



Prince Edward Island  
**PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS**

2023-24 Operating Budget

Department of Finance

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## Executive Summary

The Department of Finance held Pre-Budget Consultations from mid-December 2022 to February 2023. This report presents the input received from Islanders through written submissions, online survey responses, emails, public & stakeholder virtual and in-person consultation sessions.

All the recommendations received have been grouped into topics of Health, Business and Economy, Social Outcomes and Housing; Strong and Inclusive Communities, Climate Action, Justice, Culture and Government Operations. Themes emerged within each topic group from Islander recommendations.

The government listened to your recommendations. There are a number of items in the 2023-24 Operating Budget that reflect input received from these pre-budget consultations.

The most recommendations received were for **Health Care**. Islanders would like government to: enhance medical supports; remove barriers to health care staffing and expand recruitment; and be innovative with our health care system. Our residents are also wanting funding to increase access to care, especially long-term care, increased investments in mental health and wellness, expanded prescription drugs formulary, and increased funding for wellness, harm prevention and health promotion.

Some 2023-24 Operating Budget Initiatives that address input from Islanders include:

- Increased funding to support physicians in efficiently scheduling and seeing patients;
- Expansion of the number of Primary Care Access Clinics for unaffiliated patients;
- Increased funding for various Home Care programs, including COACH, Home Based Restorative Care and Remote Patient Monitoring;
- Provide Health Bursaries for students entering LPNs, RNs and Paramedics programs;
- Fund 100 new positions to support existing and future patient Medical Homes;
- Expand the free tuition program for RCWs to include LPNs and paramedic students who agree to work on PEI for 2 years;
- Offer Free Virtual Care apps (like Maple) to more Islanders;
- Provide free contraceptive care
- Reduce co-pay to \$5 for generic drug program;
- Expand the drugs on the provincial formulary;
- Establish Flexible Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) Team to provide care to people with serious mental illness who reside in our community;
- Expand mental health services for farmers.

The **Business, Economy and Taxes** recommendations focused on: help grow and support business and economy; to develop an income, employment and workforce strategy to expand training and provide incentives to attract workers in shortage industry areas, like construction and tourism; and update our tax brackets to align with other Atlantic Provinces.

Some 2023-24 Operating Budget Initiatives that address input in these areas include:

- Expediate routes for international skilled workers to join PEI workforce;
- Fund sector and Industry groups to develop an online training platform for professional development and upskilling;
- Expand vocational training opportunities in PEI education system to expose students to career options in construction industry earlier;
- Establish a Portable Health Care Benefits program to provide health, dental and medication insurance for gig-economy workers, contract employees and seasonal worker who are not covered by an employer-sponsored plan;
- Increase the Basic Personal Exemption amount and the Seniors Tax Credit;
- Increase base funding for the Post-Secondary Student Employment program and the Jobs for Youth

program to maintain levels of support seen over past few years;

The public's **Social Outcomes and Housing** recommendations focused around: expanding social programs for low-income Islanders and increasing senior supports; more innovation and more collaboration with industry to improve housing supply; a streamlined process for Housing Developments with key focus on supporting our homeless with goal to eliminate Homelessness on PEI.

Some 2023-24 Operating Budget Initiatives that relate to the input we heard:

- Doubling the Seniors hearing aid rebate;
- Adding new positions to public home care for more timely access home care services;
- Create a Primary Caregiver Grant to support families keep their loved ones at home instead of going into community care;
- Invest in a Charlottetown based site to provide wraparound outreach services for those experiencing homelessness;
- Establish a Rent-to-Own Program to provide financing options to first time homeowners who rent with an intent to purchase within 24 months;
- Launch Closing Costs Housing Support Programs for first time homebuyers;

- Launch low-income home repair grant to assist with essential upgrades;
- Add resources to reduce building permit wait times;
- Increase the Housing Challenge Fund to provide developers with low financing for quick-start housing projects.

**Strong and Inclusive Communities** was another theme across the input received and recommendations focused on: continue to support and encourage diversity in PEI; invest more in transit; and invest more in policing and community organizations to build stronger communities.

Some 2023-24 Operating Budget Initiatives that respond to this input include:

- Funding to implement the soon-to-be released Anti-Racism Action Plan;
- Funding to enhance the Abegweit and Lennox Island Education Service Agreement;
- Establish a Community Infrastructure Program to assist communities in upgrading key community facilities such as arenas and community centres;
- Implement the Francophone Immigration Strategy;
- Expand Island-wide transit system and subsidize cost to \$2 per ride to make it more affordable.

### **Youth and Education**

recommendations from the public were to increase investments in all levels of education, especially staff; continue school infrastructure improvements; education now in K-12 classrooms for areas of workforce shortages; expand school programs such as after-school care and breakfast programs; increase childcare facilities; reduce childcare costs; and offer better wages.

Some 2023-24 Operating Budget Initiatives that relate to this area are:

- Reduce childcare fees to \$10/day in all designated Early Years Centres;
- Launch a pilot for extended-hour childcare facilities close to hospitals;
- Create 100 new positions within our education system;
- Developing a Health care Career Pathway pilot in high schools to promote health-based careers;
- Increase school maintenance funding to renew our learning environments;
- Increase the George Coles Bursary amount and expand program to include students studying off-Island in programs not offered on PEI;
- Expand existing breakfast programs in schools and explore the opportunity to implement a universal breakfast program in our schools.

The public had many thoughts on **Climate Action** and their recommendations included: to involve Industry in the Net Zero by 2040 plan; prioritize climate preparedness and disaster proofing communities; expand protection of PEI shorelines; and continue funding the Active Transportation Trail program.

Some 2023-24 Operating Budget Initiatives that respond to this input are:

- Funding to support the development of the Clean Tech sector;
- Increased funding for the Free Heat Pump program;
- Continued funding for the Active Transportation Trail program;
- Supporting reforestation through participation in the Federal 2 Billion Trees (2BT) Program and increasing nursery tree production by 30 percent;
- Funding to implement Climate Adaptation Plans of the Department of Agriculture and Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action;
- Funding to begin the work of the 25-year coastal management plan.

### **Justice, Culture & Government Operations**

recommendations focussed on: modernize government systems; improve access to legal services; support our new immigrants; invest more in arts & culture; and push for Confederation Bridge toll reduction.

Some 2023-24 Operating Budget Initiatives relating to these areas include:

- Establish a Community Legal Clinic;
- Establishing a Cyber-Bullying Action Plan;
- Additional funding for Community Legal Information Association;
- Creating a new Family Law Navigator position;
- Provide incentives for bilingual training to expand government services offered in French;
- Funding to promote and grow Island talent and assist the artists in promoting their offerings both locally and nationally.



## Pre-Budget Consultation Process

The Department of Finance opens the budget process to Islanders each year through pre-budget consultations. For the 2023-2024 Operating Budget, those interested in providing input (English or French) did so through an online survey, email ([budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca](mailto:budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca)) or written submission. The Minister and Deputy Minister held virtual Pre-Budget Consultations on December 13th, 2022 and January 9th, 2023 along with a Facebook Live event held the evening of January 5th, 2023.

Response was positive, as the Department of Finance received 165 survey responses, 35 written submission by organizations and over 50 emails from the public. Appendix A lists the organizations that provided written submissions. Appendix B shows the results of the online public survey.

The Minister of Finance at the time, Honourable Mark McLane, co-hosted two roundtable focus groups with key industry stakeholder to discuss what immediate issues government should keep in mind when developing this budget.

The first roundtable was co-hosted with Honourable Bloyce Thompson, who was Minister of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture on February 8th, 2023 with a small group of leaders from key business and growth sectors in PEI to discuss what help might be needed to address issues and pressures over the next three years.

The second was co-hosted with Honourable Matthew MacKay, who was Minister of Social Development and Housing on February 21st held with some municipalities and mayors to discuss how

government and municipalities can work better together to improve housing supply and availability, and discuss the main housing issues and pressures over the next three years.

