



Bring Back Jobs!

Wellness in Health Care Backgrounder

The PC vision for Newfoundland and Labrador's future is a province where people can live healthy and active lives, supported by a health care system which promotes wellness and priorities keeping them healthy.

We need to be doing more to keep people from getting sick in the first place. Instead of a 'sick' care system, we need a 'health' care system that focuses on prevention and early intervention. Preventing illness, hospitalizations, and treating problems before they become major illnesses is how our government will improve outcomes while reducing costs.

The care of individuals, including preventive health care, will be our priority and savings will occur as a result.

- A PC Government will adopt the approach of Choosing Wisely NL to educate health care providers and patients about the appropriateness of various tests, procedures and treatments to minimize waste and harm in the health care system.
- A PC Government will follow through on its 2019 commitment to a Premier's Task Force on Health Care, borrowed by the Liberals. We agree with Dr. Pat Parfrey and Sr. Elizabeth Davis when they publicly challenged the Liberal government statements about hospital closures being on the table. We will not accept a single recommendation of the Liberal government without having an outcomes analysis, not just a cost-savings analysis.
- On all health care reforms, a PC Government will consult with the public sector unions, frontline workers and health care advocates.

We will focus on the Social Determinants of Health, recognizing that one of the reasons for the poor outcomes of so many Newfoundlanders and Labradorians is the impoverished conditions in which they live. Poverty reduction is a wellness strategy.

A PC Government will appoint a Chief Wellness Officer (CWO) to find ways to make Newfoundlanders and Labradorians healthier so they need less care, have healthier lives and incur less cost.

- The CWO will provide strategic vision, planning and direction to the development, implementation and evaluation of initiatives to improve health and well-being outcomes for people; regularly monitor and report outcomes; raise awareness and provide education; and create a culture of wellness.

A PC Government will develop a public registry of all Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in the province so that in the case of an emergency, 911 dispatch operators and the public can locate the closest AED. We will also establish a maintenance program to keep AEDs in the province up to date, serviced and ready to use when needed.

A PC Government will remove the age cap and ensure Medicare covers the cost of insulin pumps for all persons with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus. We are aware of new technology now being tested and will cover this device once it is proven.

We will ensure that health promotion starts in childhood. We will promote healthy living starting in school, with curriculum focusing on smoking and drug use, healthy eating, exercise and mental wellness.