



Justin Campbell  
Director of Advocacy  
First Light  
St. John's Friendship Centre

Dear Justin,

Thank you for your letter of September 16, 2025, in which you asked for an outline of the next steps the Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador will take in respect of the 42 Calls for Change that were part of Reconciliation Report 2024.

If re-elected, our government will continue to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Only by working together, will we foster a future where Indigenous people preserve traditions while creating new opportunities for future generations.

Over the last number of years, we have made significant investments to support both Indigenous communities, as well as the awareness, recognition and inclusion of Indigenous voices in government and society at large.

And there is a lot more work to do, together.

Recently in Budget 2025, our Liberal Government announced \$5 million for the Inquiry Respecting the Treatment, Experiences and Outcomes of Innu in the Child Protection System, as well as \$316,500 for Indigenous Violence Prevention Grants, and \$250,000 for Indigenous education resources in our K-12 schools.

We also allocated \$133,900 for the Aboriginal Women's Network and continued our core funding for friendship centres. This is in addition to investments year over year since 2015, including \$910,649 for the Office of Indigenous and Northern Skilled Trades in Corner Brook, St. John's and Happy Valley-Goose Bay, and \$4.2 million in 2021 for the Inquiry into the Treatment of Innu Children in Care. Also, the Gladue Report Project received \$225,000 to support its work.

A re-elected Liberal government will also make Indigenous history and cultural education mandatory for all students across the province.

Education Accord NL is a landmark initiative by the provincial government, marking a pivotal moment for Newfoundland and Labrador. It provides a comprehensive 10-year plan with clear Calls to Transformation or change, and pathways to effect change. A re-elected Liberal government supports key recommendations from that report which focus on: embedding Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing in curriculum guides and resources, teaching and learning strategies, assessment and evaluation practices, and school culture; and integrating Indigenous knowledge, perspectives, and ways of being as foundational elements in the delivery of education across early childhood, K-12, and post-secondary systems.



Our government will introduce an Indigenous history, language and culture module for elementary and junior high students, and a mandatory Indigenous history and reconciliation course for high school students.

Your organization has been instrumental in calling for the implementation of a civilian-led police oversight board. This year, our government introduced legislation to amend the RNC Act to replace the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission and establish a new process relating to police misconduct. This new piece of legislation received Royal Assent in the House of Assembly on March 18th. The new Act includes new processes, with clearer timelines, ensuring greater transparency and efficiency for all complaints relating to RNC police discipline.

The Act provides for: Improved oversight of police discipline by an independent commission; Initiation of an investigation without a complaint to address any systemic issues within the RNC; Publishing de-identified summaries of investigations, making the system more open and transparent; Establishing an appeal panel hearing that would be open to the public; Complainants to benefit from the assistance of a support person, who can assist with making a complaint on behalf of someone else, and making a complaint more accessible to the public.

A re-elected Liberal Government will also introduce new, modernized Public Safety Legislation. This will bring a framework for policing that emphasizes accountability, transparency, and community well-being. This legislation can also provide a pathway for indigenous self-policing.

We will continue to work with Indigenous communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador to ensure better access to housing, health care, and other critical services. We will also continue to advocate to the federal government for increases in funding for programs and services that support Indigenous communities such as the Nutrition North Canada program.

While our government is making progress on this reconciliation journey through listening, understanding and mutual respect, there is still lots more work to do. We remain focused on the matters that are important to Indigenous Peoples.

I appreciate you taking the time to write to us and I look forward to building on our relationship. The Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador remains committed to walking the shared path of reconciliation and continuing to build a strong relationship with Indigenous communities.

Sincerely,

John Hogan, Leader  
Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador

# Liberal