Information about these events were announced through news releases, newspaper advertisements and posted on the Government of Prince Edward Island's Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn channel (Appendix C)



# Health

## Medical Supports

- Increase funding and eliminate age requirements for medical technology advancement for type 1 diabetes supplies and technology (e.g. Insulin pumps, continuous glucose monitoring systems).
- Create a specialized eating disorder treatment program for all ages.
- Create a new dental program for low income Islanders to cover Denturists.
- Investment now to ensure Islanders get equitable and timely access to cancer treatments.
- Enrich Hospice and Palliative care supports.
- Increase availability of virtual options for health care, like Maple.
- Invest in safe injection sites.
- Provide additional access to elective procedures.
- Improve access to prenatal and women's health services.
- Increase funding for fertility services and supports and ensure they are not income based.
- Provide Islanders access to specialist physicians.
- Ensure all people of PEI continue to have access to affordable dental care supports.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to fix long wait times for joint replacement surgeries.
- Invest in arthritis-specific primary and community care programs.
- Ensure access to a range of arthritis treatment options for people living with arthritis.
- Implement a Physician Assistant model to help optimize resources needed to sustain a viable health care system.
- Improve cervical cancer outcomes by fully funding HPV testing as part of cervical cancer screening program.
- Better detect lung cancer by implementing a screening program for high-risk populations.
- Eliminate age requirement to access funding for insulin pump devices and supplies.
- Implement a provincial mandatory standard of care for students with diabetes that aligns with Diabetes Canada's "Guidelines for the Care of Students Living with Diabetes in School".
- Roll out midwifery services on PEI.
- Provide support and education on pelvic floor health, exams and treatment for seniors.
- Provide free access to contraception.
- Enhance the network of supports available for those living with autism.
- Create a renal registry.
- Allocate adequate funding to set up and run a publicly funded registered midwifery program.
- Provide provincial coverage for BiPAP therapy.
- Fund Respiratory Therapists in primary care to assist with transitioning COPD patients from hospital to home.
- Improve the Home Oxygen Program to provide increased coverage for low-income Islanders.
- Invest in extended health care benefits for seniors such as optical, dental and medical devices as well as items used for bathing, dressing, preparing food, moving/physical activities, communicating and hobbies.

- Improve access to Shingrix Vaccine by expanding the vaccine administrators list to include more Health Care providers.
- Create clinics and supports for Long COVID.
- Invest in providing more health services in French.

## Health Care Staffing and Recruitment

- Increase salaries and benefits for all front-line health care staff.
- Hire more nurses and primary care physicians.
- Innovation and investment are needed to bolster the number of primary care physicians.
- Propose funding the education of PEI residents entering a Family Medicine Program, with the condition that the successful recipients' practice in the Province for a minimum of 5 years after graduation.
- Offer more walk-in clinics and hours.
- Recruit more nurse practitioners and doctors.
- Increase the number of health professionals who speak French in PEI. Health problems become greater for people who don't have access to health services in their language.
- Provide health professional competency exams in both English and French – currently a barrier for French professionals who have foreign training.
- Provide a clear and efficient path to licensing for Immigrant physicians.
- Utilize our immigrant physicians in clinics, hospitals and family practices.
- Address the pay inequalities for staff at public vs private long-term care facilities.
- Recruiting new doctors would be easier if PEI had more amenities like indoor sports complex.
- Provide incentives to retain and invite more health care workers to PEI – which will improve health care access for all residents.
- Refer internationally educated health professional job seekers to licensing bodies, employment, health recruitment office, and/or educational upskill opportunities.
- Focus on recruiting and retaining all health care staff.
- Reduce ER wait times by hiring Physician Assistants to work in Emergency Rooms alongside physicians.
- Hire Physician Assistants in primary care, long-term care centers and residential care homes to improve key quality benchmarks.
- Focus on filling the staffing complement of physicians in Summerside.
- Continue to expand the scope of practice of medical professionals.
- Create a fast track for upskilling from LPN to RN.
- Include CUPE health care workers in the recruitment and retention strategy.
- Ensure all health care union's elected union leadership are included on the Health Retention Committee.
- Give ALL health care workers the retention incentive.

## Health Care System and Funding

- Prioritize access and affiliation with primary care physicians/homes to reduce downstream costs of delayed diagnoses on the health care system.
- Rethink the way health care is being delivered.
- Fund the development of multidisciplinary, evening and weekend, in-person health screening clinics - especially during high virus seasons - that can filter non-emergency cases out of the emergency rooms.
- Our health care is in crises, government needs to act now.
- incorporate more digital health, expand roles of pharmacists and nurse practitioners.
- Invest more money to repair our health care facilities.
- Do NOT privatize health care as a way of reducing costs.
- Make primary care more accessible. Health monitoring and prevention requires regular medical care.
- Invest more in long-term care.
- Amalgamate the administration and pharmacy of our four hospitals to significantly reduce health care costs.
- Stop building new rural hospitals - PEI does not have the staff to work in them.
- Consider having one state of the art hospital and then multiple 12-hour clinics across the province.
- Join the administration and medical services of the two main hospitals on PEI, services can be combined and offered at one or the other hospital, not both.
- Staff walk-in-clinics across the island with nurse practitioners working with paramedics and pharmacists, with virtual access to a doctor, as this would take the pressure off our two main ER departments.
- Keep Hospitals up west open on weekends.
- Health care operations should recognize that health records are private.
- Develop a plan to improve front-line health care services.
- Immediately increase funding to our health care system.
- Support innovative solutions and research for extinguishing arthritis.
- Immediately collaborate with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Prince Edward Island (CPSPEI) to authorize physician oversight of Physician Assistants (PAs) in the province.
- Ensure new investments in the health care system have targeted funding towards cancer care.
- Prioritize palliative care in bilateral agreements being renegotiated with the federal government to expand access to palliative care services and infrastructure on PEI.
- Make further investments in primary health care services (family medicine, home care, mental health and addictions).
- Ensure equal access in rural areas to primary care for physical and mental health, respite programs, addiction recovery services and other services that support people.
- Provide Hospice PEI with financial support in the form of core funding.

## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Provide Hospice PEI with dedicated in-kind office space inside Provincial buildings so all funds raised by Hospice PEI go into palliative care programs.
- Invest in the Lung Association of PEI to enhance their core programs that help vulnerable people of PEI.
- Expand PEI Smoking Cessation Program to include support for those who solely use vaping products.
- Modernize Prince Edward Island's Cancer Action Plan by including specific performance targets and monitoring and reporting mechanisms to reduce timelines for cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment.
- Implement a digital system to assess and track care needs for seniors living in the community.
- Increase funding to long-term care to address challenges with outbreaks, infection control management, and inspection processes.
- Invest in creating more long-term care beds and staffing to support those living in long-term care facilities.
- Work with the Federal government to implement the National Long-Term Care Standards
- Invest in research, innovation, health and technological developments in aging with provincial financial support of Prince Edward Island connected aging networks: PEI Senior Citizens' Federation, the Department of Social Services and Seniors, AGE-WELL, Canadian Frailty Network (CFN) and the National Institute for the Care of the Elderly (NICE).
- Bring essential services in-house for long-term care and paramedic services.
- Provide the necessary funding to ensure all PEI citizens have access to the support they need when living in long-term care facilities by increasing their allotted hours of care.
- Negotiate and renew the private long-term care homes contract that expired in 2019.
- Retention packages need to be for all Health care staff, working in both public and private health care facilities.
- Wages of private health care workers need to be on par with public health care workers.
- Stop frivolous COVID spending.

## Mental Health and Wellness

- Greater focus on supports for mental health and addictions.
- More investment in mental health and less on promotion.
- Major investments in mental health and addictions.
- Combine addiction and mental health services at PCH to create a walk-in-clinic where social workers/certified counselors can practice – operating like a student well-being center for adults.
- Follow through and invest in the recommendations made in the “Health Strategy for Women and Islanders Who Are Gender Diverse 2022-2027” released in June 2022.
- Expand counselling offered through the settlement association and expand partnerships to share culturally informed practices with students and other practitioners.

- Continue to offer mental health services as self-assessment tools, mental health interpreters, small support groups, parenting classes, and one-on-one support to all.
- Create safe consumption sites to help those living with addictions.
- Increase funding for senior specific mental health and addiction services.
- Ensure that mental health and addiction services have senior-specific services like geri psychiatrists, seniors' opioid addictions, screening and grief support.
- Continue funding counselling programs for farmers, fisherman, and tourism businesses and consider making it annually.

## Prescription Drugs

- Add more drugs to the PEI Provincial Formulary.
- Ensure that private payers are included in all aspects of the federal government's national strategy for rare disease drugs, including the funding model.
- Increase funding for the drug formulary to the level of other provinces.
- Ensure people of PEI have prompt access to beneficial innovative medicines by making new treatments available in a timely fashion.
- Encourage the federal government to regulate the prices of medicines in a balanced and predictable way to enable timely access to new medicines for people of PEI and help prevent a decline in our health research ecosystem and life sciences industry.

