

**Government Renewal Initiative  
Labrador City  
February 9, 2016**

<b>Q1. Thinking of all of the thing government spends your money on to provide residents of the province with services, what are the three things that could be stopped in order to save money?</b>
More teleconference of government employees, fewer government officials on travel
Consolidation of government services. All employees in government buildings and not in private rental properties. This is a problem throughout the province. Government offices should be in government buildings
Resettlement of smaller communities. Ferries are expensive
Local Service Districts/Unincorporated Areas are not paying property tax – delivery service
Health promotion – healthier lifestyles, smoking cessation
Health care spending: Government brought in three people from outside to unveil mural. Cost that could have been eliminated
Shipping blood samples to St Anthony. Cut cost by keeping it in local lab
No blood donation clinic anymore - now flying blood in from other locations. Could use the costs of flying it around to have something locally
Possibly putting on hold new infrastructure programs until budget [is] in better state
Privatize only parts of healthcare services. Ultrasounds, x-rays, blood clinics, MRI etc.
Closer look at paying consultants for research and studies. All the money that is paid out for studies. Change or update the tendering process for everything
Flying around government officials for events that could be attended by technology
Localize positions such as maintenance for facilities. Schools are contracted maintenance from central areas like St. John's for Labrador West
Top heavy management makes it hard to get answers
Less administration, not enough front line workers
Chain of command too long
More accountability
Administration in Goose Bay not visible in our town - more central, less regional
Lessen travel expenses by using teleconference & media
Stop all day kindergarten - expensive babysitter - money could be used to facilitate problems that already exist in classrooms
Privatize Muskrat Falls - selling shares?
Double dipping in pension funds
Stop paying for contracts that are not finished – example Labrador highway
change model for rural municipality physician – mandate international doctor or new physicians who received provincial money for education to maintain a rural practice for a number of years on the province
Transportation services – are we providing the best cost?
Why is the whole province paying for ferry transportation? Very cheap to get from outport island
Referral given to St. Anthony clinic instead of Goose Bay, blood work should be done in town
Bloodwork - so much more in handling and transportation – airlines charge, handling charges – employees and equipment are still here
College of the North Atlantic and MUN are separate – so much more bureaucracy – salaries, some roles are duplicated, amalgamate
Politicians pension is too easily earned – take that away, have to work longer to get more pension – 8 years worked for a full pension. Should get 8 years' worth of pension

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Cut back executive - Nalcor
Cut politicians' pay

<b>Q2. Given the financial challenges facing our province, what three things do you think government could do to raise money (increase revenue)?</b>
Province-wide property tax
Legalization of medical marijuana through Newfoundland and Labrador Liquor Corporation
Drug dispensing fees
Revisit the \$30 million of the Vale monies
Collecting court fines
Quebec workers not using NL vehicle license plates
Federal transfers, infrastructure
HST- exemptions- raise on low ticket items but low on high priced items like mortgages and vehicles
Fine tuning to tracking or monitoring fines and fees
Promote tourism and use local attractions to bring in additional revenue and use free services to advertise to decrease spending
Tolls in high traffic locations
Out of province workers being taxed at a higher rate. Or implement poll tax
Liquor laws -e.g. breweries, distilleries coming from other provinces - sales promote revenue
More local companies should be getting contracts in the province
Manufacturing/processing our own resources
Diversifying resources
Tourism/way too expensive to come here/market Labrador
Targeting low US dollar-tourism/arts/movies/other attractions
Privatizing highways/ tolls
Cheap power/ trucks going out of here empty/ agriculture
Partnering with Churchill
Make accessibility to our province more affordable
Investment into tourism in Labrador – especially with low Canadian Dollar (including highway)
Provincial sales tax to 15%
Get call centers back (low Canadian dollar)
Targeting European countries for tourism
Fisheries – other Atlantic provinces have open season when ours is closed – we are missing revenue
Fish plants – secondary processing – invest in that. Water bottling plant
Recycling program like PEI?
Collect on traffic tickets
More cigarette and liquor tax

<b>Q3. How can government be more innovative or efficient to provide quality services at lower costs?</b>
Invest in innovative business
Bulk government purchases of medical pharmaceuticals

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Build highways to standard at the beginning
Bulk purchases of goods
More emphasis on NL students who lean towards sciences with education incentives to stay and work in rural. This would be prevalent for medical students. This would save provincial monies
Agriculture school should be open. Greater food security. To encourage farming, encourage vocations
Selling of agricultural land should be prevented
Using local resources instead of contracting to outside groups ex. Schools' maintenance coming from other locations in the province
Regionalization of recreation in close municipalities
Amalgamation of close municipalities
Eliminate health authorizes and put under one organization
Government programs delivered using local resources and share amongst different departments
Government overlap in authorities. Sharing government resources
More use of telemedicine/teleconferencing for court/or meetings for a broad range of audience that would need to travel for meetings
Better use of technology - e.g.; tele medical - teleconference - video conference
Talk to local people before implementing infrastructure - what works in one area may not work somewhere else
Training on teleconference communications
Government paying for people to go to St. John's when they can be done here
Blood testing can be done here, but it's being sent out, costs money to send it out
More critical thinking of administration to cut unnecessary costs
Accountability for spending government money
Distribution of assets that are not being used - selling off unused government buildings etc.
Toll on highways
RCMP – does that cost too much? Why not put RNC throughout all province?
Private diagnostics clinics available – patients pay and get reimbursed – can be much cheaper
Prenatal diagnostics – offer cell free DNA testing instead of amniocentesis for pregnant people whose baby is at a high risk for genetic disorder – save on procedure and travel cost as cell free DNA can be done by simple blood test in any blood collection facility
Pay a charge (nominal) to see the doctor – weed out the unnecessary calls – get specialists to review cost savings practices in other provinces
Health line app - send pictures to registered nurse
Legalize marijuana – new tax stream
Coordinate university research with healthcare
Relocating rural areas with little to no industry – and/or alter the required percentages to make decision to 50%
Charge provincial taxes to unincorporated towns/areas

<b>Q 4. Is there anything else that you would like to suggest/add to the discussion?</b>
Revisit government loans to business and recollection efforts where applicable
Diversification of the economy

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More business-friendly with reasonable business rates
Business incentives for rural and remote areas of the province
Tax free zone for business
Reduce duplication of municipal government services
Muskat Falls costing the residents money to provide power to out of province/country locations at lower rates
Not getting fair share of royalties from the resources in our own back yards
Unemployment rate too low for having so many jobs available in our own province. Jobs awarded to too many out of province people that the money are leaving the province and feeding other provinces
Free work programs for inmates
Encourage local green growing. Vegetable and other sources to help reduce cost of transportation of perishables
When people are struggling, they shouldn't take away arts & recreation etc. Things that define our province culturally are important for our sense of well being
Save recreation facilities
Start cutting at the top - too many administrators - need more people on the ground
What is important to our wellbeing is more important than financial
Tenders should be given out earlier to Labrador – our season is too short
We want to know how they plan on spending the money
If you borrow money – invest it in things that will make us more money
Eliminate ferries and put in tunnels