

PEI IS WORKING

A CLEAR PLAN

*THE PEI FUTURE
ADVANTAGE*


LIBERAL
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

LIBERAL

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND



INTRODUCTION

Over the next four years, the Wade MacLauchlan Liberals are pledging to grow a province that will truly be an example to the world.

Prince Edward Island is well positioned to achieve and build that vision.

First, our historic tradition of close community ties, our sense of collective purpose and our fierce ability to transcend the challenges of geography and weather have built a unique and resilient identity. And those same qualities have shaped values of hard work, good humor and creativity.

As a society, we have always been strong.

And now, we are experiencing sustained economic growth and a sense of opportunity that is truly unprecedented in our long and distinguished history.

Taken together, the strength of our social fabric and our economic surge is leading to great achievements.

Our workforce is growing – and the number of Islanders who can participate in well-paying and meaningful jobs **can** increase.

Our education system is opening the way toward opportunities for Islanders – and new generations of Islanders **can** explore a wider range of employment in an emerging, diversified and increasingly dynamic jobs market.

We are stewards of our environment and tackling climate change – and current and future generations of Islanders **can** and are benefitting from smart energy and consumer choices.

Across Prince Edward Island, our infrastructure is being modernized in a way that will greatly improve the strategic fabric of our province: Our roads, bridges, airports, harbours, water treatment and renewable energy generation. In fact, this massive project is being driven in a way that will see infrastructure that will serve us – not just for a few years, but for three generations.

Similarly, we are well on the way toward having the best internet coverage in Atlantic Canada – and that means local families, entrepreneurs and communities have the capacity to excel, regardless of where they choose to do business.

All of this is being achieved in a spirit of true partnership and collaboration – with Islanders, community organizations, the private sector, seniors and educators. And we are doing so in full cooperation with a federal government that joins our province in the desire to build a stronger middle class that has the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of new opportunities.

In keeping with that need to work constructively with the other levels of government, we have placed municipalities on a firm, predictable and sustainable fiscal footing – so that our collective goal of improved infrastructure and housing availability can be effectively met.

Additionally, we have worked to build a strong relationship with the Island Mi'kmaq Nation – in a way that keeps us on a path toward reconciliation, thriving communities and opportunity – and a future we can all be proud of building together.

Yes, we have challenges. But it is those very challenges that compel us to go further to achieve our vision of Prince Edward Island as a place of opportunity and an example to the world.

And in the next four years, the Wade MacLauchlan Liberals believe that we can become an example to the world.

But – there are choices before us.

Do we want a future of sustained growth and opportunity for all Islanders, or do we want to smother our ambition under a blanket of uncertain social experiments and a move to hold Prince Edward Island back?

Do we want to believe in ourselves and one another, and the opportunities we can build together, or do we want to raise some up by tearing others down?

The Wade MacLauchlan Liberals have a clear vision: A future built on a foundation of hard work, opportunity and the excellence inherent in a society that seeks equality of opportunity and true caring for our fellow Islanders.

We **can** be an example to the world.

We **can** show the rest of Canada that our tradition of stubborn hard work and perseverance can build a successful, progressive and thriving place.

We **can** create new jobs and ensure Islanders have employment choices - that young people here can stay here and young Islanders elsewhere can come home.

We **can** build health care services that expand rapid and specialized access.

We **can** be a beacon to those who want to emulate our highly successful early years programs – and we can continue to build a province that values, supports and protects our seniors and our elderly.

We **can** be an example to the world – but to do so, we cannot go back. We must continue to grow. We must continue to work together.

For these reasons, the Wade MacLauchlan Liberals respectfully ask for your support in this election.



PEI IS WORKING: LIBERAL PROPOSALS TO ISLAND VOTERS

Prince Edward Island is Working

Around the world, the number and scale of challenges is escalating.

And in some parts of the world, challenge is seen as threatening.

But here on Prince Edward Island, we have been deeply fortunate.

The challenges we have faced and successfully tackled have improved our prospects for prosperity – and our province has recently led the country in economic and employment growth.

As a result, we have been able to invest significantly in areas that matter the most to Islanders:

- A modern health care system that is responding to the evolving needs of Islanders
- New opportunities for educational excellence, from birth to the highest levels of academia
- A fast-paced jobs market, that is offering new options to workers – and building a prosperous future around a highly-skilled workforce
- Direct supports for Island families that make life more affordable for everyone
- A well-run government that meets its fiscal targets – which has positioned us to introduce significant tax relief in recent and future years.

These are real accomplishments – and this strong record will shape the debate in our provincial election.

Who is Better Able to Create a Brighter Future for Prince Edward Island and Islanders?

Essentially, that is the question facing Islanders as we engage in a debate about our future.

The record is clear: Since Wade MacLauchlan became Premier in early 2015, Prince Edward Island has exceeded its targets in many areas:

- More than 5,000 full-time jobs have been added since the election of Wade MacLauchlan
- Nearly 77,000 Islanders are in the workforce – the highest number in our long provincial history
- Investment in health care has risen by nearly \$120-million
- Investment in education, and the preparation of young Islanders for a changing world has grown by \$41 million with 174 new front-line staff added to PEI schools
- An additional \$35 million in supports for families, children and seniors, and the most significant work on poverty reduction in a generation
- Direct initiatives to make everyday life more affordable, including \$10 million in annual savings in electricity and other forms of renewable energy - and \$43 million in tax savings for Islanders
- Our out-of-province sales of our world-class products are increasing daily – and reached a record of nearly \$1.4 billion in 2017
- The most ambitious period of infrastructure modernization ever, with \$600 million in housing, schools, roads, bridges, water, clean energy and community development

As a province, we have achieved these results together – and other jurisdictions are now looking to our Island as an example. In fact, since 2015, we have outperformed our Atlantic Canadian neighbours in every major category: population growth, employment opportunities and increased economic activity.

The Choices Before Us

In a rapidly evolving world, the Liberal Government under the leadership of Wade MacLauchlan has managed to harness the change – in a way that has brought real benefits to our province.

As Wade has said: “We have consistently regarded challenge as an opportunity – and through careful management and a deft touch, I believe we have helped to successfully navigate our province through difficult times, meeting local priorities while addressing global challenges.”

“As Islanders, we have embraced a world of challenge – and emerged stronger, more resilient, more prosperous and increasingly diverse.”

On April 23 2019, Islanders will make an important decision. Together, we will decide among the following choices:

- The Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island – which has consistently balanced the duties of social equity, financial integrity and progress toward economic prosperity as fixed and guiding goals.
- A Conservative party that has had five leaders since 2015 – and consequently lacks the discipline required to guide Prince Edward Island toward a fairer, more prosperous destination
- An untested Green party proposing schemes that will smother ambition and the potential of our province to succeed.

While we are in the midst of a period of hard-earned prosperity, the future is not without challenges.

In the face of a slowing Canadian economy, international trade tensions, and weather patterns that affect our key sectors, Islanders need strong leadership and proven experience.

Now is not the time to change course with untested leaders and ill-defined policies.

We must continue on the clear path to create jobs and invest in Islanders to help them do well in a changing world and challenging economy.

Investing in Islanders: Let's Keep Working

Unlike the other parties, the Liberals believe that Islanders deserve a tightly focused debate – that concentrates on the issues, challenges and opportunities that are important to us all.

We are ready to collaborate with everyone who is interested in the issues that matter most to Islanders: jobs, healthcare, education, housing, taxes and affordability.

And the Liberal Party is more than ready to debate its record – because there is genuine pride in what we have achieved together, as a province.



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PEI IS WORKING: MORE JOBS FOR ISLANDERS

Since the Wade MacLauchlan Liberal Team was first elected, there has been a remarkable increase in the number of job opportunities available to Islanders.