- Continue to develop a strong clinical trials environment through regional collaboration (Atlantic Clinical Trials Network-ACTN) to ensure people of PEI have early access to innovative therapies via clinical trials.
- Improve access to the medication Paxlovid (to treat mild-to-moderate COVID symptoms).
- Fully-fund the PNEU-C-13 (Pneumococcal conjugate 13-valent) vaccine for all seniors and not just those who are immunocompromised.

## Wellness, Harm Prevention and Health Promotion

- Offer more programs to help seniors stay healthy – e.g. indoor swimming lap program.
- Increase funding for health promotion – as the best health care solution are keeping people from becoming ill, particularly with chronic diseases.
- Received numerous (+20) email testimonials on the positive mental and physical health benefits of Katie Beck's Exercise Physiology program on the lives of people of PEI living with a wide range of medical conditions, they are summarized below.
  - Continue to fund Katie Beck's Exercise Physiology program – as she has helped numerous seniors become more active and eat healthier diets (which lowers blood pressure and cholesterol) which reduces the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Continue to fund Online Health and Wellness programs free for people of PEI, like Katie Beck's Exercise Physiology program, which has provided many cancer patients and survivors with tailored exercise and health programs allowing them to regain their strength and dignity both emotionally and physically to restart their life.
- Continue to fund Katie Beck's Exercise Physiology program as it helps people with a wide range of medical conditions including cancer, diabetes, heart disease, pulmonary disease, autoimmune disease and those living with chronic pain.
- Katie Beck's program has reduced the demand on other health professionals with her tailored program that helps with patient recovery and maintenance of their illness.
- Continue funding Katie Beck's Exercise Physiology, which is helping people of PEI, especially seniors, living with chronic disease.
- Continue funding the Katie Beck Exercise for Health chronic disease management exercise program as it has taught lifesaving skills and exercises to improve muscles strength and balance to minimize injury for numerous people of PEI.
- Expand funding to all health care exercise programs for disabled citizens so they receive the exercise needed to stay healthy, especially those recovering from surgeries or living with chronic illness.
- Continue to fund exercise/physical activity programs like Recreation PEI and others as these programs are very important to the residents of this Province who have significant physical/health issues.
- Increase funding for health promotion, particularly, exercise programs as investing in preventive health measures reduces the demands on our health care system and enables seniors to remain independent longer.
- Increase funds for recreational programs like online physio classes for seniors and people with chronic illness. Many people of PEI can't afford physiotherapy, so having access to these programs are vital for managing their health.
- Provide exercise as a funded available health care option for people with health conditions.
- Continue funding online community health programs provided by experts designed to help mitigate chronic diseases and chronic pain in elderly and people living with disabilities.
- Increase funding supports for physical activities and programming to keep people of PEI active.
- Remind newcomers of current health care access points (virtual; walk-in; registry).
- Commission a report that highlights the impact of stroke care on PEI.
- Develop Automated External Defibrillators (AED) Strategy to optimize AED Placement across PEI.
- Ensure public health measures are included in any lawsuit settlement with tobacco companies.
- Enforce the non-smoking marijuana/cannabis public areas.

- Expand tobacco settlement negotiations to include funds for promoting action against tobacco use.
- Continue training for intervention in family violence, relationship violence, and gender-based violence for front-line workers such as police, justice workers, child protection workers, and health-care workers.
- Investments related to the forthcoming provincial strategy to improve responses and coordination to prevent harms associated with sexual violence in Prince Edward Island.
- Continue Violence Against Women grants for community-based organizations to undertake projects for violence prevention.
- End gender-based violence against woman and children, other gender-based violence and all forms of family violence.
- Invest in priority actions from the "Health Strategy for Women and Islanders Who Are Gender Diverse", released in 2022.
- Invest in the strategic plan "Promoting Wellness: Preserving Health Action Plan for Seniors, Near Seniors, and Caregivers".
- Invest more in public health to ensure timely access to innovative treatments and vaccines to protect the population from infectious respiratory diseases that are on the rise, including respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza and pneumococcus.
- Allocate sufficient public health resources to ensure a high vaccination rate against human papillomavirus (HPV) to prevent people of PEI from developing cancers caused by HPV and to limit future cancer care costs.
- End elder violence and abuse by increasing funding for the Adult Protection program.
- Develop policies and fund programs aimed at reducing social isolation in seniors, especially for those living in continuing care facilities.
- Increase core funding to Recreation PEI by 20% to allow the non-profit organization to continue offering services that help improve the health and wellbeing of people of PEI.
- No more COVID lockdowns.
- Expand funding to apprenticeship programs in trades

## Business, Economy and Taxes

### Growing and Supporting Business and Economy

- Implement measures to reduce the price of gas, heating oil and electricity (as impacts all commodity prices).
- Lower interest rates for home mortgages.
- Provide help to landlords from the effects of 2023 rent freeze.
- Expand the Community Business Development Program (CBDC) to offer business credit counselling services for small business contractors and consultants with average credit.
- Stop encouraging more immigration as PEI health care system is challenged handling the existing population.
- Ensure any newly created grants are distributed on a merit-based system and are available to ALL businesses.



## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Encourage entrepreneurship and support our farmers.
- Create a Tax-Free Development Zone for the clean tech sector in Summerside to attract investment to reach the net-zero goals for a cleaner, greener economy for PEI.
- Prioritize amendments to the Credit Unions Act as part of the 2023 legislative agenda. Engage credit unions to ensure proposed amendments meet the needs.
- Stop bailouts for big business.
- Increase the borrowing and interest relief maximums loan/borrowing programs across all industries to better align with increased inflation.
- Make a coordinated investment in irrigation across the province to protect the prosperity of the PEI agriculture industry.
- Speed up delivery of Fiona funds to PEI Businesses.
- Financially support the expansion of the airport to enable growth in flights and airlines to PEI.
- Create a program to provide low interest loans to small tourism businesses so they can rebuild after Fiona.
- Subsidize evening and weekend childcare for workforce.
- Support for small businesses to become more digital.
- Invest in construction industry to support the recruitment, training, competitive wages and housing to attract skilled tradespeople to PEI.
- Create pilot programs to build a skilled workforce, starting with key shortage areas first.
- Support small business with costly commercial space by providing rent/renovating/upgrading grants or low interest loans.
- Government needs to improve health care and housing access in order to attract inter-provincial/international immigration needed to support business growth on PEI.
- Reignite the entrepreneurship training programs.
- Support the creation of entertainment products to retain newcomers.
- Assist new entrants into industries with large cost barriers – i.e. fisheries and agriculture.
- Government share the cost of introducing paid sick leave with industry.

## Income, Employment and Workforce

- Increase minimum wage.
- Give workers a personal tax credit instead of raising the minimum wage.
- More supports for PEI farmers, big and small.
- More supports for seasonal workers on employment insurance.
- Open the door for skills immigration, specifically facilitate immigration programs to accept people with greater experience and higher education to come work in PEI.
- Incentivize seasonal and unemployed people of PEI to train for jobs in work shortages area of PEI.
- Increase pay for bilingual human resources – as only way to offer government services in French.
- Expand job protection for sick/ill people of PEI.



## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Align leave benefits with federal government benefits.
- Offer guaranteed annual income for all Islanders.
- Reduce financial supports and increase training.
- Prioritize and support momentum related to upskilling and retraining workers for eligibility to work in high-demand fields (CAPEI, CASTL, NEW Holland College Innovation Program, etc.)
- Provide official communication on English training access points (incl. WP) for newcomers.
- Move ahead with amendments to the *Employment Standards Act* to permit employers to use automatic features within their voluntary workplace pension and savings plans.
- Boost employer-driven immigration for construction and trade sectors.
- Refocus PEI immigration strategies to ensure they meet the labour needs in cities and rural areas.
- Encourage all levels of government to work together to support workplace and individual health benefits plans that provide a wide range of dental care services.
- Invest in workforce development in the clean economy.
- Bring government employee compensation in line with the private sector.
- Implement a Sunshine List for all government employees.
- Partner with the private sector to fund a multi-sector workforce strategy with targets for economic growth, including business and community-led solutions.
- Provide greater incentives and support to the private sector as businesses develop and provide upskilling and reskilling training to address Canada's skills shortages.
- Ensure provincial supports are in place to continue with aggressive immigration targets to match the federal government's effort by revisiting PEI's population growth strategy, including recruitment, integration and retention of immigrants that align with workforce needs.
- Maintain funding for immigration support services, such as PEI Connectors and IRSA PEI, and continue supporting the funding process of employer EDI training programs, such as Lead the Shift.
- Invest in the promotion, recruitment and training of bilingual staff in all areas of provincial intervention that affect service to people.
- Invest in facilitating the recognition of skills acquired not only abroad, but also in the Island's Francophone institutions.
- Increase public sector workers pay to address the increase in cost of living.
- Enhance pension security, including creating a PEI Pension Benefit Guarantee fund.
- Expand funding to apprenticeship programs in trades.
- Work with business section to build an actionable strategy to deal with workforce shortages throughout PEI.
- Focus immigration on PEI workforce shortages.
- Reskill temporary foreign workers as a pathway to permanent employment on PEI.

## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Immediate review of the Immigration accreditation process to allow trained immigrants to work in their fields.
- Expand immigration program to offer jobs for partners/family members.
- Invest in Multi-sector recruitment programs.

### Taxes

- Raise taxes to pay for health care.
- Increase all provincial non-refundable tax credits to match federal non-refundable tax credit limits.
- Adjust all PEI non-refundable tax credits annually, not just the Basic Personal Amount, to allow for inflation and other factors.
- Restructure PEI's income tax brackets and rates to align with today's incomes – the base income of the highest tax bracket starts should be at least \$100,000.
- Increase the Basic Personal Amount to \$13,000 by 2024 and tie subsequent increases to the Consumer Price Index.
- Increase rural taxes so as a way to offset destroying farmland to build subdivisions.
- Remove provincial land use taxes on incorporated lands.
- Make all property taxes and water bills electronic.
- Stop raising property taxes every year.
- Add rental costs and property taxes as a tax credit.
- Increase taxes on higher income earners.
- Increase Incomes sales taxes on large trucks, SUVs, ATVs and pleasure boats.
- Continue to increase tobacco tax to match inflation – tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death on PEI.
- Accelerate vaping tax rates - vaping is a big health issue facing our youth.
- Implement a licensing fee for tobacco and e-cigarette vendors.
- Expand tobacco settlement negotiations to include funds for promoting action against tobacco use.
- Only impose a carbon tax on heavy-emission businesses.
- Allow municipal governments to collect 100% of the property taxes on incorporated lands instead of PEI government.
- Balancing the budget should be a primary goal of the PEI Department of Finance.
- Do more on debt reduction.
- Give people of PEI a break on taxes.
- Plan a realistic budget to avoid a surplus posted at the end of a fiscal year.
- Develop a plan to reduce, and eventually eliminate, tax on life and health insurance premiums.
- Tax all vaping products.
- Implement a retail license and free requirement for e-cigarette retailers.
- Reduce the provincial component of residential property tax within municipal boundaries to incentivize development within service delivering municipalities and municipalities with official plans.
- Increase the tobacco tax by \$2.61 per carton of 200 cigarettes, from \$59.04 to \$61.65, to match inflation, and close the roll-your own loophole.
- Implement an e-cigarette tax.

- Do not increase consumption taxes on PEI.
- Do not increase taxes on tobacco products to help prevent tobacco consumers buying from the illegal market.
- Advocate to lower the cost of credit card merchant fees.
- Designate Summerside as a tax-free development zone for clean tech business.
- Cut the provincial portion of the HST by two percentage points to help people of PEI with rising inflation costs of living.
- Cut income tax bills by 5%.
- Replace business subsidies with business tax relief so to free up cash flow and allow for growth.
- Introduce a levy on sugar-sweetened beverages as a fiscal measure to reduce excess sugar intake and help lower type 2 diabetes risk.
- Implement a vacancy tax.
- Substantially reduce the provincial non-commercial property tax rate within municipalities to provide tax room for municipal governments.
- Increase the Real Property Transfer Tax from one percent to one-and-a-half percent, and remit revenue from the increase to the municipality in which the property transfer occurred.
- Amend the Real Property Tax Act to exempt real property owned by a municipality from taxation under the Act, except real property that has been leased.
- Re-evaluate the provincial income tax bracket model to better align with the Atlantic provinces.
- Continue to pursue vaping tax harmonization with the Federal Government, including a single federal tax stamp applicable in all provinces.
- Continue to increase tobacco tax to match inflation.
- Reduce the liquor board beer markup by one percentage point to freeze anticipated Fiscal 2023 liquor board beer revenues at current levels.
- Increase small business tax threshold for active income to \$1M.
- Reduce personal income tax rates to align with other provinces.
- Assist with high inflation in PEI through tax relief.

## Social Outcomes and Housing

### Social Programs and Senior Supports

- Create a property tax credit for seniors living in their own homes, to help those who want to age in place.
- Increase income ceilings of all government programs to reflect cost of living, as many seniors have to re-enter the workforce to live and are penalized as their income is too high to be eligible for government programs, especially home energy programs.
- Prioritize long-term senior care plan for housing, finances and supports as 25% of people on PEI will be over 65 in 2025.
- Invest in clean, safe and modern accommodation for seniors living in provincial housing.
- Help for seniors.
- Increase all provincial non-refundable tax credit limits to match federal limits, as currently low-income seniors are paying provincial taxes (when they don't pay federal taxes).

## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Expand the services covered under AccessAbility Supports (AAS).
- Increase supports for seniors and their caregivers living in rural areas.
- Create an employment and funding support for property maintenance jobs to help seniors living at home with ongoing home maintenance and snow removal.
- Prepare and deliver hot prepared meals to seniors in rural homes to give caregivers some relief.
- Create an additional senior tax credit to assist seniors.
- Increase funding for seniors housing, care and social programs.
- Provide better access for seniors to travel from rural areas to cities and small towns.
- Offer more reasonable and affordable housing for seniors.
- Increase supports for caregivers, young children and adults with special needs.
- Increase income ceilings of government social programs so that young families can received access to home improvement and energy saving grants.
- Provide social programs aimed at long-term solutions.
- Move toward "Poverty Elimination" by investing towards basic income guarantee in partnership with the federal government.
- Better homecare for seniors aging in place and provide more options for long-term care.
- Examine the realities of residents who are low-income, single parents, woman, poor seniors, and those living with disabilities.
- Choose to equitably share resources, so that everyone has a basic income.
- Prioritize supports to lower the prices of food, gas and health in budget.
- Provide program and operational funding to the Summerside Seniors Initiative.
- Create a basic income program.
- Update or indexed income cut-off eligibility for support programs.
- Increase dedicated financial supports for persons with disabilities.
- Most important investment government can make is a program of Basic Income Guarantee.
- Enhance Income Security for those with chronic disease, like people with MS have disproportionately high unemployment rates.
- Increase funding for Office of Seniors, Adult Protection Program and Island Helpline.
- Support a coordinated community response to elder abuse and neglect.
- Create a PEI Office of the Seniors Advocate.
- Create and fund a Provincial Disaster Plan for Seniors with specific sub-plans for people in long-term care and congregate care settings, community settings and rural and remote regions. Ensure that the disaster plan also has "offline" components so the information can be accessed during power outages.
- Increase funding in utility rebates to support challenges with affordability.
- Rapidly expand Seniors Food Security program and remove conditional requirements on number of cards per household, self-declaration of low-income, and location specific usage.
- Subsidize electricity and internet costs for people of PEI.
- Provide universal transit pass.

- Increase social assistance rates.
- Maintain and enforce the rent freeze.
- Low to no fee childcare.
- More financial supports for individuals and families.
- More supports for low-to-middle income families.
- Provide a Basic Income Support program.
- Provide a Basic Income guarantee to people of PEI.
- Increase the rates for social assistance.
- Provide more low-income housing and invest deeply in affordable housing.
- Provide real housing for the unhoused and not with restricted hours.
- More investment in income support and affordable housing for low income people of PEI.
- Invest more in housing to help retain new residents.
- Create program(s) to help first time home buyers (other than down payment assistance).
- Control rent increases.

