

# NSNDP 2021 Fiscal Framework



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## IMMEDIATE INVESTMENTS

The NDP has a vision for moving beyond this recent time of challenge in the direction of something better. While the Liberals and Conservatives are focused on corporate tax cuts for their friends, an NDP government will make the needed investments in real people's lives.

This table shows the initial investments that an NDP government will make, immediately in the first year, in housing, health care, mental health, child care, and the environment. Costs will change over time, some programs will be ramped up and some require a higher initial investment.

	COST (thousands)
New Physician Assistants	700
Physician recruitment	3,000
Community Health Centres	4,000
Midwifery	2,000
Mental health emergency response teams	3,750
Eliminating ambulance fees	10,000
Long-term care standards of care	40,000
Seniors' Advocate Office	1,300
HIV PrEP coverage	300
Birth control coverage	5,000
Shingles vaccine coverage	5,000
Diabetes support	1,000
Child care	15,660
School food program	11,500
Free well water testing	4,500
No HST on funerals	4,000
Home retrofits of subsidized units	14,000
Municipal climate adaptation	4,500
Ecological silviculture	10,000
Food Secretariat	1,300
Income Assistance	27,520
Child and Youth Advocate	1,000
Local action against racism	2,500
Arts and culture	22,995
Internet options for families	1,500
CBRM stimulus	50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>247,025</b>

## NEW REVENUES

The Liberals and Conservatives are budgeting big corporate giveaways for their wealthy friends. The NDP knows that we need to invest in real people's lives, and that means that those at the top will have to pay their fair share. These are the sources of revenue that an NDP government will access.

	REVENUE (thousands)
Reverse the corporate tax cut	70,000
Luxury surtax on private planes and yachts	3,260
3% surtax on income earners over \$250,000	21,000
Reallocate the Petroleum Resources unit	2,016
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96,276</b>

## CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

In addition to the immediate investments that an NDP government will make, we will make permanent, one time investments in the infrastructure that Nova Scotia needs. Our plan to build housing, long-term care beds, and invest in the sustainable infrastructure required for a green economy will create thousands of good jobs while we build the future that we want. **Much of these costs will be shared with other levels of government.**

Adding **1,000 more community housing units in the next four years** will require purchase and construction investments of up to **\$158.4 million**, repaid largely through the rental income of the new units. The province's contribution will be the subsidy for rent-geared-to-income units.

The **\$386 million capital** investment required for the NDP's commitment to **new and replacement long-term care beds** will be made by the public and non-profit groups that manage nursing homes, backed up by the province's agreement to pay its share of the costs for each resident of the new and renewed nursing homes.

The NDP will spend up to **\$5 million over the next five years for any renovation or new construction required to open new Collaborative Emergency Centres.**

An NDP government will spend up to **\$21.5 million over the next four years** for space for same-day/next-day mental health clinics in communities across the province.

The renovation or construction necessary for **four new child care centres** with a \$10 maximum daily fee and **free, expanded before and after school care** is budgeted at **\$9.8 million in the next 18 months.**

The NDP would invest a capital contribution of **\$3.2 million for the design study of a new Cape Breton Central Library.**

**Home retrofits and deep retrofitting of public housing will start with an investment of \$63 million** repaid from the reduction in energy costs through financing arrangements like Property Assessed Clean Energy programs that ensure repayment is not from general revenues.

**An NDP government will build the complete Blue Route by 2030, beginning with an expected capital cost of \$51.3 million over the next four years** less contributions from other partners in active transportation to meet climate goals while adding green jobs.

## NO NEW COST

There are a number of commitments in our platform that would greatly improve the lives of people in Nova Scotia that can be accomplished within the existing budget envelope. Here they are.