In fact, since 2015, the number of full-time jobs in our province has grown by 5,000.

These new jobs have contributed to the \$1 billion growth of our economy annually.

Jobs and growth are good for every one of us.

Perhaps the most important part of our unprecedented period of economic diversification and job growth is the fact that Island workers now have choices.

Too often in the past, Islanders felt 'lucky' to get a job – and often lived with compromises to keep one.

That's changing now.

In 2019, as the job market grows, workers are increasingly experiencing choices – and there is real competition to attract people and grow our workforce.

During this election, the Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island is proposing a series of measures designed to:

- Create 3,500 new, full-time jobs and modernize our public infrastructure
- Encourage young Islanders to stay in and return to our province – and excel in their chosen careers
- Provide appropriate assistance to the private sector – that builds on a tradition of innovation
- Build stronger relationships in Canada and around the world – and make it easier to export our world-class products and services

A Growing Job Environment:

Economic growth and job opportunity go hand-in-hand. Under a Liberal government, Prince Edward Island has experienced historic economic performance, with the result that more Islanders are working than ever before.

Over the next four years, the MacLauchlan Liberal Team is proposing an infrastructure investment plan of close to \$750 million.

That infrastructure modernization plan represents the equivalent of 2,000 jobs – and will see needed improvements to roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, communication systems, waste water infrastructure, and water supply. In part, this increase will be due to government's decision to place a job creation lens on all future capital spending.

To provide a path for Islanders to succeed in these fields, the Liberals will provide an education and training bonus for individuals pursuing training or retraining in key trades. ***A new Red Seal Entrance***

Scholarship will be provided to anyone entering an apprenticeship program.

The MacLauchlan Liberal Team will establish a First Job Incentive for employers hiring in areas where there are challenges attracting new workers. This incentive will provide training and salary support for employees in areas such as hospitality, early childhood, transportation and resource sectors as they gain valuable early job experience in these fields. This will include support for women in trades, ensuring equality of opportunity and participation.

Career Opportunities for Young Islanders – Here at Home:

The Liberal Party is fully committed to helping young Islanders get the all-important first job in an evolving workplace.

Over the past five years, the Graduate Mentorship Program has helped 1,200 Islanders to find work in their chosen fields.

It has been a remarkably successful program, and has helped young Islanders get started in the trades, biosciences, information technology – and all the other sectors of a diverse and growing job market.

The Liberals are now proposing to rapidly increase the size of the program – so by 2025, 3,200 young graduates will have benefited from the Graduate Mentorship Program.

In addition, the First Job Initiative will support the investment by employers in providing specialized training so that both young Islanders and businesses can succeed and adapt to changing needs.

Attracting, Training and Retraining – A Worker Acceleration Program:

As our economy grows more diverse, workers are often asked to develop new skills.

This is a welcome development – both in terms of the sophistication of employers, their products and services, and the capacity of workers.

To keep up with a changing world and improve our ability to compete around the world, the Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island is proposing a Worker Acceleration Program. This will be designed to allow employees to gain opportunities for new training – while at their current jobs.

It is estimated that during the first year of the program, ***hundreds of workers will be eligible for new training*** – at an annual cost of \$2 million. The Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island wants to make sure that all Islanders have the opportunity to participate in our evolving labour market. Specific initiatives will include:

- Partner with community organizations that help transition at risk youth, women, and newcomers into workplace training and job placement opportunities
- Increase recruitment activities, through sector programs such as Team Seafood, Farm Team, PEI, and Island Builder
- Modernize social assistance to encourage recipients who are in the workforce to earn more income



**A NEW RED
SEAL ENTRANCE
SCHOLARSHIP
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TO ANYONE
ENTERING AN
APPRENTICESHIP
PROGRAM.**

World Class Products and Services – An Export Growth Fund:

The Island's reputation as a supplier of world-class goods and services is growing every year. The quality of PEI's business products and services is well known in all parts of Canada and around the world, and we take collective pride in the success of our food products, our manufacturing and our cultural products in national and global markets.

This success supports jobs and other small business on PEI: when we sell nationally and globally, we succeed locally, creating more jobs in every sector.

In support of that effort and that record, the MacLauchlan Liberal Team is proposing a **four-year, \$5 million fund to support private sector initiatives designed to open new markets** – both in Canada and around the world. This effort will help to create new jobs by providing the private sector with opportunities to expand. In particular, this new fund will be aimed at small- and medium-sized enterprises in all sectors. By targeting small- and medium-sized businesses, government can then help to open doors to expanding operations, both across Canada and around the world.

A Highly Skilled Workforce-The Prosperity Advantage:

One of the realities of a growing economy is increased demand for highly-skilled tradespeople – including carpenters, welders, plumbers and mechanics.

To help meet that growing demand, the Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island is proposing **a new PEI Is Working Program to encourage young Islanders to enter trades**. Specific initiatives being proposed also include:

- **Expand vocational training in high schools** to allow students to have greater exposure to careers in the trades. Over the next four years, **new vocational training facilities and labs will be constructed at all Prince Edward Island high schools** in a way that reflects the changing needs of our diversifying workplace.
- Eliminate apprenticeship fees for students leaving work to complete their technical training.
- A new \$1,000 Red Seal Entrance Scholarship for anyone entering an apprenticeship program.

PEI IS WORKING: PATIENTS FIRST - FASTER ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

When it comes to health care, access and timeliness are the most important considerations.

Since 2007, the Liberal investment in health care access has risen by 5 per cent annually, and the total operating budget has increased by over \$250 million since a decade ago.

As a result, the number of physicians on the Island has risen from 196 to 262. There are now more specialists in areas like cancer care, neonatology, geriatrics and mental health.

Additionally, there are now:

- 1,440 Registered Nurses
- 31 Nurse Practitioners
- 566 Licensed Practical Nurses

These highly-trained professionals have helped to develop an integrated health care system that helps to ensure rapid access to service.

However, there is more to be done to ensure that Islanders are getting the care they need – when they need it.

For that reason, the Wade MacLauchlan Liberal team is proposing to invest an additional \$200 million in Island health care over the next five years, including \$100 million in new capital and operating supports for mental health and addictions.

A significant investment of \$50 million will be devoted to the recruitment, retention and training of health care professionals.

Timely Access to Doctors and Reduced Wait-Times:

The Liberals are committed to ensuring Islanders have access to family doctors, specialists and the other players in the health system quickly and efficiently to manage their care and improve health outcomes. Specific initiatives include:

- **Expanded Primary Care Teams:** Increase investments in nurse practitioners, nurses and other health professionals with expanded scopes of practice to enhance the scope of health services they can offer Islanders. **A new, full collaborative practice in Queens County will expand access to health care services to an additional 8,000 Islanders.**
- **Increased Walk-In Clinic Capacity:** Increasing by 50 per cent the capacity of walk-in clinics to see Islanders waiting to access a family doctor while recruitment activities work to eliminate the patient registry.
- **Rural Doctor Recruitment and Retention:** Increase the number of family doctors practicing in rural areas through targeted compensation strategies and return-in-service agreements.
- **Quicker Access to Surgical Services:** Hire five new specialists to improve the access that Islanders have to key surgical procedures, including hip/knee replacements and cataract surgery.

- **Technology-based scheduling and appointments:** Use locally-developed scheduling software that maximizes the number of Island patients that doctors can see and treat.
- **Support for Off-Island Medical Appointments:** Support for travel costs, including passes for the Confederation Bridge, will be provided to Islanders who are required to attend appointments with specialists in other parts of the region.
- **Expanded focus on Chronic Disease Management and Wellness:** Increase the number of Islanders that get directed by the primary care provider to chronic disease management programs and wellness initiatives.
- **Establish a Wellness Innovation Hub:** Work with health practitioners, researchers, patient groups and community leaders to effectively address new wellness initiatives that improve health outcomes for all Islanders.