## Housing and Homelessness

- Greater focus on supports for homelessness.
- Provide 24/7 housing for people who are unhoused.
- Provide housing supports for people living outside the city of Charlottetown.
- Offer more incentives to retain our youth, working age and newcomer populations - e.g. provide funding to help adults in their late 20s/early 30s purchase a starter home.
- Develop a Social Integration Strategy for the homeless.
- Build a "Homeless Center" that provides rooms for homeless (store their belongings) and offers day programs such as work training and placements, social assistance navigation (e.g. completion of forms, taxes (using center as their address), health and psychological services) with the objective of reintegrating homeless back into their communities.
- Implement rental rate caps.
- Require landlords to be licensed.
- Build more/offer incentives to build more affordable housing.
- Need a plan to assist young families and people struggling to purchase or rent a home.
- Invest in more transition housing by building a transition housing center which offers training opportunities and support.
- Provide funding supports and/or incentives to repair existing homes to help with the housing/rental shortage on PEI.
- Greatest need on PEI is accessible housing.
- Provide more incentives to build subsidized housing for lower income individuals including seniors & families.
- Build affordable housing, do not rely on developers to address the problem.
- Expand funding for new public housing programs.
- Create collaborative opportunities between industry and government to develop housing.
- Provide avenues to assist all developers through the CMHC project funding process.
- Implement a comprehensive housing supply strategy with a dwelling completion target of 1,800 units a year for the next 10 years.

## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Require at least 60% of newly permitted units to be within purpose-built rentals and/or multifamily structures (such as multiplexes and apartments).
- Collaborate with municipalities (and the federal government where applicable) to ensure cooperative, public, and social housing units are included within annual completion targets.
- Allow multifamily unit construction within the boundaries of service-delivering municipalities.
- Create a municipal urban infrastructure fund to support public infrastructure projects relating to residential development within service-delivering municipalities.
- Impose stricter controls on new subdivision developments in areas without official plans in order to reduce sprawl, ribbon development, and unsustainable land use practices.
- Formulate a province-wide land use plan with immediate interim regulations in place to ensure that development is directed towards service centers.
- Establishing a rent stabilization framework that is evidence-based, predictable, and fair to all parties.
- Build more attainable and sustainable affordable housing in Summerside.
- Create "Downtown Summerside Waterfront Redevelopment Corporation" to replace the defunct Summerside Regional Development Corporation (SRDC) dissolved in 2018 by provincial government.
- Invest in public housing.
- Reduce rental unit restrictions and work with developers to pursue a housing strategy that fosters development, while directly supporting those who are experiencing housing challenges with alternative measures.
- Reform the eligibility requirements in the PEI Renovation Program for Persons with Disabilities to allow for an exception so renovations may include external work if related to improving a building accessibility (such as ramps) and eliminate the grading scale to allow for anyone making under \$50,000 the ability to access the full \$16,000 in supports.
- Increase construction of not-for-profit and cooperative affordable housing.
- More supports for low-to-middle income families.
- Help for middle income households making between \$50,000 - \$80,000.
- Support for people with disabilities who are living below the poverty line.
- The Planning Act should be reviewed and updated, with considerations around the definition of "affordable housing".
- Increase subsidized housing that require density conditions.
- Offer more tax incentives for affordable housing.
- Protect farmland and keep people in cities by increasing housing density.
- Province consider providing more land to municipalities to build dense affordable housing through variety of options (i.e. taller apartment buildings, tiny houses, modular homes, attached housing, etc.).
- Streamline the planning-to-building process to eliminate red tape and inefficiencies.

- Consider developing a government "rent-to-own" program that allows people another avenue into the housing market.
- Develop a program to support developers of subdivisions with upfront costs of roads and infrastructure (water, sewage, etc.).
- Increase staff in the planning and development office to assist with approval wait times.
- Consider spending immigration money on temporary housing.
- Provincial government and municipalities need to work together to solve the housing issues across the province.
- Invest in gender-based violence prevention and in family violence prevention and support programs.
- Invest in support of Francophone organizations to enable them to adequately meet the needs of the Island's Francophone and Acadian population.
- Support senior and anti-ageism specific initiatives in the "Gender, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Community Enhancement Program" to improve inclusivity for all senior people of PEI.
- Government must build a bilingual staff base to guarantee continuity of services and raise wages in the community sector.
- Provide a guarantee of bilingual service at all Access PEI sites.

## Strong and Inclusive Communities

### Supporting and Encouraging Diversity

- Increase funding to the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Woman – so the council can meet inflationary pressures and fund their own mandate of gender equality and equity.
- Make more strides toward "gender budgeting" (conducting a gender-based assessment of budgets to incorporate a gender perspective at all levels of budgetary process).
- End gender-based violence against woman and children, other gender-based violence and all forms of family violence.
- Support those organizations leading anti-racism efforts.
- Continue to fund Project #InspireHope: Inspiring hope in new immigrants.

### Building Communities

- Increase Investment in public transit.
- Build an LRT system in PEI – could use the existing Confederation Trail.
- Invest more money in public transportation - follow the 2008 ENTRA Report "Island Wide Transit Feasibility Study" produced for the PEI Public Transit Coalition.
- Strategic and sustained investments in the community sector can help government further achieve their objectives and meet the needs of the people of PEI.
- Fund a Provincial Land Use Plan and municipal amalgamation.
- Encourage the amalgamation of the towns of Cornwall, Stratford and Charlottetown under a single regional government model.

- Double funding from \$5M to \$10M annually and increase the amount of eligible expenses from \$1M to \$2M for the Active Transportation trail Program. Benefits of expanding the trail include: improves health and safety of the people of PEI, supports independence for the elderly and persons with disabilities, and reduces wear and tear on the roads.
- Double funding to \$10M, and eligible expenses to \$2M for the active transportation project to make a real difference, as a few trails here and there does not allow for a connected network that is necessary for an effective active transportation trail.
- Expand the Active Transportation program to develop a strategic island wide Active Transportation plan that connects and supports local communities.
- Increase funding to support the Acadian/Francophone community – our government, in consultation with the Community, needs to invest in community infrastructure.
- Increase investment in community grassroots organizations (65-70% of volunteers are woman) as these groups are underrecognized in terms of contribution to province overall.
- Need to expand and update provincial infrastructure, like roads, to align with increased immigration.
- Providing operational funding for public transit service between service centres across PEI and within rapidly growing towns and cities.
- Collaborate and cooperate with City of Summerside in future infrastructure projects.
- Strengthen the Island community by bolstering volunteerism and creating a provincial volunteer recovery strategy in consultation with the nonprofit sector to prepare for future emergencies and to address the negative impacts of the pandemic on volunteerism.
- Increase the annual operating grant for the Capital Area Municipal Public Transit system from \$180,000 to \$475,000.
- Increase investment in infrastructure like transit and upgrades to municipal systems to support denser housing.
- Government implement policies around land use.
- Resurface the highway in West Prince/East Prince area

## Supports for Youth and Education

- Increase school-aged autism base funding (currently yearly allowable is \$6,600).
- Increase education system funds for children with special needs – for staff, equipment, technology and space.
- Invest more money to repair our schools.
- Encourage more youth to move in our schools.
- Increase investment in all levels of education.
- Increase funding to schools that are bursting at seams with needs.
- Awareness and funds to identify COVID learning gaps, youth mental health and continued decline in youth wellbeing.



## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Increase funding to PEI Kids Help Line.
- Expand the Education Assistance (EA) program in our public schools
- Create a Trade School in each Prince, Queen and Kings region where high school students attend regular classes in the morning and Trade School in the afternoon.
- Eliminate the shortage of infant daycare spaces.
- Offer funding and supports to eliminate discrimination in PEI public schools.
- Conduct research to identify and eliminate inconsistencies in international student fees for the PNP, BIC and WP student communities.
- Offer a \$500 grant paid into RESP of PEI low-income families for post-secondary education. This will assist with increasing participation in the Federal Government's *Canada Learning Bond* program (an income-tested grant of up to \$2,000 paid into the RESP of lower income families in PEI).
- Improve ventilation in schools.
- Ensure a living wage for all early childhood educators.
- Create supports for teachers to implement play-based learning.
- Adopt child rights assessments on legislative developments.
- Give grandparents raising their grandchildren access to the same supports as others fostering children.
- Adopt Elections Canada's civic education program for all secondary students.
- Increase childcare access to early learning and childcare for infants and preschoolers, especially affordable and accessible early childhood care spaces for infants.
- Universal, accessible affordable after-school care for children 5 to 12 years old.
- Additional resources for children with special needs.
- Continued partnership with the Federal Government to meet the commitment and timeline for \$10/day childcare.
- Continued investment in early childhood educator salaries.
- Invest in technology training programs for seniors through community organizations.
- Create technology lending or low-cost purchase programs for seniors and prioritize for those living in rural and isolated communities.
- Invest in intergenerational programming that engages youth and older adults to interact regularly for varied activities including technology training or practice.
- Partner with PEI credit unions to deliver "Each One Teach One" programming across the province and give Islanders of all ages the tools to manage their financial well-being.
- Invest \$100K in the PEI lunch program.
- Educate our K-12 classrooms now to work in PEI workforce shortage areas like agriculture, fisheries and construction.
- Increase government partnership with Holland College and UPEI to provide programs/training in workforce shortage areas.
- Invest more in training and recruitment of bilingual workforce.

