

Poverty Reduction Initiatives – Budget 2017/18 (Note: New or increased initiatives highlighted in green.)	
Program/Initiative	Budget 2017-18
Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour	
Expand eligibility for the Cost of Living Allowance to all Income Support clients who maintain a residence in coastal Labrador	\$200,000
Develop a better integrated service by government to meet the needs of individuals and groups who require social housing and supportive services	\$85,000
Increase the monthly fuel allowance for eligible Income Support clients	\$3,000,000
Increase basic individual and family Income Support benefit rates by an additional five per cent	\$4,847,300
Eliminate the requirement for Income Support clients to apply for Canada Pension Plan benefits at age 60	\$500,000
Further increase to the Income Support additional assistance for shelter rate	\$4,000,000
Increase the liquid asset level for Income Support clients	\$50,000
Enhance health benefits for Income Support clients	\$1,169,000
Remove an inequity in the Income Support program that provided lower rental rates to persons renting from relatives when compared to those who rent from non-relatives	\$444,000
Index Income Support rates for a six year period (2007-12)	\$18,430,000
Increase basic individual and family Income Support benefit rates by five per cent	\$7,312,000

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Increase the additional assistance for shelter rate from \$61 to \$100	\$2,741,000
Enhance enforcement and compliance of court orders	Policy change
Expand the earned income supplement project for working single parents receiving Income Support	\$260,000
Change the classification of income tax refunds from "partially exempt" to "exempt" for Income Support clients	\$350,000
Expansion of workplace incentives and open up opportunities for Income Support clients to go to work by building on program initiatives (increasing earnings exemptions and overlapping Income Support benefits)	\$1,630,000
Expansion of the Employment Transitions program for single parents	\$525,500
Funding for the Comprehensive Arts & Science Transition Program at College of the North Atlantic	\$650,000
Improved the earnings exemption program for Income Support clients with disabilities	\$200,000
Funding of a community collaboration facilitator to increase access to career, employment and related services for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation clients	\$100,000
Funding for supports to increase the labour market participation and reduce barriers to employment for persons with disabilities, including: employment-related disability supports, internships to promote technology and school-to-work transition supports	\$700,000
Increased the private child care allowance by \$75 per month for working Income Support clients	\$300,000
Offer women who are victims of family violence enhanced employment readiness services	\$294,000

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Provide a Job Start Benefit to support clients who leave Income Support for work	\$570,000
Simplify the process for Income Support clients to report employment earnings	policy change
Increased the high school incentive allowance for families receiving Income Support whose child turns 18 while attending high school	\$60,000
Funding for Adult Basic Education Level I	\$1,200,000
Increased the Mother Baby Nutrition Supplement rate by \$15 per month to help with the cost of nutritious food during and after pregnancy (<i>with the Department of Finance</i>)	\$165,000
Communications and Public Engagement Branch (Executive Council)	
Funding for the Community Youth Networks	\$1,560,000
Department of Children, Seniors and Social Development	
Six front line positions in Labrador to enhance the child protection model for the Labrador region	\$585,400
Community Healthy Living Fund for initiatives, programs and projects focused on healthy living, recreation and wellness at the community level	\$1,790,000
Increased funding for the Kidsport initiative that allows youth in families with low incomes to participate in sports	\$35,000
Fund salaries and operations to lead the poverty reduction work and purchase data for the Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency to produce the Newfoundland and Labrador Market Basket Measure	\$366,200

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Fund the Supporting Youth with Transitions program that provides youth with hands-on interventions and supports to build necessary life skills in a variety of areas, including relationships and communication, housing and financial management, career and education planning	\$401,600
Funding for the Kids Eat Smart Foundation and expand the initiative to include more schools	\$1,093,700
Funding for partnership programs that promote increased physical activity among school-aged children	\$500,000
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	
Provide funding for the high school Futures in Skilled Trades and Technology Program	\$240,300
Funding for the Operating Grant Program - Family and Child Care Centres to reduce or eliminate surcharges to parents	\$7,337,700
Provide funding for Early Childhood Learning initiatives under Learning from the Start for children birth to age three years and their families	\$1,185,500
Funding for the Early Learning Child Care Supplement paid directly to qualified early childhood educators	\$4,743,900
Provide funding for the Child Care Services Subsidy to help families with low incomes with the costs of regulated child care	\$6,334,600
Funding for the Inclusion Program which provides support to assist in the accommodation of all children in regulated child care	\$672,100

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Funding to strengthen existing Family Resource Centres throughout the province	\$2,496,000
Funding to Healthy Baby Clubs to address wait lists and further supplement the provision of healthy and fresh foods <i>(with the Department of Health and Community Services)</i>	\$400,000
Increased Funding for The Murphy Centre to implement a General Educational Development (GED) preparation program	\$75,000
Implementation of Full Day Kindergarten	\$13,221,800
Increased funding for the Murphy Centre to enable 25 more individuals to access its academic programs	\$115,400
Extend the provision of free textbooks in core courses for students in the K - 12 public system	\$1,200,000
Increased the instructional grant to school boards and cover prescribed workbooks and other consumable materials that were charged to parents	\$6,300,000
Department of Finance	
Funding for the Newfoundland and Labrador Income Supplement	\$54,400,000
Funding for the disability component of Newfoundland and Labrador Income Supplement	\$2,300,000
Increases to the Low Income Seniors' Benefit	\$16,300,000

