

Education, Skills and Childhood Development

With an investment of more than \$2 billion, Budget 2018 marks transformative change to early childhood development and the K-12, and post-secondary education systems. By supporting the principles of accessible education and skills-development, we are encouraging career-development and job creation.



Early Childhood Development

Budget 2018 allocates \$61.6 million for early childhood development, including \$22 million over three years through a bilateral agreement with the Federal Government. Budget 2018 includes:

- \$12.4 million to expand and enhance the Operating Grant Program to improve accessibility of child care for low and middle income families, and a new Operating Grant Program for regulated family child care homes.
- \$3 million for the Child Care Services Subsidy Program.
- \$1.5 million to enhance the Child Care Capacity Initiative by further increasing the net family income threshold (after income testing) to \$35,000.
- \$1.7 million for administration of programs and services.
- \$3 million for the Capital Renovation Grant Program and new Quality Improvement Grant for licensed child care centres.
- \$450,000 for increased bursaries and grants for professional learning for early childhood educators.

Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes

The Premier's Task Force Report "Now is the Time" includes 82 recommendations. To support its implementation, Budget 2018 allocates \$6.9 million in new funding:

- \$3.1 million for Reading Specialists, Learning Resource Teachers and Instructional Assistants in K-12 education.
- \$1.9 million to support professional learning for teachers and almost \$2 million provided for each of the subsequent three years.
- \$975,000 for additional government resources to support implementation of recommendations.
- \$500,000 for learning resource supports and school libraries.
- \$317,000 for a new case management system and support.
- \$113,000 for youth apprenticeship/cooperative education.
- \$40,000 in bursaries for K-6 teachers to upgrade math pedagogy.



\$6.9 Million
To Action Recommendations
from Premier's Task Force on
Improving Educational Outcomes

Libraries

\$11.3 million for operating grant funding for the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board. Our investment accounts for 95.7 per cent of total library funding and is more than twice the national average.



\$526.7 Million
Total Investment in
Post-Secondary Education

Post-Secondary Education

Our government's commitment to ensuring affordable and accessible post-secondary education remains strong with the continuation of one of the best student financial assistance packages and lowest tuition rates in the country. Budget 2018 includes:

- \$366 million for Memorial University's operating grant, which includes \$55 million for the Faculty of Medicine. This is the highest public investment as a percentage of a university's general operating revenues of any university in Canada.
- \$87.6 million in operational funding for the College of the North Atlantic and its 17 campuses.
- \$73.1 million to maintain current tuition levels for Newfoundland and Labrador students. This includes an increase of \$4 million for Memorial University and \$1.1 million for the College of the North Atlantic in 2018.

Skills Development

As a continuation of our government's commitment to expand the agriculture, aquaculture, oil and gas, and technology sectors in The Way Forward, we are supporting career-development opportunities for youth by allocating \$196,000 for a new Student Mentorship Program. The program will provide a total of 100 jobs for youth in these sectors. Budget 2018 also includes:

- \$13.1 million for employment and training programs.
- \$6.1 million for youth-focused employment and career related activities.
- \$1.3 million to build capacity and provide online training in the apprenticeship system.
- \$641,000 in Federal Government funding for the Atlantic Apprenticeship Harmonization Office to be located in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- \$230,000 cost-shared among four Atlantic provinces for the Atlantic Workforce Partnership Office.

The Provincial and Federal Governments are finalizing new Labour Market Transfer Agreements. These new agreements will provide additional funding to support employment and training programs to assist individuals, including persons with disabilities, in their efforts to prepare for, find and maintain employment.

A red silhouette of two stylized human figures. The figure on the left is holding a bucket and an arrow pointing upwards. The figure on the right is holding a stack of three blocks. Below the figures is the text 'Over \$21 Million' with a red triangle pointing to the left.

Over
\$21 Million

**In Skills Development
and Training Programs**