



For Immediate Release
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Community Coalition Launches People's Recovery in Response to Premier's Economic Recovery Team

St. John's – A coalition of more than 60 organizations and individuals from across the province, representing diverse backgrounds and communities, are launching the People's Recovery this week. The group is leading an open, collaborative process to develop a plan for economic recovery in Newfoundland and Labrador that is an alternative to the Premier's Economic Recovery Team and to proposals to cut or privatize public services in our province.

"We need to shift the public discussion about our future to one that is inclusive and that allows citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador to have economic prosperity *and* equity. The People's Recovery initiative developed because people didn't see themselves being represented in the Premier's Economic Recovery Team and didn't feel their voices would be heard in that process. In just a couple of months, participants have collaborated in a more democratic way to develop realistic, clear, and responsible solutions to the fiscal situation while creating a fairer society," said Angela Carter, People's Recovery initiative co-facilitator and professor of political science, University of Waterloo.

This week, the People's Recovery initiative is releasing two fact sheets, outlining revenue options to address the province's structural deficit and options for meeting fiscal challenges without undermining services. The fact sheets can be downloaded [here](#).

The People's Recovery initiative will release further policy options and recommendations developed by the group in the weeks to come.

Comments from People's Recovery participants:

"Despite what governments seem to believe, there is a widespread appetite amongst the public to be part of a dialogue about how to meet the challenges our province faces rather than have someone else's 'solutions' imposed on everyone. Citizens in this province have ideas, and those ideas should be heard.

"The People's Recovery has already begun the work of fostering a serious dialogue around tangible things the province could be doing – and the ideas are important," said Russell Alan Williams, Political Science, Memorial University.

"At the St. John's Status of Women Council we have real concerns about our provincial government's understanding and implementation of a gender-based plus analysis. When our government neglects to commit to a rigorous approach to ensure gender equity is foundational to our public policies and legislation, we see the real-life implications every day in the lives of women and people of marginalized genders.

"We are involved with the People's Recovery coalition because we believe in evidence-based decision making, and that all recovery plans must be feminist," said Laura Winter, Executive Director of the St. John's Status of Women Council.

"Our province needs a more diversified approach to economic recovery than mega projects and privatization. This requires meaningful involvement of municipalities, Indigenous Peoples, and rural communities to find socially just and environmentally sound options to rebalance our province's finances. It is essential to empower *local* initiatives so that policies and programs find full public support.

"Being part of the People's Recovery coalition adds strength to our position and to the common cause of a just and environmentally sustainable recovery," said Yvonne Earle and John Jacobs, Avalon Chapter, Council of Canadians.

"As university teachers, we want to contribute to building a good, secure, and inclusive future for everyone in our province. Universally accessible public education is infrastructure for social, economic, and cultural diversification. By working with our allies on the People's Recovery, we will create workable proposals that are grounded in evidence," said Josh Lepawsky of the MUN Faculty Association.

More information, including the coalition's values and principles, can be found at www.peoplesrecoverynl.ca. Follow us on Twitter [@PplsRecoveryNL](https://twitter.com/PplsRecoveryNL)