Tackling Mental Health and Addictions:

PEI is working to help Islanders overcome the challenge of mental health and addictions.

A commitment of \$100 million in capital and operating over the next five years will provide immediate and integrated care across the province. Additionally, the MacLauchlan Liberal Team will work on priority services:

- **Recruitment of New Mental Health Professionals:** This will include an increase in the number of psychiatrists, psychologists and mental health nurses which will ensure that Islanders have among the best access to physician-based mental health care in Canada.
- **New Mobile Mental Health Care Services:** This will bring important, accessible mental health care services to Islanders in the comfort of their home communities.
- **Mental Health Walk-in Clinics:** Expand the mental health walk-in clinic program to ensure province-wide access.
- **Establishment of Innovative Partnerships:** Partner with community groups like the Canadian Mental Health Association to offer innovative mental health and addictions counselling solutions.
- **Expanded treatment and housing options for youth in recovery:** Increase emphasis and treatment capacity for youth, including safe housing options for youth in recovery.

Sustainable Urgent and Emergency Care:

The Patients First Liberal Plan will ensure that Islanders have access to urgent and emergency care that is sustainable and appropriate.

- **Elimination of Ambulance Fees: Eliminate ambulance fees for all Islanders** so they face no financial barriers to accessing urgent and emergency care.
- **Renewed Health Services at King's County Memorial Hospital:** Re-open emergency services at the KCMH on a 24-7 basis through a CEC model and invest in the development of a long-term health services plan that is modern and responsive to patient needs in the region.
- **Expand the role of Paramedics:** Expand the role of paramedics in rural communities through in-home services as well as seniors monitoring services.
- **Enhance the community Medical First Responder (MFR) program** for volunteer fire departments with new program supports (training, equipment and supplies) for fire departments participating in the provincial community MFR program.





Enhancing Access to Medications:

Under the leadership of Wade MacLauchlan and the Liberal team, Islanders will have improved access to the medications they need, when they need them.

- **Adoption of a seasonal industries health and benefits plan:** In a cooperative partnership with employers, implement a **province-wide pilot initiative to provide uninsured working Islanders in seasonal industries with access to health and benefits plan.**
- **Expansion of the Generic Drug Program:** Continue to increase access to medications covered under the Generic Drug Program and reinvest savings from generic drugs into new drug coverage. There are currently 21,000 Islanders benefiting from the program – and under this new Liberal initiative, access to medications will grow.
- **Increase access to new medications:** Improve access to new, innovative medications on the provincial formulary consistent with the coverage available in Atlantic Canada.
- **Affordable Access for Lower Income Seniors to Medications:** Eliminate the burden of dispensing fees for all lower-income seniors, and cut the cost of their access to generics in half.
- **Expand Scope of Service:** Additionally, pharmacists scope of practice will be widened in a way that will allow these highly-trained health care professionals to provide more services to Islanders.
- **Increased Support for Diabetes:** Provide increased support for Islanders living with diabetes, including for test strips and insulin pumps.



**SINCE 2007, THE LIBERAL
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INCREASED BY OVER \$250 MILLION
SINCE A DECADE AGO.**

PEI IS WORKING: HELPING ISLAND SENIORS STAY IN THEIR HOMES LONGER

As our population ages, we need to think of new ways to help our seniors live longer, productive lives in their homes, close to family and friends.

Over the past four years, under the leadership of Wade MacLauchlan and the Liberal team, Prince Edward Island has significantly strengthened supports to allow seniors to live in their homes longer.

The Seniors Home Repair Program, Safe at Home Program and Seniors Independence Program have provided direct and needed supports to 4,000 Island seniors.

We need to continue to invest in new people, services, and supports which help seniors and their families stay in their communities longer.

Let's keep working on:

- ***New Investments in Homecare Nurses:*** New investments in homecare nursing positions will allow for expanded home care coverage to seven days a week.
- ***Financial Supports for Family Caregivers:*** A Home First Initiative will ***provide family caregivers with an up to \$500-month benefit.***
- ***Expanded Role for Our Paramedics:*** Expansion of mobile integrated health services will provide seniors and their families with access to 24-7 non-emergency care in their homes.
- ***Technology Supports for Seniors and their Families:*** New security and home technology will make our seniors' homes safer, allowing family members and health professionals to monitor them remotely.
- ***Home Repairs and Renovations:*** Continue to ***invest in home renovations and repairs that allow seniors to stay in their homes longer.*** The program will see an additional investment of \$750,000 per year.



PEI IS WORKING: A STRONG SOCIAL FRAMEWORK THAT SUPPORTS ALL ISLANDERS

Under a Wade MacLauchlan government, Prince Edward Island has experienced significant investment in social development and social inclusion. Improvements to social assistance and disability supports have placed more emphasis on capability and individualized services. Elements of secure and assured incomes have been introduced. Job transition support has been improved. Under the Poverty Reduction Strategy, more than \$50 million will be invested over the next 5 years

More direct supports have been provided to seniors and families facing financial burdens. In concert with the federal government, more benefits have flowed to more Islanders facing need, and poverty levels are declining. More work needs to be done, and the leadership of the MacLauchlan Liberal team will ensure a strong collaboration with the federal government to secure more direct and essential benefits for Island families.


Addressing the Housing Pressures in a Growing Economy:

One of the challenges associated with a growing economy is the need for an enhanced supply of housing.

While government cannot control the housing and rental market, it can take steps to address affordability – and availability. Even with these collaborative efforts of government, community and development partners, challenges of supply and affordability remain, due in large part to our province's economic growth.

For those reasons, the Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island is proposing the following initiatives:

- ***A 10 per cent reduction in property taxes on the first \$200,000 of assessed residential value for every principal residence***
- Continuation of the ambitious program to increase the availability of affordable units across the Island. When this is complete, there will be 1,400 new affordable units built with government support and easier access to rent supplements
- Targeted funding support to non-profit groups that provide housing to at risk populations such as youth with mental health and addictions
- ***A new Affordable Accommodation Tax Credit of up to \$300 per year to reduce the cost of all those who rent units below \$1,500 per month***
- An additional 100 long-term care beds for Island seniors



TAX RELIEF WILL BE PROVIDED BY RAISING THE BASIC PERSONAL AMOUNT TO \$10,000 BY 2020

Historic New Supports for Working Islanders:

Hard working Islanders are the backbone our province, our communities and our economy. The MacLauchlan Liberal Team has consistently ensured that Island workers benefit from the growing prosperity of our province, and will commit to make sure all workers continue to thrive:

- Tax relief will be provided by **raising the basic personal amount to \$10,000 by 2020**, providing an annual tax break of \$6.9 million to working Islanders
- Minimum wage will be increased to \$14 by 2022
- **A new PEI Workers Benefit will provide up to \$1,600 for a single worker and \$2,700 for a couple or a family**, and directly assist 12,600 working Islanders

Supporting Island Families:

Under Wade MacLauchlan, the Liberal Government has made significant strides to support Island children and their families, including the introduction of Student Well-Being Teams in schools, additional school psychologists and youth mental health supports, Triple P Parenting and the Children's Lawyer.

Too often, children are penalized for parental disputes. And too often, that means that children are not receiving the maintenance they deserve after spousal breakup.

The Liberal plan will see maintenance enforcement measures strengthened significantly – with additional demands on those who neglect child support payments. This will include enhanced ability to garnish wages, revoke passports and take away drivers' licenses.

Poverty Reduction – Working With Our Partners:

Poverty is a pervasive issue here at home and across Canada. We need the voices and efforts of many - Islanders from all walks of life, community partners, and other levels of governments all coming together to help meet the very real needs of Islanders living with poverty.

Significant work has been accomplished in this area – which has resulted in a major drop in the child poverty rate.

