

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

## Budget Highlights 2022





## Growing Inclusive Communities and Economies

## Early Learning Employment Investments

\$655,300

Increased funding to the ECDA will aim to increase the employability of individuals within the licensed early learning and childcare system. The funding will support up to 100 participants in the development of skills and workforce knowledge while gaining work experience specific to the early learning and child care workforce.

#### **Tourism Initiatives**

\$850,000

To support a strong recovery over the next 12 months, government will be investing a further \$750,000 to develop tourism marketing campaigns to support our tourism operators, and will be committing \$100,000 in new investments for provincial parks.

## Rental Supports and Affordable Housing

\$1.5M for a new total of \$18.4M

An investment of almost \$1 Million to rental supports includes an increase to the number of mobile rental vouchers, an increase of rental supplements for private developers, and provide an increase in other rental supports for seniors and families. Our government is also investing an additional \$500,000 to increase affordable housing grants to support construction of new units.

## **Employment Focus Initiative for Social Assistance Clients**

\$150,000

The Employment Focus Initiative will assist up to 400 Social Assistance clients that are employable and provide a concentrated approach to support them by identifying meaningful employment opportunities, considering upskilling opportunities, and making connections with other service partners.

#### Diversity and Inclusion Growth Program

\$500,000

A new program will seek to further improve retention, community inclusion, and will provide opportunities for various organizations to submit project proposals that aim to enhance diversity, inclusion and integration for members of the community who traditionally have been marginalized.







## Improving our Health

## **Community First Funding** and Strongest Families

\$600,000

An investment in Community First
Funding will build on a foundational
principle for Mental Health and Addictions
Redevelopment. Strongest Families
Programs are designed to support
children and youth from 3-17 years of
age, as well as their families, and adult
programs are available for individuals 18
and over.

#### **Physicians**

\$8.7 Million

As we continue to build on medical homes and neighborhoods, the Province will increase specialized capacity within hospitals by adding physicians across multiple specialties and related supports including: General surgery; Geriatrics and Psychiatry; Pediatrics at QEH and PCH; PCH Obstetrician/Gynecologist; Ophthalmology; Radiology, Specialist & Telemedicine Clinic; QEH Hospitalist line; PCH Hospitalist line; Chronic Pain; ADHD - Family Physician; and Medical Directors including physician renumeration for patient record review as part of conversion to electronic medical records.

## Health Recruitment and RN Stabilization Strategy

\$1.4 Million

Additional recruitment initiatives coupled with a centrally-managed float pool of approximately 25 RNs based out of four zones will be assigned based on the most urgent needs and fill short term vacancies, avoiding unit and bed closures, and mitigating impacts to patient care.

#### Medical Homes and Neighborhoods

\$2.7 Million

Part of an annualized investment of \$10.4M over three years, the medical homes and neighborhoods project will continue to add physicians, NPs, RNs, LPNS, dieticians, social workers and support staff to work collaboratively to support patient needs.

#### **Better Care at Home**

\$280,000

An increased investment into the Home Care program will allow for Nurse Practitioner services and supports to be delivered to unaffiliated patients who receive homecare services, supporting individuals to remain at home safely and return home as soon as possible from hospital.

## Provincial Dental Care Program

\$3.5 Million

The Provincial Dental Care program that was launched in 2021 will receive an increased investment of \$1.5 Million to continue to offer free dental care to Islanders at or below Market Basket Measure. In addition, a sliding scale applied above the Market Basket Measure will provide coverage to 8,000 additional low-income Islanders.





## Investing in our Youth

#### **Early Learning**

\$27.2 Million

Partnering with the Federal Government a record investment of \$27.2 Million in this budget, government will work with industry to expand spaces, increase wages, designate more centers and continue to build a robust and resilient childcare system in our province.



## Free School Supplies for Grades K-9

\$787,000

A new initiative will allow all K-9 students in the Public Schools Board and the Commission scolaire de langue française to be provided with free supplies at the beginning of the school year.

