts on any population growth strategy the government plans to try and implement. We are already seeing the impact of loss of jobs due to the downsize in the oil industry. Downsizing the public sector that has already been stripped away over the years will not benefit any resident or the economy of this province.

Roll back public service retirement age to 55

Ginger40

2016-01-26T16:10:52-04:30

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Some people are pure stick-in-the-mud types, unadventurous and resistant to change or levity. Anyone who submits a suggestion involving humor or frivolity, and treats a serious matter with humor or in a manner perceived as lacking due respect, is given a thumbs down. This is not what Newfoundland and Newfoundlanders are about.

This site should invite all submissions as long as they are not offensive or insulting.

Humour is the best medicine, it requires no drug card, no druggist, no doctor appointments, and contributes to our well-being.

Down With Grumps

crunchtime

2016-01-26T16:43:38-04:30

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Non-profit agencies in NL have had access to 100% subsidized funding for employee wages year after year while business owners only have access to a 50% subsidy. The first five years in business or for a non-profit agency are always the most difficult with labour the biggest issue. My idea applies to new business and non-profit for one or two employees and does not include those with charitable status. A graduated wage subsidy that is scaled like this; 100% wage subsidy the first year, 80% subsidy the second year, 60% the third year, 40% the fourth year, and 20% the fifth year. No funding after that. Each year the business or non profit has to show it viability and the program is either continued or cut, therefore government is either supporting growth or reducing waste of taxpayers money. I want to clarify that non profit does not mean a group cannot make money it just means the money earned goes back into programming or future endeavors. There is no way that events like the Salmon Festival should be losing money, that is just bad management and like business they need to be cut from taxpayer funding. This program requires business and non-profit to plan short term and long term,

Graduated reduced funding over five years for labour through new business and not-for-

Fund Labour through profit agencies.
New Business

LBI2016

2016-01-26T18:15:37-04:30

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<p>Government Employee Work Load Audit</p>	<p>Implementation review of a workplace audit, within government particularly within the Confederation Building. This audit would gauge (assess) workload being completed by each employee on a daily/ weekly basis those jobs or positions that not as efficient as others can removed, or coupled with similar activities that are often redundant within government.</p>	<p>This idea would eliminate several of non essential, non productive positions. Thus, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars.</p>	<p>Amiee</p>	<p>2016-01-26T18:35:31-04:30</p>	<p>2.5</p>	<p>4</p>
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Ministry Co-
operation

Ministries that provide service to a single group or more than one group need to work together. If government has a vision for the future they have to get ministries working together to reach the goals whether it is reducing costs or increasing revenue.

Not working together sends a mixed message as well as costing money. For example; The Ministry of Tourism is doing a fantastic job selling Newfoundland and Labrador to the rest of the world and it is working. The Ministry of Transportation and Works had a new ferry built to service Little Bay Islands and Pilley's Island also upgrading the docks at LBI and Shoal Arm. This allowed for service from Little Bay Islands to Shoal Arm or Pilley's Island and service from Pilley's Island to Long Island. This gave tourists the ability to take in the "Whale of a Sail" of Green Bay. Visit the Whale Museum in Kings Point, Springdale and the surrounding area, then get on the ship at Shoal Arm and sail to Little Bay Islands, take in the island and then get back on and sail to Pilley's Island or Long Island or take in the Whale Museum in Triton. Less than a year after spending a million dollars on the upgrade at Shoal Arm the Ministry of Transportation and Works shut down the Shoal Arm dock and redirected the ferry to all runs between Pilley's Island and LBI. No notice provided, no signage provided, no savings as the sailing distance is the same and five trips a day continue, just irate

LBI2016

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Single Gender
Classrooms

Split up schools/classrooms by gender, it's been shown to significantly raise test scores and class participation. It also helps encourage girls to speak up as they don't feel dominated by their male classmates.

The key to a better future for Newfoundland is a smarter Newfoundland. If we can make education more effective for both girls and boys by separating them like we used to, why wouldn't we. I'm all for equality but if it's shown to help girls and boys succeed I don't see why we would have changed it in the first place.

merica

2016-01-26T21:36:38-04:30

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A Tripple Action Plan

1. Build a fixed link between the Island and Labrador. Use the Confederation Model where private investors bear the cost and take care of the management. In the short term, the construction jobs will be an economic boom for the Province. In the longer term, the fixed link will double the tourism traffic to the Island bringing prosperity forever to all parts of the Province. Consider fixed links where ever a sound business case can be made for other ferry services, like Bell Island and Fogo. Over time, this will drastically reduce government cost. Talk to Danny Dumeresques who has done the research for this work.

Our Province needs an economic kick start. Churchill Falls Construction, building of TCH, building off shore infrastructure did that, but all of these are long over and now more is needed. The construction will get tradesman working and put cash back in the hands of consumers. Once these 3 are done, there will be a continued flow of new dollars from the increased tourism traffic, and great savings to the Province in reduced cost of ferry operations.

2. Work with the Federal Government to twin much more of the Trans Canada Highway. Start at Port Aux Basques at least as far as Steveston Junction, then between Gander and Grand Falls, then from Whitbourne towards Clarendville. In the past few years, major improvements have been done in Nova Scotia and Quebec, and earlier, in NB to get this done. This will improve the traffic flow for the increased volume of

All of this is possible and doable. All it takes is the will, and the willingness to get the private sector involved to make it happen.

Improve
Transportation
Connections...

egrandy

2016-01-26T22:36:00-04:30

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Because many believe and so do I that there is far to much waste going on. This minister could more then pay for himself along with his helpers.

Put an Efficient Minister in place to monitor all major spending departments.

All departments should be monitored with the goal of digging out wastage to be eliminated asap.

Efficiency Minister

overconcernedlat 2016-01-26T23:55:10-04:30

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One of the obvious pitfalls of recent Governments (including the current one) is the continued optimistic outlook on oil prices as a factor to the current budget year. Every forecast for the past 3 budgets have been wrong. Even with oil prices plummeting the existing Government holding predicted a budget on \$37/barrel oil as part of its mid-year revised forecast. It's been hovering around \$30/barrel since Christmas.

Governments need to take a more cautious approach to the volatility of oil prices. If the most cautious economy forecasters see \$100/barrel oil - forecast and budget on \$80/barrel oil. If they think it's be at \$40/barrel, work from a \$25/barrel forecast. If it goes up, there'll be a windfall at the end of the fiscal. At the very least, if the forecasters are wrong, it will less likely result in a continued pattern of annual deficits.

Budget forecasting needs to be less risk-based and more realistic. Anyone can forecast a budget that backs into a financial picture that fulfills all political promised and commitments, but eventuality reality will set in and we will continue to see deficit after deficit.

Under-Forecast
Impact of Oil
Revenues

stjude

2016-01-27T00:26:46-04:30

3.666666667

3

The Province should consider public-facing service centers that provide a diversity of services. Why does a citizen have to go to once place to request a birth certificate, another place to register a vehicle, another place to register a deed, and so forth? I realize that there may be certain services that require specialized skills or access to unique information (eg. deeds and registry), but surely there must be a collection of public-facing services that could be combined as offerings at a single location by a common group of public servants. Not only could it save the Province some money by having staff perform multiple duties (ie. potential for overall less staff), but it likely would reduce the number of buildings/locations required in the first place. On top of that, consider what a convenience this would be the general public. Imagine having supermarkets where you could only buy meats in one store, but then you have to drive to another one to get vegetables, and still another one to pick up some breads. The Province could learn from the efficiencies and conveniences that can be seen from such businesses that place all their services under one roof and everyone walks up to any one

Governments need to consider breaking down some of the barriers that appear to be the result of distinct Departments with perceived unique services to offer. Most services come from some output of computers anyway so why not establish service centres that can cater to several service offerings?

Provincial Centers of Excellence

stjude

2016-01-27T00:38:29-04:30

3.5

6

Let me start by saying that I have a huge respect and appreciation for teachers. The suggestion that I am about to make is not based on any perception that teachers aren't working hard, but it's about the elephant in the room with regards to teachers receiving an annual salary for only roughly 41 weeks of the year. That leaves somewhere in the area of 11 weeks that teachers have no direct responsibilities for the pay they receive from the public purse. That would be inclusive or roughly 9 weeks in the summers, 1 week for Christmas and another for Easter.

Teachers who say that they are deserving of 11 weeks off each year are probably right. The jobs they do aren't easy and they directly affect each and every one of us as we strive to better ourselves in this world through quality education. However, how can we justify a teacher's entitlement to such a benefit any different than a nurse, a police officer, or a search/rescue personnel - all who work equally as hard and some putting their lives at risk?

We need to find way to extract maximum value from public expenditures. Respect professionals such as teachers by giving them everything they are due, but take on the hard tasks of asking oneself if we can continue to pay a full annual salary to one group that only is required to work 40 or 41 weeks of the year.

Extracting Greater Value from Teacher Salaries

Let's consider a fair period of vacation entitlement for teachers, but let's consider

stjude

2016-01-27T00:59:32-04:30

3.55555556

9

Stop Advertising Potholes	The number of signs required and the amount of time spent advertising potholes across the province takes a toll on finances. It also takes a toll on public patience, and vehicle maintenance. Try fixing potholes ASAP.	This would save money for government and the public, as well as improve public safety. p.s. Fixing 1 pothole should not require 2 dump trucks, 2 foremen, and 10 men leaning on 10 shovels.	crunchtime	2016-01-27T07:48:11-04:30	2.333333333	3
Expand Boundaries Of St. John's	<p>The practice of using a possessive noun as a name for the capital city of Newfoundland and Labrador does not make sense. A change should be made. New Brunswick has a St. John, so it would not be wise to simply change it to that.</p> <p>I propose that we extend the boundaries of the city to take in the community of Dildo. Then the city would be called St. John's Dildo, which would make sense because I assume St. John had such an appendage. An exact statue could be placed on Signal Hill to represent the name. The prime minister could appear at the ribbon cutting ceremony and have his picture taken.</p>	This idea would increase the tourist trade and give the PM reason to visit.	crunchtime	2016-01-27T08:41:38-04:30	1	1

Introduce a plastic bag tax similar to what has been recently introduced in the UK and back in 2002 in Ireland. In the UK people are charged 5p, Ireland charges 22c per bag. This fee serves 3 purposes.

1) Charges for plastic bags are coming. Either the province charges for them or the large chain stores will. Some stores have already tried to introduce the charges, for example Walmart has recently announced its intention to start charging. Once people accept the charge at large chains like Walmart it will filter through the whole market. If the rules about when and how the charges can be applied are left up to individual stores it will be confusing and result in some stores exploiting consumers. Standard rules can be set by the province. For example in the UK the following exceptions apply

Plastic bags have a massive impact on nature, cost money to clean up, do not biodegrade and impact on tourism. Charges have been introduced successfully in other countries, they will be introduced here, either by the government or by the big chain stores. Why should the government not benefit from the charge and at the same time protect the consumer and the environment?

* Paper bags

Edible Carry Out Bags	<p>Plastic shopping bags are an environmental nightmare. There is no reason why carry out bags could not be made from a dehydrated food product, something along the lines of a grain wrap. When such a product is exposed to the environment it would quickly deteriorate or serve as food for birds. The Newfoundland and Labrador provincial government should be the first to spearhead such an initiative.</p>	The importance of this idea is self evident.	crunchtime	2016-01-27T10:13:47-04:30	2	4
Efficiencies	<p>Even though the NLTA expresses concern about classroom sizes; Corner Brook Regional High School has classes with 5 and 6 students. There are much larger class sizes but a number of classes have very low numbers. How is this justified?</p>	Efficiency	Doreen	2016-01-27T10:16:13-04:30	3.571428571	7

STARS - Right now a Post with 1 5-Star rating scores higher than a Post with 50 5-star ratings and 1 4-star.

COMMENTS - Comments (either pos or neg) are only driving us to the most debated Posts, which is often simply the most divisive. That's not helpfull when we need solutions now.

KEEP IT SIMPLE - If LIKES (Even "don't likes") works for Facebook then just go with it. At least then with one click I can see what is the most poular idea. I can still click on most commeted to see what's being hotly debated.

Right now all i can see is 1) what's being commented (argued) about and 2) what's new and still hasn't got anything but 5 stars yet. The firsts 4 start, or less drives your idea to the bottom.

Fix This Rating System or We will Lose Any Value

Pleas Fix it so that it has a chance

Halfway

2016-01-27T10:28:35-04:30

3.25

4

Currently agencies, boards and commission have their own IT staff, policies and procedures. They all have managers, staff, duplicaiton of equipment, servers, data centers, contracts, etc.

To save moeny, improve services and increase governemnt efficiency.

It's crazy. The Office of the CIO was created by Danny Williams to fix this problem, yet here we are in 2016 with a disfunctional IT system in government.

All government departments, agencies, boards and commissions should be managed and operated by one IT department.

We are so far behind the times with technology, one only has to look at how it is managed to realize the problem. Shared services model is used within most enterprise today. Even the federal government has embarked on such. The USA governments have been using this model for 20 years.

Consolidate
Information
Technology
Departments into
the OCIO

One IT department will lower costs, save taxpayers moeny, improve services, improve backup and recovery options and overall, benefit everyone in the province.

rantandroar

2016-01-27T10:35:09-04:30

3

4

Merge all Health Boards into one effective Health Authority to save costs and duplication of roles and services. Diversify services throughout the province to improve health care.

If schools boards can be amalgamated why not health? It makes no sense to have duplicate management in four health boards, all operating in silos of each other, with different contracts for cleaning, supplies, etc. A patient should have one health record, not 4 or 5, as is the case now. Information Technology services are duplicated in every health board - crazy. Technology is not being used effectively in our province.

Savings can only be achieved through reduction of duplication and costs.

Get with the times!

One Provincial Health Authority

rantandroar

2016-01-27T10:36:41-04:30

3.91666667

12

Money

[See All Ideas](#) [Add an Idea](#)

Necessary Efficiencies within Public Service	Independent internal reviews of Government Departments and Agencies are necessary. Instead of initiating general, ad hoc budget cuts, every program, service and position needs to be reviewed as to their relevance and necessity in today's economy.	A starting point for cost reductions and efficiencies.	Myviews	2016-01-27T12:29:24-04:30	3.875	8
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Diagnostic Services - Healthcare	<p>I feel that this is a sector of the health system that can be innovated and have private involvement. One example is ultrasound technology and how a lot of these non-emergency appointments and check-ups, can be done through a private practice and take some pressure off the public side of healthcare. Ultrasound can also involve Cancer detection, and when it comes to Cancer, some people just don't want to wait, and the more options, the better. This of course applies to CT, MRI, Xray, etc etc.</p>	<p>It can both be a "Government Savings Issue" and a "way to diversify the economy" by starting up new business.</p>	Holly23	2016-01-27T13:09:49-04:30	3.5	8
Consolidate departments related to Child Support	<p>I currently pay child support in which my child is over the age of majority , holds a fulltime job and lives on their own. Trying to have support payments discontinued has been a nightmare. Through it all I've had to deal with Advanced Education and Skills (AES), the Department of Justice and Public Safety Support Enforcement Office and the Family Division of the supreme court. From what ive been through and all of the communication ive had, my only conclusion is that all of these departments have a lack of oversight and do not collaborate with each other, making the whole process extremely frustrating.</p>	<p>Fix this and save Child Support Creditors the hassle and stress and eliminate these duplicate roles that do nothing but cause misery and incompetence.</p>	worldfamous	2016-01-27T14:43:07-04:30	3.5	2

Close small community hospitals	<p>Just over 500000 people cannot support all of the medical facilities we have in place. Create regionalized hospital, close hospitals in small communities. We cannot expect (or afford) immediate medical for all that ails us in every corner of the Province.</p>	<p>Nearly 50 % of provincial budget is spent on health care, meaning a 50% share of deficit. The harsh reality is our health care expectations are too high, our health care costs per capita is too high and we simply cannot afford it!!!!</p>	Hardchoices	2016-01-27T16:48:04-04:30	3.4	10
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money saved.

There are literally thousands of government vehicles being maintained by private garages - don't forget ATV's, skidoos, boats, and trailers. This is a huge expense and it is not uncommon to see prices inflate when a government vehicle pulls up.

Mechanics on staff with WST can be performing this maintenance for \$25-30/hour while private garages are charging \$75+ and dealership \$125+

WST has bulk buying power, enabling common parts to be purchased cheaper through standing offers.

This idea will allow cost saving and efficiencies through the reestablishment of preventative maintenance programs.

It will undoubtedly mean the hiring of a few mechanics but the saving will outweigh the costs. These hirings will allow the expansion of apprenticeship training programs that could be cost shared with the Federal Government

Maintenance for government vehicles is currently done by private garages while Department of Transportation has it's own mechanics on staff. Keep the maintenance inhouse.

Highways mechanics to maintain all government vehicles

Hardchoices

2016-01-27T17:04:50-04:30

3.55555556

9

Turn down the heat	<p>One simple way to save money would be to turn down the heat a few degrees in all government buildings. People may be a little unconvinced by having to wear a sweater but, if in the long run it saves a few jobs and helps to maintain the quality public of services I'm all for it. It may seem small but over time these saving will acculmulate and make a bigger impact.</p>	<p>My idea is important because it's simple and achieveable and has little to no impact on the quality of services. If the governement made many simple easy changes like this to save money the saving would eventually accumulate making an impact. Every little but helps.</p>	Night	2016-01-27T19:42:42-04:30	3.75	8
remove every second lightbulb	<p>Energy consumption is a wasteful practice in most government offices. Far too many bulbs are installed to light office spaces and literally every second one could be removed. Also lights and heat are left on after hours. Have both on programmed settings. Have Works Services staff do building rounds to check heat settings, lights and perform sercuity checks</p>	<p>Reduces wastage</p>	Hardchoices	2016-01-27T20:00:55-04:30	3.777777778	9
Declining scale of serverance	<p>Just as severance increases with years of servic, have it decline with each year an employee stays beyond eligibility foe non-reduced pension</p>	<p>Encourages retirement when eligible and therefore workforce downsizing through attrition. Reduces pay out off sick leave often associated with an older workforce</p>	Hardchoices	2016-01-27T20:04:35-04:30	3.666666667	6
Sick leave convertable to pensionable time	<p>Upon reaching eligibility for non-reduced pension any unused sick leave be converted to pensionable service</p>	<p>Savings realized by encouraging employees not to abuse sick leave.</p>	Hardchoices	2016-01-27T20:08:48-04:30	3.222222222	9

When departments need to survey large tracks of land, rivers, old mines, logging roads, small scale air photo jobs...ect the could use drones. They are starting to use them, but more common use could do a lot.

Normally we are using Helicopter charters or contracts for Airplanes, these are still required for large scale work, like airphotos or pesticides.

However, for smaller scale surveying and work the use of drones would be a huge advantage. I think some departments already own drones that could be utilized for this work.

It would also be cost effective to outsource this work, it would be less labor intensive when surveying remote sites.

There is a number of different types of data the drones can return. The drones have ability to collect infrared, different frequencies, video, gps...ect this data can be linked into and processed in various

computer models. We have access to the programs and people who can do this work. If we own them, we should use them more often.

Use Drones Instead of Helicopters and Airplanes

GeoffStarling

2016-01-28T01:16:21-04:30

3.714285714

7

The process of submitting paper forms for Leave and needing wet signatures is cumbersome and prone to error.

Make the process more efficient by instituting an electronic timekeeping system like R12. If I need time off, I could fill the form online and have it forwarded to supervisors/managers as required. Then we would also have 'live' reports on leave remaining.

Less paperwork can result in a more responsive and efficient government.

Electronic/Online
Leave System

zero33

2016-01-28T09:03:49-04:30

3.8

10

The Transparency and Accountability Act requires 150 or so classified entities within government to prepare a three year plan and to table an annual report. Each department has a planning division with five or six people which reviews the documents prepared by the entities before they do to the Transparency and Accountability Office for further review. The reports and plans are then approved by the Minister for public release. The whole process is a colossal waste of resources and energy. All told there are about 150 people who busy themselves with these documents.

All but 40 or so classified entities are very small, so called, category III entities that typically review applications, have no budget or offices and are run by volunteer board members. I sincerely doubt that anyone ever reads their plans or reports. It is a waste of time to prepare them. I propose that government eliminate the requirement to report on these organizations.

Government
Strategic Plans and
Reports

Having separate departmental policy shops is inefficient. Staff with the Executive Council Transparency and Accountability Office work

This idea will improve efficiency and save resources.

