

Tech NL CO: Innovation Centre 710 Torbay Rd. St. John's NL A1A 5G9

September 21, 2025

Dear Ms. Brown,

Thank you for your email in advance of the provincial election here in Newfoundland and Labrador. I have forwarded your letter to our platform committee for consideration as they finalize our list of pledges. However, please allow me some space to outline our vision for the tech industry and the provincial economy more broadly.

The NL NDP believes that our economy is capable of tremendous growth and our people of great achievements. That is why we support measures to diversify the provincial economy whenever credible opportunities arise.

We were very pleased with the brief that you sent us, and agree with the proposals listed within. I am sure that you will be pleased to note that our team will be running on a strong jobs-and-economy platform. These are just some of the key policies that we will focus on:

- Strengthen our public procurement strategy to defend NL jobs by:
  - Mandating that the provincial government buy Canadian unless there are no other alternatives;
  - Boosting rural businesses by increasing the local preference provision for them from 10 to 15 per cent;
  - Studying the spending patterns of major local institutions such as municipalities, hospitals, and businesses, to guide a plan on how they can buy strategically to grow the local economy; and
  - Adding clauses to our public procurement strategy to make sure that businesses claiming the local preference discount hire local staff for the contract and source more of their goods and services in this province
- Invest today in the jobs needed tomorrow by increasing funding for training and skill enhancement:
- In the event of a tariff-related economic downturn, fund businesses directly affected so that they can stay open and protect jobs while they find new markets for their goods and services; and

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• Partner with Ottawa, the provinces, and territories to increase opportunities for inter-provincial trade without threatening labour standards, safety provisions, or workers' jobs.

Once again, I thank you and your entire team for your submission. We look forward to hearing from you again and collaborating on policy in the post-election period.

Sincerely,

Jim Dinn

Leader, NL NDP

Candidate, St. John's Centre