



Election Guide

Parties' platforms comparison through
Catholic Social Teachings.



Issue	Catholic Teaching	Liberal Party	New Democratic Party	Progressive Conservative Party
SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE Abortion, Euthanasia & Alternatives - Human Engineering - Population Control	<p>The source of human dignity is the likeness to God that is bestowed on each of us at the moment we are conceived. We respond appropriately to this gift by using all the time, talent, and treasure that God has entrusted to us to seek and grow closer to God, by sharing in His continuing act of creation and caring for those around us. Our first purpose is to seek God, especially in one another. Anything that interferes with that is contrary to the Word of God. <i>Genesis Ch. 1; Matthew Ch. 6, 22 & 25</i></p> <p>"You shall not kill." - the 5th Commandment.</p>	<p>Abortion, Euthanasia & Alternatives Human Engineering Population Control</p>		
	<p>The right to life "from conception to natural death is the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching." - 155, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>The solemn proclamation of human rights is contradicted by a painful reality of violations, including new forms of slavery such as trafficking in human beings, drug trafficking, prostitution. Serious problems remain unsolved: trafficking in children and the use of children for commerce in pornographic material. 158, 245 <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i>.</p> <p>Human Engineering Everyone, man and woman, should acknowledge and accept his sexual identity. -224 <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>Judgment concerning the interval of time between births, and the number of children, belongs to the spouses alone. the family.</p> <p>All reproductive techniques — such as the donation of sperm or ova, surrogate motherhood, heterologous artificial fertilization — that make use of the uterus of another woman or of gametes of persons other than the married couple, injuring the right of the child to be born of one father and one mother who are father and mother are ethically unacceptable both from a biological and from a legal point of view. <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i>, 234-235</p> <p>An issue of particular significance is human cloning... Human cloning is contrary to the dignity of human procreation because it takes place in total absence of an act of personal love between spouse and represents a form of total domination over the reproduced individual on the part of the one reproducing. 236, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p>	<p>The party has published no current specific statement concerning its policies relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning or purpose of life • Abortion, euthanasia, or alternatives • Gender modification or gene manipulation • Population Control • Human Trafficking <p>In-Vitro Fertilization (IVF) The party's 2025 budget speech states that infertility impacts one in six individuals and can impact their quality of life and well-being. Its commitment to expand fertility services in province and to include IVF confirms its commitment to ensure people who require fertility treatment can receive it within the province.</p> <p>-it proposes allocation of \$3.2 million, including an increased subsidy for IVF funding up to \$20,000 and working with stakeholders to establish IVF services within the province.</p>	<p>Abortion, Euthanasia & Alternatives Human Engineering Population Control</p> <p>The party has published no current specific statement concerning its policies relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning or purpose of life • Abortion, euthanasia, or alternatives • Gender modification, gene manipulation, or other forms of human engineering • Population Control • Human Trafficking 	<p>Abortion, Euthanasia & Alternatives Human Engineering Population Control</p> <p>The party has published no current specific statement concerning its policies relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning or purpose of life • Abortion, euthanasia, or alternatives • Gender modification, gene manipulation, or other forms of human engineering • Population Control • Human Trafficking

Points to Ponder: Life & Human Dignity

Consider asking your riding's candidates the following questions, and discussing their answers with your family, friends, neighbours, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

- None of the parties has addressed any life issues, or shared any information confirming its view of the meaning of life. What are Catholics to make of that? What can we do about it to gather and illuminate souls?
- What limits should be placed on voluntary termination of human life, either prior to birth or at any time before death? What alternatives to abortion or to socially-assisted death (SAD) should be offered in NL?
- Is current national and provincial investment in palliative care (care which neither hastens nor postpones natural death, but is intended to relieve suffering, particularly when human accompaniment is available) for terminally ill individuals adequate? Are sufficient spaces for such care available to meet the needs of the province? Are we, as individuals and a Church, doing as much as we can to accompany the terminally ill on their journey back to God?
- Human engineering, for example in the forms of population control, cloning and cell manipulation, selective birth, and "gender assignment" procedures, is also of concern. What can or should we do, as a nation, a Church, and as individuals?

Issue	Catholic Teaching	Liberal Party	New Democratic Party	Progressive Conservative Party
STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION Climate Change - Species & Diversity - Sustainable Economy & Natural Resources	<p>God gave us dominion over the earth, thereby making us stewards of creation as we work with Him in His continuing act of creation. We must constantly consider how our actions protect or harm this glorious gift God has entrusted to us.</p>	<p>Climate Change The states that its commitment to safeguarding the province and its residents remains resolute. -it undertakes to address climate change with a dual sense of responsibility and opportunity. -to achieve its goal of net zero emissions by 2050, its 2025 budget has committed more than \$26 million. -a further \$2 million is allocated to develop a provincial waste water and waste management strategy.</p>	<p>Climate Change -latest policy publications (dated 2021) advocate a Green New Deal aimed at social, economic, and environmental betterment throughout the province, including consultation to identify just and equitable ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide a just transition for workers and update provincial labour laws. - committed to <u>reducing net carbon emissions</u> to at least 50% of 2005 levels by 2030, and to <u>net-zero by 2050</u>. -advocates alignment of provincial financial levers and Crown corporations to achieve net zero. -it supports just transition for workers as the economy reduces reliance on fossil fuels. -advocates organization of public transit options for commuters on the Avon Peninsula.</p>	<p>The party has published no current statement concerning its policies relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change • Species, Diversity, & Wildlife
	<p>Climate Change “Today’s ecological crises, especially climate change, threaten the very existence of the human family.” – Pope Francis, <i>Laudato Si’</i> 217; address, Energy Transition summit, Vatican June 2019.</p>	<p>Conservation & Sustainable Development The party’s most recent platform statement (dated 2019), states that demand for <u>renewable energy solutions</u> is growing, and it advocates working with the private sector to identify key growth industries and build on existing competencies to promote NL as an investment target. -to support <u>agriculture</u>, it undertook to increase provincial food security to 20% by 2022 and to identify markets for healthy NL food, while supporting community gardens. -it advocates strategic investment in <u>aquaculture</u>, including strategies for both species diversity and diverse job growth. It has committed about \$10 toward marketing of provincial seafood products and support for seafood infrastructure and research. -advocates support for <u>oil and gas industries</u>, which produce about \$1.6 billion in royalty revenue, including commitment of \$20 million to support innovation in energy supply. --during its prior term in office it allocated \$1.7 million to support the <u>mineral exploration</u> industry. It continues to support exploration and innovation in order to realize mining potential in a productive, sustainable manner. -the party’s 2025 Budget speech states it has taken a lead in effective <u>wildfire management</u> and emergency responses for the long-term protection of Atlantic Canadian forests, communities, and residents, including allocation of \$4.2 million to establish an Atlantic Wildfire Centre. -it has allocated \$4 million for a Spruce Budworm Early Intervention Strategy, and <u>supports reforestation efforts</u> by producing approximately five to seven million tree seedlings annually.</p>	<p>Species, Diversity, & Wildlife The party’s latest published policy statement (dated 2021) states that it supports: -allowing surrogate hunters, with no distance limit, to hunt game on behalf of hunters with mobility issues and other disabilities, and undertakes to push government to fill vacant wildlife officer positions in Labrador to ensure that regulations are followed and provincial wildlife populations are preserved. -recognition of a trapper’s base camp and its associated tilts as one enterprise and subsequently billed as a single Permit to Occupy, including establishment of a working group between the Lands and Wildlife Divisions to review outstanding trapper issues and to engage in meaningful collaboration with the Newfoundland and Labrador Trappers Association.</p>	<p>Conservation & Sustainable Development To party advocates, in order to provide jobs and keep young people in the province: -recovery of cod and seal populations, based on science. -banning single-use plastic bags. -promoting provincial <u>forestry</u>, thereby supporting value-added spinoffs as benefits to local communities. -an <u>Agriculture Action Plan</u> to promote collaboration with farmers to grow provincial potential, and implementing a farm loan guarantee program, so the province can produce much more of its own food. -driving geoscience and exploration to support the <u>mining</u> industry and combating regulatory overreach by the federal government, for example in Bill C-69. -renegotiating the Atlantic Accord, whereby the federal government assumed jurisdiction over the NL seabed and continental shelf, which is the source of the vast majority of provincial resource and economic activity– <u>fisheries, marine aquaculture, offshore oil and gas, shipping, ports, maritime and coastal tourism</u>. -developing <u>new ocean technologies</u> such as new gas-to-wire technologies for generating electricity from offshore natural gas, offshore wind energy, tidal and wave energy, seabed mining, and marine biotechnology, and developing the potential of the province’s undersea electricity transmission link to North American markets. -protecting, promoting, and partnering with the province’s 5,000 direct and indirect forestry workers, and their employers to expand economic opportunities.</p>
	<p>Sustainable Economy “Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue: it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience.” -217, <i>Laudato Si’</i></p>			
	<p>Species & Diversity “Each of the various creatures, willed in its own being, reflects in its own way a ray of God’s infinite wisdom and goodness. Man must respect the particular goodness of every creature, to avoid any disordered use of things which would be in contempt of the Creator and would bring disastrous consequences for human beings and their environment.” - 339, Catechism of the Catholic Church -humanity’s relationship with creation and the creatures of the earth “requires the exercise of responsibility, it is not a freedom of arbitrary and selfish exploitation.” - 115, Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</p>			