In keeping with that belief, the Wade MacLauchlan Liberals are proposing a new \$2 million Community Grants and Poverty Action Fund – which will be provided to non-governmental organizations that seek to assist Islanders in need.

This new fund will help to support the province's first Poverty Reduction Action Plan – which was released in November of 2018.

Other initiatives include:

- A new Poverty Reduction Bill – to be debated in the Legislative Assembly
- Significant investments in affordable housing across the province
- Additional resources to be provided to the Children's Commissioner and Advocate and Office for Children and Youth as the work of that office ramps up

Legal Support for Survivors of Sexual Violence:

We need to ensure that survivors of sexual violence have access to the legal advice they need. The proposed program will empower survivors to make informed decisions regarding their potential and actual interactions with the justice system.

School Food Program:

This new initiative, based on a 2019 pilot, will ensure that **all Island children have access to healthy lunches**. By following a “pay-what-you-can” parent model, the Liberal plan will promote health, well-being and a better school environment for every Island child, regardless of family circumstances. Locally produced food will feature on all menus developed for this program.

PEI IS WORKING: REDUCING TAXES AND IMPROVING AFFORDABILITY

The MacLauchlan Government has ensured strong fiscal management and smart investment during a period of significant economic uncertainty.

A key measurement of a successful economy is the options provided by increased prosperity.

One option in a growing economy is the reduction of taxes, allowing Islanders and small businesses to keep more money in their pockets.

Over the last several years, significant measures have been taken to reduce the tax burden – in a way that is truly helping our economy to grow. In fact, tax reductions since 2015 have kept an additional \$43.8 million in Islanders' pockets. As a result of these measures – and a growing economy – Islanders' per capita disposable income rose more than \$1,400 between 2014 and 2017.

These measures have included:

- Increases to basic personal exemption
- Reduction in corporate taxes
- Holding the line on fuel taxes – while contributing to the global effort to fight climate change
- Reductions in taxes on electricity and other forms of clean energy

During the 2019 provincial election, the MacLauchlan Liberal Team is proposing to:

- Reduce property taxes by 10 per cent on the first \$200,000 of assessed value, starting in 2020
- Introduce an Affordable Accommodation Tax Credit of \$300 per year on all rental units of less than \$1,500 per month
- Raise the basic personal exemption again to \$10,000 by 2020 - and commit to maintaining a level above the regional average
- Reduce the tax rate for small business to 2.5 per cent by 2020 – the lowest rate in the region
- Reduce the cost of regulation on Island businesses by \$8 million over 4 years
- Provide new tax breaks for people seeking in-vitro fertilization
- Create new tax credits for families who have their children involved in extra-curricular activities, including amateur sport, 4H, volunteer efforts, community organizations, and other activities, and for seniors who are investing in health activities

PEI IS WORKING: INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE AND YOUNG ISLANDERS

Since 2007, the Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island has taken a series of steps designed to swiftly improve access to high-quality education programs.

Since its introduction in 2010, 12,000 young Islanders have benefited from public kindergarten.

Approximately 21,000 Islanders have been introduced to education through the Early Years Program – which simultaneously reduced child care costs for thousands of families.

12,300 Islanders have received the George Coles Bursary since 2008 – and reduced post-secondary costs have helped 13,600 Island students graduate from the University of Prince Edward Island and Holland College.

The Liberal Party believes in a lifelong approach to learning – that begins right from the moment a young Islander enters this world.

“A world class education should be accessible to everyone who wants to excel and get ahead – regardless of their financial circumstances. As we build a stronger, brighter and more prosperous Island future we have to remember this: We are in this together.” – Wade MacLauchlan

Prince Edward Island is Working - The Best Early Learning and Childcare Program in Canada:

Providing our children with the best early learning education and care in the country is both our responsibility and opportunity. Over the last decade, full-day kindergarten has been introduced into our public school system – and the Island’s Early Years Education programs are praised across Canada.

The Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island is not prepared to pause in the effort to help children prepare for a changing world. In the next three years, the MacLauchlan Liberal Team is proposing to:

- Fund **300 additional new spaces, including more spaces for the growing need for infant childcare**
- Create new Early Years Centres, and establish more collaboration between private and public centres and local schools, to extend universally available spaces for 3 and 4 year olds
- Significantly **reduce parent fees by 2023, with reductions beginning in 2019**
- Develop new early learning spaces that offer flexible times to support the needs of parents working shifts
- Provide supports to businesses and organizations that provide on-site childcare and early learning spaces for the children of their employees
- Continue to invest in training and compensation advancements for our early learning educators in recognition of the critically-important role they play in the development of our children

Prince Edward Island is Working – The Island Education Bond:

In keeping with the strongly-held Liberal belief that access to education is the key to success, we are proposing **a new \$500 Island Education Bond for every eligible child under the age of 16** in our province – beginning in 2020. In turn, this PEI initiative will allow Island families to leverage the Canada Learning Bond – a federal program that provides an additional \$2,000 to eligible children who participate in the program.

By introducing this initiative, the Liberal plan will help to ensure that post-secondary costs for tuition, textbooks, training equipment, residence and out-of-province programs will be accessible to all Islanders.

Building a World-Class Kindergarten to Grade 12 System:

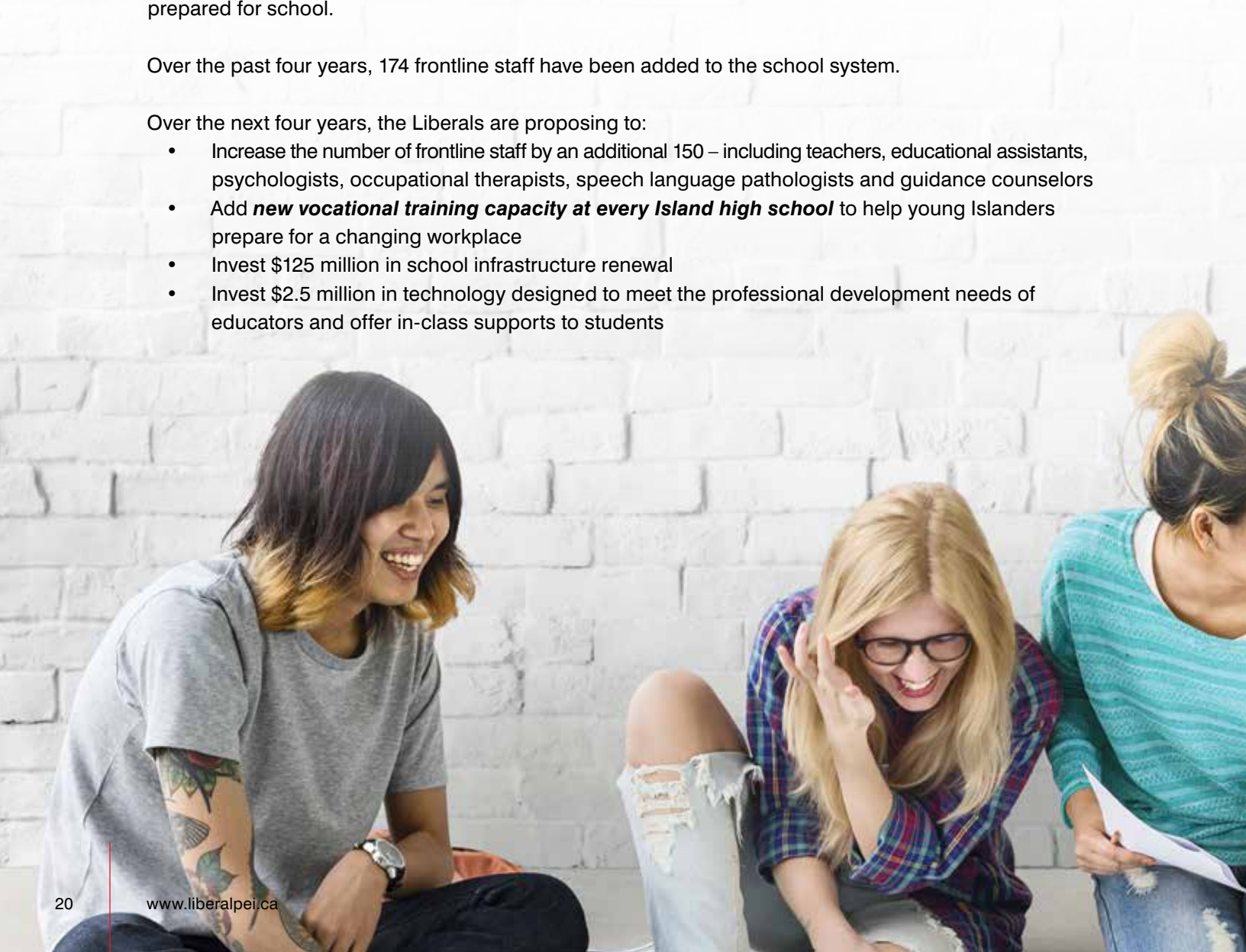
Wade MacLauchlan and the Liberal team are committed to building an education system that prepares all young Islanders for a changing world and a prosperous future.

