

NDP Caucus News

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Brown Says Labrador West Left Behind in Another Liberal Budget

NDP MHA Jordan Brown (Labrador West) is deeply disappointed with the lack of meaningful action to address ongoing issues for the people of Labrador West, pointing out that the majority of the budget is just old announcements with no new measures to invest in the Big Land.

Brown says that the budget is status quo and lacks any new solutions or action to really help Labradorians with the issues impacting them the most. He calls the budget “tired,” highlighting announcements that have already been completed.

“What we’re really seeing is there’s no vision, there’s no plan. It seems that they don’t really know where they want to go as a province, and that’s what’s really concerning, because we need to have a vision, we need to have somewhere to go,” Brown said. “Re-announcing housing units that people are already living in in the budget clearly shows that this government doesn’t understand the severity of what people in Labrador are facing. It lacks substance, to say the least.”

Brown says while an increase in funding to MTAP and “satellite infrastructure” to help with wildfires in Wabush are welcome, the budget is void of addressing the real need for housing, healthcare, the cost of living, and investments in critical minerals.

“Additional money for MTAP is always welcome, but what’s the plan to cut through red tape and make the process easier for people? Where is the investment in municipalities to grow and strengthen our communities?” Brown questions. “There’s an increase in funding for oil and gas exploration, but no increase in funding for critical mineral or mineral exploration on the island of Newfoundland or in Labrador. That’s a huge piece of the puzzle missing.

“It’s great to see government recognize the importance of wildfire resources in Labrador West, but I’m left wondering what a satellite office for wildfires in Wabush really means. It’s just a line, it doesn’t have any context or anything to it. For all I know, it could be an individual with a cell phone. Does this mean the waterbomber will return? After the evacuation we faced this summer, government should clearly see why that waterbomber must return to Wabush.

“I continue to wonder how government can continue to neglect Labradorians.”

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