Points to Ponder: Stewardship of Creation

Many voices, including scientists, the Vatican, and the United Nations, agree that climate change is real and that immediate action is required if catastrophic consequences are to be avoided. Other voices insist that while the climate may be changing, any change is naturally cyclic and humans are having no effect.

- Given the possibility that science and the Vatican may be right, and that if so the lives and well being of the entire planet, including our children and all future generations, might depend upon threatened supplies of breathable air and drinkable water, what if anything would the Christian virtue of Prudence suggest about our current and future practices, as a nation, a Church, and as individuals?

	Catholic Teaching	Liberal Party	New Democratic Party	Progressive Conservative Party
<p>FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND THE COMMON GOOD</p> <p>Role of the Family</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health Care - Elder Care - Education & Young Workers - Culture, Arts & Tourism 	<p>The Role & Development of the Family</p> <p><i>“Honour your father and mother.” – the 4th Commandment</i></p> <p>The family is the fundamental element of society. It is where education begins and the Word of God is first nurtured. The priority of the family over society and the State must be affirmed. – 209-214, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>Health Care</p> <p>Among the causes that greatly contribute to underdevelopment and poverty, mention must be made of illiteracy, lack of food security, the absence of structures and services, inadequate measures for guaranteeing basic health care, and the lack of safe drinking water and sanitation. -166, 447 <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>Support for the Elderly</p> <p>If the elderly are in situations where they experience suffering and dependence, not only do they need health care services and appropriate assistance, but and above all they need to be treated with love. - 222 <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>Education</p> <p>Young people should be taught to act upon their own initiative, to accept the responsibility of facing a rapidly changing world – 289, 290 <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>-loss of the understanding of history is fueling growth in the notion that human freedom is bound by no limits, leading to a drive toward limitless consumption and empty individualism. -13, <i>Fratelli Tutti</i></p> <p>Culture, Arts & Tourism</p> <p>We forget that “there is no worse form of alienation than to feel uprooted, belonging to no one. A land will be fruitful, and its people bear fruit and give birth to the future, only to the extent that it can foster a sense of belonging among its members.”– <i>Fratelli tutti</i>, –51-53</p>	<p>Role of and Support for the Family</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -party states that it implemented \$25 per day child care, bringing more parents into the workplace and ensuring that more children receive early learning and care. -commits \$110 million toward \$10-day child care. <p>Health Care & Elder Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -seeks reduction of NL mortality rates due to cancer, heart disease, stroke and lung diseases, and diabetes (highest in Canada) by offering <u>healthy, physically active lifestyles</u> tax credit for costs of fitness classes and sports programs. -advocates <u>more facilities and transport options</u> for people traveling for specialized services, and adding more primary health care teams. -notes that <u>record high investments</u> have increased the health care budget by more than 40 per cent since 2020. -says it reduced <u>wait times</u> for surgeries and priority care 12 per cent or more since 2023; has invested \$620 million in a <u>health information system</u>. -allocated \$200 million in 2025 for <u>prescription drugs</u>, and \$8.5 million to expand helicopter medevac. -added <u>mental health and addictions</u> services and centre. -is working to <u>alleviate period poverty</u>. <p>Elder Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -advocates a <u>provincial Seniors’ Advocate</u> to speak for seniors, and a new guide to address the gap between young people and older adults. -reports that <u>Seniors’ Benefit will be indexed</u> starting in 2025; commits \$200,000 to promote inclusion of seniors. <p>Education & Young Workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -budget speech advocates adding 400+ educators and expanding school food programming for <u>Pre-K thru 9</u>. -promotes <u>restorative justice in education</u> as a way of teaching empathy to children and society. -commits more than \$70 million for school infrastructure. -to keep youth in the province, requiring contractors to prioritize <u>apprentice</u> hiring for gov’t jobs; subsidies and financial assistance for vocational education. -updating <u>the health curriculum</u> on exercise, nutrition, mental health, addictions and sexual health. -allocated \$482 million for universities; doubling the number of subsidized seats for NL residents at the Atlantic Veterinary College. <p>Culture, Arts & Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -proposes an incubator and accelerator to enhance and grow <u>promising organizations</u> in the community sector. -increased funding for <u>provincial libraries</u> 2 years in a row. -new corporate tax credit for 40 per cent of <u>film</u> production costs, maximum of \$20 million per year. -\$8.5 million in grants for residents to engage in sports programs, increased funding for the provincial Games. -\$6 million+ for culture and arts infrastructure. -expanding the Trail of the Caribou Program. 	<p>Role of and Support for the Family</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -party is committed to introduction of a <u>universal, accessible food school program</u>, in order to provide all students in the province with nutritious food for breakfast, lunch, and recess breaks at no cost to students or families. <p>Health Care & Elder Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -advocates creation of a <u>publicly-funded and administered Universal Home Care program</u>, based on the model used by the province of Manitoba. -seeks enactment of Disabilities Act including centralized, <u>comprehensive and updated protections for those living with disabilities</u> within the province, developed in consultation with public and private stakeholders. -advocates unrestricted access to <u>ostomy products</u>. -it supports adoption of <u>uniform provincial standards</u> for staffing, diet, medication, number of residents per room, and financing for aged care facilities as part of Medicare. -endorses <u>universal pharmacare and dental care</u>, as proposed by the Federal NDP. <p>Culture, Arts & Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -advocates allowing <u>surrogate hunters</u>, with no distance limit, to hunt game on behalf of hunters with mobility issues and other disabilities, and seeks filling of vacant wildlife officer positions in Labrador. -seeks recognition of a <u>trapper’s base camp</u> and its associated tilts as one enterprise and subsequently billed as a single Permit to Occupy, including review of outstanding trapper issues in collaboration with the Newfoundland and Labrador Trappers Association. -advocates <u>banning use of urine or hair follicle tests in provincial workplaces</u>, as they discriminate against medicinal and recreational users of cannabis; and exploring use of saliva testing, sobriety field testing, or future technologies to better determine workplace intoxication. -advocates <u>bars/lounges for the safe consumption of cannabis</u> for adults of legal age. 	<p>Role of the Family</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the party has published no current statement concerning the role of or policies to support the family. <p>Health Care & Elder Care</p> <p>The party’s most recent platform publication (dated 2019) states that it is unacceptable that, with all the money spent on health care, <u>some people still don’t have a family doctor or languish on waitlists</u> or in hospital hallways, and that seniors languish in crowded care wards because there is nowhere to go.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -advocates <u>innovative reform within current funding</u>, for quality person-centred health care. -to keep young people in the province, the party advocates <u>improving health care</u> by appointing a Chief Wellness Officer, providing first aid training in high school, covering 100% of medical transportation costs, providing innovative clinics and virtual care to improve patient access, recruiting physicians and health providers by addressing fee structures and scope of practice, removing restrictions on Personal Care Homes, supporting community residential hospice/end of life care and development of a Cardiac Centre of Excellence, providing coverage for insulin pumps with no age cap, improved electronic records, increased efficiency, implementing a Quality Health Council and base staff level review of nursing homes to improve long-term care, preventing cuts in mental health and addictions, and ensuring improved access for all, treating gambling addiction by addressing the addictive features of certain VLTs, and developing an autism strategy, including removal of the IQ70 criterion. - <u>appointment of a Seniors’ Advocate</u> to employ new investigative and reporting powers. <p>Education & Young Workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - advocates <u>focusing education on the foundational skills that are key to successful learning</u> and preparing students for life-long learning in an innovative society, in order to reduce achievement gaps between rich and poor, the learning advantaged and disadvantaged, urban and rural, and overall performance students compared the rest of Canada, developing performance targets that help meet these goals. -proposes implementing a Graduate Retention Program, including a <u>tax credit for grads who choose to work in NL</u>, and making post-secondary tuition and student aid the most competitive in the country. <p>Culture, Arts & Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -seeks to restore confidence in the future and keep young people in the province by developing a <u>tourism strategy to bring people to rural communities</u>, including an Air Access Strategy to promote more flights at lower cost, along with growth and more jobs. -supporting ArtsNL sustain jobs for artists, promote tourism, educate and inspire, and implementing a New Northern Strategic Plan for Labrador.

Points to Ponder: Family, Community, and the Common Good – See last page (Page 8)

This is a condensed summary of policies published by the parties as of August 22, 2025. Please vote on October 14.
For greater detail, rationales, and additional policies, see our complete compilations and materials on Church teaching, starting at:
<https://catholicconscience.org/canada/newfoundlandandlabrador/election2025/> Check official party websites for updates.