By cultivating one of the best Early Years systems in the country, young Islanders are now much better prepared for school.

Over the past four years, 174 frontline staff have been added to the school system.

Over the next four years, the Liberals are proposing to:

- Increase the number of frontline staff by an additional 150 – including teachers, educational assistants, psychologists, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists and guidance counselors
- Add **new vocational training capacity at every Island high school** to help young Islanders prepare for a changing workplace
- Invest \$125 million in school infrastructure renewal
- Invest \$2.5 million in technology designed to meet the professional development needs of educators and offer in-class supports to students



Prince Edward Island is Working: The Most Accessible Post-Secondary Education in Canada:

Over the past decade, the Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island has introduced a series of programs designed to encourage Islanders to pursue new career options at university and college.

This record has included the Liberal commitment to multi-year funding for post-secondary institutions, which has helped to stabilize costs for students. Additionally, there have been investments in enhanced programs and facilities.

The George Coles and Island Advantage Bursaries have resulted in significant improvements in affordable and accessible post-secondary education for PEI students. This record of educational inclusion and access is a great source of pride – and it is a record that will continue.

And in particular, the MacLauchlan government has worked very hard to ensure that young Islanders are not saddled with significant levels of debt – just as they begin their careers.

In 2019, the Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island is proposing further, targeted investments in students.

Specifically, ***the Liberal Party is proposing to increase the George Coles Bursary to \$2,700 per year.***

This will leave an estimated \$4.8 million in the pockets of Island students and their families over the next four years, and will allow Island students to pursue affordable studies at the University of Prince Edward Island, Holland College and College de l'Île.

This will also add to the strong partnership the province has with the federal government. For example, under the Career Connect Program, Island post-secondary students receive approximately \$9 million annually toward their studies.

Taken together, the Liberal record – and these new initiatives – will mean that Islanders will have access to the most affordable post-secondary education in Canada.



PEI IS WORKING: VIBRANT COMMUNITIES AND RURAL GROWTH

Prince Edward Island is blessed with strong communities. Islanders across our province are proud of their local roots and want to see the communities they know and love thrive.

Under the Wade MacLauchlan Government, more investments have flowed to support community growth in infrastructure, jobs, population and economic development.

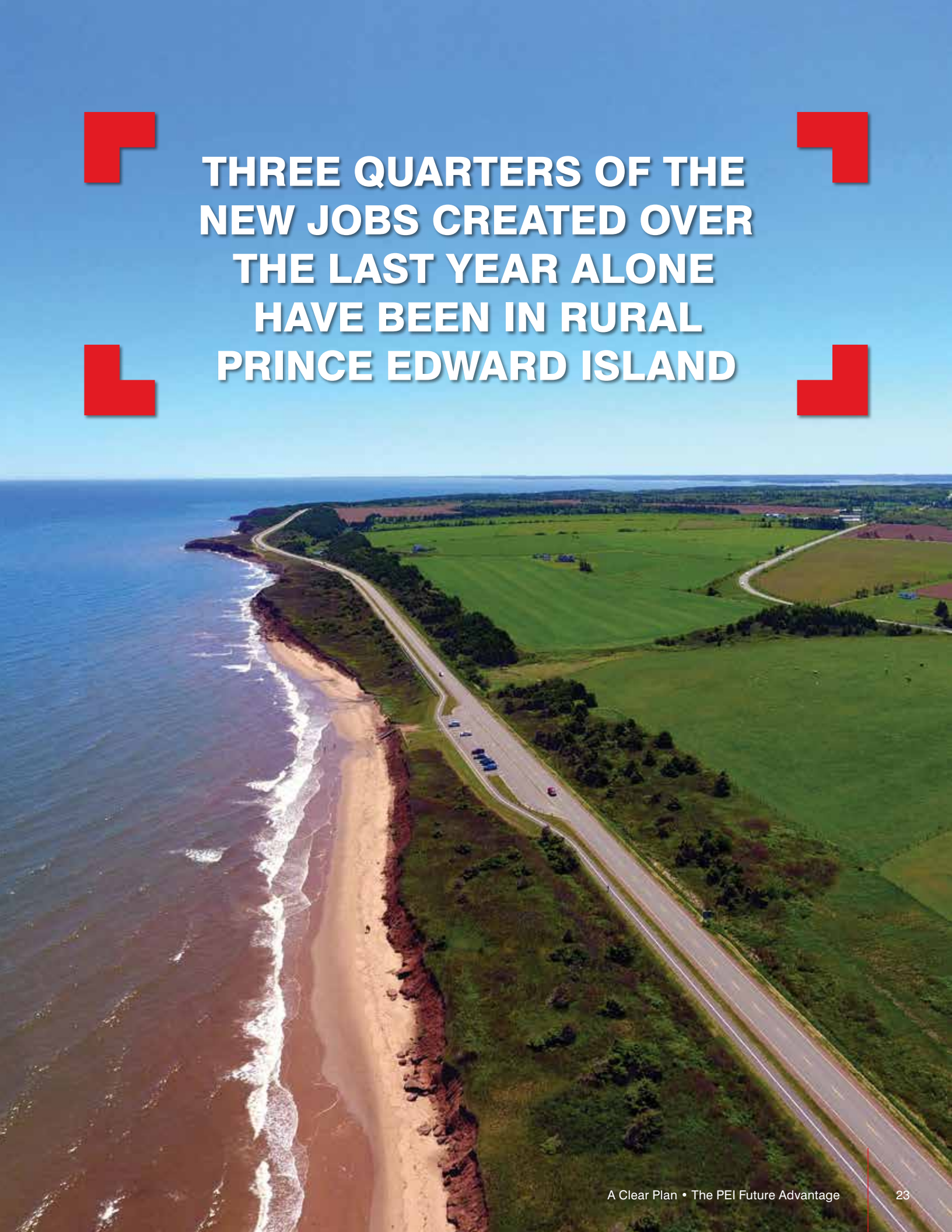
More full-time jobs have been created in rural PEI, and sectors, businesses and organizations have thrived with increased supports.

As a matter of fact, three quarters of the new jobs created over the last year alone have been in rural Prince Edward Island – which reflects the growing optimism and confidence in communities across the province.

That record will continue – as a result of innovative new programs like our modernization of broadband, which will allow new businesses to thrive, regardless of where they are located.