LetsBeRealNL

2016-01-28T09:25:16-04:30

1.8

5

Ferries Reduction	<p>Most of us live on the island part of our province. We really need to concentrate our population on the main land masses of the province and get people off the off shore islands so that we can get rid of the operating and replacement costs of the ferries. The only ferry we should be operating is the actual ferry between Newfoundland and Labrador.</p>	<p>This will substantially decrease a large cost to our tax dollars both for the operation and the replacement costs for our ferries. It is much better to service our citizens in more concentrated areas of the province.</p> <p>It will take less tax dollars and would provide netter services if we were in fewer, more concentrated areas.</p>	nlsuggestion	2016-01-28T09:56:36-04:30	3.95	20
Make and utilize granite culverts	<p>Instead of using metal and or plastic culverts on highways and roads use granite!</p> <p>the Nfld railway used granite quarried from the gaff topsails as culvert material and it is still in excellent shape !</p> <p>Encourage private enterprise to mine and cut granite and this would create jobs , quarries could be opened in various areas of the province to supply granite to the Dept of Transportation for culverts.</p> <p>with today's technology it would be relatively easy to cut granite slabs and construct square culverts for roads and high ways.</p>	<p>This would mean a saving of millions of dollars over the next few decades and provide jobs for more people.</p> <p>the only problem with this idea at present would be the outrage from suppliers of metal and plastic culverts ! They know their product does not have the lifespan of granite as a matter of fact they depend on it to keep their business going !</p>	planter	2016-01-28T10:43:12-04:30	3.636363636	11

If can constantly monitor how we are doing then we are more empowered to improve. That's why we have speedometers in our cars and why our kids get midterm report cards rather than one at the end of the year when it's too late. There are many good ideas being posted here that could add up if there was a way to monitor the (and hold people accountable).

I think it would be helpful to see things like:

Average Wait Times: for ER, and Various services and procedures (Weekly or Monthly for every Hospital)

Number of Patients seen in each ER, etc

Department Division spending (Travel, Vehicles, Entertainment.)

Average Sick Days Taken by department or division (it's a sign of employee satisfaction and productivity)

Many studies have show that providing sufficient feedback on performance drives improvement.

Post Real-time Statistics on a Provincial Online Dashboard

Other can be added any time based on

Halfway

2016-01-28T11:16:41-04:30

3.66666667

3

Most people presume that major costs in health care can be eliminated by eliminating jobs. They do not consider the amount of overtime and sick time paid out due to poor management of human resources. For example health care would actually cost a lot less if they had the correct amount of employees to allow employees to take a day off when they want it, to go on vacation when they like, etc. When they don't have enough employees they cannot give days off so the people need to call in sick to do the things they need to do. Then the employer does not have coverage because their is not enough employees and they have to call in an employee on a double shift and pay 1.5 or 2 times the typical wages. In any other business the employer would adjust to the correct amount of employees and eliminate overtime but the health boards continue to pay overtime ontop of overtime. They also do not realize that the costs of making an employee dissatisfied is much more than giving them their vacation when they want to take it.

Have Public Service
Human Resources
Managed Correctly

Save Money

SteveO

2016-01-28T11:47:04-04:30

3.8

10

The last government committee to study Regional Government were absolutely astonished by the amount of "regional sharing" that existed between Local Service Districts and how cheaply and efficiently they could deliver services to their residents.

No over the top outlandish council offices, meetings, administrative salaries, municipal operating grants, taxation regimes, etc, etc...just community minded volunteers that worked together to get things done.

As for drain on the public coffers, any analysis of public funding, Provincial and Federal, to Municipalities versus LSD's will show the LSD's as the less cost option - no contest. You need only to go as far as the Municipal Operating Grants to find the evidence. These alone are more than the entire spending for LSD's....and I haven't mentioned gas tax rebates, capital expenditure grants, infrastructure grants, coast sharing arrangements, debt reduction programs, wage subsidies and the list goes on.....

Cost efficient delivery of services and money saved by elimination of Muncipal Operating Grants. Municipalities to adopt a fee for service model instead of relying on government handouts.

Eliminate Muncipal Operating Grants in favour of LSD's

Infrastructure in a municipality is never

Hardchoices

2016-01-28T13:56:28-04:30

3

6

The current system of governance is outdated-the duplication of councils/municipalities is expensive and inefficient. Most provinces have a county governance system that ensures all areas of the province are under legislated control.

In particular this province has a huge cabin/cottage population (I am one) that largely get away without making any contribution to government or municipalities. Most provinces have a system of property tax for seasonal properties. The current system of management by a Crown Lands Division is outdated and grossly inefficient.

Regional (County) Governance System.	The iintroduction of a county governance model has the potential to improve the management of our lands and in particular could tap into a sizeable revenue source.	Condo303	2016-01-28T16:08:27-04:30	3.142857143	7	
Tax Lottery Winnings	Newfoundlanders are big gamblers and we have had our share of big winners in various lotteries. The cost to introduce a 10% lottery tax would be negligible.	The minimal tax would be a revenue generator and create little backlash from winners.	Forshore	2016-01-28T16:24:08-04:30	3.5	8

sick pay	I believe before you can get a day for sick pay you should have to take a day on the dead to reduce the amount of abuse in the system , as well reduce the amount of sick time to 7 days a year similar to the private sector . It's like getting an extra 12 days holidays every year , make no wonder it is abused .	It could save hundreds of millions of dollars	wayne1956	2016-01-28T18:10:03-04:30	2.571428571	7
Eliminate Sick Leave Banking	Currently excessively abused for vacation and pre-retirement leave. Operate like private enterprise. Do study of average employee sick time, and set a policy that an employee gets up to that average amount, and after that it is time without pay.	Eliminates treating sick leave as an accumulated expense that essentially becomes a savings account. Also eliminates abuse of becoming the method of choice for time off when an employee is unable to get vacation or time off whenever they want it. Forces the use of group scheduling.	thinkoutofthebox	2016-01-28T18:12:52-04:30	3.142857143	14
Utilize Low Risk Prisoners as Volunteer Labour	Many organizations utilize volunteers to make their ventures successful. Why not utilize the prison system for such things as highway cleanup, park manicuring, assist churches maintain cemeteries (they could redirect those costs to other outreach programs or food banks). Surely there are many creative ways to have these folks contribute more to society in a positive way.	Service delivery at reduced costs.	thinkoutofthebox	2016-01-28T19:06:53-04:30	0	0

Right to Die legislation	Speed up the Right to Die Legislation so that the medical community can offer it as an alternative to expensive and degrading hospital admissions for long term care patients.	If enough people take advantage of this right then it will eventually decrease medicare costs.	Ideas	2016-01-29T05:27:01-04:30	3.909090909	11
Intercept Tax Refunds	If people are working full time and on social assistance, Government can at least recover a portion of the pyament by mandatory tax filing and interecpt of taxes towards assisatance costs.	It promotes equity	MrClarke	2016-01-29T07:41:19-04:30	1	2
Government pensions should be based on contributions / service	If two people work for 35 years they could both pay in exactly the same amount of contibutions. One person lucks into an "appointment" for their last three years and BANGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG the difference in pesnion payout could easily be 300%.	Equity / fairness	MrClarke	2016-01-29T07:45:09-04:30	2.142857143	7

Income Support
Legislation Change
re: employment

Change legislation to require individuals deemed employable, through an employability assessment, to search for employment while receiving income support. All individuals applying for income support should be required to have an employability assessment completed unless there is documentation provided to support a disability making someone unemployable for an extended period of time. AES has Employment Centres that provide the supports necessary to assist individuals in their education and employment goals.

Without this legislation, individuals have the right to say no to a referral to Employment Services. There are individuals receiving income support that are qualified to work in the service industry for example and are refusing to do so for various reasons. AES has incentives in place to assist those interested in working. Perhaps, the monetary incentives, such as keeping \$150 per month plus 20% of income earned could be increased. Although this would be an increase in the budget, this would be offset by the reduction of income support issued, as the individual returning to work would receive a supplement to income support as opposed to the full entitlement.

butterfly

2016-01-29T15:10:40-04:30

3.857142857

7

Our population is changing it is aging. Our health care system has to adapt as our population changes. We need less acute care beds and more long term care beds. It would be more economical to use existing infrastructure than build new.

The Stephenville Hospital could be transformed into a long term care facility.

Gander and Grand Falls does not require two hospitals when one considers the close geographic area and number of people. Renovate one to become a long term care facility.

Our population is changing it is aging. Our health care system has to adapt as our population changes. We need less acute care beds and more long term care beds. It would be more economical to use existing infrastructure than build new.

Long Term Care Solution

bearcat

2016-01-29T15:38:36-04:30

2.25

4

The name of the province isn't Newfoundland. The name of the province is Newfoundland and Labrador. Labrador has contributed a significant revenue to provincial coffers through resource development and extraction including; Voisey's bay, iron ore, and upcoming Muskrat Falls. Also the province claims the oil and other resources off the coast of Labrador which is a significant length.

As the economy falters it remains incumbent upon the government to continue to recognize that contribution; past, present and future. Services and works provided in Labrador should not be consolidated and delivered from St. John's. Labrador must have a full and complete variety of jobs and services which support a complex and complete community. Labrador should not become a bucket of resources that are extracted to pay for jobs in St. John's.

One of the ways that the province will consider in saving money is to centralize and consolidate. But tasks and work and services associated with Labrador should stay in Labrador.

Labrador works and services stay in Labrador

abc

2016-01-29T18:05:50-04:30

2.333333333

3

Health care is one of our largest expenditures. These costs could be cut considerably if we start taking care of people before they get sick.

Currently our hospitals, doctors and resources are being used to treat the very sick. At s cost considerably higher than if they were diagnosed and treated earlier .

Watching/listening to medical programs I often hear of a number of tests and screenings we should be getting st various stages of our lives from childhood through to our senior years. These are often not even mentioned by our primary care physicians (if you are lucky to have one). And if they are the wait list. . . well you know.

I would think finding pollop via a routine screening or an elevated indicator in a blood test would be far cheaper on our health care system, than rounds of chemo therapy , radiation and hospital stays . Compared an outpatient procedure and its bottom line cost to that of months of treatment when conditions are left undiagnosed and untreated.

This is important because our population is aging, health care costs are rising and education on lifestyle choices has produced slow results. Treat people before they get sick and their medical costs balloon for themselves and our budget.

In the long run health care will become more efficient as early intervention will produce healthier citizens and less illness.

Pro active rather than reactive health care

ReneePetten

2016-01-29T20:17:07-04:30

3.5

6

Years ago our province was riddled with fences. It suited well because our laws allowed domestic animals to roam. Matter of fact the laws still exist and are only curtailed by town and city bylaws. Most of these fences were intended to keep animal out, rather than in. Why anyone would put up a fence where something inside can't get out and something outside don't want in, boggles my mind. Such is the case of cemetery fences.

The province has a problem with moose accidents on the TCH. Churches have an abundance of chain link fencing (serving no purpose) and are desperately in need of funding. Make work programs help tap the federal E.I. program.

Trans Canada Highway Project	The government can easily fence the TCH with very little input.	This idea will make the TCH much safer and prevent the closing of churches.	crunchtime	2016-01-30T08:46:59-04:30	1	2
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getting our place on track	hi this is my idea of this goverment getting a mess that the pcs have left behine for mr Ball to face.first i would look at all the managers just with in health care system there is no need of all of what we got.streem line moter reg.and sell of the nl liquer corp.make nalcor alot smaller.all the best	to be able to enjoy this great place.	coombs	2016-01-30T16:23:30-04:30	2	3
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Eliminate call in by Doctors Office when lab / xray are fine	Why have MCP charged for a physician to tell a patient that blood tests or xrays were all fine. That wastes the doctors time, it wastes the patients time, it adds to the carbon imprint of transportation to/from the doctors office; it costs taxpayers money.	It would save money and free up physiican time to those matters requiring their attention. If the patient wants to talk over good blood tests or good xryas then I suppose waste the money.	MrClarke	2016-01-30T16:34:14-04:30	3.75	12
Does Government report all taxable benefits?	Fire Deputy Ministers who do not report taxable benefits. They are the "permanent heads" There is not enough time in a day for a Minister to figure out everything that is happening in a Department	Equity	MrClarke	2016-01-30T16:38:59-04:30	1	1
Expenses paid by fiscal agents / bankers	The ultimate "slush fund" in Government "could" be fiscal agents. They receive vast amounts of money for debt issue. Say 2.75% +/- off the top. Any borrowings by anything remotely connected (i.e. funded or funded under authority of) to Governemnt should come under the Minister of Finance. All expenses paid out by fiscal agents / bankers in conneciton with any official of Governemnt or its Agencies should be reported to the Minister of Finance.	Puts the responsibility for monitoring any abuses squarely with the Minister. Some of this stuff is judgement call and not totally black and white, but the political masters should be aware.	MrClarke	2016-01-30T16:45:39-04:30	0	0

science suggestions that solar, tidal, wind, and geothermal energy sources are in abundance. There is an opportunity to create multimodal energy farms throughout the province.

Speaking of farms - we need to move towards reducing our reliance on imported produce. How about a pilot whereby a portion of the province tries to produce enough of its own produce to reduce or eliminate imports.

The monetary system and its profit structure reduce our ability to maximize our scientific and technological knowledge. These in house diversifications could at least reduce people's financial exhaustion and fear.

our reliance on oil, and indeed the global monetary system itself, is not a sustainable concept: Oil is finite and all money is created out of debt. Community based projects that contribute to the collective good have the potential to unite people throughout the province and strengthen rural and remote parts of the province

resource
diversification

sebthon726

2016-01-30T17:02:04-04:30

3

2

Video Conferencing to replace face-to-face meetings.

Most meetings politicians and bureaucrats attend can be conducted via video conference. Eliminates much of the travel costs such as hotel rooms, kilometreage, flights, and so on.

Video Conferencing

toeknee

2016-01-30T21:14:00-04:30

4.363636364

22

Innovation is a foreign concept in the public service	Managers, directors, etc. don't want to hear ideas. Now that we have a \$2 billion dollar deficit, they are all ears. However, we need innovation and a less archaic structure. Ideas should be celebrated. Instead, people get shot down and then learn to NOT give ideas anymore.	Foster innovation and provide bonuses for staff that innovate and create efficiencies.	commoncents	2016-01-30T22:35:16-04:30	3.333333333	3
Create secure websites for patients	Why do I need to go to the doctor to see results or my chart? Put it all online. Our banking is online and everything else. We need to have self-service options. Maybe I can ask for a refill online and then the doctor approve it and send to pharmacy electronically.	Because medicine is in the dark ages (in Canada). In the USA, technology is incredible because hospitals are for-profit and must innovate.	commoncents	2016-01-30T22:39:25-04:30	3	3
10 year drivers license	If you can get a passport for 10 years, why is the Drivers License for 5 years?	Save money	commoncents	2016-01-30T22:40:14-04:30	3.666666667	3
Hunting Age	The huntage in Newfoundland is currently 18 yrs of age! I prepose that this be changed to age 16 like most if not all provinces in Canada! This would premote tourism in Newfoundland for many hunters and their children as they currently go to other provinces to hunt as their children cant use firearms in Newfoundland!	This change would follow all other provinces, cause an influx of hunters to contribute to our local economy and premote hunting in our youth!	NLjacoboy	2016-01-31T00:18:25-04:30	2.333333333	6

Communication & Power Poles	<p>Our coastline scenery is being compromised by poles and wire. In most cases poles are placed on the sloping side of the road toward the water. It creates an eye sore and plays havoc with tourist sights.</p> <p>The government should look at ways to eliminate this and prevent its continuance. Any and all new pole locations should be at the discretion of the government. Fines should be applied to newly placed nuisance poles that could otherwise have been placed obscure.</p>	<p>This would improve our scenery thus adding to our tourism sights.</p>	crunchtime	2016-01-31T12:02:38-04:30	1.333333333	3
All Unions Approach Gov't to extend existing Contracts	<p>All Unions (NAPE, NLTA, NLNU, CUPE) should approach government with the option to extend existing contracts for two years.</p>	<p>It is a show of good faith on the part of the unions and it allows government to focus on the deficit. Why waste time trying to negotiate a contract when there is nothing left ot give.</p>	CommonMan709	2016-01-31T13:55:29-04:30	3.5	6
Automated Pharmacists	<p>The technology is there and we don't need to pay \$80k or more for someone to count pills. Of course, with new medications or complex cases, you can still consult with a pharmacist in real life.</p> <p>http://www.manrex.com/en/pharmacists-medication-dispensing-systems.cfm</p>	<p>Saves money.</p>	commoncents	2016-01-31T14:37:35-04:30	3.666666667	3

With the oldest population in the province,
 how can we not use technology to lower the
 cost?

<http://www.virtualhomecareinc.com>

Virtual Homecare	Saves money.	commoncents	2016-01-31T14:41:32-04:30	5	1	
REDUCE HOLIDAYS AND ANNUAL LEAVE	REDUCCE ANNUAL LLEAVE BY 5 DAYS FOR EVERY SINGLE PUBLIC SERVE EMPLOYEE.aLSO REDUCE STATUARY HOLIDAYS BY 2	IT WILL CUT STAFF AND WAGES	moonman	2016-01-31T17:07:46-04:30	1.5	8
IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL FOR ANYONE CAUGHT STEALLING	TO MUCH THEFT IN GOVERNMENT.IF SOMEONE STEALS GIVE THE PERSON A LIMITED HEARING AND IF FOUND GUILTY FIRE AT ONCE.	TO MUCH CATCH ME IF YOU CAN IN GOVERNMENT	moonman	2016-01-31T17:11:19-04:30	2.75	4
NO MORE PAY WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION	SOME PEOPLE ARE PUT ON PAID LEAVE WHEN SUSPENDED AND STAY THERE UNTILL SUSPENSION IS FOUND TO BE CORRECT.It is a farce	save mooney	moonman	2016-01-31T17:13:46-04:30	1.6	5
do not hire summer students	no need to hire summer stuudents as most do nothing anyway.	money saver	moonman	2016-01-31T17:15:14-04:30	3	15

cut janitorial staff	offices in many places do not require cleaning everyday	cuts maintenance staff and salaries or government contracts	moonman	2016-01-31T17:17:16-04:30	2	8
Forced Retirement	<p>Stop using retirement as a human rights issue. People that are at the age of retirement should let go and allow for the next generation to provide for their families. It should never be a human rights issue in the first place if we all have to go through that process. Right now I see alot of older people working that can retire but will not let go while younger people with families barly get by or have to go out of provience to work. Or just being on welfare or part time jobs and the government have to help them anyway. People need to get off the high that the place won't run without them cause there is replacements for everyone. Most of these people are very high pay cause they have been there forever and sometimes it is managment running people with more education they they got.... Just a thought ...think of our future generations that are just waiting to be older to get a full time job to provide for their families.... they need to enjoy their families while there young not be able to provide when their kids are moved out.</p>	Think	Concerned	2016-01-31T17:48:34-04:30	4.0625	16

As more and more services are able to be offered through electronic means (for example over the internet or through technology kiosks), the Government should look at ways to accelerate the adoption of IT capabilities to strengthen its' Digital capabilities in support of how it offers services. This will enable services to be provided more cost effectively and support regional centers where people who do not have access to technology can go to avail of the services. To do this however means that the IT group has to adopt a more agile approach to how it delivers projects otherwise it will be too late to gain any benefit from it. Multi year large scale IT projects do not work well - majority run over time and over budget and do not result in the expected benefits.

More and more people are becoming comfortable with technology for how they access services and by adopting a more aggressive move to Digital services, the Government can reduce costs and support a reduction in the public sector through an attrition based model.

Adopting a Digital Service model

dpmt

2016-01-31T19:11:18-04:30

3.66666667

9

I've worked several contracts as a consultant with governments and private business all over Canada and never have I seen such a bloated bureaucracy of people playing the game of excessive meetings with little accomplishments. It is crazy how many people there in leadership positions have no IT experience and perform no hands on work - which is the norm in most businesses. A chief of surgery is a surgeon, a medical officer of health is an MD, how can leaders in an IT department rise to the top without massive amounts of Project Management experience and/or technical expertise. This lack of knowledge creates a continual cycle of meetings because few questions can be answered - the leaders are not the experts...WHAT. You got whole divisions of IM and IS filled with people with little to no experience in IT - fresh out of school with many degrees but no practical experience. Offer up privatisation of the OCIO and you will save millions. As in the rest of Canada this goes in cycles from private to government and back based on cost to deliver. The cost to deliver is at its maximum right now.