Issue	Catholic Teaching	Liberal Party	New Democratic Party	Progressive Conservative Party
<p>AN ECONOMY AT THE SERVICE OF ALL PEOPLE</p> <p>The Dignity of Work</p> <p>Poverty Reduction & Housing</p> <p>Labour Unions, Employment</p> <p>Industries, Corporations & Consumers</p>	<p><i>Do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear... seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.</i> Matthew 6:25-33</p> <p>Money must serve, not rule!</p> <p>—Pope Francis, <i>Joy of the Gospel</i>, 57-58</p> <p>The Dignity & Importance of Work</p> <p>The use of one's gifts to seek and serve God necessarily includes work, by which humans cooperate with God in God's continuing act of creation. Work is a source of the conditions for a decent life can be an effective tool against poverty. But work should not be an idol. It is God and not work who is the origin of life and the final goal of man. But dignified work is not readily available for all who seek it. 274–289, <i>Comp'm of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>Poverty Reduction</p> <p>The poor and the marginalized and in all cases those whose living conditions interfere with their proper growth should be the focus of particular concern. What we do to the least among us, we do to Christ. —182, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i>; Matthew 25:31-46</p> <p>“Helping the poor financially must always be a provisional solution in the face of pressing needs. The broader objective should always be to allow them a dignified life through work”. — Pope Francis, <i>Laudato si'</i>, 128</p> <p>Unions & Workers' Rights</p> <p>The demands of competition, technological innovation and the complexities of financial fluxes must be brought into harmony with the defense of workers and their rights. — 313, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i>.</p> <p>Industries, Corporations, Consumers</p> <p><i>You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.</i></p> <p>— the 10th Commandment</p> <p>The development of economic activity and growth in production are meant to provide for the needs of human beings. Economic life is not meant solely to multiply goods produced and increase profit or power; it is ordered first of all to the service of persons, of the whole man, and of the entire human community. — 2426, <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i></p>	<p>Economy for All</p> <p>—due to oil and mineral production, expects <u>NL to lead all provinces in real GDP</u> for 2025.</p> <p>—expects <u>employment to rise by 1.2% to 10.8% in 2025</u>, primarily due to the effects of US tariffs. Consumer inflation to increase to 2.5%.</p> <p>Housing and Poverty Reduction</p> <p>—2025 budget introduces a <u>Disability Benefit</u> of up to \$400 per month; <u>basic income for youth</u> in provincial residential services; and a <u>basic income pilot for people aged 60 to 64</u> receiving Income Support.</p> <p>— invests \$113 million in 2025 for <u>affordable public housing</u>, including 180 units to be occupied in late 2025; and \$11.7 million to partner with non-profit shelters.</p> <p>—Five Point Housing Plan <u>helps low-to-moderate income families afford down-payments</u> on first homes.</p> <p>—has simplified the process of claiming adverse possession (“squatters rights”).</p> <p>Labour, Unions & Employment</p> <p>—to reduce out-migration and promote jobs, proposes reliance on local, inclusive labour for provincial infrastructure projects, and hiring and mentoring apprentices. Continues to promote <u>education and skills training</u> for NL residents to enter the tech industry.</p> <p>—prioritizes <u>local buying</u> for provincial procurement..</p> <p>Corporations, Competition & Consumers</p> <p>—creating <u>InvestNL online trade desk</u> to support investment in NL; allocates \$35 million to support business and economic development.</p> <p>—allocates \$1 million in <u>wholesale discounts for restaurants and bars</u> purchasing beer, wine, cider.</p> <p>—commits <u>\$11 million for subsidized crop insurance</u> and making farms and communities more resilient; \$618,000 for programs to increase provincial food self-sufficiency.</p> <p>—supports <u>inclusive growth of the aquaculture industry</u>, including <u>secondary processing</u> of by-products.</p> <p>—to promote long-term success in the <u>wild-caught fish industry</u>, promotes improved seafood quality; helps fish harvesters enter new markets; launched Loan and Marketing Support Programs.</p> <p>—\$4.5 million for infrastructure and innovation to support <u>the Atlantic Fisheries Fund</u> and develop new markets.</p> <p>—2025 budget cites major contribution of <u>oil and gas</u> to the NL economy, allocates \$90 million beginning in 2026 for <u>increased exploration</u>.</p> <p>—allocates \$6 million to support mining activity focused on developing critical mineral resources.</p> <p>—invests \$4.2 million to lead <u>wildfire responses</u>, including establishment of Atlantic Wildfire Centre.</p> <p>—allocates \$4 million for to prevent <u>Spruce Budworm outbreaks</u>, supports <u>5-7 million tree seedlings</u> annually.</p> <p>—invested \$23 million to leverage <u>\$165 million</u> from other investors for tech.</p> <p>—allocates <u>\$1.1 billion in 2025 for infrastructure</u>, to generate \$690 million in economic activity and create new jobs with new roads, airstrips, and ferries.</p>	<p>Economy for All</p> <p>Advocates a provincial Green New Deal aimed at social, economic, and environmental betterment, including consultation with stakeholders to explore the most effective approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide a just transition for workers in affected industries, strengthen environmental protections, and update the provinces labour laws to build a more just and equitable society protecting the environment.</p> <p>—advocates creation of a <u>public telecom crown corporation to provide low-cost internet</u> and television and bring high-quality, reliable coverage to the whole of the province.</p> <p>—advocates a <u>public auto insurance program</u> to lower rates and protect consumers.</p> <p>—supports a <u>\$15 and fairness wage</u> campaign.</p> <p>—advocates <u>rent regulation</u> to (i) protect renters' legitimate interest in retaining homes, (ii) advance the social interest in stable, mixed-income neighbourhoods; and (ii) curb the power of landlords, while (iii) protecting tenants from eviction or other pressure through an automatic right to renew their lease unless the landlord can demonstrate nonpayment of rent or other good cause.</p> <p>Labour, Unions & Employment</p> <p>Advocates immediate action to <u>protect pensions</u> of NL residents, including first priority in bankruptcy claims, requirements that trust accounts hold pension funds for companies operating within NL but domiciled elsewhere; denying companies the right to withdraw funds from pension plans; and denying companies the opportunity to withhold payments to pension plans as required by the plan.</p> <p>—advocates adoption of a 90% income replacement rate for <u>Worker's Comp</u>, and ending compensation ceilings.</p> <p>—seeks a <u>living wage</u>, with annual adjustments.</p> <p>—supports <u>right of all workers</u>, full-time, part-time, or gig, unionize, including amendment of the NL Labour Relations Act (LRA) to support enforcement of good faith bargaining requirements; reinstatement of automatic certification of unions once 65% of workers have signed; and introduction of anti-scab legislation.</p> <p>—advocates <u>ban on urine or hair follicle tests</u> in provincial workplaces, as they discriminate against medicinal and recreational users of cannabis; and exploring use of saliva testings, sobriety field testing, or future technologies to monitor workplace intoxication.</p> <p>Corporations, Competition or Consumers</p> <p>To support the <u>aquaculture</u> industry, the party advocates ending funding and expansion plans for net pen use in the province and calls for a responsible plan to transition to a land-based, zero-effluent, RAS-based provincial finfish aquaculture industry within 5 years.</p>	<p>Economy for All</p> <p>The party states that job creation is the best economic policy for government and families, the best social policy in its own right and also to sustain public expenditure on health, education, and all other public services, and the only way to grow the population.</p> <p>—attention to fairness and equity in employment is the best way to reduce economic and social disparities and build the more just society we all want.</p> <p>—government cannot deliver jobs from the public purse, as the public purse has been drained.</p> <p>The party's latest platform document (dated 2019) advocates:</p> <p>—<u>collaborating with businesses</u> to put people to work.</p> <p>—tailoring Community Benefits Agreements to <u>create opportunities for apprentices</u> and local suppliers.</p> <p>—<u>growing the provincial population</u>; making post-secondary tuition and student aid the most competitive in the country.</p> <p>—creating a New <u>Venture Capital Fund</u>.</p> <p>—partnering with new technology growth sectors and naming a <u>Chief Technology Officer</u> to lead digital transformation; digital training programs for workers.</p> <p>—implementing a new <u>Energy Plan 2.0</u>, to create new jobs at all stages of exploration and development.</p> <p>—developing <u>aquaculture</u> to drive rural jobs without compromising wild stocks; implementing a cod and seal plan, based on science, to recover cod and seal populations grow rural NL; applying principles of <u>joint management</u> in the Atlantic Accord, to co-manage all fish, shellfish, fish habitat, and marine mammals including harvestable quotas for all marine species on and over the seabed that is a contiguous part of Newfoundland and Labrador.</p> <p>—promoting provincial <u>forestry</u>, to bring jobs and create value-added spinoffs benefits to local communities.</p> <p>—collaboration with farmers to grow <u>agricultural</u> potential, including a farm loan guarantee program.</p> <p>—to promote the <u>mining industry</u>, applying the lessons of oil and gas by driving geoscience and exploration.</p> <p>—developing a <u>tourism</u> strategy to bring people to rural communities to drive sustainable jobs.</p> <p>—developing an <u>Air Access Strategy</u> to promote more flights, lower costs, more growth, more jobs.</p> <p>—supporting ArtsNL <u>sustain jobs for artists</u>, promote tourism, educate and inspire.</p> <p>—implementing a <u>New Northern Strategic Plan</u> for Labrador – seizing the potential for growth.</p>

