

Green Plan for Supporting Farmers and Fishers

Fishing and farming are pillars of our Island way of life. Government needs to make sure these critical industries can adapt in a rapidly changing world. We need to work with Island farmers, fishers, and food processors to meet increasing demands for environmentally sustainable and socially responsible products.

A **Green Government** will:

- Create industry-specific employee support programs and emergency management plans in case of extreme weather events.
- Work with industries to develop commodity-specific climate adaptation strategies to help mitigate risks and explore opportunities.
- Promote the development of carbon credit markets in agriculture and aquaculture, so we can pay farmers and fishers for sequestering carbon.
- Promote more value-added processing opportunities and new markets for our products.
- Review labour programs to improve worker retention during slower periods. This could include bridging programs, job sharing, advocating for changes to EI eligibility, and other initiatives.
- Continue to bring workers to the province through immigration programs targeted to the specific labour gaps and skill needs of industry. Improve population growth planning to make sure we have the services and infrastructure needed to help newcomers stay on PEI.
- Support the agriculture sector:
 - Increase funding to the Agriculture Stewardship Program, Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) program, and other initiatives to help reduce emissions and environmental impacts (e.g. precision agriculture, planting hedgerows).¹
 - Create an agri-voltaics demonstration project to explore the potential of combining farming with solar panels in the same field and create a new revenue stream for Island farmers.
 - Facilitate farm succession planning by exploring lease-to-own models, tax incentives for collective land purchasing, and interest-free loans for new farmers.
 - Make land ownership and purchases more transparent to make sure the *Lands Protection Act* can be properly enforced. Take the politics out of land purchases by letting IRAC make the final decision, instead of Cabinet.
 - Classify agricultural and forestry land as resource land to protect it from poorly planned development and keep farmland in production.²
- Support fisheries and aquaculture sectors:
 - Continue funding existing programs to support fisheries.

¹ See “Improving the health of our forests” under *Protecting Our Land and Environment*.

² See “Implementing sustainable land-use planning Island-wide” under *Protecting Our Land and Environment*.

- Increase funding supports for the adoption of clean technologies, alternate fuels for fishing vessels (e.g. electric, hydrogen), and reducing environmental impacts. These include the Fisheries and Aquaculture Clean Technology Adoption Program (FACTAP) and Environmental Impact Reduction Strategy for Aquaculture and Marine Fisheries.
- Explore new techniques such as regenerative ocean farming.
- Support the industry to explore alternate bait options.

Green Plan for Supporting Tourism and Culture

The Island's breathtaking beauty, rich culture, storied history, and diverse people make it one of the best places in the world to visit. Tourism is an integral part of our Island but we must do more to make sure it keeps up with a changing global market, and can adapt to the realities of climate change.

The Island's cultural sector is one of our greatest assets when it comes to economic growth, tourism and our collective identity. We must do more to make sure this sector is reflective of our diverse, ever-changing province and is supported through proper funding and investment.

A **Green Government** will:

- Create a new Culture Strategy for PEI and increase investment in culture.
- Create a provincial museum in partnership with federal and community partners. This will not only be an attraction for tourists, but more importantly will help promote the preservation and development of Island culture, which is one of our greatest tourism assets.
- In recognition of their positive contribution to the economy and overall well-being, provide free or low-cost access to artistic, cultural, and social activities for Islanders. Make sure that artists and community groups are fairly compensated for providing these activities.³
- Increase investment in trails and active transportation, especially within municipalities.⁴
- Integrate tourism objectives into Island-wide land use planning (protecting viewscapes, beach access, farmland, infrastructure, etc.).⁵
- Support new tourism initiatives in the off-season, including at our provincial parks.

³ See "Promoting the health and wellness of Islanders" under *Strong Public Healthcare*.

⁴ See "Planning for climate change" under *Addressing Climate Change*.

⁵ See "Implementing sustainable land-use planning Island-wide" under *Protecting our Land and Environment*.