It will save millions of dollars and to be honest it upsets me to see how a department can build empires of bureaucracy at my expense, they actually have 4 executive parking spots for them--- where is in government is that even permitted.

Keep seniors in home and their communities longer currently home care represents light house keeping and is not sufficient in order for seniors stay longer the home care function and type of quality care has be enhanced offering access to medical physical structured care that will enhance this valuable service. The bar has to rise in the type of care offered and a more total balance approach adopted. This if done correctly will allow seniors to stay in their homes longer and be much more cost effective. I propose partnering with federal government to develop a more all in service. It's important not only from savings perspective but as well quality of life issue for our most vulnerable people who have built this province and this country.

Keep seniors home longer all in approach

Would reduce cost of long term care enhance lives of an aging population. Not enough to hire people to do light housework in order stay home seniors need more.

Thinker

2016-02-01T07:40:08-04:30

4

8

Please consider reducing Government travel. This could save hundreds of thousands or Millions. We now have telecon. available. Is it really needed that Minister travel so much across the country and world when we could be doing these this via Teleconferencing? Ministers norally do not travel alone they have aides deputy ministers etc. Totally unneccary in this day and age. For example minister travels to Ottawa to discuss Green House gas, this could be done just as will via teleconferenceing there is NO NEED for the minister and his/her entourage to travel to Ottawa for this. We could have saved thousands just by teleconferencing???

My idea is important because it has the potential to save a lot of money when we are dealing with this deficit.

Government Travel

gilnet

2016-02-01T07:55:19-04:30

4.1875

16

Eliminate the 13 week hire in government.

This is how politicians and senior bureucrats hire their favourites. They are allowed to hire anyone they want, with no competition, on a 13 week contract. Then when they advertize a vacancy, the person who's already there and has "experience" gets the job.

Eliminate waste - nothing of value gets done in these 13 week periods from largely unqualified and inexperienced new employees. Establish fairness in hiring - no unfair advantages for people who are connected to politicians or senior bureaucrats.

Binky

2016-02-01T08:10:23-04:30

4.125

16

Enforcement of laws and court work cost plenty. In many cases it is a necessary evil. In other cases it is a nuisance that just benefits the lawyers. Anyone with a grain of sense should take a look at the court dockets to see the backlog and put in an appearance in court. You will find crown lawyer fighting defence lawyer and if the defence lawyer happens to be from legal aid, its all on the government's shoulders.

The government should take a hard look at the petty laws on the books and do some housecleaning. A typical example...Mrs. Brown has a moose license. She's in the draw because the government has made it difficult for people to obtain a license, even though the province has a moose population problem. She doesn't have the heart or skills to kill a moose. Mr. Brown, on the other hand, is well qualified and does the job for her. The poor buggar gets a \$5000. fine, loses a vehicle and an ATV and the right to hunt for 5 years and some consider this to be justice. Get real.

Save money, save face.

The province's ability to move people and goods in and out of NL is highly inefficient. Our road systems are breaking down due to the large volume of trucks transporting goods from Port aux Basque to St. John's. Flights are often delayed due to weather events (fog and snow storms). Similarly, the ferry from North Sydney to Port aux Basque is often delayed or canceled due to high winds. Others on this website, have already suggested toll booths and dedicated truck highways, both excellent ideas to increase shipping efficiency while recovering income for construction and road maintenance. There is probably not much we can do about the flight cancellations, although we can hope that the new ILS system will alleviate that problem. With regard to the ferry cancellations and delays, we could introduce a "relatively" easy solution; a ferry service between Port Belledune, NB and Corner Brook. Both harbours are better sheltered from the open sea, eliminating cancellations and delays, and they are much better equipped to handle truck traffic. In addition, the Corner Brook Harbour provides a larger variety of services to passengers (tourists) and trucks departing the ferry. Could we

Introducing this solution would increase the overall efficiency of passenger (tourist) traffic and the supply of goods on and off the island. If we are going to diversify and grow our economy we must make it easier and more efficient to move people and goods to the rest of the Canada and the world. Combining this one step with further improved industrial harbour construction and the introduction of Free Trade Zones (also mentioned on this website) would establish essential transportation linkages to the outside world.

Improve
Transportation
Linkages (New Ferry
Crossing)

The gov't of NL should examine Alternative Service Delivery and Commissioning as options to maintain public services, while increasing the overall performance

Key areas of focus should be aimed at front line service delivery and examining the role and footprint of gov't. Services should be maintained, but how they are delivered, and by whom, is a more important discussion. Other jurisdictions in Canada and around the world have shown that partnership with the not-for-profit and for-profit sectors, as well as other levels of gov't can yeild significant fiscal savings and improve overall service outcomes.

This is a very important strategic conversation to have in consultation with all stakeholders in NL. Depending on the model and procurement approach taken, this can serve to monetize non-core gov't assets for re-investment into other priority areas (health / education) and can also lower the overall cost of service delivery.

Examine Alternative Service Delivery Models

Concerned_Citize 2016-02-01T15:50:35-04:30

3.66666667

3

Keep the politicians out of the day to day running of departments. Let them run the province and let Deputy Ministers run the departments. Too many things like recruitment, travel, minor expenditures, etc need the approval of the ministers, which slow things down considerably. Deputy Ministers are paid enough to be entrusted with making decisions that are aligned with government's mandate for each department and minister. And if they fail to do a good job, then replace them, but don't let Ministers get in the weeds on operational stuff. They should have far bigger things to concern themselves with, it's inefficient and makes trivial decisions take forever, plus most of them have never worked in a place like government, so their decisions on the small stuff are often misguided attempts to exert their control over matters they have no understanding of. Let the Deputies do what they are paid to do.

If the Ministers are going to manage the day to day stuff and involved themselves in unimportant decisions, then why have the Deputies there at all? The Deputies are for the most part intelligent, qualified dedicated staff who have the expertise and wisdom to make informed decisions. So allowing ministers to play a role in things like hiring, getting permission for an employee to drive to a meeting in another town and spending small amounts of money is redundant, making a slow bureaucracy even slower and opening up opportunities for abuses of power to occur.

Political and public service separation

realitychecknl100 2016-02-01T20:16:45-04:30

3.5

4

Government needs to get serious about scrutinizing its end-of-the-fiscal-year spending. "Hurry-up spending" and the "use-it-or-loose-it" mentality is entrenched in NL government. Year-end spending surges have been well documented in pockets across all line departments.

Take firm and sustainable measures to control "anomalous" year-end spending. Although "excess funds" are sometimes re-profiled effectively, money is often squandered on low-priority items (rather than "giving it back"). Clearly there are major inefficiencies in current budgeting process.

Permit a simple rollover of spending into the subsequent year; take a serious look at two-year budget periods. Providing a simple means for branches to roll over balances to a second year will encourage them to save money rather than spend it.

But as long as future budgets are based in part on whether a branch or division exhausts its resources in the current fiscal year, there will be a strong incentive for

It can help save money, improve efficiency, and rectify a long-recognized problem within all government departments and ABCs. It rewards divisions and branches that have found ways to save money by effective program delivery during a fiscal year.

Year-end spending surges: the "use-it-or-loose-it" mentality

crasesnoster

2016-02-01T21:33:27-04:30

4.052631579

19

If you follow the trend in the private sector which is where 80% of the workforce is employed, and you will see that defined pension plans are colapsing. A contributionary pension plan which is the plan of choice because the employee agrees to contribute and the employer agrees to contribute and the employee then manages their retirement path. The key consideration here is liability. The government is on the hook currently for ensuring each public servant ends thier career with a percentage of thier top salary in the last number of years in their work, regardless of the pension pot of funds. With the declining markets this task has become a severe liability on the tax payer having to fund defeciencies of the pension plan. This is why private enterprise cannot afford to offer the same luxury to its employees, and why we have created a system where 80% of the workforce is supporting the pensions of public servants.

Here is an example. assume a public servant starts work at 24 years old with a salary of \$50,000. The employment contract states they pay 6% of their salary into the government pension plan, and the

This is bold but we should be thinking about our kids and grandkids future and not just our own. We are short term thinkers with short term solutions. Our resources will not be around forever, espicially the way in which we are mishandling them. Lets make wise, fair, decisions.

Discontinue the Defined Pension Plan

Blazer18

2016-02-02T10:19:35-04:30

3

4

The Newfoundland and Labrador Government currently has some departments with overlapping roles.

Here are some examples of government departments with duplicate roles:

1. Fisheries and Aquaculture, Natural Resources, and Environment and Conservation.
2. Advanced Education and Skills, "Seniors, Wellness, and Social Development", Education and Early Childhood Development, and Health and Community Services.
3. Transportation and Works, and Service NL

Here are the related new government departments:

1. Fisheries and Aquaculture, Natural Resources, and Environment and Conservation should be merged to become "Department of Natural Resources, Environment, and Conservation".
2. Advanced Education and Skills, "Seniors, Wellness, and Social Development",

Merging government departments or creating some government departments that provide relevant services will help reduce government department duplication, provide services more efficiency, reduce role overlapping, and reduce redundancy.

Merge Related Government Departments

NLMoose

2016-02-02T13:38:06-04:30

4.296296296

27

Consult with the
Canadian Centre for
Policy Alternatives

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives has a lot of experience doing alternative budgets. Their emphasis will not be on the kind of mega project solutions that leave us totally dependent on outside forces beyond our control.

Past governments seem to have listened to only one voice - that of big business. Look where it has got us. We need to have a thorough exploration of diverse points of view about how to rescue our economy.

MarilynReid

2016-02-02T13:40:31-04:30

4.66666667

6

There is no easy fix to our fiscal situation. Raising taxes has implications, cutting costs has greater implications. Eventually Muskrat Falls may provide revenues to fix our situation, or perhaps oil will rebound and ease our worries, but ultimately there is no easy fix and no reliable time table.

One way to mitigate the risk of our residents falling victim to the poor economy, is to better educate our youth as to steps to take to ensure employment in the ever changing job market, and how to better handle their money and their future.

I grew up in the province. Went through one of the biggest high schools located in the province, and ultimately came out of high school with little knowledge of university programs, trades, what jobs were in demand, what jobs were readily available in the province, etc. I had no idea what taxes were, I had no idea how a mortgage worked, and investments/mutual funds/RRSPs were completely foreign to me.

Because our youth are thrust into the real world with zero education of basic money management and how to set themselves up for success versus failure in a world where job markets and economies are so volatile.

Better Educate the Youth of Province

I went on to graduate from MUN and now deal with all of the above items every single

Winsor

2016-02-02T16:14:53-04:30

3.88888889

9

Removing the Appeal Board process would save huge costs at both the provincial and municipal level, speed up the appeal process, and remove a whole bunch of politically appointed positions.

Have an arm of the provincial Auditor's office research appeals. Get rid of the cost, staff and beauracry of the Appeal Boards. Remove the Appeal Boards which are a venue to appoint political buddies. The actual purpose of the appeal (which is to review procedure) doesn't require an Appeal Board.

Municipally issued permits can be appealed to multiple Appeal Boards appointed all across the province. The process of an Appeal is only to review procedure and see if the municipality followed the legislated rules. Give Appeals to an arms-length, objective office like the Auditor to simply check if processes were done properly. The cost savings would be huge.

Appeal Boards are in each region of the province and have several appointed members (appointed by the government in power). There is provincial staff (based in St. John's) and beauracracy as well as hotel/flight/food costs everytime an Appeal Board meets,,, which is 3 or 4 times a year. Yet all a Board looks at is whether the municipality followed the steps laid out in legislation. So essentially all that they do is go through a check list of whether the municipality followed a set process. We don't need groups of appointed government buddies all across the province (along with staff, beauracracy and costs) to do that.

The auditor's office is arms length and objective. The auditor's office can quickly; contact the municipality, gather the information (applicaitons, permits and minutes), compare with legislated requirements, and reach a conclusion. Either; abc

Replace Appeal
Boards with Auditor

2016-02-02T18:36:50-04:30

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Identify Small Changes with Big Impact	<p>LEAN thinking can be applied to government departments and services to find efficiencies. By eliminating waste, big impacts can be made. Instead of proposing sweeping cuts to programs and services for most vulnerable, look at how things can be done differently. Can two small divisions (less than five people) be combined into one (saving a Director position)? Is there ways to delegate decisions closer to the issues (so do not need to be caught in red tape and briefing notes for relatively simple issues)? Can program review be completed with all levels at same table so issues are heard and understood by all (resulting in a better end product rather than mandated change)? A LEAN approach from the top to frontline staff would be more effective and efficient in the longer term than getting caught up in cuts completed with out a strategic approach and minimize impacts.</p>	<p>Taking a LEAN approach helps to cut the waste and controls red tape to get the organization working efficiently and effectively. This approach will also help reduce duplication and ensure all staff are working more effectively towards a common goal.</p>	hmr1993	2016-02-02T21:08:40-04:30	3.75	4
Government needs make big changes in policy and management practices	<p>Comments on this site of Facebook social media and use of Internet for personal reasons and even shopping well let's say time for all government agencies including crown corporations to revamp policies. Large savings in time and resources to be realized and why in name of god if this is happening are the managers who allow it still employed by us!</p>	<p>Increase productivity decrease size public service and enhance service levels to all simple as that</p>	Thinker	2016-02-03T09:12:01-04:30	3.75	4

1. In the Northeast Avalon, there are four municipalities in one hub (St. John's, Mount Pearl, Paradise, Conception Bay South). This means four mayors, four town clerks, four town/city halls and numerous other duplication of services, equipment and infrastructure. One city, like the GTA, would reduce inefficiencies and duplication. This can only be achieved through provincial leadership as the municipalities will never agree.

2. Further, there should be a new fiscal arrangement with municipalities and citizens which shares the tax burden fairly. People in communities with no municipal government rely on the Province for what would otherwise be municipal services. People in municipalities with municipal governments pay for their own municipal services through municipal taxes and for the municipal services of others through their provincial taxes. This is unfair and could be rectified by a provincial household tax for each household in the province which is then

Duplication is a waste.

Make Municipalities redistributed to each of the municipalities on
More Efficient, More a per capita basis. So, 90% of the population
Equitable lives in communities with municipal

Taxation should be equitable.

LynnMoore

2016-02-03T12:17:04-04:30

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2

In 1977 the provincial government brought in legislation to address land claims. That legislation set 1957 as the year beyond which an individual could squat and obtain title to crown land. Today there are many cabins and shacks along railbeds and next to ponds in this province without authority to be there. The government does not charge these squatters for use.

The government should bring this under control. Give these people an ultimatum to get out or get burned out. Then the government can start and maintain some order in the way lots are issued for sale and development.

This idea will mean control and added funds for government.

Enforce Existing Land Laws

WizardofOz

2016-02-03T13:30:57-04:30

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2

Recent outlooks show trades occupations are in decline- yet public and private training institutions are continually trying to attract people into "the boom". This is in part because government invests a lot of funding to the institutions and students - but so many people are out there trying to get the desperately needed work components to progress in their trade. Are the investments still required? Should government review its funding of trades? How many apprentices are progressing to journey person?

Government needs to refocus efforts more strategically than "in the trades". Institutions should be reactive to what demands are occurring in the economy rather than supporting a boom that has passed

Review Investments in Apprenticeship

hmr1993

2016-02-03T20:44:19-04:30

3.875

8

Only way to find savings in healthcare is to develop discrete event simulation model using system like Arena simulation. You need to collect data, plot and develop distributions, build model and then test different scenarios to find efficiencies. Sticky notes and idiot "lean" consultants cannot help complex systems like healthcare. You want to save money, start investigating the health care with use of science.

If you choose to ignore it you are an idiot. Developing a simulation model is hard, time consuming, technically challenging. It is also the only realistic way to analyse current system. Healthcare takes a lot of tax dollars. We have to find ways to ensure \$\$ spend is aligned with improving KPIs.

Simulation

yawyil

2016-02-03T22:08:49-04:30

3

2

Consolidate office space

Consolidate the number of Government offices around St. John's that are paying for rent. Is it possible to refurbish one or several of the vacant St. John's schools for office space? Plus, the refurbishment could be completed by government workers with Public Works Transtopation.

There would be a cost savings on rental space and the refurbishment would provide jobs.

Hopefull

2016-02-04T11:15:22-04:30

3.5

6

In the House of Assembly on Thursday, May 3rd, 2012, Minister Kennedy said that the government would only sanction the proposed Muskrat Falls project if it were in the best interest of the province.

And in an earlier letter to The Telegram, Mr. Gilbert Bennett (vice president of Nalcor) agreed that it is precisely because Newfoundland and Labrador needs a long-term vision for sustainable, renewable energy production that "Muskrat Falls is the best option to meet the province's energy needs".

Muskrat Falls, however, is not that vision.

The Muskrat Falls project is not a comprehensive, coherent vision --- it is a single, stand-alone project.

Muskrat Falls totally ignores the fact that Newfoundland and Labrador already has a fully paid for, sustainable, and renewable 5,200 megawatt (MW) Upper Churchill hydroelectric generation facility --- a facility that is already ours --- lock, stock and barrel, a facility that 29 years from now (by 2041) can provide this province with almost seven

Adjust the Muskrat Falls Project by completing the Labrador-Island Transmission Line while putting the much higher cost and higher risk Muskrat Falls dams/generation facility on hold.

"No more giveaways"

adamsmaurice

2016-02-04T13:39:23-04:30

5

1

Reduce politician salaries. Why target the public sector when MHA salaries have continously risen over the past twenty years?

REDUCE POLITICIAN SALARIES

Politicians are overpaid.

oakley

2016-02-04T14:54:52-04:30

3.666666667

3

STOP SUBSIDIZING FOREIGN STUDENTS	Stop subsidizing Memorial University and thereby affording foreign students cheaper education at the cost of the well-being of locals. Stop the international student tuition freeze.	Stop the international student tuition freeze at MUN. They can afford to pay more. Why are we subsidizing the tuition of non-Canadians who will simply use us for our cheap tuition and leave?	oakley	2016-02-04T14:56:44-04:30	3.4	5
ROBOTIC SNOW CLEARING	INSTALL ROBOTIC SNOW CLEARING PLOWS THAT WILL WORK 24/7 WITH LITTLE TO NO MAINTENANCE REQUIRED.	BECAUSE HAVING ROBOTIC SNOW CLEARING WILL ELIMINATE JOBS AND SAVE MONEY \$\$\$	oakley	2016-02-04T14:58:17-04:30	1	2
RESETTLE BELL AND FOGO ISLANDS	Resettle Bell Island to the mainland island of NL.	That place is costing us a fortune. Most of the people who live there don't even work. Why are we continuously subsidizing places like these - using expensive helicopters and planes to transport people when the ferries break down?	oakley	2016-02-04T15:00:58-04:30	3.461538462	13
CANCEL MUSKRAT FALLS	Cancel Muskrat Falls.	Time to shut it down. It will only get worse from here on in.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:02:01-04:30	4.111111111	9
ALLOW TWO-TIER HEALTHCARE	Time to allow two-tier healthcare in this province. The province must actively facilitate the creation of a separate private healthcare industry in Newfoundland.	Doing so will reduce the cost of the public healthcare system and free up funds for those who still utilize the public healthcare system.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:04:23-04:30	2.777777778	9

NATIONALIZE THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY	Nationalize the oil and gas industry. Expropriate existing operations and take sovereignty over our resources.	Because Newfoundlanders pay too much for gas at the pumps. Nationalizing the oil and gas industry would allow Newfoundlanders to truly benefit from our resources; rather than allowing the present status-quo to continue - the oil companies get rich off the backs of Newfoundland and line the pockets of the St. John's Elite.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:07:25-04:30	1	2
TAX OIL COMPANIES	Tax them more than what they are presently being taxed.	Because we're broke.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:08:53-04:30	5	7
RE-CONSTRUCT THE NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY	REINSTATE THE NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY AND ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RAIL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR.	BECAUSE NEWFOUNDLAND COULD BE LEADERS IN RAIL TRAVEL AND DEVELOPMENT. THE PRESENT TRUCKING SYSTEM IS LACKING AND MILLIONS ARE LOST ANNUALLY DUE TO WEATHER DELAYS FROM THE FERRY.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:10:46-04:30	2.5	2
SLASH THE CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN	Slash the climate change action plan	We're out of cash	oakley	2016-02-04T15:12:37-04:30	3.4	5
CUT THE SALARIES OF THE General Government Sector and Legislative Branch	Cut the salaries of the General Government Sector and Legislative Branch	We need \$\$\$\$. Policitions and beaureaucrats are overpaid.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:14:00-04:30	2.875	8
IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY	IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY	NEED MORE FOOD SECURITY IN THIS PROVINCE	oakley	2016-02-04T15:15:53-04:30	3.4	5