Points to Ponder: An Economy at the Service of All People – See last page (Page 8)

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Issue	Catholic Teaching	Liberal Party	New Democratic Party	Progressive Conservative Party
RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES Civil Liberties - Human Rights - Participation & Subsidiarity	Civil Rights & Liberties To each person's right there corresponds a duty in all other persons... Those who claim their own rights, yet neglect to carry out their duties, are people who build with one hand and destroy with the other. (<i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i>) Recognized civil rights include: - freedom from racial discrimination - freedom of conscience and religion - freedom of speech - gender equity - the right to private property 171-276, 295-433, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i> Recognized human rights include: - right to life from conception to natural death. - right to live in a united family and in a moral environment conducive to the growth of a child's personality. - the right to develop one's intelligence and freedom in seeking and knowing the truth. - the right to work, to derive from work means to support oneself and one's dependents. - the right freely to establish a family, to have and to rear children through the responsible exercise of one's sexuality. - rights to adequate housing, clean water, and secure, nutritious food; education and access to culture, transportation, basic health care. – 151-166 <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i> Individual Responsibilities Subsidiarity Each element of society should serve its proper purpose, and support others in serving theirs, without encroaching on the other's responsibilities. One consequence of this principle is that each individual, and smaller groups of people, should be allowed to make for themselves all the decisions that can responsibly be left to them, rather than to larger groups or greater authorities. This is one of the fundamental social teachings of the Church, as it helps to ensure that each individual is empowered to find his or her own way to God. The political community is established to be of service to civil society. The family is the paramount element of society.	Party Values The party's constitution states that its values include: -treating all <u>individuals with dignity</u> . - an <u>inclusive society</u> in which every individual is valued equally under the law and has an equal opportunity to reach their full potential. -a <u>balance</u> between respect for individual rights and caring for the needs of each individual and of society. - <u>openness and transparency</u> in government, and the opportunity for all to participate in the political process. Civil Rights and Liberties The party's most recent platform statement (dated 2019) states that: -reducing barriers to gender equity so that all people in the province can reach their full potential is one of its ongoing commitments. The introductory meeting of the Premier's Roundtable on Gender Equity brought together a diverse group of leaders, advocates, community organizations and individuals who committed to work together toward constructive solutions to identified issues and barriers. -it undertakes to ensure that Gender-Based Plus Analysis is integrated into all policies and proposals so that quality social services are available and accessible to all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.	Party Values & Purpose of Government The party's constitution states that its values include the principles of social democracy, namely: -belief that the social, economic, and political progress of NL can be assured only by <u>application of egalitarian social principles</u> to public governance and administration. - <u>production of goods and services to meet the social and individual needs of people</u> within a framework of economic and environmental sustainability. -acceptance of the <u>dignity and freedom of the individual as a basic right</u> that must be maintained and extended to all persons regardless of race, ethnic background, ability, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. -accepting that <u>abolition of poverty and elimination of exploitation are achievable goals</u> and must be a priority of any thinking and compassionate government. -the <u>right of the people to a meaningful voice</u> in public policy through consultation and participation at all levels of public decision-making. -the right of voters to representative and participatory democracy through <u>proportional representation</u> . Civil Rights and Liberties The party: -is committed to the belief that sex work is work, sex workers are workers and people, and sex workers' rights are human rights to be protected under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. -it will commit to amend and/or repeal any and all provincial laws and regulations relevant to sex work.	Party Values & Purpose of Government The party's constitution states that the mission of the party is to promote democracy and <u>advance the core values and policies</u> of the party, which include: -justice, respect, and freedom. -openness, transparency and accountability. -fiscal responsibility. -sound economic management. -diversity. -progressive social policy. The party's most recent platform publication (dated 2019) identifies three pillars supporting its policy proposals: -jobs and hope. -affordable living. -honest leadership. Civil Rights and Liberties The party's most recent platform publication (dated 2019) states that it undertakes to: -toughen privacy protections to safeguard the private information of individuals and penalize those who disclose such information maliciously or through gross negligence. -legislate to oversee and regulate the protection and use of voter data and personal information by provincial parties.

Points to Ponder: Rights and Responsibilities – See last page (Page 8)

