

Minimum Wage: We need your help!

DIN0678-0708

The minimum wage in all four Atlantic Provinces has increased significantly over a short period of time. Now, labour unions are pushing for a **\$10.00 minimum wage**.

CFIB believes government is better able to put more money in people's pockets than your business. Reducing the amount of tax people pay is at the top of the list.

While all employers want to pay their employees fairly, CFIB believes government must know how increasing the minimum wage impacts your business before it supports further increases. CFIB will use the information you provide in future meetings with government to bring a common sense approach to minimum wage.

1. An increase in the minimum wage has the following effects on my business:
(Select as many as apply)

- All wages in my business increase
- Payroll taxes (WCB, EI, CPP) increase
- Staff hours are reduced
- Cutback on number of employees
- Prices increase
- Investments in my business (employee training, buying new equipment, etc.) are put on hold
- A minimum wage increase has no impact on my business
- Other (please outline) _____

CFIB has also raised the potential of a gratuity wage—lower than the minimum wage—to introduce fairness among employees. A gratuity wage, as exists in two other provinces, would apply only to employees serving liquor, to reflect tips they receive in addition to their wage.

2. Do you support the introduction of a gratuity wage for employees serving liquor?

Yes No Don't Know

In Nova Scotia, there is an "inexperienced rate", which is \$0.45 less than the minimum wage. This wage only applies to an employee in their first three months of work experience. Once they have worked anywhere for three months, they are eligible for the minimum wage.

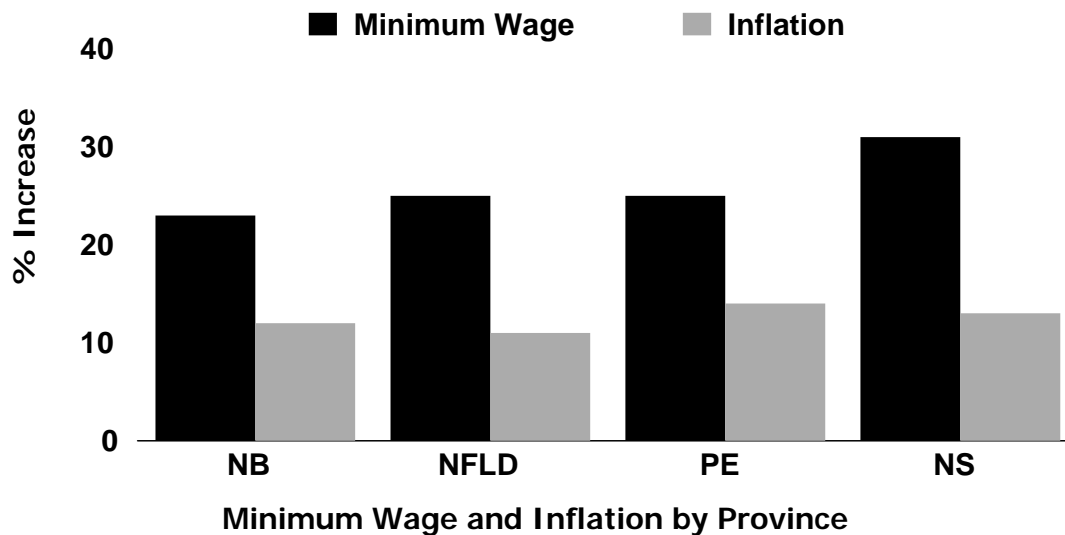
3. Do you support the introduction of an "inexperienced rate" in your province (excluding Nova Scotia)?

Yes No Don't Know

Member ID:

Signature:

Five-Year Change in Minimum Wage and Inflation in Atlantic Canada (2002 - 2007)



Over the past five years, the minimum wage has increased by:

- 23 per cent In New Brunswick
- 25 per cent In Newfoundland and Labrador (additional \$0.50 increase set for April 1, 2008)
- 25 per cent In Prince Edward Island
- 31 per cent In Nova Scotia

Inflation only accounts for about half of the increase in each province.

Small businesses cannot afford another big hike. A \$10 minimum wage would put many small businesses—and their employees—at risk.

**Help CFIB bring a common sense approach
to the minimum wage.**