



 **green**  
PARTY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

 *imagine something better*

election platform **2019**





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*Photocredits*

*Thank you to all the supporters who provided photographs to be used throughout this document:*

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*Front cover: Appin Road, John Whitaker*

*Design: Keith Mullen, Silverhand Creative*



# Message from Peter Bevan-Baker

I am thrilled to present the Green Party of Prince Edward Island 2019 election platform. We have based our platform on what Islanders have told us over the past four years and the Green Party's six core values. But more than anything we have based it on the belief that a better future is possible for all Islanders, built on our long tradition of strong communities, self-sufficiency, and fairness.

The Green Party believes that problems cannot be resolved in isolation and that government must break down the artificial divisions that make change so difficult. For that reason we have organized our platform under three overarching themes: protecting the security, dignity, and wellness of all Islanders; building strong and resilient communities from tip to tip; and reestablishing trust in government.

Throughout all three pillars we focus on the need to be both fiscally and environmentally sustainable. We cannot have a thriving economy on a dying planet; we cannot live healthy lives if we continue to pollute our air, water and soil; and we cannot provide a bright future for our children or grandchildren if we continue to accumulate more government debt with irresponsible spending.

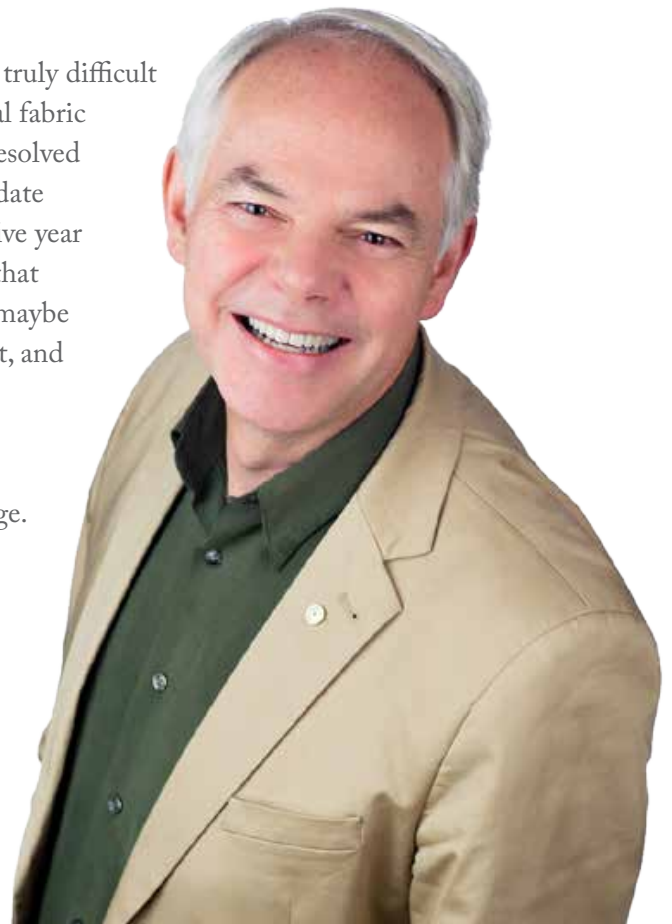
The role of government should be to acknowledge and address the truly difficult problems like inequality, climate change, and maintaining the social fabric that holds our communities together. These challenges cannot be resolved in four-year increments. So throughout the platform our first mandate commitments have been linked to ten-year goals and our twenty-five year vision. This is a roadmap for a much longer journey. It is my hope that long after I have stepped down from politics, other Islanders—and maybe even other political parties—will share this vision, adapt it, expand it, and continue the journey.

I believe Islanders are longing for transformative change, and the Green Party has the vision and leadership to implement that change.

Together we can imagine something better.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Bevan-Baker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peter Bevan-Baker  
Leader, Green Party of PEI



# Message de Peter Bevan-Baker

Je suis ravi de présenter le programme électoral 2019 du Parti vert de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard. Nous avons fondé notre plateforme sur ce que les prince-édouardiens nous ont communiqué au cours des quatre dernières années et sur les six valeurs fondamentales du Parti vert. Mais surtout, nous l'avons fondée sur la conviction qu'un meilleur avenir est possible pour tous les prince-édouardiens, sur la base de notre longue tradition de communautés fortes, d'autosuffisance et de justice.

