

# VISION ACTION BAILLIE

May 13, 2017

Mr. Ryan Richard  
Canadian Federation of Independent Business  
Via email: ryan.richard@cfib.ca

I am pleased to respond to your questionnaire as follows:

## **1. Small Business Strategy**

### **What is your strategy for making Nova Scotia a better place for small business?**

We believe job creators should be able to earn a tax break. That's why we will make real tax relief available to all businesses that create new jobs in our province.

The Earned Tax Relief program will provide an incentive for successful companies to invest more and create jobs in Nova Scotia. By creating new jobs, Nova Scotia businesses can earn their way to a lower corporate tax rate of ten percent. This lower rate would make Nova Scotia the most competitive place in Canada to create jobs.

We will limit the dollar amount of income tax each company pays to the province to the dollar amount paid last year. This will guarantee the province's tax revenue from business doesn't decline.

To pay for our tax cuts, we will end corporate welfare – including the payroll rebate program – and we will refocus Nova Scotia Business Inc. on the needs of small businesses.

## **2. Nova Scotia's Tax Environment**

### **How will you create a tax environment that encourages small business prosperity?**

Too many Nova Scotia families struggle with the highest taxes in the country. Jamie Baillie's goal is to bring our taxes down to the national average, starting with those who need it the most.

A PC government will also increase the amount of money people can earn before they start paying provincial income tax. We will use a step-wise approach to link the province's basic exemption with the federal amount.

### **3. Red Tape**

#### **How would you reduce the impact of red tape on small businesses?**

A Jamie Baillie government will reduce the paperwork burden on small and medium-sized businesses to make it easier for business owners to hire workers. We will set clear targets for red tape reduction with the goal of cutting two existing regulations for every new one introduced.

### **4. Government Spending**

#### **What steps would you take to ensure government spending is sustainable over the long-term?**

Jamie Baillie is presenting an optimistic, pro-growth agenda that focuses on rebuilding our province, creating jobs and getting Nova Scotians back to work.

Over the next four years, a Progressive Conservative government will invest more in critical Nova Scotia Infrastructure priorities. We'll create thousands of jobs in the process and maintain a balanced budget.

The PC jobs plan will grow the economy and create jobs by investing in roads, bridges and other public infrastructure by \$1 billion. We will do this while anchoring the province's debt to GDP ratio at the current level.

### **5. Labour and Skills Shortage**

#### **What do you propose to do to create a strong, skilled workforce in Nova Scotia?**

One solution to address long-term skill shortages is to put vocational training back in our schools. Under our plan, students can choose to begin trades training earlier and graduate with a trades certificate. Holding a high school trades diploma will shorten the time and training required to complete certification at Nova Scotia Community College.

Our Rebuild Nova Scotia Fund will create thousands of jobs rebuilding Nova Scotia's crumbling infrastructure.

Also, Nova Scotia needs more people to boost our population and increase the province's economic potential. We will work with local businesses to expand the Provincial Nominee Program and partner with Ottawa to increase the number of skilled immigrants coming to our province.

### **6. Workers' Compensation System**

#### **What will you do to improve the Workers' Compensation System for small business owners in Nova Scotia?**

As part of the commitment to work with small businesses, a Progressive Conservative government will collaborate together with stakeholder groups like CFIB on issues such as worker compensation premiums and benefits.

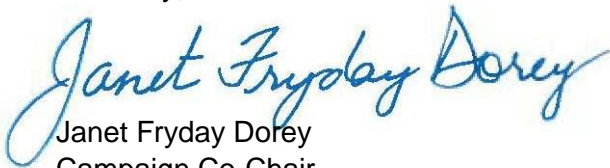
## 7. Innovation

### How will you support small business innovation?

Small business innovation occurs every day in our province. We are proud of the women and men who lead this sector and bring new ideas, products and services to market.

One idea to support new and high-paying jobs would be to require universities to focus on innovation and job creation opportunities. A PC government will encourage more applied research on Nova Scotia's economic and social problems, programs to address job market needs and the commercialization of research and intellectual property development.

Sincerely,



Janet Fryday Dorey  
Campaign Co-Chair  
PC Party of Nova Scotia