



A Focus on Women

Budget 2013 makes strategic investments in areas that will benefit women's health, protect the most vulnerable women in society, and continue to support the creation of good jobs throughout Nova Scotia.

Protecting the Most Vulnerable

Budget 2013 will:

- increase and stabilize funding for Transition Houses and Women's Centres. Since 2009–2010 a total of \$594,000 has been invested.
- continue work on the province's Domestic Violence Plan
- develop a Sexual Violence Framework
- continue to support the Domestic Violence Court
- reduce the HST by 1 percentage point in 2014 and again in 2015
- continue to make life a little more affordable through ongoing HST rebates for families purchasing children's clothing, children's footwear, and children's diapers, as well as books, and feminine hygiene products. Since 2009–2010, over \$380 million has been rebated to families for these items.

Creating Good Jobs

Budget 2013 will:

- continue work on the province's Workforce Strategy, specifically targeting groups that are under-represented in the workforce
- provide Bread and Roses bursaries to support women in trades and technology—\$15,000
- continue to support *Techsploration*, an innovative program designed to introduce girls to career opportunities in science, trades, and technical/technology-related fields—\$75,000
- continue to support diverse women to explore, prepare for, obtain, and maintain employment in the fields of trades and technology through four locations of the Women Unlimited program and through supports obtained at specialized career resource centres

Caring for Seniors

Budget 2013 will:

- continue to support seniors living independently in their homes through programs such as personal alert systems, caregivers' allowance, restorative care and self-managed care programs, and home care—\$2 million

Kids and Learning

Budget 2013 will:

- establish children's centres so it is easier for families to access support services for their young kids to help them make a successful transition to elementary school—\$1.2 million
- support *Cybersafe Girl* to keep girls safe online—\$20,000

Health and Wellness

Budget 2013 will:

- expand newborn screening to include cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia, and eight additional conditions—\$1.3 million