Issue	Catholic Teaching	Liberal Party	New Democratic Party	Progressive Conservative Party
SOLIDARITY Support for the Marginalized - Indigenous Peoples - Rural Communities - Immigration & Newcomers	<p>Solidarity is commitment to the good of one's neighbour. The good of one is the good of all, and the other is as important as the self.</p> <p>Disabilities, Mental Health, Addictions Persons with disabilities are to be helped to participate in family and social life at every level accessible to them and according to their possibilities... They too need to love and to be loved. – 148, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i></p> <p>Indigenous Peoples & Reconciliation The relationship of Indigenous peoples to their lands and resources is a fundamental expression of their identity. The Canadian Catholic Church supports the work of the Truth and Reconciliation commission. The Church is called to support thriving Indigenous communities, cultures and traditions.</p> <p>Northern & Rural Communities Too often, social services and infrastructure suffer from neglect in rural areas. Agricultural labour merits special attention, considering the many problems that need to be met in the context of an ever more globalized economy as well as its growing significance in protecting the environment. Radical urgent changes are needed in order to restore to agriculture its just value as the basis for a healthy economy... – 299, 300, 363, <i>Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church</i>. .</p> <p>Immigrants & Newcomers Ideally, unnecessary migration ought to be avoided. Yet until substantial progress is made in achieving this goal, we are obliged to respect the right of all individuals to find a place that meets their basic needs. We are called to welcome immigrants and refugees with generosity and good will, as if they were Jesus Christ himself. <i>Matthew, Chapter 25</i></p>	<p>Persons with disabilities During its prior term in office it proposed an <u>Accessible Taxi Grant Program</u> to assist taxi companies in adding accessible taxis to their fleet. It commits to continue such collaborations.</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples & Relations The 2025 Budget speech states that: -with guidance from Indigenous Governments and Organizations, the provincial government remains unwavering in its <u>pursuit of Reconciliation</u>. -for 2025, nearly \$500,000 is allocated to help create <u>safer Indigenous communities</u>. -opportunities are being explored to best incorporate Indigenous cultures and history into the <u>K-12 curriculum</u>. -\$225,000 is allocated for the <u>Gladue Report Project</u>. -the province has entered into a partnership to invite economic opportunities for Indigenous peoples in the <u>Churchill River Project</u>. -Reconciliation will take time. It requires thoughtful and <u>meaningful engagement with Indigenous partners</u> to define the path forward – the past must be fully understood in order to arrive at a more prosperous future.</p> <p>Rural Communities The party's 2025 budget speech states that: -harnessing of the immense potential of the Churchill River promises a wealth of new opportunities for residents and communities in Labrador. <u>Investments are needed</u> in housing, health care, education, public safety, and transportation. -<u>new medical facilities</u> have been started in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, a <u>shelter for women</u> in Labrador West, and <u>housing</u> for Nain, Hopedale, and Makkovik. A new K-12 <u>school</u> is being built in Cartwright, and the new Atlantic Wildfire Centre in Wabush. -in recognition of the Year of Sport, \$430,000 is allocated for the <u>Labrador Sport Travel Subsidy</u>.</p> <p>Immigrants & Newcomers The party's 2025 Budget Speech states that the province has experienced 15 consecutive quarters of population growth, and reached its highest population in a quarter of a century, and that <u>among 7,500 newcomers</u> welcomed in 2024: -257 are nurses, 90 per cent of whom are working in areas outside the capital city. -433 are personal care attendants. -65 are early learning childhood educators. -111 social and community service workers. -154 skilled trades workers. -2,000 are estimated to be school-aged children. -more than 3,500 Ukrainians have been established in 72 communities in Newfoundland and Labrador. -for 2025, key investments will include over \$2 million to continue marketing the province, and \$16.8 million for settlement and retention services.</p>	<p>Persons with Disabilities -supports allowing <u>surrogate hunters</u>, with no distance limit, to hunt game on behalf of hunters with mobility issues and other disabilities. -is committed to the belief that <u>sex work is work, sex workers are workers and people, and sex workers' rights are human rights to be protected under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms</u>. -it will commit to amend and/or repeal any and all provincial laws and regulations relevant to sex work, and to to better the lives of those who participate and are directly involved in the sex industry, including but not limited to improving the safety, security, and social and economic well-being of sex workers in the province. -it will commit to increased funding for non-profit organizations which provide ongoing non-judgmental support, harm reduction, and resources to those who formerly or currently do sex work, and t those who continue to do sex work without being pressured to exit their choice of work.</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples -commits to implementation of the portions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People within the jurisdiction of the NL government, such ensuring the free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands, territories, or resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization, or <u>exploitation of mineral, water, or other resources</u>; and that Indigenous people have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of <u>physical and mental health</u>; among others. - commits to implementation of the portions of the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada that are within the jurisdiction of the Provincial government such as providing <u>cultural competency training</u> to all medical professionals and social workers in the province, among others. -it is committed to implementing the portions of the Calls to Justice from the Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls that are within the jurisdiction of the Provincial government, such as <u>fundamentally transforming current child welfare systems</u> so that Indigenous communities have control over the design and delivery of services for their families and children, among others. -it is committed to prohibiting all future hydroelectric development on the Churchill river unless such development receives the free, full, prior and informed consent of provincial Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Northern and Rural Communities -commits to reinstating the Executive Director position and <u>reopening the Labrador Affairs Office</u> with adequate staffing.</p>	<p>Solidarity with the Marginalized As one of its three policy pillars, the party's most recent platform publication (dated 2019), identifies <u>making life more affordable to assist in keeping young people in the province, including by:</u> -ensuring <u>inclusion of persons with disabilities</u> through an updated strategy that respects rights. -<u>developing an autism strategy</u>, including real action to remove the IQ70 criterion.</p> <p>Northern & Rural Communities As one of its three policy pillars, the party's most recent platform publication (dated 2019), identifies providing jobs and hope to restore confidence in the future and assist in keeping young people in the province, including by: -implementing a cod and seal plan, based on science, to recover cod and seal populations grow rural NL. -developing aquaculture to drive rural jobs without compromising wild stocks. -promoting provincial forestry, to bring more employment and value-added spinoffs benefits to local communities. -implementing an Agriculture Action Plan to promote collaboration with farmers to grow provincial potential. -implementing a farm loan guarantee program, proving real help so the province can produce much more of its own food. -developing a tourism strategy to bring people to rural communities to drive sustainable jobs. -developing an Air Access Strategy to promote more flights, lower costs, and promote more growth, more jobs. -supporting ArtsNL sustain jobs for artists, promote tourism, educate and inspire. -implement a New Northern Strategic Plan for Labrador – seizing the potential for growth.</p>

Points to Ponder: Solidarity – See last page (Page 8)

