



1. Will your party commit to increased investments in core operating funding for Memorial to support quality research and education?

Memorial University is one of the province's greatest assets, and a vital piece of the future of Newfoundland and Labrador. We feel that MUN is the cornerstone in a plan that will help train, nurture and secure the future generations of NL. In the broader piece of education for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, MUN is perfectly fixated to be the catalyst that brings our young people from secondary education, to where they will be taught and allowed to grow into true movers and shakers in this province.

Core funding for MUN is vital to this happening. We believe that the future of Newfoundland and Labrador relies on the strong educational background received by the people who will most influence the future of Newfoundland and Labrador, and that education should come from right here at home, with MUN being a major part of that. Our vision would see the core operational funding of MUN educational operations come from public funds. Currently, the province contributes about 85% of the operational costs, with the other 15% coming from other sources of revenue. Those other sources of revenue would, in turn, go to programs and resources directly benefiting students.

Throughout the province, government has shown that the problems we face financially are not because of lack of revenue, but rather the abundance of expenditures, and where those expenditures are going. Core funding, while provided, should also be used wisely to ensure that the greatest benefit and effect of that funding is felt at the front line by the people who need it most - the students. When looking at MUN expenditures, we see a great need in some areas, and excess in others. Attracting world-class talent and resources is important - but we must also recognize our capabilities and work within our means.

2. What will your party do to address the deferred maintenance, repair and renewal needs of Memorial University?

NL Alliance will work diligently with the administration and stakeholders of the University to develop a comprehensive infrastructure plan to ensure the longevity of all assets and begin the repairs as soon as reasonably possible. We must highlight the most pressing issues and work on a needs basis from the beginning.

This has to be a multi-faceted, multi-year plan with a focus on innovation, yet affordability, reducing operational efficiencies and eco-friendly practices.



3. What will your party do to ensure Memorial University's pension deficit (\$416.5M) is addressed and a smooth transition to a jointly sponsored pension plan occurs?

Managing the unfunded pension liabilities facing the province will be part of the overall debt repayment strategy. We believe that this is a very serious issue currently facing NL that requires immediate attention.

4. What will your party do in its commitment to improving the collegial governance and autonomy of Memorial University?

NL Alliance feels that increased funding to post-secondary, including MUN, is necessary. As such, we do not feel this increased funding should come with increased autonomy. We believe that MUN should have academic autonomy, however budgeting should be done in close consultation with the main funding partner. With increased financial independence, increased autonomy can become a discussion point. However at the time, we don't think we're there yet.

With that said, NL Alliance is focused on collaboration, and while total autonomy may not be a viable solution at this time, we feel that all decisions should be made with close consultation between government and MUN leadership.

5. How does your party view the role of Memorial University in the social, political, cultural, and economic life of NL? What will your party do to strengthen this role?

As alluded to earlier, the NL Alliance views Memorial University, along with its various campuses, as being of vital importance to the many aspects that collectively make up Newfoundland and Labrador society. Since 1925, Memorial has undoubtedly grown to become a vehicle for social, political, cultural, and economic prosperity. With its wide range of academic foci offerings in both the undergraduate and postgraduate level, Memorial fosters generation after generation of new thinkers and influencers from a variety of backgrounds. Not only is there variety in terms of academic background, but more significantly, in terms of culture. Memorial's incredible location, competitive programs, and low tuition costs brings in students from every part of the globe. This in turn creates a larger cultural mosaic in the province and more unique cultural experiences for all.