



2019 Provincial Election Questionnaire

FUNDING

Chronic underfunding has forced women's organizations to respond to communities with band-aid solutions. Since 2011, the Status of Women Councils' budgets have only had one increase while they have seen an increase in demands for services.

How will your government provide sustainable funding and resources to women's organizations?

NL Alliance:

The issue of finances are a difficult one, especially in the current economic dilemma the province finds itself in. NL Alliance doesn't feel we are in a position to offer a dollar value, or to promise any additional funding. We do, however, commit and believe that the work of Women's Councils are vital to the future of the province, and the issues and perspectives raised are ones we want to hear more from.

Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador:

During our time in government, we have provided more than \$1.28 million in new funding to transition houses to help protect women and children fleeing violence, including \$500,000 this year for Iris Kirby House.

We've also increased total funding by \$400,000 to over \$3 million for community groups in the areas of violence prevention, mental health, career counseling, and advocacy, including women's centres and the NL Sexual Assault Crisis and Prevention Centre.

We included the eight women's centres as well as the Newfoundland and Labrador Aboriginal Women's Association in our first phase of multi-year funding to provide more financial stability and predictability so that groups can focus less on government proposal writing and more on the equality seeking work that they do.

Budget 2019 provides \$142,000 in funding for a ninth women's centre to be established on the Northern Peninsula.

In 2019, we will increase funding for projects to help prevent violence against Indigenous women and children through the Indigenous Violence Prevention Grants Program to \$241,500.

Progressive Conservative Party of Newfoundland and Labrador:

Again, we will apply a gender lens to public policy, and work with women to remove barriers to gender equality. We will partner with the community sector and volunteers to amplify the work they do. Through our renewed Poverty Reduction Strategy, Violence Prevention Strategy, Strategy for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, correctional services review, democratic reform initiatives and other strategies, and in our annual budget development processes, we will encourage our province's Status of Women Councils to make a strong case for the resources you require and the ways you propose to further the goals these strategies are advancing.

Newfoundland and Labrador New Democratic Party:

Services have been downloaded onto women-serving organizations at a time of increased relationship violence due to the economic downturn.

All women-serving organizations need the government to continue with multi-year funding. They also need a budget increase to provide more services and reduce staff turnover.