#### **KidSport**

\$200,000

Additional funding to KidSport that will provide up to \$600 to each child, as well as increase the threshold for elible households to enhance opportunities for youth to participate in valued exercise through sport.



#### **Increases in Island Bursaries**

\$945,000

Budget 2022-2023 will see a \$400 increase/ student in the George Coles Bursary, and a \$250 increase/student for the Student Community Bursary that encourages volunteerism through incentivized tuition supports.







# Supporting our Seniors and Vulnerable Populations

## Provincial Home Care Services

\$1.2 Million

Increased funding for Provincial Home Care Services, including COACH, Care at Home, Home Based Restorative Care & Urgent Home Based Respite, will support our seniors in receiving the right level of care in the right location, while providing respite to support caregivers.



#### **Seniors Food Program Pilot**

\$250,000

Government will be investing new funds to launch a Seniors Food Security pilot program, starting in Kings County, to provide ongoing reheatable meals for aging Islanders who are experiencing food insecurity or could benefit from healthy and nutritious meals delivered to their doorstep.

## Homeowner Assistance Programs

\$3.2 Million

Budget 2022-2023 will invest an additional \$500,000 into the suite of homeowner assistance programs which include the PEI Home Renovation program, Seniors Home Repair program, Seniors Safe at Home program, and the Renovation Program for Persons with Disabilities program.

#### **Modernizing LTC Inspections**

\$100,000

As a precursor to the Long-Term Care review starting in Spring 2022, Government will invest new funding to modernize the inspection process for these facilities.

#### **Free Shingles Vaccine**

\$2.6M for a new total of \$4.1M

Budget 2022-2023 will build off of a new annualized program by increasing funding to the program that provides free shingles vaccine to Islanders aged 65 years and over at community pharmacies across Prince Edward Island.





## A Sustainable Future

#### **Electric Vehicle Rebate**

\$2.6 Million

An increased investment of \$2.1M will build upon a program announced in Budget 2021-2022 that focuses on clean transportation, including e-bike, electric vehicle and hybrid registrations.

#### **Heat Pump Rebate Program**

\$5.6 Million

Central to supporting the plan for clean and affordable energy, government will further invest and expand the free heat pump program by increasing the household income threshold required to qualify, with a goal to encourage more homes to be heated by electricity.

## **Supports for Clean Tech Sector**

\$1 Million

Government's Clean Tech Park will bring together the environment, economy and education. This initiative will assist with business attraction and economic supports, our government is committing \$1 Million towards grants and programming to jump start the Clean Tech industry in 2022-2023.

#### Canada Nature Fund -Protected & Conserved Areas Network

\$515,000

Government will also continue to work with the Canada Nature Fund by providing them with additional funding to continue to purchase and protect lands across PEI.

#### **Bike Rebates**

\$500,000

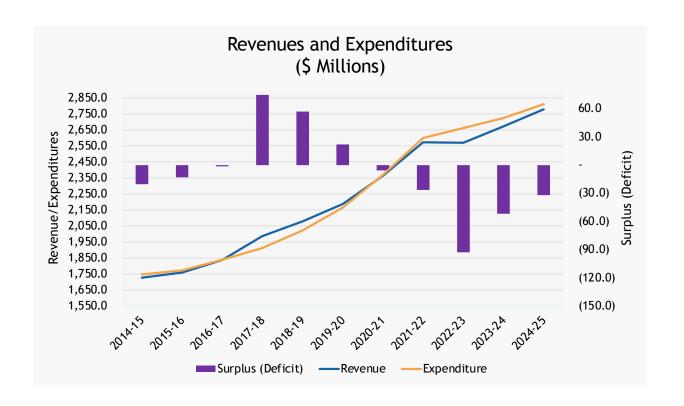
Starting in Summer 2022, Government will be providing a \$100 rebate on the sale of any bicycle purchased in Prince Edward Island to encourage active transportation and active living, while decreasing emissions.