ALLOW LAND ENDOWMENTS FOR AGRICULTURE	FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY IN NEWFOUNDLAND BY PROVIDING LAND FOR WOULD-BE AGRICULTURE ENTREPRENEURS.	FOOD SECURITY IS DANGEROUSLY POOR IN THIS PROVINCE	oakley	2016-02-04T15:16:56-04:30	3.714285714	7
STOP GIVING MONEY AWAY TO THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY	STOP GIVING MONEY TO THE CORRUPT AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY	THEY'RE CORRUPT, THEY DESTROY OUR ENVIRONMENT AND THE MONEY ONLY REALLY BENEFITS THE EXECUTIVES WITHIN THE COMPANIES.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:20:11-04:30	3.142857143	7
STOP SUBSIDIZING IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES	STOP SUBSIDIZING AND PAYING THE WAY FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES.	BECAUSE CANADIANS, MORE IMPORTANTLY NEWFOUNDLANDERS, SHOULD COME FIRST. FREE HEALTH CLINICS TO REFUGEES AND FILLING LIBRARIES WITH BOOKS WRITTEN IN ARABIC AND CHINESE SHOULD NOT BE GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES.	oakley	2016-02-04T15:24:17-04:30	2	7
TURN OFF THE LIGHTS AT NIGHT IN THE CONFEDERATION BUILDING	TURN OFF THE LIGHTS IN THE CONFEDERATION BUILDING AFTER DARK. CONSERVE.	#DARKNL	oakley	2016-02-04T15:26:40-04:30	3.666666667	6
CUT RNC SALARIES	CUT THE SALARIES OF THE RNC	CUT EM	oakley	2016-02-04T15:27:47-04:30	3.333333333	3
STOP FUNDING REPUBLIC OF DOYLE	STOP GIVING MONEY TO REPUBLIC OF DOYLE	THE SHOW IS HORRIBLE...	oakley	2016-02-04T15:33:12-04:30	1.8	5

Shorten School Year	Eliminate teacher PD days and shorten Christmas and Easter breaks. The same curriculum can be covered but schools could be closed 3-4 weeks earlier in the spring.	The less time the schools are opened, cleaned, staffed etc. the more money that could be saved.	BobTerwilliger	2016-02-04T17:06:01-04:30	2.6	5
Tax Childlessness	5% income tax for people aged 25-40 if they don't have children. People who are infertile would be excluded if they can prove it. People below a certain income would be excluded.	We have an aging population, as well as a decreasing birth rate. Tax people of reproductive age who don't have children, giving an incentive to have kids as well as raising tax revenue.	merica	2016-02-04T21:44:04-04:30	1.5	8
Prayer Vigil	We require a miracle to get us out of debt. Miracles happen with prayer. Why not set aside a time to make a unified effort to fix things with prayer?	It can help, nothing ventured, nothing gained.	oinkoink	2016-02-05T00:07:42-04:30	2.333333333	3

For those not familiar with Newfoundland and Labrador's "Opening Doors" Program, its a Newfoundland and Labrador Government initiative designed to get more persons with disabilities hired with various provincial government agencies, boards, commissions, crown corporations, and departments.

Ever since I enrolled in this program, one of the my biggest complaints is that majority of "Opening Doors" related positions are centred towards St. John's, and not other parts of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The other problem with the "Opening Doors" program is that many positions are temporary and not permanent.

Because many persons with disabilities, including myself, don't have the large financial resources to relocate to St. John's where majority of "Opening Doors" related positions are advertised, this problem creates a great barrier for persons with disabilities interested in working for the provincial public service.

To address this problem, the Newfoundland

Bringing more "Opening Doors" related positions to outside the Avalon Peninsula will ensure that persons with disabilities are better represented in the provincial public service.

Furthermore, bringing these positions to outside the Avalon Peninsula will reduce barriers to increasing disabled persons representation within the Newfoundland and Labrador Government.

Reform the
"Opening Doors"
Program To Make It
Less "Avalon
Centric"

NLMoose

2016-02-05T09:47:50-04:30

1

2

VOCM is used in government like a camel drinks water. Every department has it on daily and unless your story gets told, they ignore you via your letters and more formal process of engagement.

Government is tuned in completely to VOCM and that's the problem. Our province is being erated by what the socials say on the program. We confuse complaining activities with constructive actions.

Shut the radio station off - it's full of uneducated people and does not represent the greater populous, especially the educated and professional.

Turn it off so that government workers can actually be productive, instead of listning and chasing the culture of people on it like Paul Davis.

Government will be more efficient, effective and financially prudent for it.

Shutdown VOCM

rantandroar

2016-02-05T10:42:56-04:30

4.16666667

6

Facts

Bolivia unemployment 7.3% Central African Republic 8% Egypt 8.1% Iran 11.1% Ireland 8.9% Italy 11.3.% Jordan 11.9% Lebanon 10%

NEWFOUNDLAND 14.5%

Greece is just 10% higher then Newfoundland at 24.5% ...

We Need Pension Reform Government Salaries Reduced...Health Care and hospitals closed...

Government Auctions...

This is a Fire and it needs to be put out with a fire extinguisher, not left to burn out like Greece.

Do Not increase Income tax this will create a tax migration, to the mainland, people are leaving Greece faster then you can say Exit.

Mr.Ball 15 month's is to long...we need Government to Act Now.

Fact

Omg

2016-02-05T12:01:44-04:30

2.75

4

Call them Generation G: young, talented, Greek “ and part of the biggest brain drain in an advanced western economy in modern times. more than 200,000 Greeks who have left since the crisis bit five years ago .

Generation NFLD the next great wave of talented Newfoundlanders on it's way to ONT/AB over next five Years

Close Hospitals, Reduce Wages, Sell assets, Invest in our youth.

leaving on a jet plane

Omg

2016-02-05T12:09:03-04:30

3.66666667

3

There currently exists in government two multi-million dollar solutions for processing and paying physician claims. MCP, which is an old mainframe solution, is nearing end of life and will cost upwards of 20-30 million dollars to replace. While Workers NL recently updated their claims processing/payment solution over the last number of years for several million dollars.

Surely there must be some way to leverage what has been recently built for Workers NL by MCP. The same physicians are submitting the same claim to either MCP or Workers NL for the same patient. I am sure there are business rules that differ but I am sure there are adjudication rule sets and fee rates that are driving each application that can be tailored to work for both entities.

Our province is too small to support two multi-million dollar claims processing/payment solutions for the same set of physicians and patients.

Savings tens of millions of dollars is IT systems procurement and support, share service between multiple departments that could reduce backend processing operational staff.

Medical claim processing

Thanks

castors62

2016-02-05T15:10:25-04:30

3.75

8

Remove legislation that prohibits the sale of wild meat such as rabbits and moose.

Remove the regulation that prohibits fishermen from selling directly to consumers and restaurants.

Allow egg and dairy producers to sell directly to consumers.

Rewrite regulations to allow and to encourage local food producers to distribute through local groceries.

Because we are paying for imported food products that we could be producing ourselves.

Provide incentives for local small-scale food production, both for small-commercial and for personal use.

Because we are overly dependant on the importation of food which leaves us vulnerable should air and water transportation be interrupted or cease.

Provide initiatives to develop products for local market from abundant wild protein resources like seal and moose.

We were once a self-sufficient people. This is no longer the case.

Increase food security - 1

will_for

2016-02-05T15:45:55-04:30

3.66666667

6

Help us to be energy self-sufficient with wind and geothermal technology.

Provide incentives (like small rebates) to install and retrofit homes with consumer - level renewable technologies. Promote the idea of localized renewable energy co-operatives to cut purchase and installation costs for wind and solar.

Muskkrat falls is costing us too much. Project managers are not using our dollars effectively.

In the meantime, individual households and communities could be drastically reducing thier need to purchase power from large companies. The large-scale model for energy production is only one of many workable models. We need alternatives to energy monopolies.

will_for

2016-02-05T15:51:54-04:30

3.66666667

6

I would think this would be common sense to have not only the public but the government buy/purchase things locally.. I wonder how much money the government spends/buys/orders items from outside the province. I am willing to bet it is a huge amount. Of course there are things that cannot be produced or obtained on the island, but why not address that a bit also (I.E. some more local manufacturing).

It makes sense to me, but maybe I am out to lunch.. if you could keep more money in the province wouldn't that help everyone, in the province?? Even the poor ole government?

But my point is the government is almost certainly spending hundreds of thousands if not millions a year or more in supplies/items/equipment.. How much is spent local I wonder? Of course they will go for the cheapest price on items, but if you spend 2 million a year on supplies just say, for example, but 1.99 million of that leaves the province and goes to say big Canadian and American companies outside the province, what is the real benefit? I am sure alot of money can be redirected to local supply sources.. So what if they spend 2.3 million on same type of supplies/equipment/ or whatever but it's within the province?

Like come on guys you can do better than this, or let's just invest all in oil and hydro and take the shit end of the stick?... give the energy away for 35 years to Emera!? (a private company who's profits were in the 8 billion dollar range the other year!?) Oh yea you have done this already though.. yes that makes alot of sense.. so in 35 years they can give the power back to our ownership and all the poles will be falling down and the undersea cable will be wore out!? So then we can spend more billions of dollars to keep the power running to the mainland!?

Wow way to go!

Spend more money locally, Government!

Maybe even though it may cost a little more that could be an extra million dollars still in

Slow Clap

neotrout

2016-02-05T16:46:06-04:30

2.333333333

3

Transition away from the fossil fuel industry through the following:

1. Focus on creating jobs and economic prosperity in the renewable energy sector and a green economy.
2. Create policies so industries such as fisheries, agriculture and tourism, can be managed sustainably.
3. Divest our institutions from the fossil fuel industry to protect us from the volatility of fossil fuels, to stop us from profiting from climate destruction and to facilitate the growth of green energy alternatives.
4. End subsidies to the fossil fuel industry.
5. Prevent the development of further fossil fuel reserves.
6. Reduce energy demand through net metering, the procurement of local products, and the improvement of public transport.

Climate change is undoubtedly one of the most pressing issues of this century. It does not merely represent a future concern for policy makers and humanity at large, but a serious issue that is already affecting the lives of millions. We know that our reliance on fossil fuels is a major contributor to climate change. The leaders of the G7 nations, including Canada, recently committed to decarbonizing the economy by the year 2100. As a province that relies heavily on the oil and gas sector, this is a major challenge - but an extremely important one as well. Therefore, we must take action to diversify and decarbonize our economy. As part of the global divestment movement, Divest MUN (of Memorial University) recently submitted their request to the board of regents to divest from fossil fuels. Read our submission here: http://issuu.com/divestmun/docs/divestmun_submission_to_board_of_re

Decarbonize our economy

divestMUN

2016-02-05T18:13:53-04:30

4.428571429

7

I know this is difficult for rural nflder's to hear but we cannot service every small community . I'm was born and raised in real nfld and I understand the important of outport nfld to our rush history as a people but we so,e of the smaller towns need to be resettled or folks will need to travel to larger areas to obtain services.

Cost savings from reduced need to maintain basic services - roads. Water n sewer , emergency services, etc

Resettlement

Ilovenfld

2016-02-05T19:57:55-04:30

3.857142857

14

I understand this is not a popular idea but I don't think we should keep schools open in every small community. When enrolment is less than 100 we need to be making some tough decisions. I. Hate. For the little kids to be on the bus community to school but I choose to leave rural nfld to offer a better life and opportunities for my kids

Closing some schools will result in cost savings

Close schools

Ilovenfld

2016-02-05T20:01:54-04:30

4.090909091

11

There have been a lot of comments about OCIO, centralized IT and government redundancy of service provision. There should be a single Centre of Excellence pertaining to analysis of government; fiscal analysis, performance analysis, service provision, workforce management, HR and so forth.

This centre would be the central source for defining measurements, ensuring data quality and standards, and making sure departments, corporations and agencies are comparing apples to apples (and not oranges) consistently under a single enterprise system across the board. The departments will still have their staff with the business knowledge and insight but should also be able to access other staff (i.e. analysts) across the NL government in an interactive system to help develop best practices on a continual basis.

There should be a single Centre of Excellence pertaining to analysis of government departments, performance and spending. To solve a problem, you need the right data, the right information and analysis to enable informed and (possibly) evidence-based decision making.

While I do not have the environment scan of what departments are currently doing with respect to analysis and reporting, I would guess it is highly likely there are numerous (likely different) systems, requiring threebywater

Provincial Centre of Excellence (Analysis)

2016-02-05T20:41:56-04:30

3.2

5

Consider these facts...

---Seniors have a desire to live out their lives at home.

---Government funded care facilities take too high a toll on finances.

---Our workforce needs employment.

There is no reason why the equity built into a senior's home could not be tapped to pay homecare workers. Seems as though seniors and their heirs want their cake and eat it too.

Why is it necessary to pamper the seniors, just to protect the inheritance of heirs?

There are reverse mortgages available, so why not insist on using that approach to look after them?

This idea would place the responsibility of care on those that need it and can afford it.

Home Care Plan

tiddledeedee

2016-02-06T09:25:52-04:30

3.8

5

There are many visits to the doctors that are unnecessary while many are legitimate and as a disabled person myself , I see the waste involved here and would not mind paying a \$20.00 fee when I need to really see a doctor. This fee would deter unnecessary visits and actually make it easier for myself and others to get to see a doctor when important to do so. The medication refills should be facilitated by online visits to such a site.

This idea is important because the medical system is abused by persons visiting the doctors just to get a taxi trip out to accomplish non medical chores and IMHO I don't mind paying a fee to see a doctor if I really need medical help and also getting to see a doctor promptly. This should save the provincial medical system millions.

Adopt a per visit charge for doctor appointments .

DoctorG

2016-02-06T11:32:15-04:30

3.428571429

7

<p>It is NOT the governments job to be more innovative or efficient to provide quality services at lower costs</p>	<p>The government is THE PEOPLE. MHA's are tasked with "representing" the REAL government to try and support economic and social initiatives so that life is more "efficient" but that doesn't mean it needs to take control of all the services given to us. Free enterprise and capitalism is what drives the economy, not the HOA. Stop increasing government intervention into peoples lives.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6adVQrSUAc Because it is proven to be the best solution by experts</p>	<p>newfietuner</p>	<p>2016-02-06T12:24:31-04:30</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>seniors health care at home.</p>	<p>What I think is that seniors continually have to go to doctors for refills. This can be dangerous at times because of ice and snow. Why cant it be put in place where a doctor can simply call into the drug store and the person go to thre store will fill it.</p> <p>I think that you should have to see the doctor when you get the prescription the first time and at least once a year after that. Also I think the doctor should be compensated for the prescription , jmaybe not at the same rate as a doctors visit butthat could benegoitedwith the doctors.</p>	<p>It could educe the number of doctors visits and the associated costs to mcp and also maybe reduce the falls by seniorsand subsequent visits to the ER.</p>	<p>ryryry</p>	<p>2016-02-07T09:56:52-04:30</p>	<p>3.4</p>	<p>5</p>

Home care for patients in their own home	Why does it have to be a doctor? couldn't it be a nurse practitioner or even a nurse depending on the condition. this would mean the senior would not have to go to the doctor's office and might be able to stay at home longer.	Just the reduced cost and I hear there are more than enough nurses and nurse practitioners available in the province and it would probably reduce visits to the hospital and so reduce costs.	ryryry	2016-02-07T10:03:10-04:30	3.4	5
Give date for budget be leaders lead	People are stressed waiting wondering be leaders step up act be responsible be critical be blunt but for god sake stop the wondering. People of this province have trusted you with their vote earn that trust stop the chatting time for actions. Stressed workers are not very motivated and its human not to be productive if stressed pony up and give the plan now not later.	Time for change time for leadership would stop the waste time dollars start the process of efficiency you which equals more dollars saved. Bureaucracy costs money big time.	Thinker	2016-02-07T10:42:29-04:30	0	0
Change Grocery Shopping Choices	After a trip to the grocery, there is not much left for taxes or my church. I can stop my donation to the church but taxes are something I can't stop. I should be given the opportunity to shop at a fresh food market where local produce is sold. Everyone should be free to catch and sell fish, trout, rabbits, moose, caribou, turkeys and ducks. Everyone should be free to grow and sell chicken, eggs, vegetables, and livestock without government red tape.	The cost of living is choking the living daylight out of the common folk. Present laws make their choices for self preservation criminal. Time to start a change for the common good.	martha	2016-02-07T14:15:14-04:30	5	1

Abolish Ministerial Appointments	Hire department heads through public competition process and use performance based compensation. When they fail to meet targets, cut compensation/bonuses, then if they continue to perform poorly, fire them.	Appointing ministers who have no background or experience in the real world should be abolished. Hire the brightest and most experienced to run gov departments and have premier and auditor general oversee all performance and accountability to the public. Privatize dept of highways, liquor corp, nalcor, health services, etc. Fire half the public service and start saving money immediately.	rantandroar	2016-02-07T15:12:01-04:30	3.6	5
Reorganize Motor Registration	A trip to motor registration is always frightening. After a 1 to 2 hour wait, invariably you find out from a robotic employee that you are missing certain documentation and you will need to come back again. This service needs to be put in the hands of a private organization where workers are courteous, helpful and understanding and where management come up with innovative ideas to alleviate frustration.	The present system is not working and is being staffed by employees whose only ambition is to plug in enough time so that they receive a government pension.	mooresgerry	2016-02-07T16:47:43-04:30	3.818181818	11

Mandate Energy Efficient Home Construction	Require than all new homes built have the best energy consevation materials and methods available. A partial list would include spray foam insulation, insulation under the basement slab and the best energy conserving windows available.	Energy conservation will reduce the demand for electricity. Had this been done years ago it likely could have removed the need for additional generation capacity for the island. Without being mandated by the government the builders will never do it since they don't see benefit of the lower energy consumption.	MarkHam	2016-02-07T18:07:11-04:30	3	4
Mandate LED Public Lighting	Require that all Provincial and Municipal public lighting (streetlights, park lighting etc.) be converted to LED fixtures/bulbs.	Governments should be leading energy conservation by example. Reducing energy consumed by public space lighting is another action that could contibute to reduced need for oil derived power generation at Holyrood and delay the need for additional generating capacity for the island.	MarkHam	2016-02-07T18:13:12-04:30	3.25	4

Problem:

Rural communities are having difficulty recruiting and retained healthcare professionals.

The government of NL is speanding a great deal of money on stop-gap measures to cover areas for short periods of time.

Examples of this include: Paying agency nurses 2x per hour rate and covering acomidations and transport in certian RHA's. Fly physicians from all over Canada and the US into areas to cover only 2-3 days at a very high cost.

Possibel Solution:

There is still a great deal of infastructure left over from the cottage hospital system.

Many of the communities affected with staffing issues have housing residences connected to the health centre (Baie Verte and many others).

Health care and the stop gaps to keep the patchwork system together are one of our biggest budget items and an area with the most waste.

Provincial Staffing
for Healthcare

We should hire a small number of provincial

grassroots

2016-02-08T09:16:38-04:30

2.75

4

Problem:

Many of the province's ER's use nursing order sets at nursing triage or at the time nurses enter MD orders. This is a MEDITEC issue.

ex: LIVER = AST, ALT, ALP, and GGT COAGS= PT/INR and PTT CARDIAC = Trop, CK, and COAGS there are also really bad combinations such as STAT1= LIVER, BLC, CBC + others.

This was original developed as a time saving measure to help speed up ER care. Sadly almost any patient that visits an ER gets gets a LIVER test which has very little clinical use and causes harm to both the patient and system wide costs.

Many of these order sets lead to tests being ordered that are of no benefit to the patient or needed for diagnosis. Abnormal value in these miss-ordered tests lead to very expensive investigations that cost a lot to the system and often harm to patients.

Lab test cost money. The results of inappropriate lab tests cost even more money and lead to patient harm. Automatic lab testing and order set lead to a great deal of inappropriate lab testing.

ER order sets.

Lab tests should be ordered judiciously and

grassroots

2016-02-08T11:32:09-04:30

3.9

10

PROBLEM:

Just like national pharmacare purchasing in bulk saves money.

Dressings supplies, needles, chest tubes, ET tubes, O2 supplies, and the very long list goes on, varies very little from one site in Canada to another. Yet each RHA in the province does its own purchasing.

