To All CUPE Members of PEI

CUPE PEI has been working to gather information about the Political Parties of PEI

We asked Division members and other volunteers to participate in a Political Candidate Survey.

We identified concerns and issues facing our members and all islanders. Parties and candidates were asked these questions . Some have responded and some have not as of yet.

We are sharing the list of questions along with the responses from the candidates we had conversations with over the past couple of weeks . The parties are listed in alphabetical order. Please note that we have tried to include the replies that have a more concrete number or action that the party is promising to do if elected. Not all parties responded to each and every question we presented. Please feel free to check in later to help hold the PEI Government accountable for their election promises.

CUPE PEI encourages all members to go out and cast their ballot for the person they have chosen in their districts.

We as CUPE PEI support the Yes vote for MMP.

**Please continue reading to find out the candidates 'responses on our 5 areas of concerns and visit our site to read all of the parties' plans in these areas and others that are not addressed in this report.**

**1. Health Care**

**What is their plan for recruiting Medical Personnel?**

**Green** **Political Issues for all Islanders**

Create and fill full time Nursing positions

Liberal 50 Million to for recruitment retention and training; A new Collaborative practice in Queens County to service an additional 8000; 5 new specialists

NDP Double Medical residencies immediately and triple by 2020

16 doctors for West Prince and Kings County and 40 new doctors and specialists

**How do they plan to address the Mental Health Crisis we are facing?**

Liberal Recruitment of New Psychiatrists, Psychologists and Mental health Nurses; Mobile Mental Health Care; Partners with Community Groups to offer solutions; Additional mental health walk in clinics (Tignish); New Addictions treatment and Housing for Youth

NDP Western PEI addictions treatment facility

PC Immediately replace Hillsborough Hospital; Candidate in District 26 wants to see elected boards in the regions

**What is the plan to build and staff more manor beds. Long term care should not be in hospitals?**

Green Would look in to the issue of staff to patient ratio; Would respond to the need for more long term care beds

Liberal An additional 100 long term care beds.( Candidate in District 9 thought this was a federal issue and did not know if the Liberals had a platform on this concern))

NDP Increase Provincial Manor Capacity

PC District 26 wants more Long term Care beds publicly funded

**How will wait times for medical services be decreased especially for our children and our seniors**?

Green Would respond to the need and spend 1.9 million on home care and will enhance long term care services

Liberal Increase the number of Nurse Practitioners across the island ; 2 million to rural health care; Increase by 50% the capacity of walk-in clinics

Would fill the complement of doctors practising in rural areas

**2. Education**

**Is there a plan to prevent overcrowding in our island classrooms?**

Liberal 125 million in school infrastructure

**Will there be more funding for Staffing?**

Liberal Recruitment of 150 front line workers i.e. educators, psychologists, counsellors and other highly trained staff

NDP $7 per hour wage increase for Early Childhood educators; More support for classroom teachers to meet the different learning needs of students

**How can we guarantee the best education for all students? Are you aware of what the class composition entails?**

Liberal New investment in training and compensation for early childhood educators

Provide vocational training at every island high school; 2.5 Million in technology to assist with class support and offer professional development

Increase bursaries for students UPEI, Holland College

PC $5 Million pre- school program for 4 year olds

**3. Housing Crisis**

**What is in place to address affordable housing?**

Green Increase affordable housing options and home care supports for people with disabilities

Liberal There will be 1400 new affordable units built with government support and easier access to rent supplements; target funding to non-profit groups that provide housing to at risk populations

NDP Create a stock of publicly owned housing with rents tied to income and add restrictions to short term rentals

**Is there a plan in place to meet the need of Accessible Housing? At least ten percent or more of housing should be meeting the needs as they arise.**

Green Increase affordable housing and home care supports for people with disabilities

Liberal Committed to providing timely access to safe accessible and affordable housing

**What are the issues with AIRBNB and how can they be resolved for everyone?**

Green Implement provincial regulations on short term rentals such as Airbnbs

Liberal This is within the jurisdiction of municipalities

**4. Wages**

**Have they given any thought to a Basic Income Guarantee?**

Green Will aggressively pursue negotiations with Federal Government to implement BIG

Liberal Propose to introduce a PEI Worker Benefit that has an element of BIG

**Is there a plan to go to a $15 minimum wage in the near future**?

Green One candidate from District would like to see it go to $15 by 2021

Liberal Raise to $14 by 2022 and add Tax relief by raising the Basic Personal Amount

NDP Promise a $15 per hour which would rise to $17 within four years

**Do they have a plan to decrease precarious work, (i.e) less part time jobs and more full time jobs**

Green More full time nursing positions

Liberal Create 3500 full time jobs in three(3) years;

**5. Public Services**

**Is the party committed to maintaining and increasing public services?**

Liberal Committed to providing public services; Increase in areas that are growing and evolving

**Are they aware of how good jobs providing great services to all islanders helps to keep the public safe and the economy growing?**

Liberal Public Service is an economic strength of PEI