The Liberals will continue to support the building of vibrant communities in our province through:

- The rollout of the \$74 million high-speed broadband initiative to all parts of Prince Edward Island – which will result in close to 30,000 additional Island homes and businesses gaining access to internet services that will be many times faster than that which is currently available
- A population development initiative that provides direct program supports to communities seeking to grow the base of residents in their areas
- A Community Growth Initiative that will provide \$2 million per year on strategic development initiatives in local areas as defined by municipal and community leaders
- A **Volunteer Enhancement program that helps fund organizations** who are engaging community members in their local areas on activities that support community connection
- Continued engagement through the Regional Economic Advisory Councils and investment in regional economic development priorities
- Increase infrastructure capacity in communities, building on extensive work on collector roads, water and wastewater, culture and recreation already underway



**THREE QUARTERS OF THE
NEW JOBS CREATED OVER
THE LAST YEAR ALONE
HAVE BEEN IN RURAL
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

PEI IS WORKING: BUILDING MODERN INFRASTRUCTURE

Under the Wade MacLauchlan Government, Prince Edward Island has experienced the most significant period of infrastructure renewal and modernization in the last 50 years.

The entire province – and communities from tip-to-tip – are benefitting from investments in roads and bridges, energy, schools, water and wastewater, and community enhancements.

Over the past four years, the Liberal team has led the confirmation of projects totaling \$750 million, while the province has witnessed a total investment of in excess of \$1 billion in public infrastructure.

Over the next four years, the Liberals will deliver on new infrastructure:

- New wind farms in West Prince and Eastern PEI that will add clean and renewable energy sources for Islanders
- New transmission infrastructure that will carry that energy across PEI and better link us to the region
- \$125 million in new school infrastructure
- A modern, province-wide approach for the delivery of mental health services that meets Islanders needs where they are
- The completion of the Trans-Canada Highway extension, ensuring safe, efficient transportation along the Wood Islands – Confederation Bridge corridor
- Continued, active and vigorous advocacy for the Wood Islands-Caribou ferry
- \$150 million in upgrades to roads and bridges across the province
- More cycling corridors
- Modern and updated water and wastewater facilities for Island communities
- Significant investment in priority projects put forward by PEI municipalities
- \$30 million in new housing supply

PEI IS WORKING: CLEANER SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND MODERN ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Prince Edward Islanders are well aware of how climate change is impacting our province. Coastal erosion, extreme weather events, storm surges, and changing effects on resources are experienced all around us.

At the same time, Islanders have taken significant and real steps to lower our carbon footprint and contribute to the fight against greenhouse gas emissions.

Over the past number of years, Prince Edward Island has invested in renewable energy, allowing us to become a leader in clean electricity generation. Our new transmission cables under the Northumberland Strait provide us with new opportunities. With more development, and innovation on storage, we could soon be in a position to export clean electricity to the rest of the region.

Islanders have themselves taken up the challenge – with tax and investment incentives put in place by the Wade MacLauchlan government, **more people are now opting for cleaner sources of energy** resulting in further reductions in our carbon footprint.

But there is more we can do. The Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island is now proposing to:

- Make Prince Edward Island a national leader in banning single-use plastics and other forms of disposable packaging
- **Invest \$8 million over the next four years on a shoreline protection initiative** to assess, map and respond to flood risk
- Accelerate the development of wind farms in West Prince and Eastern Kings, and build new transmission infrastructure to better link our wind energy to the regional electricity grid
- Support the most effective and sustainable on-farm carbon reduction measures – including organic soil management and use of lower-nitrate fertilizers
- Continue provincial efforts to ensure that the Northumberland Strait remains as free as possible of industrial pollution
- Reflecting our natural pride in the Island, establish extensive new community partnerships to expand roadside litter programs
- Invest in new public electric vehicle charging stations and provide tax rebates for the purchase and installation of home charging stations
- **Invest \$1 million in new reforestation** to assist in carbon sequestration
- Develop and implement a solar electric incentive for Island homeowners to help reduce GHG emissions and reduce electricity consumption

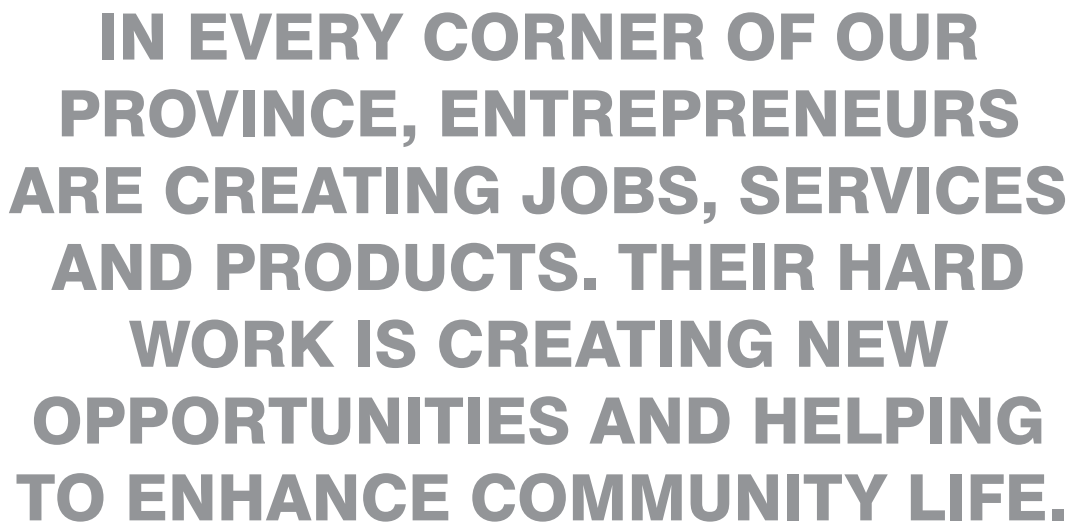
PEI IS WORKING: SMALL BUSINESS IS OUR BUSINESS

One of the dynamic contributors to Island prosperity is the large number of small- and medium-sized businesses that drive the engine of our economy.

In every corner of our province, entrepreneurs are creating jobs, services and products. Their hard work is creating new opportunities and helping to enhance community life.

By truly recognizing how small business drives our Island economy, we can continue to grow and prosper:

- Expanding wage subsidy supports to Island businesses that provide a job to a recently graduated Island student
- Introducing an Experiential Learning Fund to support employers hiring in non-traditional fields
- Reducing the small business tax rate to 2.5 per cent, and committing to staying at the lowest rate in the Atlantic Region
- Reducing by 25 per cent in year one and 50 per cent in year two the licensing and inspection fees for small businesses that have a positive business record
- **Increasing skills development training** to help small businesses grow and prosper
- Continuing the Capital Assistance Program for small business
- Support sales growth to national and international markets through the Export Growth Fund
- Eliminating red tape and time delays that small businesses face in dealing with multiple departments
- Setting a goal of \$8 million in regulatory savings for Islanders by 2022



IN EVERY CORNER OF OUR
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PEI IS WORKING: MAKING ISLAND AGRICULTURE AND SEAFOOD THE BEST IN THE WORLD

The Island is an export economy and no one knows this better than our fishers, farmers, and processors. A significant portion of all our exports are grown, harvested and processed here on the Island. As an Island with a small population, we rely on exports for our survival. However, difficult growing seasons, labour shortages, and fluctuating commodity prices can challenge the viability of these sectors and the communities and jobs they support.