Le Parti vert croit que les problèmes ne peuvent être résolus isolément et que le gouvernement doit éliminer les divisions artificielles qui rendent les changements tellement difficiles. Pour cette raison, nous avons organisé notre plateforme autour de trois thèmes principaux: le rétablissement de la confiance dans le gouvernement; construire des communautés fortes et résilientes d'un bout de l'Île à l'autre; et protéger la sécurité, la dignité et le bien-être de tous les prince-édouardiens.

Dans tous les trois piliers, nous concentrons sur le besoin d'être durables sur les plans financier et environnemental. Nous ne pouvons pas avoir une économie florissante sur une planète en voie de disparition; nous ne pouvons pas mener une vie saine si nous continuons à polluer notre air, notre eau et notre sol; et nous ne pouvons pas offrir un bel avenir à nos enfants ou à nos petits-enfants si nous continuons à accumuler davantage de dette publique avec des dépenses irresponsables.

Le rôle du gouvernement devrait être de reconnaître et de résoudre les problèmes majeurs auxquels nous faisons face, tels que l'inégalité, le changement climatique et le maintien de la structure sociale qui unit nos communautés. Ces défis ne peuvent être résolus par périodes de quatre ans. Ainsi, à travers la plateforme, nos engagements de premier mandat sont liés à des objectifs sur dix ans et à notre vision sur vingt-cinq ans. Elle s'agit d'une carte routière pour un voyage beaucoup plus long. C'est mon souhait que longtemps après ma démission de la politique, d'autres prince-édouardiens—et peut-être même d'autres partis politiques—partageront cette vision, l'adapteront, l'élargiront et poursuivront leur route.

Je crois que les prince-édouardiens aspirent à un changement transformatif et que le Parti vert a la vision et le leadership nécessaires pour mettre en œuvre ce changement.

Ensemble, nous pouvons imaginer quelque chose de mieux.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Bevan-Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Peter Bevan-Baker

Chef du Parti vert de l'Î.-P.-É.



# What did you tell us?

Throughout the spring of 2018 the Green Party of PEI held a series of public engagement forums where Islanders were invited to let us know their priorities and their ideas for creating a better future.

The meetings were held in Alberton, Summerside, Emerald, Charlottetown, Montague and Souris, where hundreds of Islanders attended and helped develop the Green platform.

## THIS IS WHAT ISLANDERS SHARED:

We are concerned that the **health and wellness** services people need are not currently available to them or won't be in the future, whether that is access to family physicians, timely emergency services, mental health and addiction services, long term care, or availability of specialists. We are currently struggling within a crisis intervention system that always feels five steps behind the public need. We need to get out of a reactive model and develop a system that is proactive and that promotes wellness, understanding the links between the social and environmental determinants of health.

At the heart of our **education** system is our children. In no other sector do we have such an occasion to impact the future. Children deserve the best possible space, tools, and experiences to reach their full potential. We must look at each child as a whole and support them on an individual basis, including life skills, social and emotional skills, community engagement, and a culture-enriched curriculum with a strong foundation in mathematics, language arts, and science.







We need to value individuals for who they are rather than solely for the work they do to contribute to the gross domestic product (GDP). Poverty is real on PEI and must be recognized and addressed by government. Individual well-being flows from a number of places, including sufficient funds to live with **security and dignity**.

The importance of protecting our **air, water, and soil** cannot be overstated. Prince Edward Island's economy is based

“ Young people from all communities deserve the opportunity to make a future locally. ”

on vibrant agricultural and fishery sectors. The future success of our province relies on clean water to drink, sustainable fisheries, and fertile soil for our crops.





A photograph of a white lighthouse with a red lantern room, set against a blue sky with light clouds. The lighthouse is the central focus of the left side of the page.

## Green Party of Prince Edward Island Core Values

- Living Within Our Ecological and Financial Means
- Local Self-Reliance
- Grassroots Democracy
- A Just Society
- Active Citizenship and Self-Determination
- A Culture of Peace

We need to think about the long term operational and maintenance costs for our **infrastructure** assets - the seniors' facilities, schools, hospitals, roads, and bridges. We need to separate the bricks and mortar from the programs and services.