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Issue	Catholic Teaching	Liberal Party	New Democratic Party	Progressive Conservative Party
GOOD GOVERNMENT: DEMOCRACY, JUSTICE & PEACE	<p>The Proper Role of Government The purpose of government is to support the authentic development of all souls that it governs: to facilitate their search for the truth, which is God. This includes providing an appropriate legal and economic framework, including respect for the dignity of the human rights of all.</p> <p>-in the absence of general consensus on values, the deepest meaning of democracy is lost and its stability is compromised.</p> <p>-elected representatives are obliged to give account of their work on behalf of the public.</p> <p>-if there is no ultimate truth to guide and direct political action, then the manipulation of ideas and convictions can easily turn democracy into totalitarianism.</p>	<p>Party Values & Purpose of Government The party's constitutional values are stated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -treating all <u>individuals with dignity</u>. -an <u>inclusive society</u> in which every individual is valued equally under the law and has an equal opportunity to reach their full potential. -a <u>balance</u> between respect for individual rights and caring for the needs of each individual and of society. -<u>openness and transparency</u> in government, and the opportunity for all to participate in the political process. 	<p>Party Values & Purpose of Government The party's constitution states that its objectives are to promote principles of social democracy, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -belief that the social, economic, and political progress of NL can be assured only by <u>application of egalitarian social principles</u> to public governance and administration. -<u>production of goods and services to meet the social and individual needs of people</u> within a framework of economic and environmental sustainability. -acceptance of the <u>dignity and freedom of the individual as a basic right</u> that must be maintained and extended to all persons regardless of race, ethnic background, ability, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. -accepting that <u>abolition of poverty and elimination of exploitation are achievable goals</u> and must be a priority of any thinking and compassionate government. -the <u>right of the people to a meaningful voice</u> in public policy through consultation and participation at all levels of public decision-making. -the right of voters to representative and participatory democracy through <u>proportional representation</u>. 	<p>Party Values & Purpose of Government The party's constitution states that the mission of the party is to promote democracy and <u>advance the core values and policies</u> of the party, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -justice, respect, and freedom. -openness, transparency and accountability. -fiscal responsibility. -sound economic management. -diversity. -progressive social policy. <p>The party's most recent platform publication (dated 2019) identifies three pillars supporting its policy proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -jobs and hope. -affordable living. -honest leadership.
Role & Purpose of Government	<p>Intergovernmental Relations Relations between various jurisdictions and levels of government should be governed by the principles of truth and subsidiarity: they should be transparent end structured to allow local governments to do their jobs responsibly, without undue interference.</p>	<p>Taxes, Services, Stewardship & Reform 2025 budget states that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -provincial deficit decreased during its term in office from \$1.5 billion in 2020-21 to estimated \$372 million 2025-26. -the <u>NL Future Fund has risen</u> to to \$467 million, forecast in 2029-30 to be \$1.3 billion, for debt repayment and future opportunities. -<u>projects surplus</u> of \$96 million in 2026-27, rising to \$571 million in 2029-30. -instructed the Minister of Justice and Public Safety in 2021 to develop legislation for <u>democratic reform</u>. 	<p>Taxes, Services, Stewardship & Reform -advocates <u>increasing royalty payments</u> for natural resource extractors by an additional 3% per annum, and increasing their corporate tax rates to 20% immediately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -adamantly <u>opposes dismantling of public services</u> and selling off of public assets. -supports <u>reform of legislation governing municipalities</u>, including working with municipal governments and community organizations to strengthen municipal autonomy to set electoral standards, including strengthening of finance laws, enfranchisement for permanent residents, and alternatives to the first-past-the-post voting system. 	<p>Taxes, Services, Stewardship & Reform -the party <u>advocates reform</u> in the areas of honesty in politics, oversight, government hiring, public consultation, political donations, procurement, conflict of interest, lobbying, electoral reform, access to information and fiscal management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -proposes <u>'recall' legislation</u> to enable constituents to remove a Member. -advocates <u>requiring Ministers to answer questions</u> posed to them, and <u>making Question Period more accountable</u> as an Answer Period, and <u>forbidding political parties from 'whipping'</u> the vote for Speaker. -advocates fixed-date election legislation to respect the principle of providing <u>adequate advance notice for elections</u> while ensuring prospective candidates have adequate time to prepare. The current provision permits the Premier to call an election at any time. -explore options to ensure <u>women and minorities are better represented</u> in the House of Assembly. -advocates a Public Consultation Act to define the <u>duty to consult</u> and describe the mechanisms, and providing forums for citizens and groups to be consulted on their concerns and perspectives. -consult with municipalities on ways to strengthen local decision-making and engagement.
