

**Poverty Reduction Strategy Initiatives (Budget 2015-16)**

<b>PROGRAM/initiative</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Year First Approved</b>	<b>Approved Budget 2015/16</b>
<b>Goal 1: Improved access to and coordination of services for people with low income</b>			
Creating a provincial system navigator position to assist patients and families access mental health and addictions treatment	HCS	2015	\$88,600
Three youth outreach workers in the Labrador communities of Nain, Hopedale and Sheshatshiu to provide youth outreach programs and services to vulnerable and high-risk youth.	HCS	2015	\$202,000
Six new front line positions in Labrador will enhance the child protection model for the Labrador region	CYFS	2015	\$585,400
Community Healthy Living Fund is for initiatives, programs and projects focused on healthy living, recreation and wellness at the community level.	SWSD	2015	\$2,208,000
Assist low-income private home owners in Nunatsiavut	NLHC	2014	previously funded
Funding for NLHC Neighbourhood Centres that are tailored to the needs of smaller neighborhoods	NLHC	2011	\$100,000
Funding to construct new public housing in Hopedale for individuals living with low incomes who require smaller housing units	NLHC	2011	previously funded
Funding for the Newfoundland Aboriginal Women's Network to address issues in their communities such as poverty and violence, in ways that are culturally-sensitive	WPO	2010	\$100,000
Capacity Building for Inuit Women workshops to empower Aboriginal women to access programs and services	WPO	2010	previously funded
Establish a Supportive Living Program to support community-based initiatives that enable individuals with complex needs to overcome homelessness	NLHC	2009	\$5,300,000
Implement a Provincial Homelessness Fund	NLHC	2009	\$1,000,000
Increased funding for the Kidsport initiative which allows youth in families with low incomes to participate in sports	SWSD	2009	35000
Support community-based groups that provide support to clients with complex needs	NLHC	2008	\$250,000
Expand eligibility for the Cost of Living Allowance to all Income Support clients who maintain a residence in coastal Labrador	AES	2008	\$200,000
Develop a better integrated service by government to meet the needs of individuals and groups who require social housing and supportive services	AES	2008	\$85,000
Expand the mandate of the Community Capacity Building Program to groups and organizations less directly linked to economic and business development, but involved in strengthening community capacity	BTCRD	2008	previously funded (now within regular dept. allocation)
Increase funding for the eight existing Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation Community Centres	NLHC	2007	\$792,000
Fund salaries and operations to lead the Poverty Reduction Strategy and support the Newfoundland and Labrador Market Basket Measure	SWSD	2007	434100
Develop a Guide to Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Programs and Services for Individuals and Families	SWSD	2007	previously funded

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Ensure that a gender lens is applied to the Guide to Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Programs and Services for Individuals and Families	WPO	2007	previously funded
Increased funding for the province's eight Women's Centres	WPO	2006	\$552,000
Increase funding for the Canadian Tire Foundation for Families Jumpstart Program	SWSD	2006	\$350,000
Develop and refine ways to show the combined impacts of federal and provincial programs on people with low income	Finance	2006	policy change
Increase access to career, employment and youth services programming	AES	2006	previously funded
Increase funding for the Air Food-lift Subsidy program	LAAO	2006	previously funded
<b>Goal 2: A stronger social safety net</b>			
Funding for a specialized Domestic Violence Court, including \$100K for development of a model for Labrador	JPS	2015	\$1,660,000
Agreement with Health Canada to fund a Provincial Methadone Treatment Policy and increase access to substance-abuse services	HCS	2015	\$482,000
Funding for Choices for Youth to provide Youth Outreach services	HCS	2015	\$220,000
Increase basic individual and family Income Support benefit rates by an additional five per cent	AES	2014	\$4,847,300
Funding for a three year extension to the Residential Energy Efficiency Program	NLHC	2014	\$3,000,000
Funding for a three year extension to the Home Modification Program	NLHC	2014	\$2,000,000
Increase to the Low Income Seniors' Benefit	Finance	2014	\$3,600,000
Funding for the Provincial Smoking Cessation program for people with low income	HCS	2014	\$712,000
Enhance the Medical Transportation Assistance Program to further benefit people with low income	HCS	2014	\$430,000
Elimination of the requirement for Income Support clients to apply for Canada Pension Plan benefits at age 60	AES	2012	\$500,000
Develop an Adult Dental Health Care Program that increases access to dental services for people who are vulnerable to poverty	HCS	2011	\$5,700,000
Further increase to the Income Support additional assistance for shelter rate	AES	2011	\$4,000,000
Lower the rental rate for Community Based Housing by adjusting the rent-geared-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of household income and expand the Educational Incentive Allowance	NLHC	2011	\$110,000
Increase the liquid asset level for Income Support clients	AES	2011	\$50,000
Further improvements to the Access Prescription Plan (low-income prescription drug program)	HCS	2010	\$3,642,900
Implement a new financial assessment process for home support	HCS	2009	\$15,300,000
Funding for O'Shaughnessy House in Carbonear which not only provides safe and secure shelter for those leaving abusive environments, but also offers individual support and encouragement for women and their children	HCS	2009	\$816,200
Lower the rental rate for all Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation tenants by adjusting the rent-geared-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of household income	NLHC	2009	\$350,000