## Climate Action

- Include industry in government plans to achieve net zero by 2040.
- Fund solar storage for islander wishing to transition to solar power.
- Received 20+ emails asking to double funding to the Active Transportation Trail (AT) program. Summary of these emails are:
  - Provide more active transportation infrastructure to reduce the use of personal vehicles.
  - Double the annual funding of the Active Transportation Trail from \$5M to \$10M and the eligible expenses from \$1 to \$2M and please extend the program funding past 2024-25. This will help PEI achieve Net-Zero Emissions by 2040 and provides a reliable and safe alternative transportation option.
  - Continue to fund the expansion of the Active Transportation Trail across PEI as the current funding will run out before the tip-to-tip trail is complete.
  - S.A.F.E (Streets are for Everyone) Summerside group strives to make all active transportation in PEI safe for residents and tourists, so doubling the funding to keep expanding the Active Transportation trails across all of PEI allows Islanders and tourists to safely choose an alternative transportation.
  - Finalize the provincial Active Transportation (AT) guidelines and make Summerside an AT destination, as currently only has one AT trail. Adding trails helps encourage more Islanders and Tourists to choose an alternative transportation method.
- Further funding to expand leadership in Active Transportation planning and management to enhance the development of a strategic island wide Active Transportation plan that connects and supports local communities.
- The Active Transportation Trail provides freedom to those who rely on manually operated or power-driven mobility devices who cannot use narrow sidewalks or roadways to get around. It helps remove the barriers that restrict life choices for disabled people.
- Action on the climate emergency e.g. hurricane proof communities.
- Consider mixing recycled plastic into asphalt for more durable and malleable roads to have less pothole and spending to get them fixed.
- Fund environmental research and development on low impact tidal energy to enhance the PEI power grid by using our surrounding Atlantic Ocean.
- Improve city transportation.
- Spend less money on "green"/climate initiatives.
- Provide financial assistance to ALL residents of PEI for the installation heating/Cooling systems in homes and apartments.
- Take aggressive action on climate change including reforestation, sustainable agriculture, public transit, transitioning Islands off fossil fuel home heating.
- Start offsetting the effects of global warming by rebuilding urban environments and the Active Transportation trail, which can reduce greenhouse gases.

- Prioritize climate change preparedness by making mandatory requirements for all new buildings, emergency readiness plans and investment in public transportation.
- Expand funding for protection of natural areas and shorelines.
- Expand funding for natural disaster-proof communities.
- Continue funding the PEI Environmental Network.
- Create a "Tree Replanting Program" for all PEI homeowners providing one/two well established trees per each household.
- Provide Summerside with per capita financial transit subsidies so can develop a viable and user friendly fully "green" transit system.
- Address "Energy Poverty" and the costs of climate adaption as PEI has the highest household emission per capital compared to other Canadian jurisdictions due to heavy reliance on heating oil.
- Invest in diversified energy sources.
- Eliminate the 30kW cap on credits placed by Maritime Electric.
- Improve the provinces electrical grid.
- Put PEI power lines underground to reduce our electricity outages.
- Use nature-based restoration methods to improve critical ecosystems throughout the province.
- Support and develop the "Municipal Climate Adaptation Plan" outlined in PEI's Climate Adaptation Plan.
- Increase investments in innovative early-stage clean technologies and solutions as outlined in PEI's Net Zero Framework.
- Increase investment in the low carbon economy to enable PEI to leverage the opportunities created by the Federal Climate Action Mandate.
- Explore new nuclear technology to support provincial energy grids with reliable, safe and low-carbon energy like other Canadian provinces.

## Justice, Culture & Government Operations

- Leverage cross-department assets and capabilities to produce cost efficiencies.
- Correlate population growth with budget increases to ensure access of public services for all Islanders.
- Focus on having a balanced budget by reducing program spending.
- Create a transparent, accurate and focused budget with effective investment.
- Review the Department of Transportation major project bid evaluation parameters.
- Review service overlap of Provincial and Municipal Emergency Measures Offices to look for efficiencies.
- Reduce the size of Government by cutting services and costs in every department.
- Eliminate the \$21 fee for mobility parking stickers.
- Reconsider the requirement for annual inspections on newer cars.
- Eliminate annual license stickers.
- Modernize provincial government computer systems.
- Balance the budget now, do not wait.

## Pre-Budget Consultations

- Increase funds to PEI Firefighters Association Fire School to purchase and distributed Provincial Integrated Communication System (PICS) radios.
- Provide funding for core activities of the Community Legal Information (CLI) of PEI. CLI makes the law accessible to all Islander, by answering legal inquiries regarding rental/housing, real estate, power of attorney, wills, etc. as well as providing information on collaborative avenues of divorce, separation and small claims.
- Cut spending across all municipal government as it seems every village or town has a Mayor.
- Set up a better system for the people of PEI to receive government funds instead of using charities like Red Cross and Salvation Army.
- Properly budget for asset replacement of roofs, vehicles, roads and building maintenance.
- Equitably distribute programs and services to all residents.
- Provide fund to Citizens Assembly on Proportional Representation.
- Leverage PEI investment industry to expand and accelerate long-term infrastructure projects by structuring projects to attract long-term investors, allowing Prince Edward Island to modernize its infrastructure and make the economy more productive and competitive.
- Follow other Atlantic provinces and modernize *PEI Insurance Act* to harmonize with other provincial insurance legislation.
- Extend funding to municipalities so can take part in crime prevention initiatives that support policing priorities including Gun and Gang Violence Action Fund, Detection of Drug Impaired Driving and Mobile Mental Health Crisis Program.
- Consider more permanent deployment of government staff and resources to Summerside to help solidify a strong base of provincial services offered in Summerside.
- Establish a core funding agreement with Community Legal Information (CLI) to support their core operations and service delivery from increase demand and need for their services from the people of PEI.
- Increase Investments in CLI Projects such as: Will Clinics, Legal Information Clinics, Legal advice for victims of intimate partner violence (IPV) and online tools for completing court forms (like their Divorce Form Builder) as these programs help reduce delays in the PEI court system.
- Reclassify 30% of all current project-based funding to non-profits into annual core funding to allow for stable, long-term and flexible funding to reflect the actual cost of delivering services and programs to keep pace with inflation.
- Create a home in government to house the 1700 non-profits in PEI – there is no ministry responsible for the well-being of the non-profit sector in PEI.
- Conduct a thorough review of government spending with the aim of reducing expenses.
- Increase funding to the Agriculture Stewardship Program.
- Increase funding to Legal Aid.
- Create a voluntary “Drug Treatment Court Pilot” in Summerside.