Stewardship & Reform	<p>Global care for the environment It is important that the international community draw up uniform rules that will allow States to exercise more effective control over abuse of the environment and the protection of ecosystems. Such rules must promote growing sense of responsibility as well as an effective change of mentality and lifestyle.</p>	<p>Intergovernmental Relations To support municipalities, the 2025 Budget allocates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -\$187.5 million for <u>funding programs and grants</u>, including operations, special assistance, and local enhancements. -\$225,000 for <u>volunteer firefighter</u> training. -\$508,000 for <u>drinking water</u> improvement initiatives. -\$350,000 to support the 2025 general <u>Municipal Election</u>. -\$100,000 for <u>wastewater</u> monitoring. -\$75,000 to mark the <u>100th anniversary</u> of women achieving the right to vote and hold public office. -for <u>community organizations</u> that contribute to the social and economic well-being of communities, more than \$100 million in grants. 	<p>Taxes, Services, Stewardship & Reform -advocates <u>increasing royalty payments</u> for natural resource extractors by an additional 3% per annum, and increasing their corporate tax rates to 20% immediately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -adamantly <u>opposes dismantling of public services</u> and selling off of public assets. -supports <u>reform of legislation governing municipalities</u>, including working with municipal governments and community organizations to strengthen municipal autonomy to set electoral standards, including strengthening of finance laws, enfranchisement for permanent residents, and alternatives to the first-past-the-post voting system. 	<p>Taxes, Services, Stewardship & Reform -advocates fixed-date election legislation to respect the principle of providing <u>adequate advance notice for elections</u> while ensuring prospective candidates have adequate time to prepare. The current provision permits the Premier to call an election at any time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -explore options to ensure <u>women and minorities are better represented</u> in the House of Assembly. -advocates a Public Consultation Act to define the <u>duty to consult</u> and describe the mechanisms, and providing forums for citizens and groups to be consulted on their concerns and perspectives. -consult with municipalities on ways to strengthen local decision-making and engagement.
Provinces, Territories, Municipalities	<p>Displaced Persons & Humanitarian Aid It is essential to seek out the causes underlying wars so that the causes of forced migration can be addressed.</p>	<p>Courts & Public Safety The 2025 Budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -allocates \$55 million for facilities, including a <u>replacement penitentiary and new corrections facilities</u>. -allocates \$60 million for the Policing Transformation Working Group to <u>identify best community practices</u>. -adds five <u>new RCMP officers</u> in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and 10 new RNC officers for the Northeast Avalon. -allocates \$3.7 million for <u>fire protection vehicles</u> and equipment, and \$3.5 million in disaster emergency assistance, to help homeowners and tenants with uninsurable loss and damage caused by disasters. -allocates \$500,000 toward <u>safer Indigenous communities</u>; and \$5 million for the ongoing <u>inquiry concerning Innu in the Child Protection System</u>. -\$3.6 million is allocated for continued focus on the safety and security of <u>women, Indigenous Peoples, and gender-diverse individuals</u>; and \$3 million annually for building community support networks. 	<p>Courts & Public Safety -advocates <u>amending and/or repealing any and all provincial laws and regulations relevant to sex work</u>, including any municipal and federal legislation and regulations to reflect the goals stated above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -supports <u>banning use of urine or hair follicle tests</u> in provincial workplaces, as they discriminate against medicinal and recreational users of cannabis; and exploring use of saliva testing, sobriety field testing, or future technologies to better determine workplace intoxication. -advocates <u>allowance of bars/lounges for the safe consumption of cannabis</u> for adults of legal age. 	<p>Intergovernmental Relations -advocates exclusion of non-renewable resource revenues from the calculation of transfer payments in the federal Equalization formula as is already done for revenues from hydroelectricity. Current federal policy rewards provinces that earns revenue from sale of hydroelectricity, and punishes NL for revenues earned from offshore oil.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -advocates development of a <u>municipal fiscal framework</u> as a foundation for municipal growth.
Peace, International Relations	<p>Finance If the creation of the "global capital market" has brought benefits... on the other hand it has also increased the risk of financial crises. The more the worldwide economic-financial system reaches high levels of organizational and functional complexity, all the more priority must be given to the task of regulating these processes, directing them towards the goal of attaining the common good of the human family.</p>	<p>Courts & Public Safety The 2025 Budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -allocates \$55 million for facilities, including a <u>replacement penitentiary and new corrections facilities</u>. -allocates \$60 million for the Policing Transformation Working Group to <u>identify best community practices</u>. -adds five <u>new RCMP officers</u> in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and 10 new RNC officers for the Northeast Avalon. -allocates \$3.7 million for <u>fire protection vehicles</u> and equipment, and \$3.5 million in disaster emergency assistance, to help homeowners and tenants with uninsurable loss and damage caused by disasters. -allocates \$500,000 toward <u>safer Indigenous communities</u>; and \$5 million for the ongoing <u>inquiry concerning Innu in the Child Protection System</u>. -\$3.6 million is allocated for continued focus on the safety and security of <u>women, Indigenous Peoples, and gender-diverse individuals</u>; and \$3 million annually for building community support networks. 	<p>Courts & Public Safety -advocates <u>amending and/or repealing any and all provincial laws and regulations relevant to sex work</u>, including any municipal and federal legislation and regulations to reflect the goals stated above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -supports <u>banning use of urine or hair follicle tests</u> in provincial workplaces, as they discriminate against medicinal and recreational users of cannabis; and exploring use of saliva testing, sobriety field testing, or future technologies to better determine workplace intoxication. -advocates <u>allowance of bars/lounges for the safe consumption of cannabis</u> for adults of legal age. 	<p>Courts & Public Safety Advocates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a renewed strategy for <u>preventing violence</u> in communities and homes. -<u>more moose fencing</u> each year for provincial highways. -<u>tougher privacy protections</u> to safeguard the private information of individuals and penalize those who disclose such information maliciously or through gross negligence.
Defense				
Public Safety				