Our growing **economy** is not translating into growing financial stability and well-being for Islanders. People are having trouble making ends meet and there is a disconnect between our lives and the glowing words around PEI's economic performance; working Islanders are not seeing the 'Mighty Island' in their day-to-day lives. Young people from all communities deserve the opportunity to make a future locally.

We face too much risk with our export market focused on the US - we need to balance business and economic activity and diversify our exports to other markets including regional and local. We must build a strong sustainable economy by strengthening and supporting **rural and urban communities** in developing their own unique opportunities and culture.

We are concerned not just about the number of **jobs**, but the quality of jobs that are available. We must support small businesses and entrepreneurs and recognize and value the non-profit sector. The current sector-based approach should be assessed to ensure that it is meeting both employment and social needs. Targeted investments should be made in new growth sectors such as clean tech and green energy.

Islanders want **government** to operate with genuine openness and transparency, putting the expectations of all people ahead of the politicians. The primary role of government is to

“ Islanders will have confidence in our government when it is truly accountable and spends responsibly. ”

be creative and work collaboratively to find the best solutions to the critical issues facing our communities. Islanders will have confidence in our government when it is truly accountable and spends responsibly.

Islanders also told us that they love this province and believe in the strength and resiliency of our communities. They believe a better future is possible: that we can create a flourishing local economy, protect the environment, and care for our most vulnerable. They told us that visionary leadership can help them build a safe and prosperous future for their children and grandchildren.





# INTERGOVERNMENTAL PRIORITIES

- Call on the Federal government to study the health of the Gulf of St. Lawrence marine system and determine if a Marine Protected Area should be established
- Call on the Federal government to implement an environmental impact assessment of the Northern Pulp Mill plans for a Pipe in Northumberland Strait
- Call on the Federal government to remove GST from net-metered solar electricity
- Champion a regional Atlantic free market for simple movement of products and services
- Work with other provinces on open educational resources for post-secondary students to make textbooks more affordable
- Aggressively pursue negotiations with the Federal government for financial support to implement a Basic Income Guarantee pilot
- Lobby for a national pharmacare program



# PROTECT THE SECURITY, DIGNITY, AND WELLNESS OF ALL ISLANDERS

We believe our province should strive for economic independence and greater prosperity for all Islanders by focusing on development that does not depend on unlimited growth or federal government transfers.

**A Green Government** would work toward the goal of eliminating poverty on PEI.

We acknowledge poverty is a complex issue, but envision fewer people living in poverty by immediately increasing access to existing programs and services. Further improvements will come from poverty-reduction measures such as a Basic Income Guarantee, starting with the most vulnerable.

We believe that a health care system must do more than respond to illness, it must also promote wellness at every stage of life. All departments have a role to play in nurturing the well-being of individuals and in building healthy communities.

“ We imagine a world class education system for Island students, based on best practices around the world... ”





A **Green Government** would provide a strong community-based health care network that focuses on well-being and preventative support. Primary health care would be delivered at a local level, within a collaborative model that effectively uses health care resources and supports mental and emotional health and well-being. New technologies should be implemented to provide modern and efficient delivery of health care services.

Our small size allows us to be creative and flexible in reimagining what learning could and should be for improving the security and well-being of Islanders. This includes not only what we learn, but how and where we learn, and why. We want every Island child to be happy, safe, included, and challenged to develop, learn and grow. We imagine a world class education system for Island students, based on best practices around the world, and adapted to suit our local context. Truly supporting and nurturing child development will have a ripple effect throughout future generations.