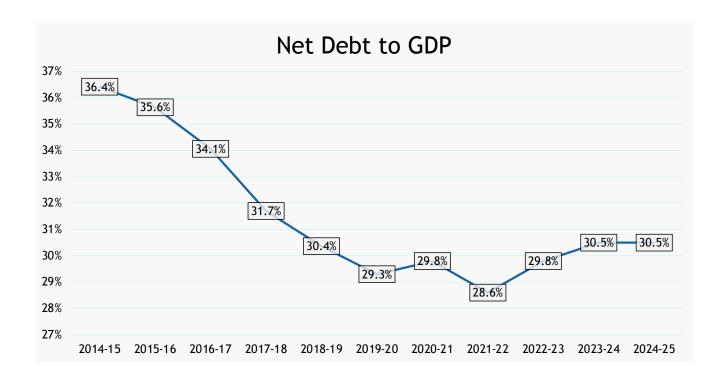
### Transit Expansion and Enhancement

\$1,585,000

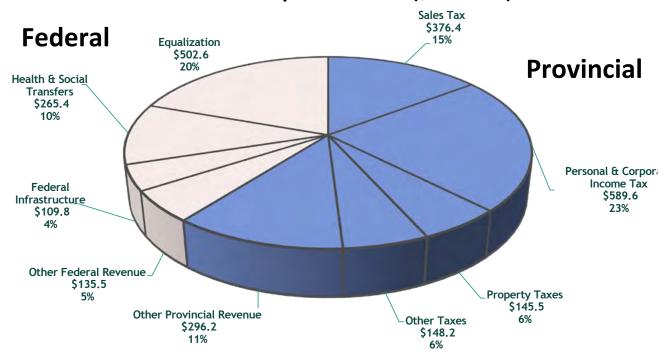
Government will make investments to support increased routes across the Island, and this budget includes funding to make all current transit routes on PEI – including the rural transit routes and T3 transit routes in Charlottetown, Stratford, and Cornwall free for anyone under the age of 18.

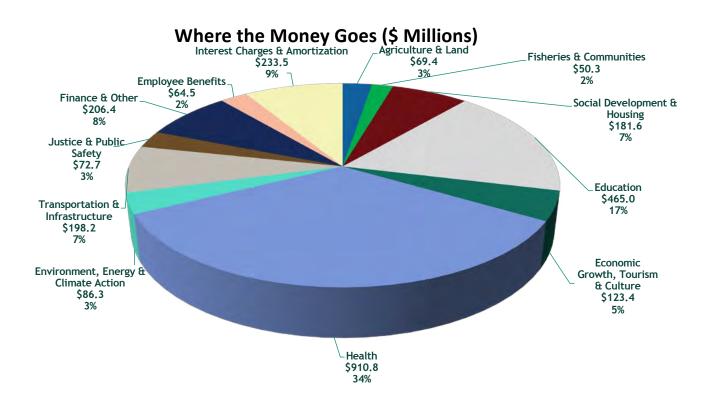






#### Where the Money Comes From (\$ Millions)





	2021-22 Budget Forecast	2022-23 Budget Estimate	2023-24 Budget Plan	2024-25 Budget Plan
Devenue	(\$ Millions)			
Revenues	4 554 4	4 555 0	4 (22 4	4 404 4
Provincial	1,556.6	1,555.8	1,622.1	1,686.4
Federal	1,016.6	1,013.3	1,049.9	1,092.4
Total Revenue	2,573.2	2,569.2	2,672.0	2,778.8
Expenditures				
Health	884.4	910.9	947.3	985.2
Other Departments	1,497.8	1,517.6	1,532.2	1,574.4
Interest	121.2	131.0	134.0	138.0
Amortization	96.2	102.6	110.4	113.3
Total Expenditure	2,599.7	2,662.1	2,723.9	2,810.9
Deficit	(26.5)	(92.9)	(51.9)	(32.1)
Net Debt - End of Year	2,462.1	2,664.5	2,804.7	2,898.0
Net Debt to GDP	28.6%	29.8%	30.5%	30.5%



The Budget documents and previous years are available at: **PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/Budget**