Using a 2x2 piece of gauze for example. A single 2x2 likely costs \$0.10 but we use millions and millions each year across the province. Bulk purchasing if able to reduce the cost by even \$0.02 could lead to \$20,000 savings a year.

Solution:

Perhaps this a difficult area to start mobilizing on but if national pharmacare become a reality we should get the paper work/legislation laid out for supplies at the same time. That way we do not need to pay to develop this type of program twice. The savings here would be impressive in the ever growing cost of healthcare.

This is really a difficult point to argue, making it a reality requires a lot of interprovincial work!

National or Provincial Purchase Orders for Medical Supplies.

grassroots

2016-02-08T11:41:39-04:30

2.333333333

3

Problem:

Waitlists for specialist appointments in the province are huge.

However, many physicians have several no-show appointments in a day.

This is a large waste in the system, that is hurting patients and costing money.

Solution:

A small fee for a missed appointment would curb behaviour and generate some revenue for the system.

Social assistance patients would have to pay this fee out of their monthly checks.

Charge a Small Fee
for No-Show MD
Appointments.

Reducing system waste is crucial.

grassroots

2016-02-08T11:46:05-04:30

3.875

8

Problem:

Lack of frontline workers in healthcare leading to: overtime, large signing bonuses, and burnout.

There is an abundance of middle management especially in nursing (this includes ward managers, system managers, VP's, clinical educators, and clinical coordinators).

These managers are promoted from frontline based usually on seniority not from management education. These are usually experienced and valuable frontline staff. The loss of informal leaders for formal management causes a deskilling of the front line and an inability to staff frontline areas.

There is little evidence that these management positions (especially those under the Ottawa model) increase system outputs or improve cost. In fact, there is some evidence, especially in the recent LEAN issues in Saskatoon.

Middle Management in Healthcare. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/new-report-final-straw-for-lean-ndp-says-> Heathcare reform must happen.

grassroots

2016-02-08T11:58:10-04:30

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12

Lowering # of
Doctor's
Appointments

My mother had a procedure in St.John's last week. She underwent tests out here last fall that turned up nothing. Her doctor even said she was a low risk to get anything. Yet she had this procedure. An un-needed procedure. Got to think we can save money here and if there's a low risk to get anything don't be tested. I get being cautious but if you're in perfect health as my mother is why undergo tests when we can free up time for someone who may need the help?

Because we can save money but cutting out un-needed tests and also appointments could be freed up so someone who isn't feeling well could have something discovered early instead of getting really sick and costing the system.

tducey

2016-02-08T17:45:34-04:30

3.66666667

6

directors, assistant deputy ministers, deputy ministers senior managers meeting privately with their respective ministers to recommend savings and increased revenues for their departments and divisions. this is what's happening people! imagine, a cabinet minister looking for savings from these people. There are far too many of these senior level managers with heavy salaries putting the shaft to the workers, let's face it they are not going to axe themselves! Take a page out of New Brunswick's book, get rid of all adms, reduce the number of directors and deputies let the mid managers and workers do their jobs. Stop the micro managing there is far too much of it, time to trim the fat. combine departments. why have similar depts separate. for example natural resources, environment and conservation and fisheries should be combined. Unfortunately the people with their boots on the ground will not get a chance to bend their Ministers ear in a private meeting, let alone the premier or the executive. It is often the case they forgot more about the operations of their dept than save money and create a more efficient the senior beauracrats know. they know where public sector the savings are, however the big shots will

Stop the insanity,
talk to the workers.

<p>Reduction in paid non-teaching time in schools</p>	<p>Our education department pays a tremendous amount of funds on yearly basis to teaching staff. I would be interested to see how much is paid in PD days, snow days Etc. Is this really an efficient use of funding? Would this be acceptable for all public servants to receive?</p> <p>An option...offer PD via web-based learning during prep-periods or for 1-2h after the school day, reducing cost and time needed to complete PD and increasing teaching time for student in the classroom.</p>	<p>In the face of challenges for quality teaching time in the classroom and claims of strapped funding, it continues to be acceptable for an entire school of teachers to have a full day of "professional development" SEVERAL times throughout their very short school year. Combine this with multiple paid snow days, and it appears as a great deal of public money has been paid for time outside the classroom. While PD is essential to any profession, many public sectors have drastically reduced or eliminated paid education sessions, now moving towards a more economical option forcing staff to take responsibility initiative in learning.</p>	<p>K62</p>	<p>2016-02-08T22:44:33-04:30</p>	<p>3.33333333</p>	<p>12</p>
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For this process to be taken seriously appears cutting the layers and following the path New Brunswick has taken is only viable solution. We in Nfld have become too overburdened with government politics and high ranking positions have been for many years a way means of rewarding political cronies etc. Too many chief simple as that somehow I believe Cathy Bennett has the guts knowledge and willingness to really look at this and do the chop chop government has to be simplified realigned and can be done without cutting frontline. streamlined structure is the only answer. Add some retirement enhancements for older frontline and move forward with a new rejuvenated work force listen to the masses. managers never cuts management it's just basic human nature so the elected need to step up do what needs be done

Steamline cut red tape reduce workforce
make workforce more efficient

Results required

Thinker

2016-02-09T08:31:09-04:30

3

2

Several years ago Government implemented a red tape reduction initiative. This focused on Government's dealing with the public not on the internal functioning of Government which remains largely unexamined. There seems to be processes and policies in place that are time consuming but are of little true value. An initiative on red tape reduction that was internally focused would allow a reduction in the time spent on bureaucratic process that are of no or little value. This would highlight positions and duties (more likely portions of positions) that are busy with non-essential work.

This would identify work that could be eliminated with no impact on services to the public. Until this assessment is done it is difficult to determine how much time of the public service is essentially wasted on processes (constructed over decades to deal with changing policies, legislation, oversight needs etc) that have never been critically questioned and are now of little use or even counter-productive.

Cut red tape

DavidK

2016-02-09T10:46:06-04:30

4

8

I've read a lot of the suggestions on here - some are good and some, well not so much. In moving forward I have two things I'd like you to consider First, that you not use ideas that most of us consider "out to lunch" (like increasing our taxes to 20% for example), and then use this forum as an excuse to say "the people have spoken and its what you wanted". We had 10 years of that from the PC's with their pretend consultations. Secondly, I implore you to consider those who are marginalized in our province before you make an drastic decisions that will put them in even more dire circumstances. Not everyone has a politicians salary and can afford losses to their incomes or services, or major increases in their cost of living. Any good governance MUST balance good fiscal responsibility with a clear social agenda. People matter. All eyes are on you and you must prove that you're different than the tyrants we just got rid of.

Not everything is about the bottom line when you're dealing with peoples lives.

Grain of salt and common sense

eyeontheball

2016-02-09T11:38:50-04:30

3.666666667

3

Before treasury board brought in the paid leave system for management, management had to use their vacation days like everyone else. The most leave any employee could carry forward was one year. Today I am hearing that a lot of management has accrued quite a bit of paid leave that they are planning on cashing out when they retire.

This paid leave should be abolished. I ask the Premier, what is the liability on the books of the accrued paid leave to management? How many managers have well over 100 days or 200 days or more in accrued leave that now has to be paid out when they retire?

No other fiscal entity would permit this. Mr. Premier, you would be hard press to find another entity that offers the carry forward provisions in the Public Service.

Many managers receive 35 days plus for paid leave. This is supposed to cover sick days. However, Mr. Premier, when a manager takes a couple of sick days, they have to take one paid leave day and then they can access their sick days which does

Revise the paid leave system.

This paid leave liability will keep on accruing whereas in the past, a management employee would have to take their allotted leave within the year. Now most managers just take the minimum 10 days that they are required to take and accrue the rest until they retire and then this will be paid out at the rate of pay that the manager is earning at retirement and not at the rate that it is earned. Furthermore, when a manager does retire and in one of the cases that I know of had over 200 days of paid leave, almost a year's pay. If there was no paid leave then the most a management personnel would have received would have been the one year carried leave.

This paid leave system is too rich for this province.

<p>Motor Vehicle Registration</p>	<p>Nova Scotia has 2 years for private vehicles for a fraction of the cost here for a single year.</p> <p>Let the registrations span two years and reduce the overhead and clutter with DMV - like was just announced with drivers licensed being valid for 10 years now.</p>	<p>People in NL are having to annually jump through hoops and pay through the nose for a vehicle here in a province with no rail systems and not provincial public transit plan. Vehicles are often a requirement for employment and day to day life</p> <p>This burden needs to be eased slightly.</p>	<p>JasonDawe</p>	<p>2016-02-10T11:01:21-04:30</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>Review Job positions in Provincial Government</p>	<p>There are positions within government that are - and I am not kidding - Word Processing Equipment Operator</p> <p>http://www.budget.gov.nl.ca/budget2014/salary_details_2014.pdf</p> <p>Yes, and that is about 32k per year. I am not saying the position is not valuable but it certainly lends itself to wonder how modern the thought process is here when this is an actual position in many departments - aside from Clerk I, II, III that I am sure know how to use a word processor.</p>	<p>Its time to modernize our government. Such positions need to be evaluated as to their viability and not let legacy positions from the 1980's keep taking funds.</p>	<p>JasonDawe</p>	<p>2016-02-10T11:07:58-04:30</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>8</p>

an evaluation of all public sector jobs, regardless of the institution should be done. I suspect you will find that people with IT classifications working for OCIO, Memorial University, Centre for Health Innovation, Colleges and Marine Institute etc are not on the same pay scale. In other words, a Data Analyst or Senior Systems Analyst in these organization have different pay scales. It is my understand that MUN technology staff make more than the OCIO staff for the same job. There should be a standard across the board.

Because it will level the playing field and save money when a scale is set. Some people will be "red circled" but then anyone joining the public sector at any organization can expect the same pay for similar work.

Evaluate pay for same jobs

buster

2016-02-10T12:48:30-04:30

3.66666667

6

Increase Health Clinic Hours & Ease Emergency Room waits

We have a clinic on Majors Path that closes at 3PM. It makes much more sense to offer more services such as x-ray, blood work, flu shots and drop in clinics (for minor things like colds) from this location until midnight.

Having had several visits to Emergency that lasted from 7 or 8 PM until 6 AM waiting when it was a relatively minor treatment needed that could have been handled in an IN/OUT scenario. People would avoid Emergency Room visits and speed up client visits.

buster

2016-02-10T13:13:01-04:30

3.66666667

3

We are in this mess because Government elected officials have control of the money. There should be someone in the Dept. of finance who controls all spending and their job is not dependent upon which party is in power. Someone like a Auditor general or controller creates the budget each year and decides how much each dept. will receive. It is then the responsibility of the minister of that dept. to decide how the money that was issued by the controller gets spent. The controller will ensure that we stay within budget and will have a plan to pay on the deficit and save money when times are good.

This is really the only way to ensure spending does not get out of hand in the future. As long as elected officials are in control of the money we will always be in a mess in this province. I know this would be a drastic change in the way government operates, but maybe we need drastic changes to solve this huge problem.

Unfortunately the people who would have to decide to make such a drastic change are the same elected officials who cannot control the spending.

Take responsibility for spending Government money away from elected officials

When election time rolls around there is always a surge of spending because the MHA's want to get their jobs back. This would be eliminated with a controller.

ronharnum

2016-02-10T13:36:02-04:30

4

4

Government Dept's. Health. Education. Memorial and various other agencies crown corps etc have grown too big. This is a problem due to inefficiency which is created by too many levels of management. Also significant payroll savings are achievable. Given a human tendency to protect one's own turf final decisions should not rest with senior management but rather with an independent committee (subject to final cabinet approval)

Efficiency

Efficiency of operations & savings

KHillier

2016-02-10T16:32:24-04:30

4.111111111

9

Public Confidence	<p>The public has lost all confidence in the senior management of Nalcor which also appears to be too top heavy. Replace much of current senior management to establish public confidence and streamline in process to achieve savings.</p>	Public confidence & savings	K Hillier	2016-02-10T16:40:58-04:30	3.888888889	9
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Changes required
 All pension funds should be fully protected in event of bankruptcy or receivership - First Claim 100% protected
 To ensure defined benefit plans survive:
 Employee contributions must increase
 Retirement with full pension at age 65
 Pension to be based on average of last 10 years (or greater) salary
 Pension valuations must change. Common method in going concerns is to include funds in plan plus the contributions expected from future employees. This is similar to passing our debt on to future generations.

Pensions	<p>Government should also examine any potential savings in administration and increases in security that may be achievable by combining all government pension plans into one. One plan one set of rules.</p>	<p>Secure defined benefit plans for employees. Reduce pension debt to more management levels. Streamline for efficiency.</p>	K Hillier	2016-02-10T17:16:27-04:30	3	2
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I know it is too late for Newfoundland since Muskrat Falls hydro project is well under way and past the point of no return but is it possible to design and build a large ship which stores and transports natural gas from some of the offshore fields and that ship would have the capacity to transport the gas to a port of call, generate electricity and sell that electricity through a grid connection at the port of call? The vessel could, depending on the need to various ports on the eastern seaboard of the USA at peak annual consumption times with a pre-negotiated price for the electricity or the natural gas depending on the price paid and consumption demands? Winter would probably enable better prices for natural gas (i.e. heating) while summer would most likely prove a better market for electricity (i.e. Air Conditioning). It could be inexpensive ways to kick start an offshore natural gas industry without the expense of pipelines and onshore storage facilities.

Another offshore industry could be started without the huge capital expenditures that handicap oil development. It would also provide some jobs, revenue and a chance to develop a unique industry which is onboard ship to shore electricity generating capabilities.

Natural Gas and
Electricity
Generation

Ideas

2016-02-10T19:23:01-04:30

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Meet the Election Promises	IF the Government wishes to raise the HST and/or to layoff public servants, I expect Premier Ball will call an election or at the very least a referendum	Premier Ball and the entire Liberal Party will show themselves to be deceitful individuals and worse than the Tories if they persue these actions having campaigned on the basis of maintaining the HST at 13% and reduction of the civil service by attrition, not layoffs.	ThomasBeckett	2016-02-10T20:05:04-04:30	3.857142857	7
Increase the civil servants work day to normal hours	Monthly salaried employees should work the standard 37 1/2 or 40 hour work week.	From what I understand the normal work day for civil servants is 7 hours. For summer hours this is reduced to 6 1/2 hours per day (June to Sept). Virtually everyone else in the work world works a 7 1/2 or 8 hour work day. This is the norm and should be for government workers as well. Why should there be a reduced work day for 4 months of the year?? Don't understand that. This would increase the efficiency of govt workers. More will get done for the same amount of payroll or fewer employees will be needed to do the same amt of work. Either way it will save govt money.	pluto	2016-02-10T20:54:31-04:30	2.2	10

Recently, "Exit Realty On The Rock" has their brokerage license suspended and the firm is now into receivership.

However, due to Newfoundland and Labrador's outdated real estate brokerage laws which favour banks and law firms as opposed to hard working Real Estate Agents, if a real estate company goes bankrupt or put into receivership, Real Estate Agents risk getting no commissions at all.

In fact, unlike other provinces where Real Estate Commissions have to be put in trust account to protect their agents in an event of bankruptcy, commissions are reported as general revenue in Newfoundland and Labrador, thus putting this province in the regulatory dark ages as always.

As a result, in an event of bankruptcy, due to Newfoundland and Labrador's outdated real estate brokerage laws, Real Estate Agents will not be paid their commissions, meaning they won't have any money to feed their families, pay their own bills, and put food on the table.

In light of the recent problems at "Exit Realty On The Rock" where Real Estate Agents will have to wait months or even years to get their Real Estate Commissions as current Newfoundland and Labrador Government regulations don't allow brokerages to put them in a trust account, our government gives more power to banks and law firms in an event of brokerage bankruptcy and making hard working Real Estate Agents suffer, which is not fair.

To prevent what happened at "Exit Realty On The Rock" from ever happening again, perhaps now is the time for Eddie Joyce from Service NL and Bill Stirling from Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Realtors to implement new laws and regulations requiring Real Estate Brokerage firms to put Real Estate Commissions into a trust account to protect Real Estate Agents in an event of bankruptcy.

Better Protections
For Real Estate
Agents If Brokerage
Is Bankrupt

End - Parental Benefits & Home Heating Rebate Program	When Muskrat Falls comes online and rates sky rocket. The Govt will have to offer a greater rebate	The 2 programs costs over \$70 million a year	Save \$70 million a year	Jdog	2016-02-11T13:27:47-04:30	3.666666667	6
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Teachers have the option to do a deferred salary (work two years but have the salary spread over three and take the third year off). If this option was made available to a wider section of the public service there would be savings, and you could sell it to staff as a positive thing that promotes work life balance. In some situations the persons workload who is taking the deferred salary could be reallocated to his or her coworkers (this would be no different than what staff are expected to do when a co-worker takes maternity leave cause lets face it - they arn't replaced).

Another option might be for public service employees to take a one time leave without pay, but without losing seniority. This leave could be up to three months. Everyone's financial situation is different - some people might in a position to take a summer off (without pay). If this wouldn't affect someone's seniority maybe they would take advantage of it. Again if someone did this their work would be reallocated amongst their co-workers. I understand that this cannot be done in all sectors/positions/work places. But there might be some where it

My idea will help save salary cost while at the same time making participation optional for staff, it will be seen as a win-win.

Alternative work arrangements

weareallinthistogr 2016-02-11T13:52:25-04:30

3.666666667

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Consolidation of Court houses	Put all court houses in the same building. Have legal aid, Crown and Special Prosecutions, and Family Justice Services next door. Have a cafeteria in the building that has restaurants that pay rent to be there.	Save on taxi fares (from crown, legal aid travelling to court). Save on rent (after all the gov't would own the building), generate income from the rent of the restaurants in the cafeteria portion.	coffeequeen	2016-02-11T16:15:09-04:30	3.857142857	7
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The government needs to get the social services system in order and all the fraud that goes on in it, bring in the investigators and catch the ones that are bleeding millions out of the system, we all know people that are cheating the system.

Cut back the wasting of time and equipment in the TWS, is there any need to bring out a plow truck at 6am or 6pm when there is dry pavement, have managers check roads first or use the camera system on the island.

Cut down of forest road up keep, If a company is using the road, make them pay a part of the cost the province endures with grading roads

CUT BACK THE MONEY THAT GOES TO MUSKRAT FALLS, too much of the government's money is getting blown out the window, get more investors on side to help, the PC's blew 2 billion in which was in the bank and should have never been.

I want this province to be on top, we have a beautiful land, and people, don't take services away.

Stop spending money in the offshore until the market comes back, DON'T go in hole for

watch!

thecoldtruth

2016-02-11T19:51:23-04:30

3.714285714

7

RHAs are reporting current and projected nursing shortages. The Minister has said that we have more nurses and physicians per capita than anywhere else in the country. Here are some ideas:

RHAs could possibly make the system more efficient by having multifunction community nurses in rural areas. Currently you may have a continuing care nurse, a public health nurse and a community development nurse all servicing the same small geographical areas. Example, a community development nurse who travels an hour to get to a community to do some immunizations that could probably given by the PHN or CCNC who is onsite. Also are there functions in the community nursing realm that could be performed by LPNS? In these same areas you may have a physician responsible for blood collection.

It is not always more positions that are needed but reallocation and more efficient use of resources we have. For a population of a little over 500,000 we should not have the scenario we have in health care. It is not sustainable. Waste/Duplication needs to be identified and eliminated and have all health care providers working at appropriate scope of practice, reallocate resources to areas of greatest need.

