

**CAPE BRETON CANSO**

**Education**

WHEREAS the current NDP government has imposed budget cuts on the Nova Scotia Education system;

WHEREAS in imposing those budget cuts on the Nova Scotia education system, the current NDP government has given little or no guidance to the province's school board and has showed little concern for the delivery of education programs to the students of Nova Scotia;

WHEREAS the current NDP government has missed an opportunity to seek to attract and retain Nova Scotia's post-secondary students in the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT a Nova Scotia Liberal government will conduct a comprehensive program review of the public school programming in the Province of Nova Scotia and, using the findings of that review, give clear and consistent budgetary and programming directions to the school boards of Nova Scotia with a view to insuring the consistent delivery of excellent public school programs throughout the Province of Nova Scotia;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a Nova Scotia Liberal government will put forward a comprehensive program of tax incentives and other supports to allow Nova Scotia's post-secondary graduates to continue residing in the Province of Nova Scotia following the completion of their education.

**CENTRAL NOVA  
Assessment Caps**

WHEREAS certain property tax assessments in the Province are “capped”;

WHEREAS the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities is currently lobbying to remove the “cap” on certain property tax assessments;

WHEREAS the immediate removal of the “cap” on certain property tax assessments would cause hardships to many Nova Scotians;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a Nova Scotia Liberal government would maintain current “cap” on property tax assessments until such times as it completed a comprehensive review of the system of municipal taxation in the Province of Nova Scotia and developed a system of municipal taxation that is fair, equitable and affordable for Nova Scotia tax payers.

**CUMBERLAND COLCHESTER MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY**  
**Revitalization of Government Services**

**WHEREAS** Nova Scotians should receive effective world-class essential government services;

**WHEREAS** the present bureaucratic structure of the Government of Nova Scotia is excessive, ineffective, often unnecessary and wasteful,

**WHEREAS** the financial cost of the wasteful bureaucracy is destroying the ability of the Province of Nova Scotia to fund essential government services,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- That the government of Nova Scotia be reformed and revitalized to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow and to be responsive to and responsible to the people of Nova Scotia,
- That all essential government services be delivered at a world class level, and,
- That bureaucratic excesses, inefficiencies and waste be eliminated.

**DARTMOUTH COLE HARBOUR**  
**Health Determinants**

**WHEREAS** substantial positive change in the health of Nova Scotians will depend upon major changes in the public services available in communities.

**WHEREAS** support for a healthy community program will lead to positive change.

**WHEREAS** the goal of a healthy community program is the improvement in the health, well being and quality of life of people where they live, work and play.

**WHEREAS** healthy communities depend on the cooperation and joint efforts of a number of agencies and services.

**WHEREAS** other communities in Canada and other parts of the world have made changes in services which have resulted in improvements in the health of their populations.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a Liberal Government will commit to 'a value for money' audit of the Department of Health and Wellness as well as Health Districts and their extensions.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a Liberal Government will facilitate the initiation of a healthy community planning process which will involve representation from Health, Education, Social Services, Recreation, Justice, Environment and Economic Development and further that this work be carried out in close association with the Municipalities.

**Determinants of Health**

1. Income and social status
2. Healthy child development
3. Social support network
4. Personal health practice
5. Education
6. Individual capacity and coping skills
7. Employment and working conditions
8. Gender
9. Social and physical environment
10. Health Services
11. Genetics
12. Culture

**HALIFAX**

**Violence Against Women**

WHEREAS violence against women is a persistent problem in our society and affects the well-being of thousands of individuals, families, and children;

WHEREAS according to the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women one in twelve women in the province faces violence from an intimate partner;

WHEREAS under the Canadian Social Transfer (CST) it is within provincial jurisdiction to determine the amount of money available for family and civil legal aid;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT a new Liberal government make the elimination of violence against women a priority and increase the level of funding available for civil legal aid for women who require it for family law matters.

HALIFAX WEST

Enhancement of the Curriculum in Educational Institutions in Nova Scotia - Halifax West

**WHEREAS** the continued advancement of both the social and economic well being of Nova Scotia is fundamental for the future prosperity of our province; and

**WHEREAS** Nova Scotia has a provincial curriculum that is developed and administered by the Department of Education; and

**WHEREAS** our province has a network of world-class post secondary institutions;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Nova Scotia government should promote the continued development of an informed, well-educated and productive population through:

- the promotion of critical thinking through all levels of education from primary to post secondary;
- the inclusion of civics education in the public education system;
- the introduction of financial literacy, in all forms, and at all levels, of the public education system as well as post secondary institutions;
- the promotion of effective life skills education ( time management, organizational skills, public speaking and presentation skills) within our P-12 educational institutions;
- effective literacy programs which ensure the highest standard of reading and composition in our public school system;
- an expansion of co-op programs in our schools and post secondary institutions to ensure greater opportunities for students to interact with business, government and not-for profit organizations; and
- promoting the effective use of Nova Scotia post secondary institutions in the development of public policy and technical support; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** minimum standards and targets be developed for all of the above.