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Provide renovations and energy retrofits for social housing as part of a modernization and improvement program	NLHC	2009	previously funded
Implement an Affordable Housing Program to provide funding to both private and non-profit housing groups to assist them in constructing suitable housing for people with low-income	NLHC	2009	previously funded
Implement an Affordable Housing Program to construct social housing for persons with disabilities	NLHC	2009	previously funded
Implement an Affordable Housing Program to construct social housing for low-income seniors	NLHC	2009	previously funded
Establish new, smaller social housing units to meet the demands of 80 per cent of applicants who require one or two bedroom accommodations	NLHC	2009	previously funded
Expand Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation's Rent Supplement Program to subsidize additional units for eligible low-income households	NLHC	2008	\$5,000,000
Establish a youth addiction, prevention and early intervention program	HCS	2008	\$1,270,000
Enhance health benefits for Income Support clients	AES	2008	\$1,169,000
Remove an inequity in the Income Support program that provided lower rental rates to persons renting from relatives when compared to those who rent from non-relatives	AES	2008	\$444,000
Fund the Supporting Youth with Transitions program that provides youth with hands-on interventions and supports to build necessary life skills in a variety of areas, including relationships and communication, housing and financial management, career and education planning.	CYFS	2008	\$401,600
Lower the rental rate for all social housing tenants that are seniors aged 55 and older by adjusting the rent-gear-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of income and for all social housing tenants with employment earnings by adjusting the scale to use net income instead of gross	NLHC	2008	\$350,000
Establish a Child, Youth and Family Services team in Corner Brook to improve the quality and effectiveness of Legal Aid services for children and parents in child protection cases	JPS	2008	\$240,000
Expand the coverage of the Mental Health Office to include Civil Legal Aid services to individuals with complex mental health issues	JPS	2008	\$125,000
Funding for a pilot project in St. John's for a Specialized Family Violence Intervention Court	JPS	2008	previously funded
Conduct research into transportation needs of individuals and families with low income	AES	2008	previously funded
Review of Income Support rates and rate structure	AES	2008	previously funded
Index Income Support rates for a six year period	AES	2007	\$18,430,000
Increase the board and lodging supplement for adults with disabilities who reside with family members	HCS	2007	\$6,500,000
Funding for the Kids Eat Smart Foundation and expand the initiative to include more schools	SWSD	2007	\$1,093,700

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Lower the rental rate for seniors living in Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation units aged 55 and older by adjusting the rent-geared-to-income scale from a sliding scale to a flat 25 per cent of income	NLHC	2007	\$350,000
Expand the NL Dental Plan to include dental services for youth between the ages of 13 and 17 in low-income families and provide dental sealants for children	HCS	2007	\$100,000
Funding for the Adult Alternative Justice Program	JPS	2007	previously funded
Expand eligibility for Newfoundland & Labrador Prescription Drug Program to include low-income families and individuals	HCS	2006	\$22,270,100
Increase basic individual and family Income Support benefit rates by five per cent	AES	2006	\$7,312,000
Increase the additional assistance for shelter rate from \$61 to \$100	AES	2006	\$2,741,000
Expand Family Justice Services to provide more family law resources throughout the province	JPS	2006	\$921,400
Lower the rental rate for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation tenants with employment earnings by adjusting the rent-geared-to-income scale to use net income instead of gross	NLHC	2006	\$750,000
Funding for low-income earners to access family and Civil Legal Aid services	JPS	2006	\$500,000
Increase access to the Special Child Welfare Allowance Program	HCS	2006	\$100,000
Amend the Human Rights Code to provide protection against discrimination based on source of income	JPS	2006	legislative/regulation change
Enhance enforcement and compliance of court order supports	AES	2006	policy change
Promote support trusts for adults with disabilities who require supportive services	AES	2006	previously funded
Funding for Sex Offender and Spousal Abuse Treatment Programs	JPS	2006	previously funded
<b>Goal 3: Improved earned incomes</b>			
Increase the extended drug card from 6 months to 1 year for people leaving Income Support	HCS	2014	\$700,000
Create 24 summer employment positions in Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation Community Centres to hire at-risk youth and encourage them to stay in school	NLHC	2014	\$100,000
Expand the Earned Income Supplement project for working single parents receiving Income Support	AES	2012	\$260,000
Change the classification of income tax refunds from "partially exempt" to "exempt" for Income Support clients	AES	2011	\$350,000
Increase Low Income Tax Reduction thresholds to reduce or eliminate the payment of provincial income tax for individuals and families with low income	Finance	2009	\$12,200,000
Funding to host the Council of the Federation Symposium on Labour Force Participation	AES	2009	previously funded
Expand workplace incentives and open up opportunities for Income Support clients to go to work by building on program initiatives (increasing earnings exemptions and overlapping Income Support benefits)	AES	2008	\$1,630,000
Expand the Employment Transitions program for single parents	AES	2008	\$525,500
Improve the earnings exemption program for Income Support clients with disabilities	AES	2008	\$200,000