Now more than ever, we need a government that continues to stand with our fishers, farmers, and processors to work together to achieve a stronger, more prosperous future. Let's keep working on:

- **Expanding worker recruitment and retention initiatives** such as Team Seafood and PEI Farm Team to increase our primary industries' access to labour
- Establishing a Food Island Export Program to support innovative product development and marketing activities to help harvesters and processors expand their markets
- Investing in new aquaculture technology, such as mussel production innovation, to ensure both **environmental and economic sustainability**
- Revising and expanding crop insurance programs so that potato growers and growers working in other sectors have the supports they require to mitigate risks of bad growing seasons.
- Incenting, through a \$1 million fund in crop insurance, farmers who implement a variety of practices to improve soil health
- **Supporting the development of the next generation of farmers and fishers** with policies and programs that facilitate the passage of land and assets from one generation to the next
- Reducing red-tape and aligning regional regulations so that that our farmers, fishers, and processors face an equal playing field with counterparts in the region
- Ensuring that our fishers, farmers, and processors are supported to tackle climate challenges and are not penalized by carbon reduction measures that address factors outside of their control





**2018 SAW THE ISLAND'S
TOURISM INDUSTRY ONCE
AGAIN SURPASS 1 MILLION
IN OVERNIGHT STAYS WITH
1.58 MILLION VISITORS**

PEI IS WORKING: GROWING OUR SUCCESS IN TOURISM

The Island's vibrant tourism sector has experienced 5 years of continuous and record setting growth.

As a result, there are now more than 7,500 Islanders employed in the tourism industry.

The Liberal proposals for the tourism sector will see that number grow – so, by 2025 we expect to see 9,000 working in our tourism sector.

2018 saw the Island's tourism industry once again surpass 1 million in overnight stays with 1.58 million visitors and revenues of \$486 million. This translates into roughly \$70 million in tax revenues for our Province which assists in funding many of our key priorities such as health care, education, and other important initiatives.

As we look forward, we know that the population in Canada and abroad is aging and travelers are looking for new and different tourism experiences. The growth of “soft adventure” tourism and growing interests in culinary and cultural tourism bodes well for the future of this significant sector of our economy.

Let's keep working with our tourism operators in embracing the new opportunities present in this changing marketplace.

- **New Product Development:** Allocate new funding to industry-led product development initiatives such as the Tourism Industry Association of PEI's Coastal Circuit initiative
- **PEI Parks and Trails:** Work with operators to determine how our growing network of trails for cycling, hiking, and snowshoeing can be developed into new year-round tourism product offerings and opportunities
- **New West Prince Nature Activity Park:** Work with communities, tourism stakeholders and outdoor enthusiasts to establish a multi-use, nature activity park in West Prince based on the model of Bonshaw Hills, with a location chosen based on suitability, the availability of existing public land and the potential to acquire significant environmentally sensitive terrain. The Park would be operational by the summer of 2022
- **Tourism Marketing & Product Development Levy:** Undertake an operator referendum on a mandatory marketing and product development levy with a commitment to raise additional government funding by an amount similar to that raised by a new province-wide levy
- **Licensing Fee Reductions:** Reduce fees/cost associated with provincial licensing and inspection of tourism properties by 25 per cent in 2019/2020 and 50 per cent in 2020/2021
- **Labour Market Support:** Continue to support labour market activities to assist the industry in attracting and retaining the workforce it needs, including a tourism program similar to Team Seafood and PEI Farm Team student bursary programs
- **Cultural Tourism:** Build on PEI's cultural strategy with specific emphasis on cultural tourism product development and marketing

PEI IS WORKING: NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SECTORS

It has been said that Prince Edward Island's culture comes from our unique place and our diverse people, each with a proud heritage. Culture can be defined by our stories, seasonal traditions, built heritage, natural environment, our recreational spaces and pastimes, by the work of our vibrant arts and creative industries and indeed by our identity. On the Island, our cultural sector employs over 2000 creative workers in a variety of disciplines.

Our commitments build on PEI's first ever cultural strategy, *Cultivating Growth: Prince Edward Island's Five-Year Action Plan for Culture and Creative Industries*, and will increase both the economic and social well-being of Islanders through strategic investments in cultural initiatives and creative industries.

Those involved in culture and creative industries play a significant role in putting PEI on the map – whether it is people travelling to our province and enjoying cultural production here, or our artists sharing their production with people around the world, our province and our culture are strongly linked.

The MacLauchlan Liberal team is committed to keep working at enhancing Island cultural production, creative industry exports and overall success by:

- **Engaging with the Mi'kmaq and Francophone communities** in the development of specific programs and services that recognize their unique roles in Island culture
- Partnering with the Federal Government, cultural organizations and local communities to develop a network of Creative Hubs that provide spaces and opportunities for collaboration, co-location, training, program delivery and opportunities for new artists to assist them in the launch of their careers
- Establishing an export development fund that allows Island artists and creators the support they need to gain access to markets off Island
- **Developing cultural tourism products through dedicated funding**, with an emphasis on festivals and events built around communities of interest aligned with other elements of our tourism experience
- Developing a new digital platform for our provincial museums and heritage locations that provides new opportunity for virtual public engagement and education of PEI's unique heritage and culture
- Partner with cultural organizations to develop focused business skills training to assist them on a province-wide basis to further develop entrepreneurial skills
- Support opportunities to develop housing options conducive to growing the arts
- Ensuring that a focus on peer review and excellence remain at the core of our support for all the arts

PEI IS WORKING: DOING GOVERNMENT DIFFERENTLY

Maintaining a relationship of trust between government and the people it serves is essential.

As a means of building trust, more active engagement with Islanders has resulted in significant new shared direction. The introduction of the new Water Act and the development of new action plans in poverty reduction, housing, culture, seniors and suicide prevention have all come about through active collaboration with the Island community.

Over the past four years, the Wade MacLauchlan Liberal team has worked very hard to introduce **improvements in public administration** designed to preserve and enhance that relationship of trust.

Working with a professional public service, these initiatives have included:

- The introduction of whistleblower protection legislation – so that all public servants are confident that they can raise legitimate concerns
- Lobbyist legislation – which will help to allow the public to monitor the relationship between the public and private sectors
- New funding has been provided to the Auditor General – so that office can enhance its oversight of government decision-making
- Campaign finance reform means that donations to political parties are limited – and contributions from corporations and unions are no longer permitted
- There are strong, new rules surrounding accountability of government's senior management

In keeping with these reforms, the Wade MacLauchlan Liberal team is now proposing further enhancements to the way government conducts its affairs, including:

- Extensive regulatory reforms designed to save businesses and individuals \$8 million in regulatory fees by 2022
- New measures to ensure more rapid and detailed reporting of financial performance by all government departments and Crown Corporations

A MESSAGE FROM WADE MACLAUHLAN

Dear Islanders,

In any conversation I have, my four proudest words are: “I am an Islander.”

There is so much to cherish in our Island community:

Our sense of humor – even in difficult times.

Our community spirit – and most especially, when any of us is in need.

Our healthy belief in the virtue of competition – but always with fairness, and a willingness to share.

And, we are blessed with a deep sense of optimism – because we all know we live in the finest place in the world.

Those are the reasons I feel so privileged to serve as your Premier in an era of growing confidence and accomplishment.

Over the past four years, we have worked together and accomplished more for our province. More jobs. Better direct supports for seniors. Increased benefits for Island families. Greater opportunities for our young people.

I am one hundred per cent confident that together, we are on a path to greater prosperity, more opportunity and the increasing ability to support one another.