RHAs community nursing resources/RHA management structure

I think there needs to be a really good look at how current nursing resources are being utilized across the board. There are ways to make the system more efficient and reallocate nurses where they are needed. Today's graduates are able to perform multi

Ebenezer

2016-02-12T09:46:28-04:30

3.857142857

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OR	<p>I'm not sure if we need a larger number of surgeons. What we need is for those we have to be able to get access to an OR. Build more OR rooms to give surgeons access and this will take care of OR waiting line.</p>	<p>I had to wait. I was told that if he/she could get OR time this would reduce the wait.</p>	GWGILES	2016-02-12T13:16:41-04:30	3.5	4
Gas at the pumps	<p>Put a 5% to 10% on gas until it rises to \$80/barrel.</p>	<p>A source of revenue where everyone pays.</p>	GWGILES	2016-02-12T13:19:39-04:30	3.4	5
\$1.35 a litre	<p>In recent years we have paid as high as \$2.00 a litre for fuel. Put the price at \$1.35 a litre and every cent that fuel is at below \$1.35 goes against the debt. At todays price at the pump the prvince would be making 45 cents a litre more to go against the debt. Just think there is a lot of fuel being put into car each day in our province. Within 6 years roughly the whole debt could be wiped out.</p>	<p>It lets us make money off the oil when the price is up and lets us make money off it when the price is down..</p>	kevmcarthy	2016-02-12T14:33:46-04:30	3.375	8

physio and other health related services	I would suggest we consider contracting out these services.	<p>Personal experience, in the past year I have used the private physio services as well as public services. I was pleasantly surprised at both the quality and efficiency of private services, they appear to be run very efficiently with small teams of people with a vested interest in their own performance, workers appear to be much more motivated and content than public service employees who for the most part appear to feel undervalued, great people but not feeling appreciated, wonder if this is a result of overmanagement, red tape, and lack of incentive to make a difference.</p>	donmcdonald	2016-02-13T14:32:56-04:30	3	3
Gasoline Price Hike	Hike the price of the Gasoline/ Diesel Tax by (3-5 cents) Per Litre With a mandatory removal of the tax when the price of oil rebounds to \$75 a Barrel.	<p>This Price Hike would supply Millions of \$ in much needed Revenue and in turn help with the up-keep of the Transportation System. This would be a great way for all the travelling population to put their (3 -5 Cents in .Just make it mandatory to remove this tax when OIL prices Back up to \$75 Barrel.</p> <p>Note: This is a tax increase that would not smirt near as much with regards to the prices at the pumps we experience today compared to the last 10 Plus Years of \$ 90-\$140 Barrel Oil.</p>	Headhunter	2016-02-13T14:39:02-04:30	3.769230769	13

Change Kindergarten Age to Match School Year

With the coming of full-day kindergarten, it might be time to revisit something done in many areas of the modern world: basing Kindergarten start on being 5 by the start of the school year. Just like now children can be held back if they are not ready by fall, children who are not 5 but have parents who are sure they are ready could request they

With the overload and cancelling of assessments of children, and the movement to full day kindergarten, which seems to be in utter chaos, you're asked for a high number of children who have uncaught issues going directly into a "guinea-pig" situation with teachers who will have overcrowded classrooms and will certainly be facing a resource crunch in their schools. It will be more important than ever to reduce the amount of children who will require additional resources from the system, and which will only be caught once the school year begins. It's a relatively simple change that could have dramatic long term benefits.

onTheGo

2016-02-13T22:28:03-04:30

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The current policy doesn't work. In fact, it could be encouraging people who would normally move from a really small community to stay there. Without the promise of money for resettlement a person might decide to move away from an isolated community. With the hope of money for resettlement, on the other hand, they might see moving as walking away from a potential cash payout, so it might make more sense to stay rather than move.

The policy of giving money if people vote to move may actually encourage people to stay in small, isolated towns in the hope of an eventual vote for resettlement. Frankly, staying and waiting for a resettlement vote would be a wise financial choice in many circumstances.

Some ideas -

Give the current program a timeline and reduce the dollar amount after that date.

Find other ways to support communities moving.

The resettlement policy costs the province not only the cost of resettlement (if a community votes that way) but it also requires the province to support tiny places where people decide to stay in case of an eventual vote and cash payout.

If the goal is to support people moving out of small communities or to set a more reasonable level of service for tiny towns then this policy isn't working. Current policy may actually be supporting some people to stay in tiny places in hopes of a resettlement vote so the policy is an expensive failure.

I don't have a new policy figured out but the whole resettlement policy needs to be rethought.

Home care workers should be regulated and liscened - this will ensure a higher level of workers and a way means of ensuring higher standards as regulation liscened would require criminal records checks etc. As well there should be minimum education requirements

Personal Care worker should be regulated liscened to work would follow same principal for requirements as existing regulation for other professional health workers. Once again will ensure compliance with minimum requirements and hold more credibility and accountability

same could apply to other professions maybe even bus drivers taxi drivers

Will ensure accountability and higher level care work performance as well will generate revenue if you want government job you should have no problem with this

Liscene regulate some professions

Thinker

2016-02-14T10:57:37-04:30

3.66666667

3

As someone who works with people who are returning to work I have watched low income single parent families who are attempting to join the workforce have to leave their jobs because of parental fees at daycares that are not covered by subsidy. The rates at daycares are much higher than the subsidy amount and once a family has capped at what they qualify for then they are out of pocket. Young people are forced to leave school and work positions due to cost of child care. Middle income families are paying a large portion of their salaries to daycare costs as well. I applaud the government with the introduction of the Operating grant Program which helps alleviate costs to parents with a cap on what centres can charge to parents, but its a volunteer program and so far very few centres have signed on. Daycares in Newfoundland for the most part are profit business, thus the bottom line often the bottom line. I was an Early Childhood educator in Ontario in the 90's when all daycare became non profit and this was good for quality and salaries. I encourage our government which focuses deeply on labour market and jobs to look at removing barriers

The provinces focus is on creating a strong economy lets remove barriers that hinder that goal.

Revamp the Child Care Subsidy to support middle to low income families

SBrowne

2016-02-15T09:53:14-04:30

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We get many more snow days in our schools than ever before. This means fewer teaching days than ever in a short school year as it is. We also have more Professional Days for teachers than ever before. I am not knocking either of these, both are required. However maybe there's a way to combine the two to make the system more efficient. While most snow days are necessary for childrens safety they are quite adequate for adult travel. On those days rather than cancel school for teachers, have them go to school for a PD day. This would require a little advanced planning on somebody's part to have the session ready to go in the event of a snow day but that's not difficult to do.

In this way, kids can go to school on those days which otherwise would have been cancelled due to a PD day, reducing the number of days missed. While this may not save govt money, it makes for a more productive year for students who need all the help they can get and may even give teachers more PD days than they get now.

Schools snow days and PD days

Win-Win.

Improve education to our children.

pluto

2016-02-15T10:17:29-04:30

2.75

8

Remove the ability of defendants in the courts on legal aid to fire their lawyer, or, give them only a short time limit to fire a lawyer.

I was called to jury duty a few years ago. About 100 people were summoned and took the day off work and went to the court house for jury selection. The court house was manned by three sherriffs. We sat around until 11 AM. At that point the judge called everyone into the court where there was the judge, crown lawyers, defence lawyer and all the court staff. The announcement - the defendant had fired the legal aid lawyer. The judge thanked us for our time and relayed what had happened. We were sent home. The defendant (later convicted when the case was finally heard) smirked the whole time the judge was talking,

That fiasco cost 100 employers a days pay plus lost productivity for 100 people missing work. Also 100 ordinary people undertaking civic duty were made to feel used and irrelevant. The province paid for the building, the sherriffs, the lawyers, the judge, the support staff in the court and all the

Save a huge amount of money in government courts and for private employers by keeping defendants from manipulating the court legal aid system for their own purposes through firing lawyers. Lawyers, by the way, that the province is paying for.

Stop court manipulation by defendants firing legal aid lawyers

abc

2016-02-16T10:31:28-04:30

4.33333333

9

Back in the 60's Lester B Pearson and Smallwood came to an agreement to build the TCH from East to west. I think its time we ask the federal gov to once again invest in our highway and Twin the TCH. Less head on collisions, safer highways, Win Win Safety First. The TCH is the lifeline of the island ,

Twin the TCH

frenchie006

2016-02-16T10:39:23-04:30

3.33333333

3

There are massive inefficiencies across various Depts., especially Healthcare, and often this has to do with the fact that programs and budgets continue to run as they have historically. Times have changed, programs and services have expanded, but the system has not been updated to keep it running efficiently. There needs to be a large overhaul. For example, the serial casting example provided by Dr. Peter Jordan. Patients are being transported for a specialty service from west coast to St. John's. There are providers that could provide the service locally if it was set up. When investigating this, Dept. of Health acknowledges they don't know if it would be more efficient to do so because they don't take care of the transportation cost i.e. Transportation costs don't come out of their budget. So this arrangement came into place, but now numbers are different, but it continues to run as it has historically. This is just one example. Departments need to work together to look into potential inefficiencies such as this. When there are different pots of money at play there is a disconnect and that disconnect leads to higher costs due to poor planning and a

Health care is identified as having the highest costs, and when compared to other provinces, despite the large amount of money being sunk into it, the poorest outcomes in the country. It's plain to see the spending is grossly ineffective.

Inter/Intra-
Department
Communication and
Collaboration

amr

2016-02-16T14:19:55-04:30

3.857142857

7

We have laws that prohibit people from occupying places or doing certain things based on age. Our province has a problem of an aging population that is placing too high a demand on our health care system.

It is time that the government set an age limit on residency. Anyone over the age of 65 (say) should be required to leave NL, as soon as possible, or be faced with residency fees. By doing so, many would take their health problems elsewhere. We need to act now, before other provinces come up with the same idea.

This idea would mean savings for our health care system and increased revenues from those who can afford to stay and pay.

Set Resident Age limit

oinkoink

2016-02-17T08:46:24-04:30

1.8

10

Cod liver oil has many health benefits...

lowering high cholesterol and high triglycerides

preventing and treating diabetes

lowering high blood pressure

preventing heart disease

reducing risk for osteoarthritis

treating depression

lowering risk for autoimmune diseases

fighting eye disorders like glaucoma and protecting eye sight

treating ear infections, allergies and asthma

preventing and treating kidney disease

helping to heal skin wounds

Waste not want not.

Cod Liver Oil

oinkoink

2016-02-17T20:49:37-04:30

3.5

6

Look at each Government department and see if we can share responsibilities with the equivalent departments in NS, NB and PEI.

For example. Motor Vehicle Registration. We could combine all the departments into a single Atlantic Department. Saving money in IT costs, labour and even the costs associated with printing license plates, stickers, etc...Each province would maintain their unique license plates.

Wildlife License Renewal. Again, we could combine the process of individual renewal to a single shared Atlantic Department.
etc...

I believe that Governments need to start thinking outside the box, or in this case outside the province. IT and Labour costs are a major expense to providing Government services. When you have several provinces all providing the same service, it only makes sense to look at creating a partnership. The four Atlantic provinces are very similiar and would be a good fit.

Combine similiar Government departments with NS, NB and PEI

JohnBlack

2016-02-18T08:52:04-04:30

3.75

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The NL Govt has had considerable experience over several decades with P3Ss in the form of "savings financing" or "performance contracting" in building energy management systems or structures. This involved energy efficiency improvements being funded by the private sector with payments coming from the savings.

This was done at MUN, Waterford Hosp, numerous schools, etc. Local experience with multi-million dollar project.

It has not always been positive. There should be several people still with government or recently retired who could provide advice. I believe internal reviews were also done.

Govt should learn from this experience.

P3s - learn from past experience

Learn from the local experience.

mymy

2016-02-18T11:05:43-04:30

3.666666667

6

here are some suggestion to save in health care from someone having 25 years service.

1/ to many managers cut 40%

2/get rid of ottawa model of nuring in ltc.

3/ care faciliators in ltc no need.

4/ have all rn do hands on care in ltc

5/ combine rn cushy management jobs. meaning 3 positions into 1 or make half time

6/ cut recreation director to half time. full time not needed or be half time in two facilities.

7/ nurse educator position in ltc reduce to half time. why do we have an rn for?

8/ staffing office cut in half. can be done more efficent

9/ reduce HR specialist.

my ideas are important because i have 25 years in health care and i see such a waste of resourses!

rn's doing very little. they should be assigned two ltc rts a day to do hands on care.

we are managed to death. 4 managers on for 75 rts. we need less managers.

a full review of managers lower to upper management is required. NEW MANAGEMENT needs to be appointed to bring in fresh new ideas and to breath a fresh breath of air to the organization. when upper and middle managers are in place for 20 years they develop and attitude of complacency and professional judgement and decision making is altered. being there that long would make it difficult to make correct choices and changes should be made.

i have had said to me by a supervisor i have days my work is done in a few hours i take a clip board walk around and its gives the impression i am doing something. i think of

health care savings!

levelheadedthinkr 2016-02-18T12:11:10-04:30

3.5

4

Flatten organizational structures and aim for an overall employee to manager ratio of 10 to 1

By flattening the organizational structure administrative efficiencies can be found in communications, workflow.

Although, the most efficient employee to manager ratio will depend on the government program and service, it is suggested that an overall ratio that is less than 10 to 1 means there are too many managers. Action in this area should be taken before direct job action on non-management positions.

Structural inefficiencies must be addressed foremost to create a foundation for long-term efficiencies in program and service delivery. Flattening the organizational structure and correcting the employee to manager ratio is key to creating this foundation. To do otherwise (i.e., impact frontline workers first) will result in fatigue and moral issues in the public service and in service delivery that will eliminate 'paper'/'theoretical' gains from direct job cuts.

SurfandTurf

2016-02-18T12:18:31-04:30

3.6

5

The 3 hour call back could be reviewed and revised. I have no issue with someone being called in and getting 3 hours pay; however, if that person, for example, leaves the hospital and gets another call within that 3 hour time frame they are paid for another 3 hours; therefore, getting 6 hours overtime for maybe 30 minutes work. I know of a person who works in x-ray, she loves it when on call. Why wouldn't she. In one 24 hour shift, she was called in 5 times. That is a paycheck in itself. It's ludicrous!! The person on call should have to stay for their 3 hours once called in. Why not, they are being paid for it. In my opinion, they most definitely should not be paid for another 3 hours for a call in within the 3 hours they are paid for. I can only imagine the money that goes out in lab, x-ray and other departments with this agreement...it CRAZY. Talking about saving 30%, look no more. that's it there in a nut shell.

It will save a lot of money!!

Saving Money

maggie7126

2016-02-18T15:57:58-04:30

3.5

6

Eliminate pay subsidies for sport organizations	<p>I have been an executive member of a sport's organization within the metro area. Many of these organizations receive pay subsidies for summer staff. I don't feel it is necessary for these subsidies to be provided. By giving these organizations enough notice, they can quickly pass the difference onto the parents. By charging the parents no more than an extra \$5 - \$15, many of these sports groups will adjust and still have to provide the summer student employment to run their programs. For example, assuming an organization receives \$5,000 in subsidy and has approximately 800 members. Would an extra \$6.25 put too much of a significant burden on the parent? I think not.</p>	<p>Significant savings. Assuming 50 organizations receiving \$5000 each. Savings of \$250,000. Nothing to sneeze at and students still receiving summer employment. As someone once said to me, "Look after the nickels and dimes, and the dollars will take care of themselves."</p>	tiredofseeingwast 2016-02-18T22:11:45-04:30	4	8
Outpatient Blood Collection	<p>Outpatient Blood Collection should be outsourced to a private company. We should be able to have blood work done in the evenings and on the weekends. This would be less disruptive to individuals and businesses. Hospitals currently have laboratory technologists working 24/7....they could process the blood samples once delivered by the private companies.</p>	<p>This would be less disruptive to individuals and businesses. Increasing productivity and utilizing the resources currently working in hospitals more efficiently.</p>	townie 2016-02-19T09:47:55-04:30	3.5	6

Work with insurance providers to eliminate or reduce the need for physician referrals for physio therapy, massage therapy, podiatry, etc. This would eliminate unnecessary visits to the physician for a referral. Individuals know what they need and are forced to go to a doctor to get the paperwork. It's a waste of time, resources and money.

It would free up doctors valuable time. Eliminate an unnecessary MD visit by individuals. It would save money in MCP billings. It would allow physios, etc. to work to their full ability.

Eliminate the need for MD referrals for Physio/Massage/Podiatry

townie

2016-02-19T10:14:20-04:30

3.857142857

7

I will begin this idea with a real life experience -

Child's born and scheduled to see the public health nurse for measurements and weighing. The scales are not calibrate and the nurse does not account for the head's shape adjusting after birth ('post squeeze' for lack of a better term), plus the nurse applies a formula fed baby chart despite being told the child is completely breastfed (entirely different chart). Outcome is a unreliable weight, measure and benchmark, but despite this the public health nurse provides a poor conclusion which would strike anxiety into the heart of a parent without a background in quality control and assurance.

Then the child is scheduled for a routine check up with the family doctor near the same time, who does not have the information from the public health nurse, and completes all these measurements for himself, but thankfully does so with a much more grounded and careful analysis.

Then the child is scheduled for a routine check up with a pediatrician, who as part of

Healthcare needs major reform in communications, workflow and care. The system has become too complex and frontline family care and assessment needs to be refocused on those best able, family doctors. They may cost more, but they can save the system money in efficiencies by minimizing the number of elective visits to nurses and specialists.

Refocus family care with the family doctor and remove redundancies in health care services

SurfandTurf

2016-02-19T10:29:16-04:30

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Government has a whole structure set up for providing funding to businesses. Its expensive and in many cases very inefficient (often due to bureaucratic procedures). Also in many cases the level of service to clients is abysmal.

Why not do like ACOA has done and deliver the small business funding through the CBDC network? They seem to be much more efficient and offer additional services like business counselling to small business clients. Many small businesses need that kind of assistance too, so that the funding they get is used effectively. Plus CBDCs are community based and have a board made up of people from the area who are committed to helping small business people succeed.

Move funding for small business from govt depts to CBDCs

Small businesses are key to creating economic activity and employment in the province, but they need programs that are supportive and responsive.

It would make the process of supporting small business through funding more efficient. Clients would get better, faster service and additional supports to help them succeed.

NLfuture

2016-02-19T11:48:04-04:30

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Use Distance Education technologies	<p>Very expensive to maintain schools and college campuses for very small populations. Reduce the physical infrastructure and invest in distance education to enable more people to get greater education more efficiently. This would also enable people to access more learning options and subject areas than is likely possible now in the bricks and mortar facilities in remote/small population areas.</p> <p>NL is so far behind the rest of the world in utilizing these types of technologies. Distance education has been happening in other countries for over 40 years or more. Still plenty of roles for teachers in this type of system, and their expertise could be accessed by more students from farther away.</p>	Better educated population leading to more opportunities for employment, more access to broader range of subjects, reduced costs to keep campuses maintained.	NLfuture	2016-02-19T12:03:02-04:30	3.875	8
Services	<p>Not sure government needs to provide custodial, maintenance and dietary services to hospitals, schools and public buildings. Would it be more cost effective and efficient to tender out these services? Government, as an employer, should be responsible for core service staff...docs, rn's, technologists, teachers, police officers, etc. not sure all the support services need to be direct government employees.</p>	Tendering supportive services will find and reduce inefficiencies in the current model.	gverwhe	2016-02-19T23:31:09-04:30	3.875	8

It is time for a complete review of how the public service operates. Some workers/sectors are overworked while others perform very little.

All employees, offices, depots, schools, Departments, divisions need to be graded on how they are performing and if they are needed or need more resources.

To provide more resources were they are required. To close, relocate or provide more duties to those that are under performing.

Government Efficiency

Derrick

2016-02-21T10:37:28-04:30

3

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School grades have a firm cap on the number of students in a classroom, One student above this number and another classroom, teacher and resources are required.

If are 62 students in a grade with a cap of 20, currently 4 classrooms are rquired. Why is 21 students in a classroom an issue?

With a minor adjustment to cap size, an extra classroom, school space, portable classroms, teachers and resoureces are not requires for a very few additional students.

Classroom caps

Derrick

2016-02-21T10:46:52-04:30

3.714285714

7

Regional Government or County	<p>Where there are several or numerous small communities operating as individual local service districts or town councils, they should operate as a regional government with common fire protection, garbage collection, water supply and recreational facilities.</p> <p>Do so without amalgamation or property tax which would be a deterrent to the residents.</p>	<p>Some communities are too small for any services.</p> <p>Some communities are too small any kind of government, not enough people interested for a full complement.</p> <p>In most small communities combined services would be greatly improved over individual or no services.</p>	Derrick	2016-02-21T11:10:09-04:30	3.4	5
Maintenance over Capital Works for Roads, Buildings	<p>If government funding is reduced or unavailable for roads, buildings, schools, hospitals, etc a major maintenance programs and funding has to be made available to maintain any and all infrastructure such as roads, schools, offices, clinics, hospitals so nothing that is existing is in a state of disrepair.</p>	<p>Funding for capital works projects require large sums of money. Major inspection and maintenance programs can extend the life of existing structures.</p> <p>Reduce potholes, washouts and safety issues in roads.</p> <p>Prevent leaks, rot, mold in schools and buildings.</p>	Derrick	2016-02-21T11:24:36-04:30	3	2

Family Doctor's should be paid per visit rather than daily wages. In other provinces Doctor's submit claims to the province per patient visit. The system is called "fee for service."

