

**Job Security Policy (Last reviewed 2016)****PREAMBLE:**

Stable and secure employment in today's market is a critical issue. The Green Party of Nova Scotia sees the role of government as a generator of opportunities for job creation, and conditions that encourage continued commitment of business and industry to Nova Scotia.

Building the green economy and creating green jobs is a powerful, sustainable, and achievable step toward solving the economic and environmental challenges we face. Long-term employment for thousands of Nova Scotians will be provided through strengthening our agriculture sector, rapidly expanding our renewable energy sector, developing sustainable transportation options, and increasing energy efficiency and conservation.

Proper use of Nova Scotia's renewable resources, support for our entrepreneurs, and retention of our educated and capable workforce will help ensure a prosperous future for Nova Scotia.

The Green Party has a commitment to sustainable industries, sustainable employment, and sustainable outputs, to create green jobs for Nova Scotians.

1. The Green Party will focus on budgetary measures that:
  - 1.1. support the creation of long-term jobs and business opportunities
  - 1.2. strengthen and develop our sustainable green economy
  - 1.3. support local small businesses, industries, and farms and their local markets
2. The Green Party strategy for renewable energy that will bring long-term employment includes:
  - 2.1. support for the feed-in-tariffs to guarantee a fair price for producers of renewable energy
  - 2.2. programs to encourage individual and community investment toward greater energy self-sufficiency and a reduction on the base-load requirement
  - 2.3. infrastructure upgrades to increase the ability of the grid to manage intermittent renewable energy, including smart grid technology
3. The Green Party supports measures for improved energy efficiency which in turn will provide jobs in a thriving construction sector, and in related businesses, including
  - 3.1. education for trades people
  - 3.2. training of professionals to identify and support energy conservation and efficiency options for businesses, home owners and renters
4. The Green Party will work on a comprehensive provincial plan of options for effective, sustainable transportation of goods and the public, which will provide substantial employment in the construction and manufacturing sectors as we seek to
  - 4.1. improve transportation to support our economy
    - 4.1.1. increase funding for sustainable transportation to a level that at least matches the Canadian average for provincial per capita funding
    - 4.1.2. upgrade our public transit systems
    - 4.1.3. support for the rebuilding of our rail infrastructure
    - 4.1.4. revitalization and expansion of ferry services

- 4.2. increase transport safety
- 4.3. reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- 5. To offset layoffs in industry, the Green Party encourages job sharing programs bolstered by Employment Insurance funds to make up the wage shortfall.
- 6. The Green Party encourages systems of micro-credit opportunities for local entrepreneurs who cannot access credit from traditional sources
- 7. The Green Party supports the provincial program encouraging and facilitating investment in Nova Scotia businesses.