## Pre-Budget Consultations

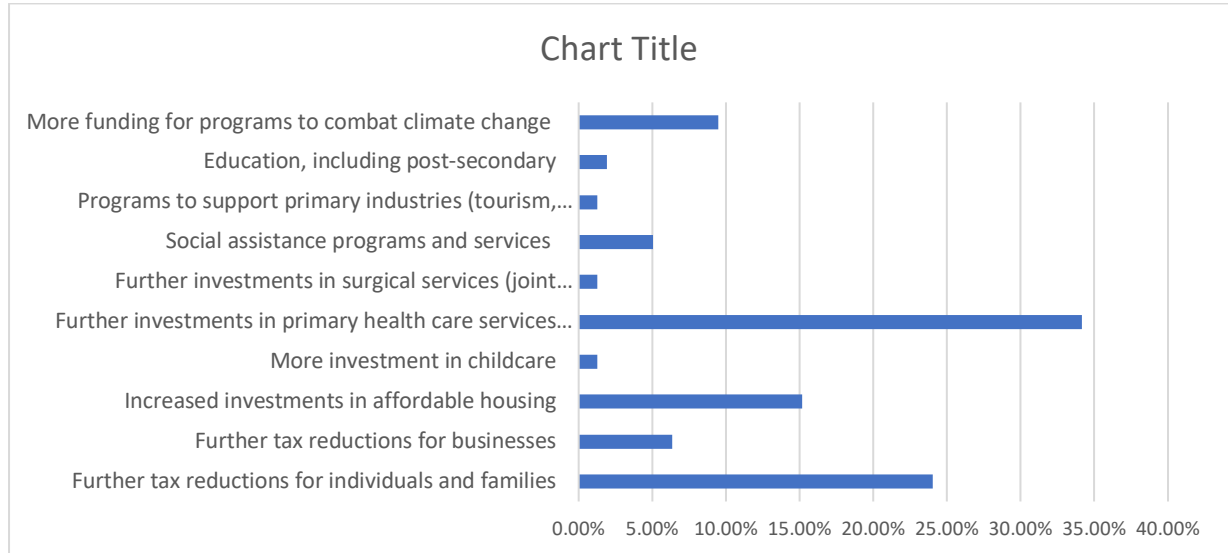
- Create a citizens' assembly on proportional representation.
- Improve the transparency, accountability, and efficiency of the budget estimates process.
- Government departments should provide plans to explain outcomes they are working towards and report on the results achieved.
- Use proper business planning when approving spending.
- Actions on Calls to Justice on the National Inquiry for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls.
- Invest in illegal tobacco enforcement.
- Engage with the Federal Government to demand leadership and an action plan to address illegal tobacco, and with Ontario to address the illegal supply.
- Revisit Vaping Regulatory measures, like the flavour ban and prohibition on convenience store sales.
- Fund the Citizens' Assembly of PEI as per Motion No. 71, passed October 2021 "Therefore be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge Government to convene a Citizens' Assembly to deliberate on a model of Proportional representation. Since 2016, 50% of the people of PEI have supported proportional representation.
- Building a Citizens' Assembly that is well-regarded by the people of PEI and requires an outside third-party to facilitate the process and a robust budget to advertise/publicize the Citizens' Assembly (CA).
- Produce a detailed report on the spending of the federal transfers allocated to the francophone community, and the concrete achievements these funds have produced.
- Prioritize increasing police officer levels to address resourcing gaps across the province.
- Police officer strength should increase with provincial population growth.
- Work with other Atlantic Provinces to develop and implement an Emergency Air Services Strategy to ensure air support is available to all police service in Atlantic Canada during critical incidents.
- Give the people of PEI the \$100 Gift cards for accommodation, food or entertainment in winter months instead of tourists.
- Invest in our tourism assets of parks and golf courses.
- Create a gift card program for residents to attend artistic, cultural, and social activities.
- Invest more in arts and culture.
- Fund a provincial museum as it's good for tourism and our education system.
- Push to have Confederation Bridge tolls reduced.
- More collaboration between government and Industry to solve challenges facing PEI.
- Government needs to re-examine service delivery models to ensure services are meeting needs of residents with modern and efficient delivery.
- Government should adopt zero based budgeting.
- Offer more government services in French.

## Appendix A: Submissions from Organizations

1. Arthritis Society of Canada
2. Beer Canada
3. Canada's National Seniors' Advocacy Organization (CanAge)
4. Canadian Association of Physician Assistants
5. Canadian Cancer Society
6. Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association
7. Canadian Taxpayers Federation (Jay Goldberg and Gage Haubrich)
8. Canadian Federation of Business
9. City of Summerside
10. CLEAN Foundation
11. Convenience Industry Council of Canada (CICC)/Atlantic Convenience Stores Association
12. Community Sector Network of PEI (CSNPEI)
13. Community Legal Information
14. cst Foundation "Changing the Kitchen Table Conversation"
15. Canadian Union of Public Sector Employees (CUPE)
16. Diabetes Canada
17. Federation of PEI Municipalities
18. Greater Charlottetown and Area Chamber of Commerce GCACC ("Building on Momentum")
19. Heart & Stroke, Canadian Cancer Society, PEI Lung Association
20. Hospice Palliative Care Association of PEI (Hospice PEI)
21. Immigrant and Refugee Services Association of PEI
22. Imperial Tobacco Canada Ltd
23. Islanders for Proportional Representation
24. Lung Association of NS & PEI
25. Matthew Pelletier and Satyajit Sen "Addressing PEI' Short-Term and Long-Term Housing Shortage" paper (PEI Housing Supply)
26. Merck Canada
27. Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada
28. National Police Federation
29. Official Opposition Office – Leader of Official Opposition Peter Bevan-Baker
30. Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI)
31. PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women
32. PEI Credit Unions
33. Recreation PEI
34. Retail Council of Canada
35. Société acadienne et francophone de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard

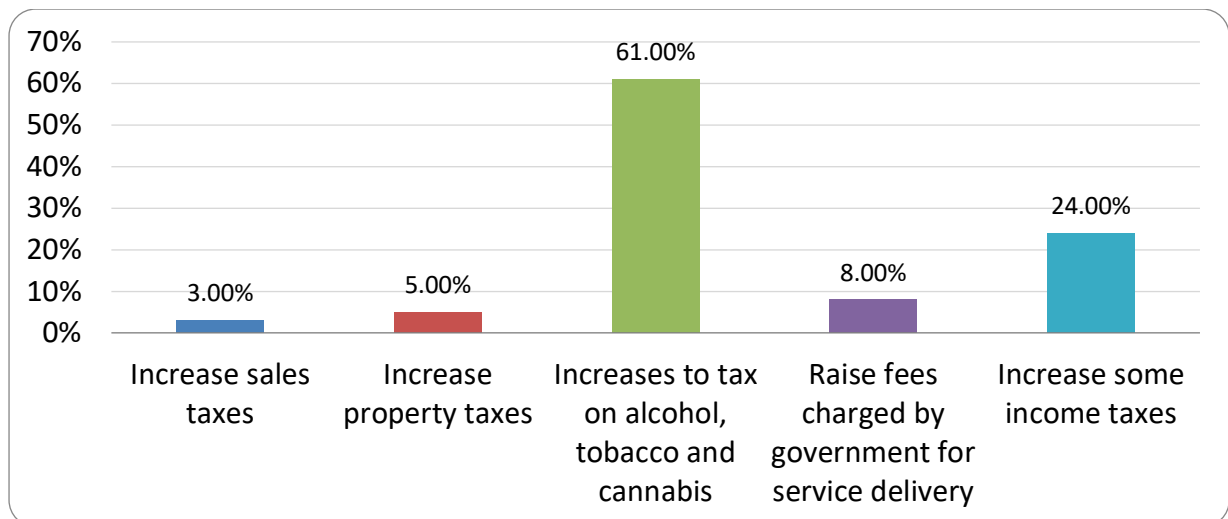
## Appendix B: Online Survey Results

### 1. Please rank the areas where you would like to see government spending, from 1 (top priority) to 10 (lower priority).



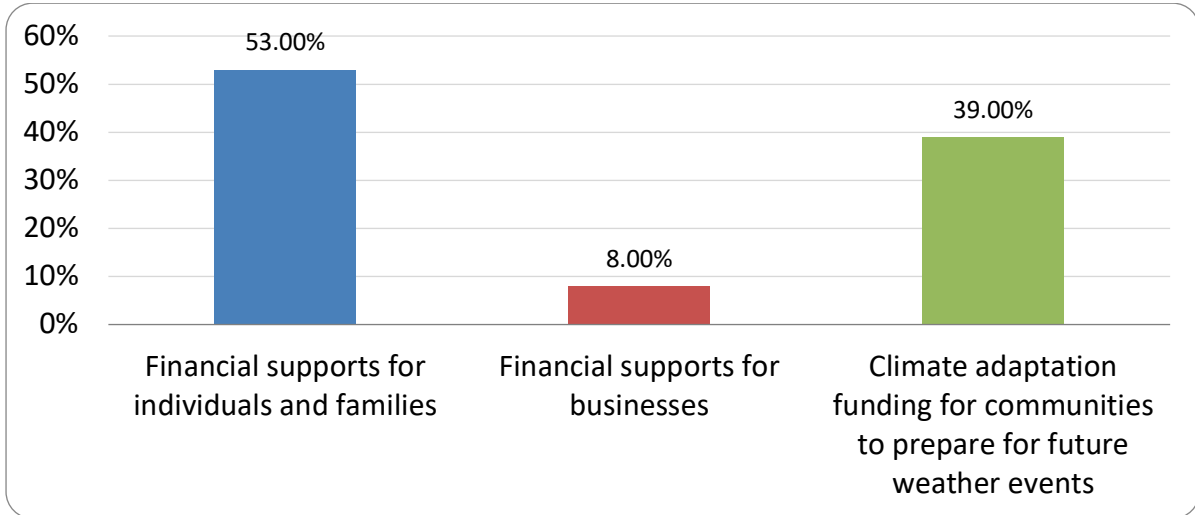
Further investments in primary health care services was selected as the top priority, closely followed by further tax reductions for individuals and families and increased investments on affordable housing.