## 25 YEAR VISION



- A Basic Income Guarantee will be provided for all Islanders
- A proactive health care system will encourage wellness, based on the social determinants of health
- All Islanders will have access to appropriate primary health services in the region where they live
- Island students will have one of the finest student-centred education systems in the world

## 10 YEAR GOALS



- The Basic Income Guarantee program will be expanded based on evaluation of the pilot
- A livable wage will be provided for all working Islanders
- Universal basic dental care will be provided for all Islanders
- All Islanders will have access to affordable child care
- A universal school food program will be implemented
- A universal pharmacare program will be negotiated with the Federal government
- The Rural Health Care hub model will be operating in many communities across PEI



## FIRST MANDATE COMMITMENTS



### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- Provide health professionals with the opportunity to work to their full scope of practice including, but not limited to, pharmacists, midwives, and nurse practitioners
- Expand and improve rural health care services
  - Establish health care hubs in rural hospitals to enhance service integration by co-locating a broad range of services including diagnosis, treatment, and support for managing acute and chronic illnesses, like diabetes
  - Support the development of collaborative community health centres to ensure local access to primary health care
- Improve home care and long-term residential care for Island seniors
  - Provide better home care supports so Islanders who wish to can remain at home longer
  - Roll back the recently announced fee increase in public facilities and implement incremental and predictable increases
  - Conduct a full assessment of costs for public facilities and income levels required to receive subsidies
- Introduce comprehensive midwifery services to provide preconception, pre-natal, delivery and post-natal care in several centres with provision for home births where desired and appropriate



- Expand birth control coverage and options in the PEI pharmacare formulary
- Expand Dental Health Care benefits to Social Assistance clients and extend coverage to low income Islanders
- Introduce a “social prescribing” pilot program
  - Expand healthcare coverage to include “social prescribing” that recognizes social connection as fundamental to wellness and allows health care professionals to prescribe physical, mental, and culturally-appropriate activities as important aspects of their patient’s health care approach
- Develop models of remuneration and benefits that enhance our ability to recruit new physicians
- Actively recruit medical residents and specialists including nurse practitioners to train and work on PEI
- Review the legislation for Health PEI with the objective of strengthening its independence and providing greater accountability for health outcomes

## EDUCATION

- Phase in a universal food program for schools, which will provide local, healthy food to every Island school student, using a pay as you can model
- Increase wages for Early Childhood Educators (ECE) through increased grants to designated centres, so it will not increase the cost of childcare for Island families
- Phase out provincial standardized testing and transition to universal progress monitoring while retaining PISA & PCAP (national and international student assessments)



- Provide enhanced career education and planning services to high school students, including information on community college and trades options and entrepreneurship
  - Review grant and loan programs to provide incentives for high demand skills training
  - Provide debt forgiveness for graduates with high-demand qualifications to stay on PEI
  - Provide immigration support to international students who wish to stay on PEI after graduation
- Increase classroom supports for teachers in collaboration with the PEI Teachers Federation, the educational advisory councils, and other stakeholders
- Work with community partners to expand affordable after school programs
- Improve the District Advisory Councils by giving them greater autonomy and resources, and by adding teachers to their membership

## SOCIAL SERVICES

- Set up a commission to develop a Basic Income Guarantee pilot program
- Create a client-centred approach for Social Services by conducting a ‘Red Tape Review’ of all social, family, and disability support services
- Increase the Social Services housing subsidy rate, food rate, and personal allowance rate to ensure the most vulnerable Islanders are not having to choose between rent and food
- Provide a secure income for Islanders who are unable to enter the workforce due to long term disabilities
- Provide free transit passes to those using social support services and explore subsidizing passes for seniors across the province



# AGRICULTURE PRIORITIES

- Create a landbank to make land available and affordable to new farmers
- Use LIDAR mapping and drones to determine customised recommendations for the width of buffer zones throughout the province
- Conduct a comprehensive review of the *Agricultural Crop Rotation Act* to ensure the maintenance and increase of soil organic matter
- Create a low interest loan program to encourage small-scale solar energy installations on residential, non-profit, small business, and agricultural buildings
- Replace the current Department of Rural and Regional Development with a rural secretariat that will promote and manage rural issues across all government departments
  - The secretariat would expand beyond the current economic focus to enhancing the well-being of all rural Islanders and rural communities
- Implement regulations for Organic Certification on Prince Edward Island
- Maintain the moratorium on high capacity wells for agricultural purposes
- Review the Land Protections Act to ensure all land purchases comply with not only the word but also the spirit of the Act
- Increase funding to support community-led education programs and outreach activities that will result in local market expansion and improved community food security, including increased access to affordable local food
- Expand reforestation and forestry management programs





# BUILD STRONG AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES FROM TIP TO TIP

A **Green Government** would work to build the foundations for a new relationship between Indigenous peoples and settler peoples. We recognize the harms of the past and we believe that many programs and services for Indigenous people should be developed and delivered by Indigenous people. We will partner with Indigenous communities to enhance their capacity to provide those programs and services.