**KINGS HANTS**

**Home Support Care**

**WHEREAS** keeping sick people in their homes is preferable to hospital;

**WHEREAS** long stays in hospital make people sicker rather than better;

**WHEREAS** it is costly to keep people in hospitals;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal Party develop a truly comprehensive home support program investing the resources into the program that addresses income support, housing, transportation and medical care in the home.

South Shore Policy Resolution 2011  
Education – Cradle to Career

WHEREAS one of the most fundamental obligations of any society is to prepare its young people to lead prosperous and productive lives as adults;

WHEREAS the current Government has taken an approach of budget cuts and one-size-fits-all ;

WHEREAS the Liberal Party believes it is essential to focus on the outcomes of the education system;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party will conduct a review and rethinking of Nova Scotia's current education system, and adopt a comprehensive integrated continuum of programs, services and supports from early childhood to early adulthood which offers multiple pathways to success.

- Review the current approach to inclusion to ensure that students needs are being met
- Place a greater emphasis on early child development and early intervention programs
- Redefining what it means to be a "community school"
- Partnering with Public Health around health promotion ie. physical activity, nutrition and mental health
- Partnering with Municipalities in planning – environment, transportation and recreation.
- Broaden the range of options that we offer young people through meaningful career and vocational education programs
- Greater emphasis on high quality career guidance and counseling



**SYDNEY VICTORIA  
EQUALIZATION**

**WHEREAS** taxpayers in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality, including the province-wide group Nova Scotians for Equalization Fairness, question the fairness of the distribution of federal equalization payments to all municipal units, and

**WHEREAS** the municipal government of the CBRM applied to the courts to challenge the fairness of the distribution of these equalization payments, and

**WHEREAS** the application was denied, and yet in the minds of many Nova Scotian residents and taxpayers the question remains valid, unresolved and worthy of exploration, and

**WHEREAS** there is a formula used by the federal and provincial governments for the distribution of these equalization payments, over 1.5 billion dollars annually in Nova Scotia, and

**WHEREAS** it is a government's responsibility to ensure that fairness is paramount in the distribution of funds collected from taxpayers,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Nova Scotia Liberal Party with the values of fairness and transparency in mind, and the significant dollars at stake for municipalities, and given the credibility of the office of the Auditor General of Nova Scotia, advance the cause of referring the question of the distribution of equalization payments to Nova Scotia's Auditor General for an investigation of its merits.

**WEST NOVA**

**Transportation Infrastructure**

**WHEREAS** Nova Scotia ferry services are an essential part of the province's transportation infrastructure;

**WHEREAS** Nova Scotia ferry services serve as vital economic links between Nova Scotia, other provinces, and international trading partners;

**WHEREAS** multi-use monohaul ferries are proven to provide wider economic benefits to Nova Scotia;

**WHEREAS** Nova Scotia taxpayers receive significant returns on government investment in ferry services;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal Party of Nova Scotia recognize the economic importance of the ferry services in Yarmouth and Digby, treat these ferry services as extensions of Nova Scotia's vital transportation infrastructure, and provide the necessary financial support and protection to ensure long term operations of both ferry services.

Provincial Drug Prevention Strategy and Pilot InSite Clinic  
NOVA SCOTIA YOUNG LIBERALS

WHEREAS while overall crime rate has decreased, the rate of drug related crimes has increased in frequency; and

WHEREAS supervised injection sites such as the InSite Clinic operating in Vancouver have been shown to have a positive effect on the rate of infection, crime rates and drug use in surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS a substantial portion of new disease infections, including HIV and Hepatitis C are attributed to drug use; and

WHEREAS specific communities within Canada, including the Aboriginal population, are especially at risk for infection; and

WHEREAS areas such as Cape Breton have some of the highest per capita use of Intravenous drugs in Canada;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED a Nova Scotia Liberal Government develop a provincial strategy addressing intravenous drug use and its effects on crime in Nova Scotia;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Liberal Government shall implement a pilot project of a safe injection clinic in a high risk area of Nova Scotia. This clinic would be staffed by Public Health Officers, Addictions Councilors, and other health professionals to not only prevent the spread of infectious disease, but also to give options to addicts to overcome their addictions.