







## Q: If elected Premier would you support or oppose the following:




### ► Provincial Tendering Practices

			
Adherence to <b>bid depository process</b>	Strongly support	Strongly support	Requires consideration before decision
<b>Giving tender preference</b> to companies that demonstrate strong compliance with Occupational Health & Safety regulations	Strongly support	Strongly support	Requires consideration before decision
<b>Giving tender preference</b> to companies that hire apprentices and support apprenticeship programs	Strongly support	Strongly support	Strongly support




### ► Apprenticeship & Training

			
Ensure all construction trade apprentices have <b>access to employment</b> on provincial job sites	Support	Strongly support	Strongly support
Introduce <b>apprenticeship pathways</b> for all certified trades in Nova Scotia	Support	Strongly support	Strongly support
Improve apprenticeship training by implementing recommendations from the <b>Nova Scotia Reference Group on Apprenticeships</b>	Strongly support	Support	Strongly support

### ► Enforcement




			
<b>Transfer enforcement</b> of the Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications Act to the <b>Safety Branch</b> of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education	Support	Support	Like the idea. Strongly support, <i>in principal</i>
Increase enforcement to ensure compulsory certified tradespersons on job sites hold the <b>credentials as required</b> by the Apprentices and Trades Qualifications Act	Support	Support	Like the idea. Strongly support, <i>in principal</i>
Increase enforcement to maintain the <b>ratio of qualified/certified journeypersons to apprentices</b> for each trade as required by the Apprentices and Trades Qualification Act	Support	Support	Like the idea. Strongly support, <i>in principal</i>

### ► Wages & Benefits




			
Legislation compelling all building trades contractors who bid on government contracts to pay trades people <b>at least a prescribed provincial wage</b>	Support	Support	Requires consideration before decision
Ensuring <b>all</b> trades peoples in Nova Scotia are covered under the same <b>standard overtime legislation</b> as other working groups	Support	Support	Requires consideration before decision

**Q: If elected Premier:**

**► First Contract Arbitration**

			
Would your party plan to <b>amend the existing first contract arbitration legislation</b>	No	Yes	Plan to 'scrap' first contract arbitration
If yes, would your party <b>consult the Building Trades</b> on these changes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**► Labour Representation on Government Committees**

			
Would your party retain the <b>Labour Management Review Committee</b>	Yes	Yes	Not without a better defined mandate/ more representative committee
Include a Building Trades representative on <b>key provincial committees</b> that impact the building construction industry	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Supplementary Questions**

**Q: In your opinion, what is the single most important issue facing the construction trades in Nova Scotia today?**



The men and women who make up the skilled trades labour are aging; the previous apprenticeship system has failed to produce the journey people needed to replace them; too many of our young people move to Alberta. We must break this cycle and create an apprenticeship system that will attract your people into the trades here and continue building the economy so that they can find good jobs, here.



I believe that the single most important issue facing the construction trades in Nova Scotia is the economy. We need to be able to grow our economy to give our skilled workers the opportunities to work and stay in Nova Scotia. In order for the construction industry and trades to prosper in Nova Scotia we have to ensure we are offering a competitive climate for investment in our province and our people.



The single most important issue facing the construction trades has to be health and safety. The death of 32 Nova Scotians in 2012 in work-related incidents is a clarion cry for action. Other issues cannot be ignored, but if you want us to name one issue as the most important, how can it be anything else?

**Q: What would your party do different from the other parties to encourage the creation of good-paying construction jobs in Nova Scotia including rural Nova Scotia?**



The NDP has established a clear and successful track record of fighting for good jobs and strong communities with investments in both public and private sector projects. Ships Start Here, support for the Shelburne Shipyard, investing in Port Hawkesbury Paper, the five-year road paving plan, maximizing federal matching spending on infrastructure, the HST rebate for new home construction, and many other NDP initiatives sustained jobs during the recession and are poised to help keep building a better future. The Liberal party opposes these initiatives. They do not understand the real structure of the Nova Scotia economy and the vital role that construction unions play in training and apprenticeship. The Conservative party has bitterly fought every pro-labour initiative that the NDP government has advanced. For labour, and for jobs, the NDP is the party with the proven track record.



