



Canadian Federation of Business Leader Survey - 2018 Election

1) If elected, what is your government's plan to balance the budget and pay down the debt? When will you balance the budget?

A Green government would institute a public inquiry into the sustainability of the province's financial and ecological deficits. It would recommend a strategy to reduce our long term financial and ecological debt. We will produce government budgets that are financially responsible, expecting budget deficits during difficult periods and surpluses at other times.

2) If elected, what measures will your government take to reduce the total tax burden on small businesses?

We would provide assistance to small, locally owned businesses through our small business loan guarantee program, based on the successful program in Nova Scotia.

3) If elected, what is your government's plan to restore balance to the benefit costs of the workers compensation system?

Rising worker's compensation employer premiums are caused by multiple factors, and not just the decisions of the Worker's Compensation Appeals Tribunal. However, as was recommended by the WorkSafeNB task force, the Appeals Tribunal should be able to make suggestions on policy changes to WorkSafeNB, while the ultimate decision to change policy should be with the Minister responsible for WorksafeNB.

4) If elected, will you government apply the federal tax changes on passive investment income to the provincial small business corporate tax rate?

This is not a priority for the Green Party.

5) If elected, will your government add new costs to the payroll of small businesses?

The Green Party would raise the minimum wage by \$1 an hour each of the next four years and then legislate that future increases be indexed to inflation.

6) If elected, will your government bring changes to employment standards?

The Green Party would consult with stakeholders to determine if any changes are necessary to the Employment Standards Act, other than the minimum wage increase.

7) If elected, what is your government's plan to ensure New Brunswick small business owners are competitive?

We will ensure local, small businesses are competitive by developing an import substitution strategy to increase the local production of goods and services. We would also create a loan guarantee program for local, small businesses, similar to the successful model in Nova Scotia, using money that is currently directed at large corporations.



8) If elected, what is your government's plan to address the labour shortage?

Increasing the minimum wage would help address the labour shortage by encouraging New Brunswickers who might leave for higher minimum wage jobs in Alberta, British Columbia or Ontario to stay here. We would reinstate the Tuition Rebate Program to encourage our university graduates to stay in New Brunswick. We would also support the training and re-training of workers in fossil fuel industries and young people to meet the labour needs of the Green economy.

9) If elected, how will your government address the regulatory burden on small businesses?

We would have to investigate this.

10) If elected, how will your government cooperate with the other Atlantic Provinces to lower cost of government and improve the efficiency of government services?

The Green Party will seek to cooperate with the other Atlantic provinces on areas of common interest.

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