Family Doctors will become more efficient and see more patients. Right now many patients miss scheduled appointments and there is no incentive for Doctor's to have the system change.

With the current system of a daily wage, the Doctor's life is easier and more relaxed as long as there are fewer patients and more missed appointments. The result is a low visit per Doctor ratio, and therefore the province winds up needing more Doctors to deliver service at the current level of inefficiency,

Also, Family Doctors who want to improve their income through seeing more patients can't do it. The only way for a Doctor to get a better wage is to go someplace that pays on a per patient basis. So the province loses its most ambitious Doctors, or those who want to earn a higher quality of life, to other provinces. This province needs to compete

Family Doctors being paid per patient visit (fee for service) will lead to more patient options, more patients seen more quickly, and deliver services efficiently (like walk in clinics). It will result in changes to the system so there are far fewer missed appointments and a more efficient appointment scheduling.

End salaried family Doctors

abc

2016-02-21T12:05:06-04:30

1.66666667

6

Unions come up
with ideas

Turn things around with the unions. Instead of unions bellyaching about layoffs and god forbid asking for a raise, ask them to come up with cost saving ideas.

The general public right now would support a massive layoff in the public service . If the unions would come up with innovative ideas to save money they would garner better trust and understanding from the public.

mooresgerry

2016-02-21T12:48:06-04:30

1.5

4

Allow insurance company offices to verify if the registration information is unchanged and collect the vehicle registration fee.

Most years the information for vehicle registration is unchanged unless I get a new car. All the government office does is collect the money for registration. I also make a trip to my insurance company office for vehicle insurance. If there is no update of the registration information why can't the insurance agent verify that the registration information is unchanged and collect the vehicle registration fee as well as the insurance? .

It is very convenient for me to pay insurance and registration at one stop. Plus there are several insurance companies in Town with a variety of hours so I have more payment options.

The government office would only have to deal with new or changed registration.

Reduce the demand for the government vehicle registration office and so be able to reduce staff and office space. Allow collection of vehicle registration fee at the same time you pay for insurance. Allow insurance offices to collect vehicle registration fees where the information on the registration form doesn't change.

Vehicle registration paid at insurance office

Insurance offices will start collecting as a competitive advantage. If one office says that it will collect insurance and registration as a

abc

2016-02-21T15:08:10-04:30

2.5

2

Upper level government positions such as the assistant deputy minister positions in each department could be eliminated.

Government institutions like the Lieutenant Governor and Government House eliminated saving millions with the stork of a pen. It is only a ceremonial position and many of the duties can be eliminated or passed on to the Premier. We cannot afford this pomp and circumstance.

Non essential government employees and departments put on reduced hours, ie. a 4 day workweek . Either close on Fridays or Mondays or stagger the 4 day so government offices can be open 5 days a week with reduced staff on Mondays and Fridays.

Relocation....government needs to cut expensive services to small isolated communities ie. 200 or 300 people needing a expensive ferry service. I am not saying to relocate these people, but if they want to live there, they need to pay for the services, not government. Not politically appetizing but a necessity to save millions in desperate times. Millions saved in road repairs and providing ferry service.

Government needs to save millions in order to reduce our 2 billion deficit. If we cannot we will be looking at a bankruptcy situation in a number of years if we maintain this level of spending. Oil may never return to the 100 dollars a barrel. Right now 50 dollars a barrel is a pipedream.

Government
Restructuring

Legendgt550

2016-02-21T22:34:24-04:30

3.571428571

7

“You cannot manage other people unless you manage yourself first.” Peter F. Drucker

Priority Recommendation - Take a collaborative approach to designing a coherent Provincial Conscious Leadership (leadership beyond positions of power) and Conscious Workplace Culture Strategy . Further, it is recommended the strategy focus on the three levels of government as well as the three sectors (Public, Private and Not for Profit).

This recommendation aligns with the spirit and intent outlined in the UK's document titled Mindful Nation UK. A report by the Mindfulness All Party Parliamentary Group - October 2015.)

Newfoundland Labrador Developing Conscious Leaders, Organizations and Communities

Provincial Conscious Leadership and Conscious Workplace Culture Strategy

Former Medtronic CEO Bill George , now a Harvard professor: “Mindful people make much better leaders than frenetic, aggressive ones. They understand their reactions to

Why is this important? It is 2016, the scientific evidence and the business case speaks for itself. The long list of benefits are far reaching.

- Mindful Leadership and Conscious Workplace Culture Go Hand in Hand. The scientific evidence of the benefits of mindfulness and meditation practice is nothing short of astounding. Studies have shown that regular practice can result in changing the chromosomes; increased neuroplasticity; greater enjoyment of work; increased happiness, focus, clarity of mind and calmness; improved decision making; enhanced listening skills; and greater productivity, etc. (The Integral Business Leadership Group 2013)

- Mindfulness is good for medicine, health care, and society . Empirically supported evidence includes:

<http://evp.harvard.edu/book/where-can-i-find-evidence-based-research-mindfulness>

<http://www.apa.org/monitor/2012/07-08/ce-corner.aspx>

mindfullleader

2016-02-21T23:31:31-04:30

3.5

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We will be remembered as the Debt Generation and all other advancement we make as a Province I am afraid won't be remembered.

Remembered by our future Newfoundland and Labrador Citizens, because of how little we left them to work with.

Why isn't there cuts in government departments and salaries reduced ???

I'll answer my own question with a Definition.

Concerned excessively or exclusively with oneself : seeking or concentrating on one's own advantage, pleasure, or well-being without regard for others. 2 : arising from concern with one's own welfare or advantage in disregard of others. No it's not selfie.

Innovation is easy !

Omg

2016-02-22T16:08:14-04:30

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Stop the practice of re-hiring retired teachers, nurses and other provincial government employees. There are so many new graduates who are unemployed.

Also, there are many provincial government/crown agencies employees who are hired back on contract after they retire. So they are not on the payroll but are still working. They receive a pension cheque and a contract cheque while some of our MUN graduates are working for barely more than minimum wage because they can't get work in their field. With every new government there is hope that things will change regarding the underhandedness that takes place with regard to hiring in the public service but it never materializes.

To give young people a chance and to reduce unemployment and out migration.

Disallow hiring of retired employees

Mitchc

2016-02-22T22:04:58-04:30

4.285714286

14

Lay cards on table now	With latest announcement that province can not anvil of long term borrowing it's time for all step up to plate stop playing the guessing game and give us opportunity to move forward	Innovative approach stalling has always plagued politicians half truths destroy. Every day lost costs! Bold novel idea sharing and openness is. problem solving has be open as this game is causing stress and stalls the economy simple as that. Budget needs come out sooner rather than later!!!!	Thinker	2016-02-23T09:53:10-04:30	3.4	5
streamline Govt	there are too many ADMs, directors, upper management, clogging up the system, slowing down field work, its time to combine similar departments and trim off the excess.	more work out of the field staff and less micro managing and red tape.	fedup	2016-02-23T12:06:55-04:30	3.714285714	7
Eliminate Studded Tires	It is a well documented fact that studded tire damage pavement and that today's non-studded winter tires are superior. Studded tires should be eliminated on the Avalon and softer studs used in the rest of the Province. Studded tires are wearing away the top layer of pavement leading to costly resurfacing of roads on a yearly basis. It is also documented that the ruts and rough surface on the road is leading to premature tire wear, so not only will government save on resurfacing the roads, but consumers will benefit by not having to replace tires as often.	Road maintenance is costly	Legendgt550	2016-02-23T13:19:21-04:30	3	4

Early Retirement	Government employees within 3-4 years of retirement forced to retire, without penalty, with full pension. No exceptions!	Save government money without layoffs and leaving younger people in the Public Service.	Legendgt550	2016-02-23T13:27:30-04:30	4	8
Issue tickets not court dates	<p>There are many pieces of legislation whereby offenders against the act or regulations may only be dealt with by a prosecution through the court system instead of being issued a ticket for a fine on the spot. So much staff time goes into developing a prosecution, there are high costs of running a court with all the attendant staff, and much of the time, the prosecution may not be successful because of the high burden of proof required. If someone is caught, for example, snowmobiling in the Avalon Wilderness Reserve, then just issue a ticket. No court costs, no prep time for conservation officers, and possibly some revenue generated too.</p>	This is a more efficient use of staff time, reduces court costs and possibly generates revenue from a ticketing system.	Great_auk	2016-02-23T22:54:52-04:30	3.857142857	7

We can see the results of being way too dependent on one sector of the economy. When oil/gas prices are low and the Canadian dollar is low, it would seem to be a prime time to promote this beautiful province that we live in and bring in more tourism dollars. All of a sudden, Canada is much more attractive to our southern neighbours. Let's remember to diversify. Put some money not just into energy megaprojects, but into developing our tourism product in key locations of the province. We have to be taking care of and protecting our wild area, natural scenic beauty and our cultural heritage - something we have that many other places do not.

Promotion of and development of nature and culture-based tourism can bring money into the province in the short term, spread benefits throughout the province especially in rural areas which really need it and helps to sustain a diversified economy.

Support tourism when dollar is low

Great_auk

2016-02-23T23:25:07-04:30

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Support tourism when dollar is low

Great_auk

2016-02-23T23:25:50-04:30

3.66666667

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The government's dialogue site have produced a diversified list of ideas. Most would appear to be of little value. A few are sound ideas submitted by well-intended individuals with our province's interests in mind.

The government should consider making the best use of smart individuals by singling out those with the best ideas and invite them to become regular members of a think-tank committee.

Government MHA's recognized the fact that they don't have the answers to solve our province's woes, thus the public was invited to participate in a dialogue. That dialogue has produced a crop from which the best can be harvested.

Reap What You Sow

grimreaper

2016-02-24T08:16:59-04:30

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4

We have such a different culture here in Newfoundland yet we still feel a connection because yes we are all Canadian, but also Newfoundland and Labradorians

Yes, I know, patriotism can be cheesy and even sometimes dangerous, but I still can't help feel the pride.

Yes, we are in Da Hole, but let's try and stay positive.

Music. We all love music!

Think of things like... A festival some place packed with youngsters strutting their stuff or being surrounded by endless water, Our "Rock" is amazing and unique. take a ferry ride or a drive across the entire island.

So much rock and interesting formations and lovely views of desolation. The only other place you get that feeling is maybe the Dempster highway or Australian outback, we are used to paying up to \$1.40 at the pump per litre of gasoline. With the gasoline at around 85 cents a litre. A tax until gasoline until oil prices raise ago. I am talking about a big tax.

We've hit hard times, but we're strong.

Stay happy, and keep building our province in the face of adversity.

Had to turn my own frown upside down...

It would give government more revenue to pay debt.

Let's turn that frown upside down

Gasoline Tax

Omg

Stevelegrow

2016-02-24T12:19:40-04:30

2016-02-25T12:56:14-04:30

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3.4

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The RNC police the City of Corner Brook while the RCMP police the Town of Massey Drive and all the communities along the north and south shore of the Bay of Islands. The Town of Massey Drive is completely encircled by Corner Brook. The north and south shore of the Bay of Islands are only accessible via Corner Brook. The RNC and RCMP operate separate headquarters approximately 1km apart within the City of Corner Brook. The RCMP must leave RNC jurisdiction to proceed to their policing jurisdiction and have a completely separate apparatus of vehicles, supervision and facilities to carry out their policing responsibilities.

While the RCMP are funded 30% by the federal government, there is still a significant waste of provincial taxpayers dollars funding a completely separate operation to provide such directly overlapping policing services.

Increasing RNC staff by a nominal amount and eliminating the RCMP detachment altogether would realize a significant cost saving to policing in this area. All of the cost for RCMP facilities, equipment, supervision,

Cost saving benefits along with eliminating public confusion about which organization polices which area.

Corner Brook Area
Policing Services

Rocklife

2016-02-26T08:54:00-04:30

3.66666667

3

<p>Enhance government promotion and support for co-operative and credit union development in the province.</p>	<p>These self-sustaining community owned enterprises take a business approach to facilitating the community development process. They are collectively owned by the people who use their services. Co-operative enterprises generate community investment; create employment; pay business taxes; and reinvest in the regions they serve.</p>	<p>Growth of the the province's co-operative business sector will help facilitate the development of stronger, more independent and financially self-reliant communities in NL.</p>	<p>gfitzpatrick</p>	<p>2016-02-26T10:50:05-04:30</p>	<p>3.4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>Muskkrat tax and Muskkrat Shares</p>	<p>Introduce an energy tax and administer a share return for the amount of taxes collected which would be capped at a level to be determined.</p>	<p>People of the province are already indirect shareholders by simply being taxpayers. This program would provide more and cheaper revenue for the project and one day will return a direct dividend from the project.</p> <p>This would reduce the required amount of government funding for the project and take them of the hook to a degree.</p>	<p>jdc</p>	<p>2016-02-26T14:12:06-04:30</p>	<p>2.333333333</p>	<p>3</p>

Departments

Advanced Education and Skills

Business, Tourism, Culture and Rural
Development

Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

Child, Youth and Family Services

Education and Early Childhood
Development

Remove 30%...

The List

Omg

2016-02-26T14:23:00-04:30

3.66666667

6

There are some pretty good ideas floating around here. Time to start sifting through and using some I think. Not a time to increase office MP budgets by 20% , wtf is up with that? Someone needs to start thinking sensible.

I am not commenting anymore, it is sickening to see a website like this on the go with some good ideas being circulated and then see on the news : a 20% increase for MP office budgets.

What's the point?

neotrout

2016-02-27T09:00:57-04:30

3.818181818

11

The report from the Budget Consultation App will need to be clear on what it is ... and what it is not! While many of the ideas are interesting it is important to know that you can't say that one idea is more important than another. You also can't use this Budget Consultation to say "The people of Newfoundland support "x" idea." The way the consultation has been put together does not have the statistical validity to allow the report to say anything other than it is list a lot of interesting ideas.

It is misleading to politicians and the public to say anything beyond the fact that this is a collection of interesting ideas because;

It is not a random sample of Newfoundland residents. People are choosing to come to the consultation app and choosing then to post to it. There is no randomization of response and no standard question. You cannot say the App shows "most" residents want this or that.

Consultation not statistically useful but is a collection of unweighted ideas

The voting system is meaningless because ideas and voting can be easily manipulated.

The whole Budget Consultation App is a collection of interesting ideas but it won't say anything about what the people of the province agree on and don't agree on.

Politicians and residents should see the report for what it really represents which is a collection of ideas. It is important that no decisions are made because the report says (or politicians assume) that a particular response represents the people of the province.

The report should make it clear that politicians cannot look at the Budget Consultation App report and say that the people of the province want "x". You cannot say anything in the App report about how much people agree with an idea judging by the number of times an idea appears or the comments attached to it.

Our voted leaders will need to weigh the options themselves and make decisions ... and own those decisions.

Does attrition work?

When an PS employee decides to leave their employment(ie. retire, medical or other opportunities), the decision to eliminate a position should not be taken lightly. Decision making should be formalized and take various factors into account. Have you assessed the importance of the position in the Departments' or service workflow? How will elimination affect other positions and public services? If eliminated, who will do the work and have you assessed the competencies required to the work?

The process of attrition should first start with effective succession planning? How much time do you give an PS employee to learn new responsibilities and processes? When people leave they take a high percentage of the information with them.

For attrition to be effective, succession planning, mentoring and process documentation should be in place. Better to do it right and than to make quick decisions.

Loss of valuable information from those who leave an organization is high and will only create further inefficiency.

Attrition sounds easy...

LoveNL

2016-02-29T13:51:03-04:30

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4

Digital Signatures	<p>Using digital signatures within the public service for forms would cut down on printing and allow for greater productivity.</p> <p>Passing laws that would allow verified digital signatures to sign contracts (ie Real Estate) could cut down on fraud, cost of doing business, and also increase productivity.</p>	<p>I've seen and experienced the frustration with printing what are primarily electronic documents simply for a signature. Digital signatures also have the added benefit of increased security through encryption, date and time stamps, and 3rd party verification. A scrawl of ink offers none of these and if was introduced today as a way of legally agreeing to a contract would be dismissed quickly for all its weaknesses. With minimum investment this would save the province in time and capital almost immediately.</p>	Swight	2016-02-29T18:52:51-04:30	4.2	5
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So, in difficult times, learning how to be self-sufficient, and not need money for everything, is very useful.

Maslow's Hierarchy of needs helps to put different needs into priority perspective a bit:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maslow's_hierarchy_of_needs

But one way to think of some survival needs is:

30 days without food

3 days without water

3min without air

That's about how long people can go without some of those things, so it helps you plan for logistics in terms of backing things up.

So we see having clean water to drink is quite important, and being able to store food over the winter might also be important.

There are many techniques online for gathering water, and conserving water use, like rainwater, greywater used for things

Mostly somewhere to start and some techniques to be used, and some issues to prioritize in order to maintain the maximum amount of resiliency to crisis and poverty situations.

some tools and tips for self-sufficiency/ community resiliency

maikeru333

2016-03-01T14:31:54-04:30

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Government workers surprisingly manage to post monitor and use social media on hour by hour often times minute by minute basis during normal working hours. This leads a lay person to believe one of two things either their job should be made redundant or there is a very strong lack of management controls. If a person sits back and watches it would shock you when a government employee is able to monitor community happenings and post almost on minute by minute basis. Maybe just maybe if these things were controlled and employees actually worked their required time less social activities then streamlining and attrition could work amazingly well. Then again these post do keep the community informed be it not what they are paid to do. At rate of some of these workers of approx \$25 to \$30 hour and accumulation of multiple multiple offenders the cost to government purse is astounding. Really people is there a need.

Increase productivity eliminate waste and increase service to public. More for less!

Social media in workplace

Thinker

2016-03-05T08:21:29-04:30

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Local Media has head in sand...

<http://globalnews.ca/video/2502759/unprecedented-times-in-newfoundland-and-labrador-ball/>

Local media has to get gravity of this situation out... Head in sand don't help...This is not going away....

Omg

2016-03-05T10:21:51-04:30

3.666666667

6

When a patient first goes to an Eastern Health hospital, they have to be issued an Eastern Health Hospital card and they are supposed to present it at every subsequent hospital visit. The information on the card is the same as on our MCP cards - they both contain birth date and MCP number.

Eliminate hospital cards	Let's eliminate the hospital card since it is just information duplication and an unnecessary expense.	This idea would save money in the health care system and would save residents the hassle of having two cards.	economist	2016-03-07T03:36:49-04:30	3.857142857	7
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correctional facilities be serve food from other government facilities instead of "restaurant food"	Currently correctional facilities like the womens center in Clarendville are being served food from local resturants and the hospital has a caferteria right next door! Why cant it be put to tender and the tender include "Aramark"? (this is the company that is presently the one in Gb Cross hospital). This company should be able to do it cheaper with the same quality of service.	It would save money and make more economic sense, while still providing the same quality of service.	john41	2016-03-14T12:16:32-03:30	3.75	8
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Government should own their own vehicles and buildings instead of leasing or renting them!	Government should own and maintain their fleet of vehicles and buildings. Only makes fiscal sense just like owning your home vs. leasing/renting.	It would be more cost efficient and still have the same quality of service. A no brainer!	john41	2016-03-14T12:21:14-03:30	4	4
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use local/provincial products/food vs imports	<p>we need legislation to promote, produce and sell locally/provincially vs imports food /products from outside. If we can produce it here we should not import or bring it in. (i.e. bottled water, produce, dairy, poultry, lamb, beef , etc.) We should also sell more wild meat in the grocery stores like is presently happening at "Bidgoods" in the Goulds. So often we buy products from outside NL that we can produce or manufacture here that would benefir our economy greatly. The government should play a greater role in promoting this!</p>	<p>It would save money, stimulate our economy, provide jobs and make us more self sufficient.</p>	john41	2016-03-14T12:34:52-03:30	5	1
Bring back Crunchtime!	<p>We miss your crunch...come back b'y, come back!</p>	<p>I misses Crunchtime :(</p>	Johnny709	2016-03-15T13:50:57-03:30	5	1
get out anyone that is presently on pension	<p>Different workers that are presently working with goverment that are recieving pension should be out the door and if they are eligible for a pension should be moved out. we presently have people that are in there 70s recieving old age pension, canada pension,and provincial pension, who gets enough hours per year in the college system and transportation dept to recieve EI for the next 10months because pension dont affect EI</p>	<p>Save goverment dollars and give young people a chance to get in these positions</p>	d118798	2016-03-16T11:18:13-03:30	3.666666667	3

Prohibit medical physicians from delivering and charging MCP for services that could be provided by a pharmacist or nurse practitioner ; an easy example is the flu shot. Doctors charge MCP prohibitive amounts for a procedure that takes only slightly more than zero minutes;

cut Voicemail on landlines ; unanswered phones could bounce to a general line;

eliminate grant programs where comparable grants programs exist at the federal level ; two notable examples include BTCRD's Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Program, and the WPO's Aboriginal Women's Violence Prevention Grants;

prohibit all in-City taxicab use ; anecdotally, JPS solicitors frequently employ cabs to and from the courts. This must cost a fortune;

prohibit first-class air travel ; executive from Nalcor have been seen filling up the first-class section of a commercial flight, as Per above well as Natural Resources executives in a first-

Save Money

anonymousgover 2016-03-16T12:35:21-03:30

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The task ahead cannot be an easy one for sure, no matter what Party is in power. LEAD BY EXAMPLE! Yes there needs to be cuts everywhere but start with leading by example. Why not have every MP agree to a small roll back in their wages. You can beat it won't change anyone lifestyle but it would show that you are starting inside first. Inside driven, outside followed! Also put a freeze on "appointing" any new positions. That's what private business does. We cut from the top down!. Lead by example!