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Fund a Community Collaboration facilitator to increase access to career, employment and related services for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation clients	AES	2008	\$100,000
Expand the Bridging the Gap: From Education to Employment program	BTCRD	2008	previously funded
Establish a two-year pilot micro-lending program	BTCRD	2008	previously funded
Increase the labour market participation and reduce barriers to employment for persons with disabilities, including: a wage subsidy program, employment-related disability supports, internships to promote technology and school-to-work transition supports	AES	2007	\$1,235,000
Increase the private child care allowance by \$75 per month for working Income Support clients	AES	2007	\$300,000
Offer women who are victims of family violence enhanced employment readiness services	AES	2007	\$294,000
Expand the Provincial Government's Opening Doors program to crown corporations	HRS	2007	\$180,000
Distribute employment readiness materials (brochure and workplace toolkit) to support women who are victims of family violence to the Transition House Association of Newfoundland and Labrador and other key stakeholders	WPO	2007	\$80,000
Provide a Job Start Benefit to support clients who leave Income Support for work	AES	2006	\$570,000
Funding for offender employment skills training at correctional facilities across the province	JPS	2006	\$47,000
Simplify the process for Income Support clients to report employment earnings	AES	2006	policy change
Provide funding for the high school Futures in Skilled Trades and Technology Program	EECD	2006	\$269,900
<b>Goal 4: Increased emphasis on early childhood development</b>			
Increase in the Operating Grant Program - Family and Child Care Centres to reduce or eliminate surcharges to parents	EECD	2015	\$10,684,300
Provide funding for Early Childhood Learning initiatives under Learning from the Start for children birth to age three years and their families	EECD	2014	\$1,460,000
Province-wide implementation of the Early Development Instrument - a new measurement tool to assess readiness to start school	EECD	2014	\$140,000
Increase the Early Learning Child Care Supplement paid directly to qualified Early Childhood Educators	EECD	2013	\$3,443,900
Increase the funding for the Child Care Services Subsidy to help families with low incomes with the costs of regulated child care	EECD	2013	\$5,084,600
Introduce funding for the Workplace Training Model Program which enables those working in child care who require upgrading to pursue their studies and retain their employment	EECD	2013	\$500,000
Funding for the Inclusion Program which provides support to assist in the accommodation of all children in regulated child care	EECD	2013	572,700
Funding for the Family Child Care Initiative which includes grants paid to qualified family child care providers to increase regulated spaces	EECD	2013	\$305,100
Harmonize the thresholds of the NL Child Benefit and the National Child Benefit Supplement	AES	2011	\$180,000

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Harmonize the thresholds of the NL Child Benefit and the National Child Benefit Supplement	AES	2011	(\$171,000)
Increase Funding to strengthen existing Family Resource Centres through the province	EECD	2009	\$2,496,000
Funding for early intervention services for pre-school children at risk of, or who have, a developmental disability	HCS	2009	\$1,514,000
Funding to Healthy Baby Clubs to address wait lists and further supplement the provision of healthy and fresh foods	EECD/HCS	2008	\$400,000
Develop an enhanced home visiting model for vulnerable children, youth and families to support parenting in the Protective Intervention Program	HCS/CYFS	2007	\$1,656,000
Increase the NL Child Benefit by \$5 per month	Finance	2007	\$925,000
Increase the Mother Baby Nutrition Supplement rate by \$15 per month to help with the cost of nutritious food during and after pregnancy	AES/Finance	2007	\$220,000
<b>Goal 5: A better educated population</b>			
This investment seeks to leverage additional funding from the private sector and the federal government to develop and implement a physical activity program for school-aged children	SWSD	2015	\$500,000
Increased funding for the Murphy Centre to enable 25 more individuals to access its academic programs	EECD	2011	\$115,400
Increase the high school incentive allowance for families receiving Income Support whose child turns 18 while attending high school	AES	2008	\$60,000
Developed a new pilot program to help disengaged youth reconnect and return to school	EECD	2008	previously funded
Increase funding and expansion of the Community Youth Networks	OPE	2007	\$1,560,000
Extend the provision of free textbooks in core courses for students in the K - 12 public system	EECD	2007	\$1,200,000
Increase the instructional grant to school boards and cover prescribed workbooks and other consumable materials that were charged to parents	EECD	2006	\$6,300,000
Funding for Adult Basic Education Level I	AES	2006	\$1,200,000
Provide funding for the Comprehensive Arts & Science Transition Program at College of the North Atlantic	AES	2006	\$650,000
Implement an Education Incentive Allowance for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation tenants to remain in school	NLHC	2006	\$625,000
Implement the School Food Guidelines in support of the Provincial Wellness Plan	EECD/SWSD	2006	previously funded
			<b>\$190,432,700</b>