Points to Ponder: Good Government, Democracy, Justice and Peace – See last page (Page 8)

Family, Community & the Common Good

- In what circumstances, if any, is it appropriate for governments to place limits on the right of parents to make decisions pertaining to the care or education of their children?
- Some political parties have suggested that in order to maximize gross economic return, full participation by all eligible workforce members, including all parents – whether members of single- or two-parent families – is critical, so that economic return can be maximized. In order to achieve that, they say, it is necessary to ensure that free child care and early education be made available to all families.
 - Which is more important for children: a stable and dignified home with loving parents, one of whom might be available to stay home part or full time, or maximized economic returns?
 - To the extent that being home with a parent is best for a child, how can that be encouraged by society?
- In a publicly-funded healthcare system, does there exist any obligation for an individual to take reasonable measures to avoid health issues (e.g., maintain healthy nutrition, wear a mask during a pandemic, or a helmet while riding a bicycle), so as to avoid becoming a burden to the healthcare system when preventable illness or injury occurs? If so, what can or should be done about it?
- Pope Francis has spoken of “ideological” or “cultural” colonization, in which the popular and dominant values of the powerful are imposed on local populations. When decisions are made by governments regarding the purpose of investments injected into arts and culture, who is being consulted? Who is being heard?

Solidarity

It is always important, as Archbishop Donald Bolen of Regina has said, “to listen to the voices of the suffering, to be guided by them in how we respond and to be ready to engage with them in moving forward.” (Catholic Register 18 July 2021)

- Who, in Newfoundland and Labrador, and around the world, is suffering now? What should be done about it?

Indigenous Rights & Reconciliation

How can the provincial government and the Church work together to facilitate real reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, so that all Canadians can benefit from re-established right-relationships?

Refugees & Newcomers

What is being done to ensure that refugees and newcomers are safe, healthy, and enabled to flourish in Newfoundland and Labrador?

Northern & Rural Communities

What is being done to ensure healthy rural or remote life in Newfoundland and Labrador? Who should do it?

Rights & Responsibilities

It is clear that the nation and the provinces owe citizens great respect for each of a broad range of human rights. But with rights come responsibilities. What responsibilities do individuals have toward their communities, the nation, and the world?

- To what extent are citizens called to:
 - participate in society, for example through informed voting, continued engagement with candidates and elected representatives, and keeping up responsibly with the news?
 - lend a hand to their neighbours, for example by volunteering at home or within the community?
- Under what conditions, if any, is it morally right to require health care providers to participate in morally questionable practices such as abortion or assisted death, when it is contrary to their understanding of morality or their religious beliefs?

In addition to human and civil rights, many parties speak of things citizens and others “deserve.”

- How do the parties determine what citizens do or do not deserve? What criteria do they apply?

An Economy for All

Poverty Reduction

- Why would Christ say to us “the poor you will always have with you?” (Matthew 26:11) Is it possible that the poor will always be with us so that we, the living body of Christ on earth, will always have an opportunity to glorify God by examining the meaning and the causes of poverty, and working to eliminate them - even if we may not succeed?
- How can Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador best strike a balance between the principles of solidarity – ‘we’re all in this together’ – and subsidiarity – ‘everyone should do what he or she can to support themselves, before burdening others’?
- What, if anything, should be done to ensure that a dignified living wage, capable of providing a dignified home and the ability to support a family, is available to all those willing to work? Should a basic income policy be considered?

GDP & Well-Being

For decades, governments have focused exclusively on gross domestic product – a measure of an economy’s sheer productivity – as the best measure of national social health. More recently, voices have begun to advocate for a broader index of national well-being, to include factors such as the physical and emotional health of the people and the environment, equity in housing, income, and opportunity, and food security, in addition to raw production. To that end, the Government of Canada recently published a “Framework for Quality of Life” (<https://www160.statcan.gc.ca/infoshet-infofiche-eng.htm>), and instructed ministries to apply it in developing federal policies.

- To what extent is the Quality of Life framework consistent with the principles and values of Catholic social teaching?
- To what extent does, or should, a Quality of Life framework apply to provincial governance as well we federal?
- Is it reasonable to demand continuous economic growth, as business schools have taught for decades?

Good Government

The Role and Purpose of Government

Catholics have definite ideas about the purpose of life and, arising from that purpose, the proper roles of civil society, government, and other social institutions. Are those ideas shared by most Canadians? If not, how can or should we share our ideas with other Canadians?

Truth, Respect & Good Governance

It is an unfortunate and nearly universal practice for our political parties, in framing their platforms and policy statements, to focus at least as much on what’s wrong with the other parties as they do on what’s right about themselves. How can we, as citizens and voters, help encourage parties to look for common ground, speak positively and constructively about one another, and voice their suggestions for improvement in respectful and collaborative terms?

Fiscal Responsibility

Prior to the year 2000, most governments in Canada carried debt of less than 10% of gross domestic product (GDP). From 2000-2015, the ratio grew to approximately 30%. Since 2019, it has grown to 40-50% with a prediction that it will begin to diminish in 3-6 years. However, the predicted date of diminishment never seems to arrive – each year, it is pushed out another year further.

- Is it fair or even sustainable for governments to carry so much debt?
- Who gains from long-term government debt, and who loses?
- In the event of default, who gains? Who loses?



Our complete guide to the 2025 Newfoundland
and Labrador provincial election can be viewed at:

[https://catholicconscience.org/canada/
newfoundlandandlabrador/election2025/](https://catholicconscience.org/canada/newfoundlandandlabrador/election2025/)