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Increase Low Income Tax Reduction thresholds to reduce or eliminate the payment of provincial income tax for individuals and families with low income	\$12,500,000
Funding for child amount component of Newfoundland and Labrador Income Supplement	\$4,600,000
Increase the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit by \$5 per month	\$750,000
Department of Health and Community Services	
Provincial system navigator position to assist patients and families access mental health and addictions treatment	\$88,600
Funding for Choices for Youth to provide Youth Outreach services	\$220,000
Funding for the Provincial Smoking Cessation program for people with low income	\$1,048,000
Enhance the Medical Transportation Assistance Program to further benefit people with low income	\$430,000
Funding for Adult Dental Health Care Program to increase access to dental services for people who are in low income	\$1,751,000
Further improvements to the Access Prescription Plan (low-income prescription drug program)	\$3,642,900
Implement a new financial assessment process for home support	\$14,400,000
Funding for O’Shaughnessy House in Carbonear which not only provides safe and secure shelter for those leaving abusive environments, but also offers individual support and encouragement for women and their children	\$816,200

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Establish a youth addiction, prevention and early intervention program	\$1,270,000
Increase the board and lodging supplement for adults with disabilities who reside with family members	\$6,500,000
Expansion of the Newfoundland and Labrador Dental Plan to include dental services for youth between the ages of 13 and 17 in low-income families and provide dental sealants for children	\$100,000
Expansion of eligibility for Newfoundland & Labrador Prescription Drug Program to include low-income families and individuals	\$22,270,100
Increased access to the Special Child Welfare Allowance Program	\$100,000
Three youth outreach workers in the Labrador communities of Nain, Hopedale and Sheshatshiu to provide youth outreach programs and services to vulnerable and high-risk youth	\$202,000
Increase the extended drug card from six months to one year for people leaving Income Support	\$700,000
Funding for early intervention services for pre-school children at risk of, or who have, a developmental disability	\$1,514,000
Develop an enhanced home visiting model for vulnerable children, youth and families to support parenting in the Protective Intervention Program <i>(with the Department of Children, Seniors and Social Development)</i>	\$1,656,000
Human Resources Secretariat	
Offer the Provincial Government’s Opening Doors program to Agencies, Boards, and Commissions	\$100,000
Department of Justice and Public and Safety	

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Funding for a specialized Family Violence Intervention Court	\$1,167,500
Establishment of a Child, Youth and Family Services team in Corner Brook to improve the quality and effectiveness of Legal Aid services for children and parents in child protection cases	\$240,000
Expand the coverage of the Mental Health Office to include Civil Legal Aid services to individuals with complex mental health issues	\$125,000
Expand Family Justice Services to provide more family law resources throughout the province	\$921,400
Funding for low-income earners to access family and Civil Legal Aid services	\$500,000
Amend the Human Rights Code to provide protection against discrimination based on source of income	Legislative / regulation change
Funding for offender employment skills training at correctional facilities across the province	\$47,000
Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation	
Funding for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation neighbourhood centres that are tailored to the needs of smaller neighbourhoods	\$100,000
Funding for the Supportive Living Program to support community-based initiatives that enable individuals with complex needs to overcome homelessness	\$7,800,000
Offer a Provincial Homelessness Fund to assist registered non-profit organizations provide space for on-site and outreach services to promote housing stability for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.	\$1,000,000

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Support community-based groups that provide support to clients with complex needs	\$250,000
Increased funding for the eight existing Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation Community Centres	\$792,000
Home Energy Savings Program	\$1,000,000
Lower the rental rate for Community Based Housing by adjusting the rent-gear-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of household income and expand the Educational Incentive Allowance	\$110,000
Lower the rental rate for all Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation tenants by adjusting the rent-gear-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of household income	\$350,000
Expansion of Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation's Rent Supplement Program to subsidize additional units for eligible low-income households	\$5,319,900
Lower the rental rate for all social housing tenants that are seniors aged 55 and older by adjusting the rent-gear-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of income and for all social housing tenants with employment earnings by adjusting the scale to use net income instead of gross	\$350,000
Lower the rental rate for seniors living in Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation units aged 55 and older by adjusting the rent-gear-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of income	\$350,000
Lower the rental rate for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation tenants with employment earnings by adjusting the rent-gear-to-income scale to use net income instead of gross	\$750,000
Funding to support a summer student employment program at the eight NLHC community centres	\$100,000

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Education Incentive Allowance for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation tenants to remain in school	\$625,000
Women's Policy Office	
Funding for the Newfoundland Aboriginal Women's Network to address issues in their communities such as poverty and violence, in ways that are culturally-sensitive	\$100,000
Increased funding for the province's eight Women's Centres	\$672,000
Increased Funding for Transition Houses	\$781,600
Funding for the Multi-Cultural Women's Organizations of Newfoundland and Labrador	\$42,625
Funding for the Transition House Association of Newfoundland and Labrador	\$95,000
Funding for Safe Harbour Outreach	\$141,700
Total:	\$271,826,525