

2025

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND **Budget Highlights**



Presented by:

Honourable Jill Burridge

Minister of Finance and
Chair of Treasury Board



SECURING OUR ECONOMY

Lowering Business Tax

\$9.3 Million

To enable Island companies to be more competitive and to reinvest in their businesses by raising the small business threshold to \$600,000 and lowering the corporate income tax rate by 1%.

Supports for Oyster Industry

\$3.6 Million

To begin a Genome Surveillance Project and establish a \$3 million contingency fund to help support the oyster industry with challenges like MSX.



Expanding Air Access

\$353,000

Working with Maritime counterparts and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency to support business and tourist travel by restoring critical hub airport connections, including the Charlottetown to Halifax connection.

Tariff and Trade Response Funding

\$42 Million

Establishing a \$32 million Tariff and Trade Contingency Fund to provide direct support to businesses and workers affected by tariffs, reinforce trade relationships, and help Island businesses diversify into new markets. In addition, establish a \$10 million Tariff Working Capital Program to provide financial relief through flexible loans – protecting jobs and economic stability.





SECURING OUR WORKFORCE

Reducing Personal Income Tax

\$5.1 Million

Immediately increase the basic personal amount to \$14,650 for 2025. In January 2026, increase all five tax brackets by 1.8% and the basic personal amount to \$15,000, accelerating tax changes a full year earlier than originally planned.

Reskilling and Upskilling our Workforce

\$1.5 Million

To give workers new opportunities to advance or change their careers and help new workers build the skills and confidence they need to succeed.

An Increase in Minimum Wage

To \$17/hour

To help workers keep up with the cost of living and ensure that growth in our economy reaches those helping to build it.

Increasing the George Coles Bursary

\$663,000

Increase the George Coles Bursary to \$3,500 to help Island students with the cost of education and encourage them to continue their studies at PEI's world class educational institutions.

Increasing the Marion L. Reid Bursary

\$155,000

Increase the bursary to \$3,500 and expand program eligibility for other in-demand occupations.

Helping Future Farmers

\$100,000

To help support the next generation of farmers by providing core funding for the PEI Young Farmers Association and expanding agricultural student bursaries.





SECURING OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Growing our Healthcare Team:

Launching a Practice Readiness Assessment Program

To launch a program to certify up to 40 internationally trained physicians each year.

Expanding Healthcare Training Support Programs

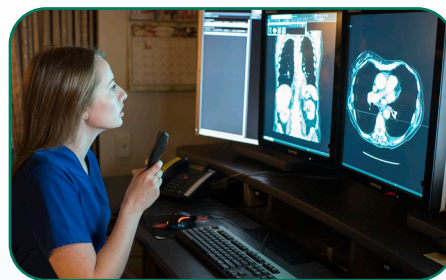
\$1.1 Million

To create a 29-week Accelerated Medical Administrative Support Program and continue to provide Island students studying to become paramedics, resident care workers, or licensed practical nurses free tuition with a commitment to work after graduation.

Expanding the Student Nursing Employment Program

\$500,000

To hire students to work year-round alongside experienced professionals during weekends, holidays, and academic breaks. These students will graduate with strong clinical skills and step directly into full-time roles through our Graduate Incentive Program.



Hiring More Internationally Trained Registered Nurses

\$650,000

To expand the Transition to Registered Nursing in Canada Program and continue to offer the Registered Nursing Bridging Program to hire more internationally trained RNs.

Upskilling Opportunities for LPNs to become RNs

\$215,000

To launch a pathway enabling LPNs to train and become RNs while staying in the workforce, helping meet the critical need for more RNs. This equals a total investment of \$818,000.





SECURING OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Funding the UPEI Faculty of Medicine

\$16.8 Million

To support the opening of the UPEI Faculty of Medicine and welcome the first cohort of medical students.

Expanding Access to Primary Care

Opening new and expanding Patient Medical Homes which will affiliate 10,000 Islanders by the end of this year. Also, expanding teams and hours in Primary Care Access Clinics to support unaffiliated Islanders who need to be seen in-person.



