

***Responsible Investments
for a Secure Future.***

On April 24, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador delivered a budget focused on people and prosperity. Budget 2012 reflects responsible fiscal management while protecting key public services and enhancing economic growth.

Building upon the achievements of the Northern Strategic Plan, Budget 2012 invests over \$158 million to ensure a vibrant social and economic future for all Labradorians.***Completing the Trans Labrador Highway***

- Budget 2012 allocates \$65.8 million for the last two tenders to complete Phase I of the Trans Labrador Highway from Labrador West to Happy Valley-Goose Bay
- More than \$250 million has been invested in Phase I alone, one of the largest infrastructure projects in the province's history

Continuing to Improve Access to Vital Health Care Services

- \$25.7 million to continue construction of the Labrador West Health Centre, which upon completion will represent an overall investment of approximately \$90 million
- \$276,600 to enhance dialysis services at the Labrador Health Centre in Happy Valley-Goose Bay
- \$275,000 for a new road ambulance base in Cartwright
- \$116,400 for a pharmacist position at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital in Labrador City

Other Budget 2012 investments in Labrador include:

- \$2 million to remediate the former US military site in Hopedale
- \$750,000 for the Labrador Travel Subsidy Program to enable 1,500 athletes, teams and individuals in Labrador to travel to the island portion of the province to participate in competitions and training camps
- \$560,000 under the Department of Child, Youth and Family Services to purchase staff housing in the coastal communities of Hopedale and Nain to help strengthen recruitment and retention of staff
- \$522,000 to continue to support management efforts for the George River caribou herd
- \$282,200 for specialized services and programming in Natuashish and Sheshatshui
- \$216,200 for Memorial University's Native Liaison Office which supports Aboriginal students pursuing post-secondary education

- A five per cent increase for Status of Women Centres in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Labrador West, which will each receive \$128,000 annually, up from \$55,000 in 2004
- \$125,000 for the Inuit Women Capacity Building Project

Total spending through the *Northern Strategic Plan* and other Labrador-related initiatives will exceed \$3.5 billion by the end of 2012-13

Other Investments that Benefit Labrador Include:

Supporting Apprentices and Fostering a Thriving Skilled Labour Force

- Over \$100 million in new and continued funding to increase apprenticeship training, support post-secondary institutions and students, and enhance workforce development
- Introduction of a Journeyperson Mentorship Program, expansion of the Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy Program, and registration of pre-apprentices in the Apprentice Tracking System
- Continued tuition freeze, non-repayable grants for post-secondary students, and no interest on the provincial portion of student loans

Fueling Business and Economic Growth

- The proposed development of Muskrat Falls would power our province, our economy and our workforce, and introduce approximately \$450 million in income to Labradorians and Labrador-based businesses, 5,400 person years of employment for the people of Labrador, and bring power to support industrial development, including mining
- Almost \$200 million province-wide to support innovation and development of traditional and emerging industries, including \$91 million in continuing incentives and credits for business owners and operators
- Continuation of tax initiatives such as Personal Income Tax reductions, the supplementary Child Care Tax Credit, the Low Income Seniors' Benefit, and the Residential Energy Rebate

Investing in Strong Social Programs

- \$150.8 million through the Poverty Reduction Strategy to help the province's most vulnerable, an increase of approximately \$11.3 million from last year
- Over \$200 million to enhance vital program areas, such as child care and protective intervention for children and youth, and to increase regulated child care spaces and operating grants to child care centre operators
- \$3.7 million to provide a 35 per cent reduction to seniors aged 65 and older on driver's licence, vehicle registration fees, and other licences and fees for such things as hunting, fishing, cutting wood and camping