We need to look at the cost of doing business in Nova Scotia and how we can increase construction opportunities for workers in the province. We are hearing from businesses that skyrocketing power rates and the general high cost of doing business in Nova Scotia is a deterrent to investing in the province. A Liberal government will break the Nova Scotia Power monopoly and create a highly regulated, competitive energy market. This will make power companies have to compete for your business. *(Continued next page.)*



Small and medium sized businesses are the backbone of Nova Scotia's economy, we need to look to these enterprises and support them in creating good paying jobs. A Liberal government will work with businesses instead of handing blank cheques to corporations without job guarantees. A Liberal government will ensure that your tax dollars will only be invested in corporations through repayable loans and will be tied to job guarantees.

We need to take a look at procurement and government contracts. We've seen examples recently of the NDP government not tendering for large contracts or even only look at the lowest cost of a service – even if it's being delivered out of province and puts NS small businesses at risk. A Liberal government will work with contractors, bidders, service providers on how to improve the procurement system. Nova Scotia needs a procurement system that works best for our businesses and workers.

A Liberal government will also invest in Nova Scotia's workforce. Nova Scotia's apprenticeship system, as it stands, is outdated. We need an apprenticeship system that better meets the needs of workers and workplaces. We will review the recommendations made to government through the recent Apprenticeship review and work with industry and labour to address the labour challenges that we face in Nova Scotia. We cannot keep losing our best and brightest to other labour markets. A Liberal government will invest in education resources and incentives to ensure we that Nova Scotians have opportunities to work and raise a family, here, at home.



We want to see real change, change that would work for Nova Scotians like your members. The best thing we can possibly do for your members is to create the right conditions for the economy to grow. That is where tomorrow's opportunity and prosperity will come from, where wage growth will be real, where taxes will be lower o your spending power goes further, and where we can see your kids staying here and having a good life. Those things won't come from the same, or one-off ideas that do not reflect a real plan and serve only as band-aids.

For example, we have the highest power rates in the country. It is no wonder that people are hurting and there is less money to create good-paying jobs. We simply have to change course and tackle those fundamental obstacles – which hurt all of your members both when they pay their bills and when they are looking for opportunities for good work. The workers of Nov Scotia are among the most vulnerable to policies that drive such numbers even higher, so pretending it is ok to be Number 1 in such categories is unacceptable.

On taxes, we will reduce them, and we will be able especially as we eliminate wasteful spending. We will start with the NDP HST tax grab, which has sucked over \$1800 from each of your members on average. The NDP says they will too, but they promised not to raise taxes in the first place. The Liberals will not commit to tax reductions.

On power rates, our careful research shows that we can and must freez'e power rates. We have a detailed, costed plan on how we would do that: <http://pcparty.ns.ca/baillie-government-will-give-families-five-years-of-power-rate-relief/>

The fact is that we can freeze rates with a series of logical changes that will also keep a strong commitment to the environment, one of the strongest anywhere in North America. The NDP made a bad deal on Muskrat Falls and have created rules that drove rates up deliberately. The Liberals have an empty slogan and their idea for implementing it failed in New Brunswick, Alberta and elsewhere.

We have a number of other economic policies that we will be unveiling in the weeks ahead. We believe that we have the most credible plan and the most credible leader, especially on the pocket-book issues.

**Q: If your party formed a government today, what advice would you give the Mainland Building Trades for creating an effective and productive working relationship between it and your government?**



The NDP believes in a collaborative partnership with labour, as well as with the other economic partners. Our party's labour roots are deep. We may not always entirely agree with each other – but that happens in the best of families. Our door will remain open to you. That means continued participation by Mainland Building Trades at the highest levels of policy-making, such as the Premier's Advisory Council on the Economy; an on-going dialogue with the Mainland Building Trades about the best ways to protect and attract good jobs for Nova Scotians; and a government that takes seriously the concerns you raise, and that strives to ensure you have a real opportunity to comment about proposals that affect your members and industry.



The Liberal Caucus has enjoyed a great relationship with the Mainland Building Trades and a Liberal government would only benefit if that continued. I would hope that your organization would be interested in participating in consultations. As well, I hope to hear from your organization and members if you have concerns about policy or want to discuss policy direction. If we are going to move Nova Scotia forward, we need to work together. If I have the privilege of being Premier of Nova Scotia, I hope to work with your organization to ensure that we can strengthen our province and support our workers and their families.



We feel honoured to have a good relationship with Mainland Trades, and feel it will be a very productive one in the years ahead. You have a pragmatic, not dogmatic, approach. We should continue to meet regularly and feel free to share ideas and concerns.



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