Expanding Medical Transportation Assistance

\$100,000

A new program to help Islanders travel to receive life-sustaining care, ensuring Islanders who live in rural areas can access the services they depend on.

Long-Term Care Investments

\$21 Million

Increasing per diem rates for private long-term care homes, and funding to ready 103 new long-term care beds, with plans to add an additional 175 new long-term beds in the future.

Expanded Virtual Care

\$4.8 Million

To enable all Islanders to access care through phone, video, or text - making it easier to get the help they need, in a way that works for them.

Increasing Supports for Seniors to Stay At Home

\$4 Million

To make permanent the Self-Managed Care program and expand the At Home Caregiver Benefit program, for a total investment of over \$10 million in programs designed to help seniors stay in their homes longer.



SECURING OUR COMMUNITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Keeping our Transit Affordable

\$160,000

To maintain free transit for students and keep subsidized daily or monthly passes available to all Islanders.

Creating a Joint Enforcement Team to Keep our Communities Safe

\$810,000

To launch a new Joint Enforcement Team to push back against emerging mid-level drug trafficking and organized criminal networks.

Increase the Home Heating Assistance Program

\$3 Million

To assist Islanders in need with their home heating costs, including oil, electricity and wood/pellets, bringing the total investment in this program to \$7.7 million.

Increasing Funding to Municipalities

\$5.5 Million

Funding provided over two years through a new interim agreement, giving municipalities the support they need now to keep serving Islanders.

Creating a Municipal Infrastructure Bank Program

To offer low-interest loans to help communities build or refurbish infrastructure such as water and sewer systems, fire halls, and community centres.

Supporting the Community Sector

\$3.2 Million

Providing stable, core-funding for non-profit community groups including increasing funding to our food banks.





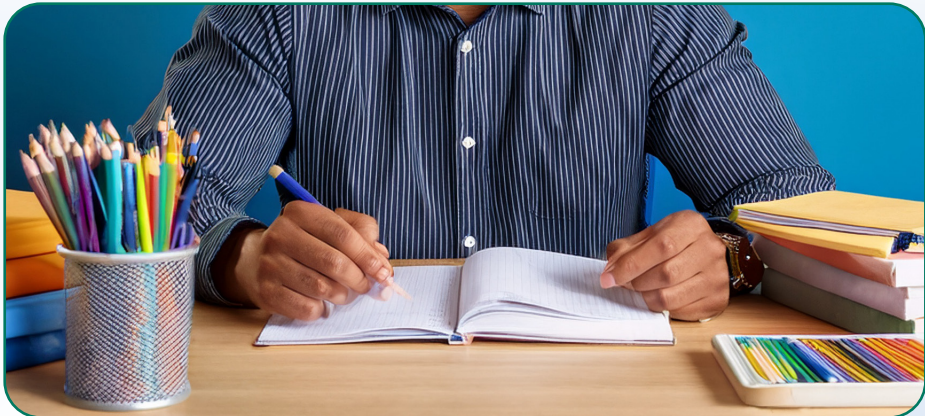
SECURING OUR FUTURE

Investment in Early Years \$10.5 Million

To create or transition approximately 190 affordable spaces through converting existing spaces, creating new spaces, and designating new family home centres. This also includes the continuation of the early years centre expansion loan and grant program, and increasing wages for early years centres' staff.

Supporting Before and After School Care \$470,000

To help centres stabilize programming and keep spaces open, while planning for expanded offerings across the province.



Expanding School Food Lunch Program \$2.5 Million

This additional funding, with help from our federal partners, results in a total of over \$7.5 million in this fiscal year to continue providing healthy and affordable school lunch options.



Investing in our Education System \$9.2 Million

New funding for staffing, giving teachers more prep time, increasing the number of front-line school staff, and continuing the Positive Behaviour Intervention Supports pilot with expansion to the CSLF.

Supporting Children in Care \$128,000

Provide a \$200 Back to School and \$200 Change in Season benefit for children in group homes, foster care, and those supported through the Grandparent and Alternate Care Program so they have what they need to play and learn.



For more information visit
PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/Budget