



## Creating Good Jobs

Nova Scotians want to live and work close to home. They want to raise their children here. They don't want to sacrifice career opportunities to do it, and they shouldn't have to.

For too long, Nova Scotia's economy was lagging behind the rest of the country. Today, Nova Scotia is starting to turn the corner. In 2012, Nova Scotia reached a record high level of employment, and welcomed one of the most significant weeks in job creation in the last decade.

*jobsHere* is helping hundreds of small businesses get started, expand into new markets, make productivity upgrades, and train employees now and for the future. Preparations to make the most of opportunities like shipbuilding, the Maritime Link, unprecedented offshore exploration commitments, and a renewed and innovative forestry sector have gained momentum and are moving forward.

By working together and making smart, strategic investments, the province is creating good jobs and growing Nova Scotia's economy.

### Support for Small Businesses

#### Budget 2013 will:

- introduce single-window, streamlined access to current small business programs, ensuring that business owners can easily find and access the help they need to grow, hire, and succeed
- maintain a suite of innovation and learning programs to support small business owners who want to train employees, develop new products, and improve productivity—\$13.9 million
- continue to offer local firms access to financing and tools to get started or expand through a range of small business and regional development programs—\$8 million
- invest in trade and international competitiveness programs to help small business owners access new markets, export their products, and increase their global competitiveness—\$5.2 million
- reduce tax rates for many small businesses for the fourth year in a row. On January 1, 2014, the government will reduce the rate of corporate income tax for small businesses to 3 per cent. Over four years, that is a 2 per cent drop in income tax and almost \$78 million in savings for small business that can be reinvested to compete, grow, and hire. The combined impact of these reductions will save small business \$26 million in 2013–2014, and over \$33 million per year when fully implemented. The small business limit threshold will now be \$350,000.
- provide HR planning, recruitment, and retention support to local businesses in key sectors like oceans technology, fisheries, information and communications technology, and construction through the Sector Council Program—\$2 million
- continue to support financial management, essential skills, and communications training; expand the Mobile Computer Labs to help small rural business owners and their workforce access training—\$1.4 million
- maintain employer resources like the HR Toolkit to support small business owners across the province, particularly in rural areas—\$50,000

## **jobsHere Helping Workers and Businesses of All Sizes, in All Regions**

### **Budget 2013 will:**

- help fund new equipment, clean technology, software, and hardware for businesses—\$14.5 million
- encourage businesses to invest in training, skills development, and certifications and to hire students—\$10.5 million
- continue to invest in opportunities in shipbuilding, forestry, fisheries, and manufacturing to help create good jobs and grow the economy—\$29.5 million
- provide ongoing support for apprentices through in-class and online training opportunities—\$4.5 million
- continue to match unemployed Nova Scotians with employers willing to give them the jobs, experience, and training they need—\$3.5 million
- support Nova Scotia's forestry of the future with funding for innovation, new wood-fibre technologies and products, continuing education, and technology transfer—\$1.4 million
- encourage Nova Scotians to continue learning in the workplace, by providing access to thousands of online courses and training tools, free of charge—\$700,000
- hold Nova Scotia's first Innovation Summit to spur commercialization of research and move Nova Scotia into a leadership position as a competitive and innovative force in the economy

## **Supporting 6,300 Jobs by Investing in Roads, Schools, and Hospitals**

### **Budget 2013 will:**

- build and maintain roads and structures—\$248.4 million
- improve information technology for public services such as hospitals and schools—\$38.4 million
- invest in new buildings, such as schools, courts, and health-care facilities, and purchase land—\$156.2 million
- maintain vehicles and equipment, provide capital grants, and fund potential extra work—\$82.0 million