A **Green Government** would support community development which enhances the quality of life for all Islanders, revitalizes rural places, and respects and nurtures the varied human and natural capital of Prince Edward Island. Our small size gives us great flexibility to create thriving, welcoming communities that attract people to visit and live. We need to review the practice of giving big loans to private companies unless there is a solid and defensible business case to do so. We will provide smaller loans to smaller businesses across the province to achieve better outcomes for our communities.

“We do not believe that Islanders must choose between protecting the environment and supporting traditional industries...”



We do not believe that Islanders must choose between protecting the environment and supporting traditional industries like agriculture and fisheries. By encouraging sustainable practices we can build a strong and vibrant economy working in conjunction with a protected and healthy environment.

One of our highest priorities will be laying the groundwork for a clean energy economy. We agree with the overwhelming expert opinion that climate change is an imminent crisis and that the fairest and most efficient way to encourage businesses

and individuals to reduce their carbon emissions is through a revenue neutral carbon tax.

We believe that infrastructure investments must be future-oriented: considering the structural, transportation, and energy needs for today and tomorrow and laying the foundation for creative, integrated communities for generations to come. We will focus on maintaining, renovating, or repurposing existing infrastructure to extend its functional life and value and avoid ‘stranded assets’.

## 25 YEAR VISION



- PEI will be carbon-neutral by 2045
- Indigenous and settler peoples will have a new nation-to-nation relationship
- Rural communities will be strong and sustainable with local access to health care, education, and recreational and retail opportunities
- Agriculture, fisheries, and tourism industries will be sustainable: environmentally and economically
- Convenient public transit options and connections will be available to all Islanders



## 10 YEAR GOALS



- Both urban and rural communities will exercise more autonomy in shaping their futures and citizens will have more opportunities to participate in local decision-making directly
- Programs will support farmers who are making the transition to organic growing including agronomy, weed control, and financial aid
- The current 10 year energy strategy will be fully implemented at an accelerated pace
- Clean energy investment will result in both green job creation and reduced operating costs for businesses
- Efficiency PEI programs will be expanded so more Islanders can participate and the scope of work expands
- The provincial transit strategy will be reviewed and updated; work will have begun with partners to implement it
- A 'Buy Local' procurement policy will be implemented
- Improved governance in unincorporated areas will provide local residents with a meaningful voice in decision-making
- PEI will return to a stable 3% housing vacancy rate

## FIRST MANDATE COMMITMENTS

### INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

- Build on the recently signed Framework Agreement and work collaboratively to resolve issues of importance in Crown-Indigenous relations
- Ensure that the province continues to implement the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- Mandate training programs within the provincial civil service to enhance understanding of Indigenous history and culture

### RURAL GOVERNANCE

- Replace the current Department of Rural and Regional Development with a rural secretariat that will promote and manage rural issues across all government departments
  - The secretariat would expand beyond the current economic focus to enhancing the well-being of all rural Islanders and rural communities
- Create an independent Advisory Council on Rural Affairs modelled on the Advisory Council on the Status of Women
  - The Advisory Council will serve as the bridge between the public and government on rural issues. The Regional Economic Advisory Boards will be dissolved
- Establish an independent citizens' assembly on governance in unincorporated areas
  - Composed of residents of unincorporated areas, the citizens' assembly will give rural Islanders a voice and make recommendations on how these areas can improve their governance and development
- Amend the *Municipal Government Act* to require a plebiscite in any unincorporated area prior to annexation
- Pilot a rural school community hub to use excess space in the current schools for community programs and business development activities



# ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

- Create a new carbon pricing framework that can actually achieve the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions
  - We would return the carbon tax revenues directly to Islanders through an unconditional payment (similar to the HST rebate)
  - This allows Islanders to choose for themselves how they can best reduce their emissions
- Create a low interest loan program to encourage small-scale solar energy installations on residential, non-profit, small business, and agricultural buildings
- Develop a program to support the installation of electric vehicle chargers in homes and workplaces
- Create a purchase incentive for electric vehicles
- Transition the provincial fleet to electric vehicles
- Provide free transit passes to those using social support services and explore subsidizing passes for seniors across the province
- Expand reforestation and forestry management programs
- Implement a small business tax reduction





## PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

- Create a land bank to make land available and affordable to new farmers, while providing retiring farmers with new succession opportunities
- Customise buffer-zones based on local conditions
  - Use LIDAR mapping and drones to determine customised recommendations for the width of buffer zones throughout the province
- Conduct a comprehensive review of the *Agricultural Crop Rotation Act* to ensure the maintenance and increase of soil organic matter
- Implement regulations for Organic Certification on Prince Edward Island
- Maintain the moratorium on high capacity wells for agricultural purposes
- Review the *Land Protections Act* to ensure all land purchases comply with not only the word but also the spirit of the Act
- Create a dedicated Deputy Minister position for Fisheries to ensure that the priorities and perspectives of fishers are well-represented in government
- Expand the Fishers Low Interest Loan Program
- Increase funding to support community-led education programs and outreach activities that will result in local market expansion and improved community food security, including increased access to affordable local food
- Expand tourism marketing to include small-scale initiatives to encourage people to come to PEI and to return to PEI, using local creative talent and resources with a focus on niche markets
- Invest in active experiential tourism (e.g. cycling, birding, and kayaking) infrastructure
- Provide support for Indigenous tourism development in consultation with Indigenous communities
- Support creative and cultural industries on PEI by providing resources, including expansion of funds for grants and programs as outlined in the Five Year Cultural Action Plan
- Expand reforestation and forestry management programs

## CLIMATE AND ENERGY

- Create a new carbon pricing framework that can actually achieve the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions
  - We would return the carbon tax revenues directly to Islanders through an unconditional payment (similar to the HST rebate)
  - We would implement a small business tax reduction
  - We would ensure that marked fuels remain tax exempt in agriculture and fisheries
  - This allows Islanders to choose for themselves how they can best reduce their emissions
- Create a low interest loan program to encourage small-scale solar energy installations on residential, non-profit, small business, and agricultural buildings
- Develop a program to support the installation of electric vehicle chargers in homes and workplaces
- Create a purchase incentive for electric vehicles
- Transition the provincial fleet to electric vehicles
- Add sustainability criteria to procurement policies



## ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

- Raise minimum wage in consistent and predictable increments to \$15.00 per hour by 2023
- Support the newly formed Community Sector Network with operational resources, dedicated ministerial support, and long term operational funding for key community organizations across the province
- Relaunch CADC (Charlottetown Area Development Corporation) and SRDC (Summerside Regional Development Corporation) with a strong, independent board and a new mandate, focusing on creative community development and investment, which could include affordable housing, major infrastructure projects, and green space management
- Create a \$2 million small business micro loan fund, and provide Island-wide business support programs for initiatives accessing this loan fund to be administered by independent community partners
- Open up existing programs and supports for small businesses without limiting access to exporters
- Negotiate a new agreement on rural broadband that includes local service providers and is focused on increasing competition, increasing quality, and lowering prices for Islanders





## HOUSING

- Be active partners in new housing developments focused on increasing the inventory of affordable housing across the province for all Islanders
- Increase affordable housing options and home care support programs for seniors and people with disabilities
- Mandate pet-friendly policies for provincial seniors' housing with associated supports as required
- Implement provincial regulations on short term rentals such as Airbnbs to ensure the market is managed by implementing limits on the number of properties per owner, requiring commercial registration for non-owner occupied listings, and implementing an accommodation levy
- Initiate a full review of the *Rental of Residential Property Act* to ensure that both tenants and landlords have appropriate protections
- Establish a dedicated ministerial responsibility for housing to coordinate policies and priorities across community partners and within government and to provide a single point of contact and accountability





# REESTABLISH TRUST IN GOVERNMENT

Islanders have lost faith in government. Politicians promise openness and transparency but don't deliver when they are in office. From not keeping promises to enhance independent oversight, to not implementing recommendations of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner or the Chief Electoral Officer, to not honouring the vote for the 2016 plebiscite, the traditional parties on PEI have a track record of putting party before people.

