

Thank you for allowing the Atlantica Party to answer your questions.

Our Election Platform and fully costed Budget 2017 are available at [www.atlanticaparty.ca](http://www.atlanticaparty.ca)

I will apologize in advance. We have much to say on creating a 'positive business environment' and I have had trouble shrinking everything to fit your structure; some of our ideas are 'bigger' than your questions which is not a criticism - we understand you have to keep things small for the Status-Quo Parties. Also our perspective is provincial but our policies will apply equally to Halifax.

The Atlantica Party is the only pro-private sector party in this election. We have a vision of Nova Scotia becoming a prosperous 'have' province. To achieve this government action must revolve around empowering the private sector; as you and your members can see looking through our policies and Budget. Build it, they will come. Here are the main points:

1. Eliminate business taxes.
2. Break up the NSLC and privatize the liquor wholesale and retail business.
3. Aggressive deregulation and create an Office of Deregulation.
4. Ending politicized and unfair (that is, all) corporate welfare.
5. Lowering Income Taxes on the Median Income to the lowest in Canada.
6. Encouraging all (including resource) projects.
7. Eliminating all Maritime trade barriers in keeping with the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council recommendations.
8. An anti-red tape program in government.
9. Reduction of the Civil Service to the National Average with the savings not allocated to new spending but returned to the pockets of Nova Scotians. Reductions targeting primarily higher salaried administrative staff and set targets to align public sector wages and benefits with private sector levels
10. Co-operative actions on Atlantic regional trade promotion and service delivery.
11. Look for ways to start to decouple Nova Scotia/Atlantic Canada from the status-quo economic policies of Ottawa.
12. Enhanced democracy structures creating a more attractive social and political environment.
13. A debt elimination plan which includes limiting government growth to population growth.
14. Aggressive courting of Nova Scotia emigres citing a new and prosperous environment in Nova Scotia.
15. Outlawing budget deficit spending.
16. Resisting the imposed the Carbon Tax.
17. Eliminating bracket creep.

Halifax has a world class harbour. Why isn't Halifax a world class city?

We are also sympathetic to HST reduction and further tax reduction. Our debt reduction plan is very conservative in assumptions and disregards important second order effects so we are optimistic we could move on these issues as well.

Once we create a pro-private sector, prosperous and socially attractive (democracy reform, more freedom etc) province, ideally a continental 'hot-spot', issues such as workforce attraction and retention will to a large measure tend to be ameliorated.

All of these measures are costed out in our Atlantica Budget 2017 (a balanced budget as well).

Cheers,

**Jonathan Geoffrey Dean**

Leader

**Atlantica Party**