Permanent rent control

\$15 minimum wage

10 paid sick days

Regularly publishing emergency room standards

Taking the profit out of long-term care

Conducting a review of nursing hours available to home care clients

Establishing and reporting on home care wait time standards

Ending the practice of birth alerts

Removing gendered language and focus on marital status from the birth registration process

Pressing the federal government to implement national pharmacare

Standing up for Nova Scotia's share of health transfer funds

Strengthening tenants' rights

Exercising the right of first refusal to acquire housing stock

Allowing municipalities to enact inclusionary zoning

Strengthening short-term rental regulations

Protecting the right to join a union

Conducting a comprehensive review of labour standards legislation

Expanding workplace violence definitions to include psychological harm

Implementing a new step building code to bring new buildings to net-zero

Writing 'climate change' into NS Power and Efficiency NS mandates

Expanding PACE programs for municipalities so homeowners can build renewable energy

Enabling community-owned renewables

Studying the return of Nova Scotia Power to public ownership

Enacting a moratorium on clearcutting

Supporting the owner-operator model in the inshore fishery

Advocating for a federal aquaculture act

Ensuring communities have a say over open-net pen fish farms

Consulting with recreational fishers and anglers

Supporting local food procurement

Putting local food goals back in the Sustainable Development Goals Act

Re-establishing a ban on evictions during the pandemic

Working together with parents and teachers to improve our school system

Implementing hard caps on university executives' compensation

Returning the mandate of rural and regional economic development to the Dept of Inclusive Economic Growth

Implementing a tax incentive for seasonal businesses who want to extend to year-round

Stopping the sale of Owls Head Provincial Park

Protecting remaining areas in the Parks and Protected Areas Plan

Working to expand the use of cooperatives

Improving government procurement processes

Recognizing cell and internet access as an essential service

Implementing a legislative calendar

Creating fixed election dates

Creating a democratic renewal commission to address low voter turnout

Creating an Environmental Bill of Rights

Consulting with communities about school boards

Establishing a school capital process that includes community consultation

Working with municipalities on their priorities

Respecting collective bargaining rights and bargaining in good faith

Strengthening FOI/POP legislation and making the privacy officer an officer of the legislature

Phasing out the use of P3s

## ECONOMIC MULTIPLIERS

The investments that an NDP government will make in Nova Scotians have real returns that cannot be measured in budgetary cycles. These investments have an economic payback over time and people then benefit from the tax revenue earned from sustainable growth. Here is a notable example from Quebec:

	GDP growth	Tax revenue
Universal \$10/day child care in Quebec <sup>1</sup>	\$5.1 billion	\$2.4 billion

And here are examples of the economic growth and higher tax revenue that can be expected from the investments made to people's lives by an NDP government:

	GDP growth	Tax revenue
Reduce and then eliminate poverty <sup>2</sup>	\$2 billion	\$230 million
Deep retrofits of public housing <sup>3</sup>	\$543 million	\$112 million
Treatment for depression and anxiety per every \$10 million invested <sup>4</sup>	\$40 million	\$5 million
Investment in NSCC <sup>5</sup>	\$1.8 billion	\$570 million

<sup>1</sup> University of Sherbrooke

<sup>2</sup> Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

<sup>3</sup> Ecology Action Centre and Gardner Pinfold

<sup>4</sup> World Health Organization

<sup>5</sup> Nova Scotia Community College

*“It’s deep inside all of us: the hunger for a home.*

For an affordable apartment, a down-payment to get started, a place to call your own.  
And a community wrapped around you – with health care, child care, and schools.  
It’s not too much to hope for. It’s what everyone deserves.

And we can get there – but we’ve got to have a government that puts people’s real  
lives front and centre.

*It’s time for something better, because Nova Scotia is our home.”*

————— Gary Burrill, NDP Leader

## Nova Scotia NDP

902.423.9217 | 1.800.753.7696

5151 George Street, Unit #603

Halifax, B3J 1M5

✉ [feedback@nsndp.ca](mailto:feedback@nsndp.ca)

📘 NSNSP | 🐦 @NSNDP

[www.nsndp.ca](http://www.nsndp.ca)