This is important beside it IS the way the real business world works, so why not the government too. When private business gets in financial trouble, they begin by cleaning house...inside first!

Lead by Example!

ritagillard

2016-03-16T19:56:17-03:30

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I took this information from:
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/adult-basic-education-costs-up-enrolment-down-privatization-1.3493815>

Tuition and operating costs of Adult Basic Education have spiked since the government of Newfoundland and Labrador privatized the program in 2013, while student enrolment fell by nearly 30 per cent .

The cost of operating ABE rose by roughly 31 per cent since 2013-2014 , rising from \$7,589,468 to \$10,003,383 in 2015-2016. The average cost of tuition went up by 88 per cent , from \$3,342 to \$6,287 per year. Enrolment fell by nearly 30 per cent in the same time frame and graduate rates dropped by more than half.

We need to act quickly to reinstate this program back at the Prince Philip Drive campus of the College of the North Atlantic when the current contract expires on March

Reinstate Adult Basic 31st
Education

Newfoundland and Labrador has one of the lowest rates of literacy in the country. How can we be expected to prosper if our education level as a whole is suffering?

The people who need to undertake this program come from some of the most vulnerable sectors in our society yet they face many barriers under the current system of delivery, such as

ABE Cost to deliver has risen 30%

Student Enrollment has dropped 30%

Average tuition cost has risen 88%

Mr. Ball you have asked workers to find 30% savings across the board. Here is one area that has been identified in which your government can quickly and easily achieve those savings.

Please Mr. Ball, help protect our vulnerable sons and daughters of this great province!
Please reinstate this program back at the

Johnny709

2016-03-17T09:50:28-03:30

1.8

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STOP putting children at risk!	<p>Closing the Child Youth and Family Services office in Piccadilly on the Port au Port Peninsula in April this year is putting children at risk! The area already has no police services! Presumed (and I mean presumed!) cost saving at the risk of children's lives is unethical and irresponsible. This has been done very quietly and I think that approach is despicable.</p>	<p>Children's lives and well being are too important to play around with. This needs to be taken seriously.</p>	eyeontheball	2016-03-17T10:58:45-03:30	1	2
Stop using old systems and processes.	<p>Embracing existing, proven technologies can significantly increase the effectiveness (and reduce costs) of government administrative activities. For example, modern client and project tracking software can increase the efficiency of staff and also greatly improve the government's capacity to develop strategic plans, operations, and projects based on evidence. Where record keeping and information sharing is complicated by rules and regulations set by the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), the government should simply not be involved in record keeping and should instead engage the private sector and its industry association partners to facilitate. Another example could be improved and more cost effective environmental monitoring through the use of ROVs or UAVs.</p>	<p>Embracing existing, proven technologies can significantly increase the effectiveness (and reduce the costs) of government administrative activities.</p>	NEIA	2016-03-17T12:49:36-03:30	2.75	4

In the current framework, requests for proposals (RFPs) are often specifying products that are compatible with outdated systems, thereby excluding the applicability of newer and more efficient components that may be locally manufactured or more environmentally sound. In other cases, RFPs ask for packaged products or services with elements not available within the province, thus inhibiting local bids. In addition, when smaller firms are responding to RFPs, government seeks validation of environmentally friendly products and technologies that are already widely used in other jurisdictions. It is NEIA's view that many of these issues are caused by RFPs that delineate a project or product in exact terms, e.g. defining not just the final deliverable but also how that deliverable should be achieved. This eliminates new ideas and alternative solutions from the outset, and discourages innovative thinking. Government (and Crown agency) RFPs should be prescriptive in desired outcomes, not processes. Public-Private Partnerships, or P3s, can be used to provide services that are typically large capital expenditures, e.g. sewage, roads, construction, etc. A design-

The current procurement process actually discourages innovation and new ideas.

Restructure government procurement.

NEIA

2016-03-17T12:50:29-03:30

2.333333333

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Not all firms are built equal. There are cases where businesses emerge with products, services, or market strategies that have significant potential for rapid growth. The government should work in close collaboration with these firms to provide the support that they need financially, logistically, and from a management perspective during high-growth phases. A particular focus should be on firms which display a propensity for innovation, international business, and/or job creation.

Proactively support high-potential firms.

Rapid-growth potential businesses can have a high impact on job creation and local economies.

NEIA

2016-03-17T12:52:33-03:30

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Embrace and procure green products, services, and process

Greener products, services, and processes can lead to significant cost savings in the short, medium, and long term. This can range from simple office waste management, to the installation of motion-detecting sensors for lighting, to the use of electric vehicles. Newfoundland and Labrador requires leadership from its government on greening its economy. The government should look at this as a purely financial issue - if there are cost savings to be achieved by changing the way it does business or the products and services it procures, it should take them. The government can work with local industry to (1) implement changes that are within the local green economy's means; and (2) to develop capacity within the local green economy to pursue desired changes in the medium term.

Good for environment, but perhaps most importantly - save money.

NEIA

2016-03-17T12:53:15-03:30

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Increase the efficiency of government buildings.

Inefficient buildings and their operations are not just considerable contributors to climate change, but they also represent significant sources of waste. This waste takes the form of escaping heat, excess electricity or energy consumption, inadequate diversion of “garbage”, and more. While in some cases investments are required to make buildings more efficient, the reduction of these sources of waste has proven to represent a significant cost savings; many of these investments can be paid for by operational savings after just a few short years. The government of Newfoundland and Labrador has many property assets throughout the province, representing a large footprint. Increased building efficiency could save taxpayers money while providing new opportunities for businesses engaged in green building activities.

Create jobs in the short term and save money in the medium and long term.

NEIA

2016-03-17T12:54:10-03:30

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Solicit (and follow) expert advice on running efficient operations.	All organizations can benefit from adhering to best management and operational practices (such as lean) and the benefits of doing so are typically proportionate to the size of the enterprise. Thus, a government department could benefit significantly from soliciting (and following) expert advice on its operations. There are costs involved in this endeavour, however if profit-demanding corporations see fit to proceed, it would also be in the best interests of the taxpayer.	If profit-demanding corporations see fit to get expert advice on running their operations more efficiently, it would also be in the best interests of the taxpayer for their government to do the same.	NEIA	2016-03-17T12:55:12-03:30	1	2
Update and develop new guidance documents.	Existing codes of practice or guidance documents, which are in place to aid the government and industry through routine processes, are outdated. There are other cases where guidance documents do not exist. Guidance documents help processes between the public and private sector by providing consistency, and reliability. Increased efficiency leads to greater speed and reduced costs for both parties. The government can collaborate with industry to update existing documents and develop new ones where appropriate.	Increased efficiency leads to greater speed and reduced costs for both parties.	NEIA	2016-03-17T12:55:42-03:30	2.333333333	3

Classically the job cuts come to the support staff first and the ones left end up taking on 2 and 3 jobs...literally run ragged, while those higher up employees end up wasting major time doing their own support work. This work has to be done regardless if there is support staff or not. If the gov't is planning on reducing support staff, then the direction of remaining support staff should be to work that physically has to be done on site.

Some time consuming low skill work can be outsourced.

Some gov't departments do this already on a small scale.

examples:

Transcription

Word processing

Data entry

Outsource Minor

Project work (data entry/word

processing/transcrip

tion)

Graphic design

...etc

This is a solution to the problems layoffs of support staff will cause.

It would also be very effective to replace "seasonally" busy jobs. Those employees could be re-deployed to more beneficial work.

Low cost compared to maintaining staff to do the something.

Quick turnaround, usually 24hours.

GeoffStarling

2016-03-17T20:48:33-03:30

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Improvement in broadband	<p>Support greater efficiency in public access and conducting government business. Ex. Access to healthcare through increased virtual services. A specialist could meet with a patient in Nain virtually and potentially minimize travel costs for specialist visits.</p> <p>better broadband services would minimize Service NL front line services and improved access. Other services could be transferred to SNL such as MCP applications.</p>	<p>Improves access to government services while minimizing the cost of service delivery over the long term.</p>	Sunshine	2016-03-21T07:44:48-03:30	5	1
Increased regionalization	<p>Decentralization of government services through use of broadband technology. Currently a strong concentration of public servants in the 'centre' which influences the overall government decision making process. With increased input / exercised lens at a regional level government decision making may be more objective and represent specific interests more effectively.</p>	<p>Ensure increased regional focus in the province</p>	Sunshine	2016-03-21T07:49:58-03:30	5	1

Government Finances with multiple Excel spreadsheets and sophisticated investing strategies? Annoying or admirable,, less-than-perfect finances, right?

But let's face it: The last thing you want to do is spend too much energy budgeting. Well, guess what? It's possible to improve our finances by doing a few things that actually require very little effort. it may sound crazy, but we sometimes forget that small savings carry value. If you have loose change in your budget, you're more likely to spend it or lose it in the depths of your departments.

By putting your excess daily savings put it in an account, you're preventing frivolous spending. And once you have a healthy stash, you can take your savings to the bank and deposit them. 30% is really only 1% a day for 30 days.

KISS

14 days 30%

Omg

2016-04-01T10:44:29-03:30

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Residents need to own and have direct access to all their health data electronically vs having this data being "owned" by health care organizations or physicians/providers. Far too many times abnormal results are missed in the sea of paperwork physicians/providers handle every day resulting in treatment delays. Additionally many NLers suffer from chronic illnesses that require ongoing monitoring. These patients should be able to view their results and their trends online. This would prevent the need to see a healthcare provider (Doctor/NP) just to get their results. It would stop patients clogging up offices to receive normal results thus freeing up space for more urgent healthcare needs. Information can also be provided online to help patients better understand their results. People with Chronic diseases can be assigned to a healthcare provider electronically who would help them monitor and interpret their results and allow electronic communication real time. Unfortunately not all doctors/providers stay current on best practices for treating chronic diseases, so patients may not be receiving optimum care. Physicians should be required to follow new Best Practice information. Up

Empower patients/residents to take control of their own health

Improves patients health by giving them education and information to make informed healthcare choices.

Improves utilization of healthcare providers and ensures patients have access to healthcare regardless of their location.

Allows us to utilize the technology's that exist that most people in our province have access to today such as smart phones/tablets and public access points.

Will save money by preventing unneeded doctor visits, decreased need for travel, but also improve people's long term health thus keeping them as healthy as possible saving the system hundreds of thousands of dollars.

St. John's has several major problems including an ageing septic system and harbour pollution. For those with yesterday's mentality, the city can expect nothing less than a downward trend. It's time to get smart.

I propose turning Water Street into a giant septic tank. Buildings on the harbour side of the street could act as a dam if the streets leading between them toward the harbour were blocked. Furthermore, if the fenders on the harbour front were blocked, that area could be turned into a shallow septic field and used to remove contaminants and impurities from the liquid that emerges from the septic tank. This may lead to a new industry like growing rice or cranberries (the possibilities are mind boggling).

This idea would save our environment from pollution while saving St. John's the expense of needless sewer repairs.

Septic System
Efficiency and
Innovation

crunchtime

2016-04-03T07:11:53-03:30

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Lobster is considered Canada's most valuable seafood export and sought after around the world. Canadian lobster landings remain at one of the highest levels recorded in 100 years, with an upward trend over recent decades. The majority (78%) of Canadian lobster exports are destined for the United States. Other key markets include Asia (Japan and China) and the European Union (Belgium, France). Lobster is also exported to an additional 50 countries.

Annual lobster landings approximate 75,000 tonnes and represents a value of about \$700 million. Sometimes growing to lengths of 60 cm and weighing over 18 kilograms, lobsters can grow to be among the largest marine crustaceans. They are also the longest-living crustaceans, capable of reaching ages of up to 50 years. The American lobster is distributed in the northwest Atlantic from the deeper waters of North Carolina to the waters of Newfoundland and southern Labrador.

Habitat for *Homarus Americanus*

Lobsters are active hunters, feeding on a variety of animals, including crab, shellfish, marine worms, starfish, sea urchins and fish.

This idea would cost little to implement and give an added boost to a growing industry.

crunchtime

2016-04-03T15:49:02-03:30

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A CSR Strategy

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has been used by governments in Europe and Africa to further sustainable development in their societies. The government of Newfoundland and Labrador needs to adopt public policies that will encourage medium and big businesses operating in the province to invest either strategically or philanthropically, funds they have for CSR, in identified areas of need like health care, education and, public transportation, therefore reducing government's expenditure on these things.

What do businesses get in return?

Incentives like better access to market or resources, good reputation, or tax breaks commensurate with amount invested in providing these services (which government would have otherwise had to spend)

Why the contribution is important

Why is a government CSR strategy important?

When government adopts a CSR strategy, experience from other jurisdictions show that it facilitates win-win situations for business, government and the society.

It is also not difficult or expensive to implement. Simply identify values to be addressed and develop tools to encourage businesses to tackle these challenges.

And it will reduce government's expenditure and free up revenue to be spent on other pressing things, and reduce the role of government in providing public service.

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And it will reduce government expenditure and free up revenue to be spent on other pressing things, and reduce the role of government in providing public service.

Partner with the Private sector through a CSR strategy

smith

2016-04-05T16:13:10-03:30

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<p>It has puzzled me why the RNC has not been mandated to police the entire Province? province.</p>	<p>Better people, costs less and they perform exceptionally well. Extensively recruited and paramountly trained. They do most of the "heavy lifting" in criminal investigations in NL. Cost/crime/officer/population is the best in Canada. Professional performance and mandated accountability with unusual operational performance. Why has this not happened before?????</p>	<p>Newfoundlanders require and demand that they be policed by an organization that is "home grown" and accountable to its own people. In overall costs the RNC are less expensive and provide an exceptional level of service with all of their responsibilities. They are constantly visible and knowledgeable in all encounters with the public. They do not rely on Federal 'transfer payments' to deal with their mandate. The communities and the police should work 'hand-in-hand' in determining the enforcement type and community roles that the officers are to perform in all of our town and outports. Quite often this does not happen and on occasion directives flow from Ottawa on what is 'best' for the people of NL. This is an unacceptable situation. Policing is a joint undertaking between communities and the people hired to protect its values. Do we get this currently??</p> <p>Governments perform an independent oversight into the community and police initiative. They have a critical role to perform which is truly lacking in the current model. Accountability and transparency is paramount in policing and this only occurs</p>	<p>earwig</p>	<p>2016-04-07T12:23:01-03:30</p>	<p>1.5</p>	<p>2</p>
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I am startled by the huge salaries and duplication of positions in the Public Service

and crown corps etc. etc. etc.The minister of finance had better reduce,slash

and cut salaries and numbers of these parasities.

Because we are B A N K R U P T.....

Sunshine List

moonman

2016-04-10T14:32:48-03:30

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The current management created all our problems over many decades. Premiers have changed, but they can only give general direction and rely on senior staff to explain what is going on and what is possible. The problem is that those in management are generally the WRONG people for the job. Many got these positions via their political connections, not by proper job competitions. They are obsessed with ingratiating themselves to the minister as this is the best way to climb the ladder to a good pension. In many cases, they also need to keep a low profile (not rock the boat) to survive and they seldom push back. Those that do push back are eliminated.

What we need are fresh minds. Imagine a highly experienced candidate that had extensive public sector and commercial experience outside of Newfoundland. This new person would start asking obvious questions like statistics regarding costs, wait times, maintenance costs, long term plans only to find it disrupted the department as everyone went scurrying for answers because nobody know the answers. This newcomer would see no modern real-time

The only way to fix the financial and deal with our demographic and economic problems is to start from scratch with competent management hired through open and transparant job competitions because those in executive now are responsible for the problems in the first place and have a vested interest in the status quo.

This is a tiny province with a miniscule population, no bigger than a suburb of a big city. Managing it efficiently shouldn't be that difficult.

Complete management purge

foobar

2016-04-12T10:36:20-03:30

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2

Propose a deal to run a ferry service from Newfoundland to New York

It would increase potential tourism, collect money for govt from outgoing travelers to the United States, and greatly aid the economy.

We don't get as many tourists here as we probably could, this would help.

Thatguywiththeo; 2016-04-14T12:29:18-03:30

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Multiple government agencies could benefit from using UAV (drone) technology to complete routine inspections of areas and infrastructure. While the technology is not appropriate for all inspections, and there would be a learning curve for the operators, they are considerably less costly than sending multiple staff members deep into rural terrain, scaling tall or hard to access infrastructure, using fuel for boat access to regions, etc. Many jurisdictions are beginning to embrace the technology. A recent example is the use of UAV's to inspect power infrastructure in Sudbury: <http://www.northernontariobusiness.com/Industry-News/engineering/2016/04/Sudbury-company-uses-drones-to-inspect-the-power-grid.aspx>

It would reduce the costs associated with multiple personnel travelling deep into terrain, improve efficiency, i.e. larger areas could be inspected in the same amount of time), and inspection frequency could be increased.

Drone Inspections

mb85

2016-04-14T13:41:31-03:30

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When it came to work ethic, NL'ers and Labradorians always had bragging rights. Unfortunately that can't be said of the current workforce (certainly I don't make this a blanket statement but speak in generalities). Somehow we need to eliminate the sense of "entitlement" and stimulate strong work ethics. Let's focus on the hard work by NL'ers and Labradorisns that built this province and other parts of the world and instill a sense of pride in work hard. The tourism commercials hit home with everyone, why not brand some commercials with the work ethic theme. If we return to hard work, the next generation will reap the benefits when our wealth of natural resources are developed.

As for concrete ideas, here's a couple...

1- make the public service more efficient by eliminating personal use of cell phone and computers (for personal benefit) during work hours. This is easy do do yet there are countless examples of abuse.

2- eliminate lunch time busing at our schools. Spend more time on physical

Important for this generation to know that good work ethic will empower them when we come out of this current financial mess.

With 46000 employees in the public workforce it has to be a target to generate efficiencies by eliminating non productive time. The impact of job losses will not be felt.

Board members should strongly contribute to the wise and efficient running of an organization. They should bring core and relevant skills to the table on their first day as board members.

The Nalcor Board just resigned supposedly in protest. I looked at their background and it appears more likely they resigned to avoid having their credentials questioned as to what they bring to a major infrastructure organization, and on what merits they were appointed.

Two have marketing and communications background and one happens to be the former Mayor of the Town where the Muskrat Falls dam is being built. There is one that looks like accountancy and legal background but he was politically appointed along with the rest of the Board so we will never know of any meaningful contribution because there is no accountability. They were all politically appointed and collected big paychecks..They were not impartially appointed to the Nalcor Board because of strong merit and business background relevant to a huge energy company.

Boards are just lackies and drains on the public purse unless appointed based on merit through objective evaluation. If you are going to have a Board then they need to earn their paycheck! Have a capable meaningful Board that contributes to an organization and is accountable ... or don't have one at all. If a Crown Corporation is going to spend huge bucks on a Board then those Board members should be appointed impartially based on merit and they should earn their pay. If a Board isn't relevant then do away with it.

Board appointments on merit only!

abc

2016-04-21T09:43:34-03:30

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Invest in green clean energy
Forget oil. Invest in solar and wind energies which would protect the environment, bring revenue to the province and create jobs, including for out of work oil workers.

It's the perfect solution to deal with the economic crisis in Newfoundland, and to reduce our reliance on energy sources that damage the environment. Climate change is real and conventional sources will be stressed to the max resulting in more blackouts and problems. Solar and wind mean that we be more self reliant and help mitigate the rising temperatures.

Toni

2016-04-28T14:46:28-03:30

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