### 2. Where do you think Government could raise revenue?



Increases to taxes on alcohol, tobacco and cannabis was the most popular area to raise tax revenue at 61%, with increases to some taxes following at 24%. Less than 8% of respondents were for raising fees charged by government for services delivery, increases in property taxes and increases in sales taxes.

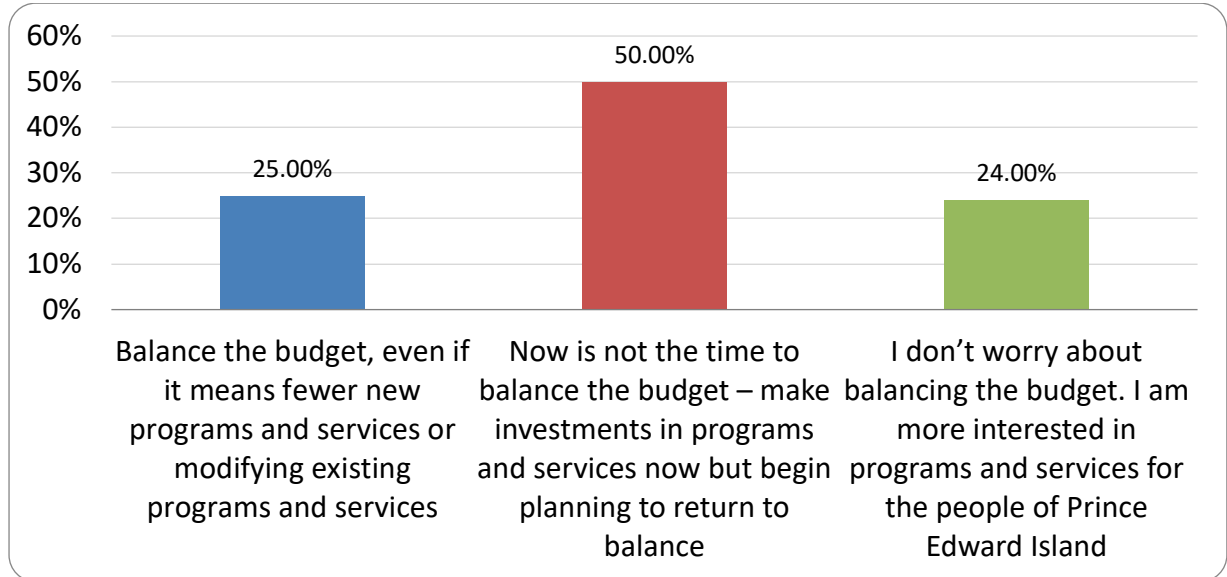
**3. Government has said it will continue to help with recovery from Hurricane Fiona and assist the people of PEI during this period of high inflation. Recognizing that these events have been more challenging from some groups and areas than others, where would you like to see further supports in 2023?**



The table shows 53% of respondents chose financial supports for individuals and families as where they would like further supports to go for 2023, followed by climate adaptation funding for communities to prepare for future weather events.



**4. If a budget includes more money from programs and services than it expects to take in, it is known as a deficit. When Government has a deficit, it has to borrow more money to operate. It also does not have money to pay down its longer-term debt. What would you like to see Government do in Budget 2023?**



The table shows 50% of respondents feel now is not the time to balance the budget but instead make investments in programs and services but begin planning to return to a balanced budget. Respondents were split equally at 25% each on balancing the budget now, or not worrying about balancing the budget.

**5. When should Government plan to have a balanced budget?**

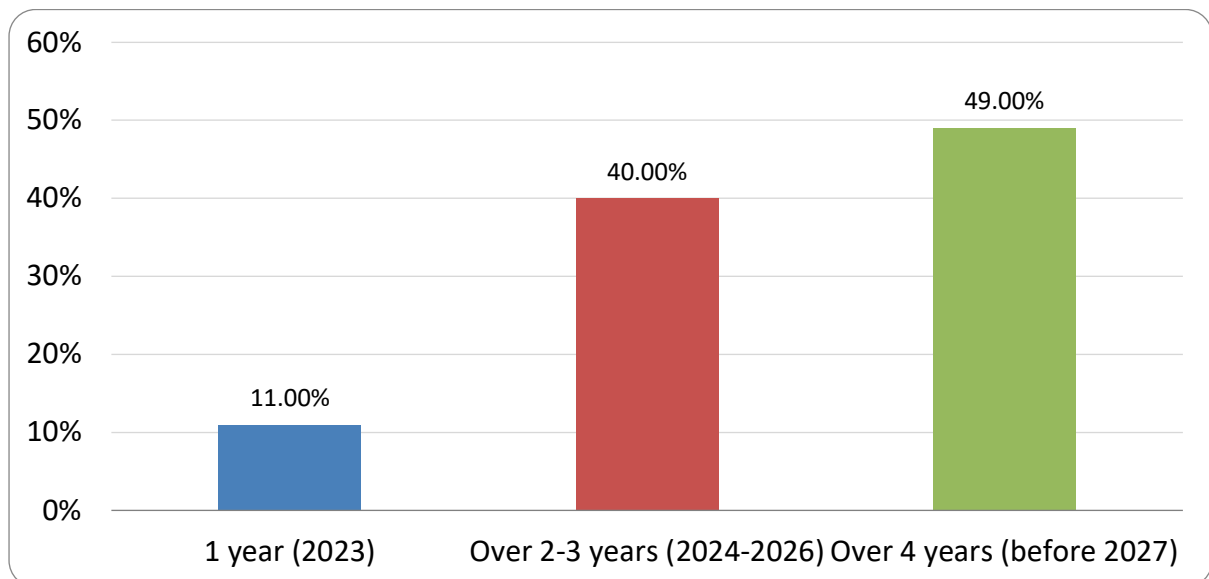


Table shows that 49% of respondents feel the government should plan to have a balanced budget in 4 years, before 2027.

## Appendix C: Promotion samples



 **BE PART OF PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS**

Finance Minister Mark McLane is holding virtual budget consultations for Prince Edward Island's 2023-2024 budget and is inviting Islanders, businesses and organizations to provide input.

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE:**

You can participate in one of two virtual consultations on Zoom by emailing [budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca](mailto:budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca) to register:

**Monday, January 9, from 2-4pm**  
(simultaneous consultation in French)

Join a Facebook Live event on the Government of Prince Edward Island's Facebook page [Facebook.com/govpe](https://www.facebook.com/govpe)

**Thursday, January 5 at 7pm**

Complete the survey in English or French at [PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/PreBudget](https://PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/PreBudget)

You can also email a submission to [budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca](mailto:budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca)

The deadline for submissions is January 10, 2023

[PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/PreBudget](https://PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/PreBudget)

Ad paid for by the Government of Prince Edward Island

 **PARTICIPEZ AUX CONSULTATIONS PRÉBUDGÉTAIRES**

Le ministre des Finances, Mark McLane, tiendra des consultations budgétaires virtuelles dans le cadre du budget provincial de 2022-2023. Il invite tous les Insulaires, entreprises et organismes à offrir leurs commentaires.

**COMMENT PARTICIPER :**

Vous pouvez participer à l'une des deux consultations en ligne sur Zoom en envoyant un courriel à [budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca](mailto:budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca) pour vous inscrire :

**Lundi 9 janvier de 14 h à 16 h**  
(avec interprétation simultanée en français)

Joignez-vous à un événement en direct sur le compte Facebook du gouvernement de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard au [Facebook.com/govpe](https://www.facebook.com/govpe).

**Jeudi 5 janvier à 19 h**

Vous pouvez également remplir un sondage en ligne, en anglais ou en français, au [PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/fr/PreBudget](https://PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/fr/PreBudget).

Vous pouvez aussi fournir des commentaires par courriel en les envoyant à [budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca](mailto:budgetsubmissions@gov.pe.ca).

La date limite pour se prononcer est le 10 janvier 2023.

[PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/fr/PreBudget](https://PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/fr/PreBudget)

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