Islanders are also worried that their tax dollars are not being used wisely. They are concerned that public money is being wasted for partisan purposes and that party insiders are the main beneficiaries. Years of deficit budgeting have resulted in a massive debt that limits government's ability to provide programs and services. This debt will burden our children and grandchildren if we don't make fiscal sustainability a priority.

**A Green Government** would enhance support for independent offices, such as the Auditor General and the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, and create new offices to hold government to account. We would encourage MLAs to put the needs of their constituents first and reduce the control the Premier's Office has on the functioning of the Legislative Assembly and its committees.

**A Green Government** would review government spending to ensure that it is providing the programs and services that Islanders need and not giving unfair advantages to political insiders. It would produce budgets that are financially responsible, expecting budget deficits during difficult periods and surpluses at other times. It would commit to a meaningful public consultation process modelled on the federal Finance Committee's pre-budget consultations.

## 25 YEAR VISION



- PEI will have a fully open government that has the confidence of the people
- Government will be held to account through robust and independent oversight mechanisms
- Performance reporting will ensure that programs and services are administered efficiently and focus on achieving positive outcomes for Islanders
- Elected officials will work together collaboratively to serve Islanders first
- Budgets will be financially responsible, expecting budget deficits during difficult periods and surpluses at other times

## 10 YEAR GOALS



- The recommendations in the Third Party white paper on legislative reform to strengthen the independence of committees will be implemented
- The membership of the PEI Legislative Assembly will more closely reflect the full diversity of the Island population
- Performance reporting will be a standard practice throughout government
- Budgets will be determined using evidence-based information and will ensure fiscal sustainability
- The number of designated services in French will be increased according to the needs of the francophone community and the civil service's capacity to provide



## FIRST MANDATE COMMITMENTS



- Honour the results of the current referendum vote on electoral reform
  - A Green government will respect the upcoming vote on electoral reform regardless of the results
- Lower the provincial voting age to 16
  - Sixteen year olds enjoy many of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship: they can work full-time and must pay taxes; they can voluntarily leave school or home; and they can drive a car. They should also be encouraged to participate more actively in the future of their communities
- Establish an **independent** Ombudsperson Office
  - An Ombudsperson would have the authority to investigate individual complaints about how government provides programs and services. Every province other than PEI has an independent Ombudsperson
- Establish an **independent** Child Advocate Office
  - Government recently announced the appointment of a Child Advocate who will report to the Premier through Executive Council. To be effective a Child Advocate must be independent so they can fearlessly hold government to account.
  - Provide additional resources to the Office of the Auditor General to expand its capacity to ensure public funds are being spent responsibly

- Establish a pilot initiative for performance measurement that reports on the well being of Islanders in addition to how well government is delivering its programs and services
  - Performance reporting is an important part of fiscal management that allows government to make more informed and efficient use of public money by knowing what impact its policies are having on its citizens
- Set up an independent commission to explore the possibility of separating the role of the Justice Minister and the Attorney General
- Work with other parties to make the legislature and legislative committees more inclusive, collaborative, and effective
- Implement whistleblower protections for private sector workers
  - Nobody should risk being disciplined or fired for reporting wrongdoing. We would extend protections that public sector employees enjoy to all Island workers
- Improve access to French Language services by creating an initiative to encourage civil servants to proactively offer non-designated services in French







- Introduce a Well-being Measurement Act that will require government to gather data on the well-being of Islanders
- Reintroduce the Government Advertising Standards Act that will prohibit government from spending public money on partisan advertising
- Undertake a review of the *Expropriations Act* to ensure all Islanders are treated fairly when government seeks to purchase their land
- Adhere to the fixed date election provisions in the *Election Act*
  - Predictable election dates make it easier for nominees who need to make accommodations for caregiving responsibilities and employment requirements to step forward and plan for a campaign
- Review and begin implementation of recommendations made by the PEI Coalition for Women in Government's 2009 report "Whose Job is it Anyway? The Life and Work of an MLA"
- Implement all the recommendations made by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner in his 2015 Annual Report and increase the cooling off period for Ministers to two years
  - MLAs should be held to the highest standards and should not be able to use their influence for personal gain
- Implement recommendations made by the Chief Electoral Officer in his report on the 2015 provincial election to ensure the integrity of future elections
  - An independent audit of the 2016 Plebiscite stated: "Elections PEI is severely understaffed and... PEI legislators should be aware that a spectacular electoral failure will inevitably occur in their province if this situation is not properly addressed." (pp 21-22). These concerns must be addressed immediately