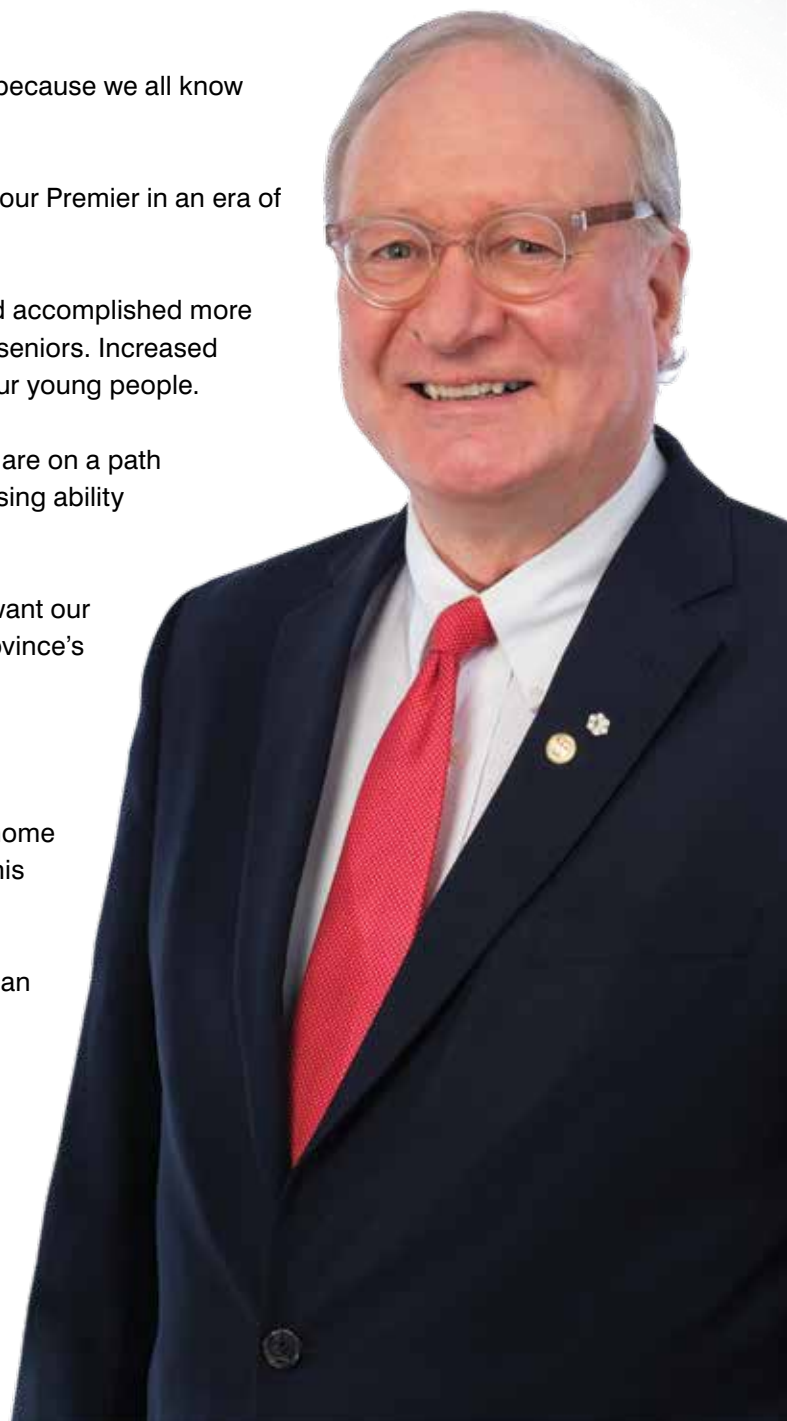
I am seeking re-election as your Premier – because I want our province to continue on that journey, and grow our province’s growing self-confidence. The Liberal plan is realistic, forward-looking and achievable.

We have great opportunity before us, with growing job opportunities, more ability to keep our young people home and bring them back home. I want us to continue on this path to historic achievement for our province.

As Islanders – we are achieving a great deal. And we can achieve more. So in this election, I am respectfully asking for your support ...

PEI Is Working - Let's Keep Working

Wade



THE PLATFORM IN BRIEF

The PEI Future Advantage: The Liberal Plan

There are now more than jobs than ever on Prince Edward Island.

And that means more career choices for every Islander.

And after four years of real progress, we now have a real opportunity to build a more prosperous Island – and secure our future for years to come.

The Liberal plan will build on our success – and make sure we all can confidently participate in a growing economy.

The Liberal Plan will:

- Create 3,500 full-time jobs in the next three years
- Reduce property taxes by 10 per cent and provide a tax rebate for affordable rentals – and reward home ownership while easing the cost of renting
- Through the new Patients First Health Care Plan, we will ensure faster access to health care services
- Provide a \$500 Island Education bond for every Island child under the age of 16 – to cut the costs of post-secondary education
- Introduce a PEI Workers Benefit that will provide support to 12,600 working Islanders
- Increase the George Coles Bursary to \$2,700 per year – and improve access to post-secondary education at the University of Prince Edward Island, Holland College and College de l’Île.
- Add 150 new frontline staff to the education system – so that young Islanders can succeed throughout their lives

We are on a path to greater prosperity – led by a talented Island workforce.

In a world filled with challenges, the Liberal Plan will help to make sure that all Islanders have the opportunity to succeed.



COSTING SUMMARY

Jobs and Employment

PEI Workers Benefit	4,500,000
Worker Acceleration Program	2,000,000
Apprenticeship Fee Reduction	200,000
Red Seal Entrance Scholarship	600,000
Re-Training Bonus	250,000
Experiential Learning Fund	200,000
Graduate Mentorship	1,200,000
First Jobs Initiative	800,000
Expanded Vocational Training	250,000
SUB-TOTAL	10,000,000

Healthcare Services

Expanded Primary Care	4,000,000
Increased Walk-In Clinic Capacity	750,000
Rural Doctor Recruitment	500,000
King's County Memorial Hospital	1,200,000
New Medical Specialists	3,500,000
New Mental Health Professionals	1,250,000
Mobile Mental Health Services	400,000
Youth Mental Health	300,000
Technology Development	100,000
Support for Medical Travel	200,000
Wellness Innovation Hub	200,000
Elimination of Ambulance Fees	900,000
Medical First Responder Program	100,000
Health and Benefits in Seasonal Industries	500,000
Expansion of Generic Drugs Program	250,000
New Medications	600,000
Lower Drug Costs for Seniors	200,000
Diabetes Supports	200,000
SUB-TOTAL	15,150,000

Personal Tax Reductions

Property Tax Savings	3,700,000
Rental Rebate	4,400,000
Reduction in Basic Personal Amount	6,900,000
Children's and Senior's Activity Tax Credit	1,000,000
Tax Credit for In-Vitro Fertilization	500,000
SUB-TOTAL	16,500,000

Education and Youth

Early Childhood Education	5,500,000
Island Education Bond	1,400,000
K-12 Frontline Learning Staff	3,000,000
George Coles Bursary	900,000
SUB-TOTAL	10,800,000

COSTING SUMMARY (con't)

Social Development

Community Grants and Poverty Action Fund	2,000,000
Legal Support for Victims of Sexual Assault	250,000
School Food Program	100,000
SUB-TOTAL	2,350,000

Communities

Broadband Development	2,500,000
Community Growth Initiative	2,000,000
Population Development and Retention	250,000
Volunteer Enhancement Program	250,000
Digital Museums	500,000
West Prince Nature Activity Park	200,000
SUB-TOTAL	5,700,000

Environment

Plastics and Recycling	400,000
Shoreline Protection	1,000,000
Reforestation	250,000
Organic Soil	250,000
Solar Electric	500,000
EV Charging Stations	600,000
SUB-TOTAL	3,000,000

Small Business, Primary Industries and Exports

Small Business Tax Reduction	2,700,000
Export Growth Fund	1,250,000
Tourism Product Development	200,000
Culture and Creative Industries	250,000
Reduced Licensing Fees	250,000
SUB-TOTAL	4,650,000

Seniors

Homecare Nursing	300,000
Home First Initiative	1,200,000
Expanded Paramedicine	200,000
Home Security	150,000
Home Repairs and Renovations	500,000
Long-Term Care Beds	5,500,000
SUB-TOTAL	7,850,000

OVERALL TOTAL	76,000,000
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