## **PRIORITÉS POUR LA COMMUNAUTÉ ACADIENNE ET FRANCOPHONE**

## **PRIORITIES FOR THE ACADIAN AND FRANCOPHONE COMMUNITIES**

### **OBJECTIFS DE DIX ANS:**

Le nombre de services désignés en français sera augmenté selon les besoins de la communauté francophone et la capacité bilingue de la fonction publique.

### **TEN YEAR GOAL:**

The number of designated services in French will be increased according to the needs of the francophone community and the civil service's capacity to provide them.

### **ENGAGEMENTS DANS LE PREMIER MADAT:**

Améliorer l'accès aux services publics en français par la création d'une initiative pour encourager l'offre proactive des services non-désignés en français de la part des employées et employés bilingues.

Augmenter les salaires des éducateurs et éducatrices de la petite enfance en augmentant les subventions aux centres désignés, pour ne pas augmenter les frais de garderie pour les familles insulaires.

### **FIRST TERM COMMITMENTS:**

Improve access to French Language services by creating an initiative to encourage civil servants to proactively offer non-designated services in French.

Increase wages for Early Childhood Educators (ECE) through increased grants to designated centres, so it will not increase the cost of childcare for Island families.

The Green Party of PEI is committed to both fiscal and environmental sustainability. Government must show fiscal restraint and not burden future generations with unmanageable debt. For that reason we have developed a platform that will stay within our current fiscal envelope.

Our platform proposes \$30 million dollars in new spending, which will result in a balanced budget for fiscal 2019-2020 and going forward. This estimate is based on current surpluses and a reallocation of funds currently held in the provincial loans portfolio to fund such commitments as extending the low-interest fishers loan program, providing microloans for small business, and loan programs to encourage green technology in residential, agriculture, and small business operations.

<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>\$307,250</b>
Creation of a provincial landbank for new farmers	\$150,000
Customizing width of agricultural buffer zones	\$50,000
Support for organic transition and certification	\$107,250
<b>Education</b>	<b>\$4,895,000</b>
Classroom supports for teachers	\$500,000
ECE wage parity	\$3,500,000
Improve DACs	\$70,000
Support the development of open educational resources	\$25,000
Expand afterschool programs	\$500,000
Universal School Food Program	\$300,000
<b>Environmental Sustainability &amp; Economic Development</b>	<b>\$423,750</b>
EV charger and purchase Incentives	\$203,750
Small-scale solar financing	\$100,000
Supporting creative and cultural industries on PEI	\$120,000
<b>Fisheries</b>	<b>\$2,661,000</b>
Expand Fishers Low Interest Loan Program*	\$2,500,000
Fisheries Deputy Minister	\$161,000
<b>Health Care</b>	<b>\$4,910,000</b>
Birth control coverage	\$250,000
Eye See, I Learn expansion	\$50,000
Extending dental coverage	\$2,500,000
Freezing cost increases to long-term care beds	\$90,000
Introducing regulated midwifery	\$120,000
Improving home-care	\$1,900,000
<b>Good Governance and Community Development</b>	<b>\$9,325,000</b>
Supporting housing supply	\$5,500,000
Strengthening Elections PEI	\$75,000
Community Food Hub Program	\$500,000
Community sector core funding	\$3,000,000
Rural Secretariat/Advisory Councils	\$250,000
<b>Social Services</b>	<b>\$10,175,000</b>
Expanding social assistance rates	\$10,000,000
Transit policy	\$100,000
Basic Income Guarantee policy development	\$75,000
<b>Total New Operational and Capital Spending</b>	<b>\$32,697,000</b>
Reallocation from IID1	\$2,500,000
Cost Recovery from School Food Program	\$210,000
<b>Total Net Spending</b>	<b>\$29,987,000</b>







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