

To:

Members of Law Amendments Committee:

Honourable Lena Metlege Diab, Bill Horne, Patricia Arab, Terry Farrell, Brendan Maguire, Honourable Pat Dunn, Alfie MacLeod, Gordie Gosse, Lenore Zann

Honourable Stephen McNeil, Premier of Nova Scotia
Honourable Jamie Baillie, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party
Honourable Maureen MacDonald, Leader of the New Democratic Party

Prioritize youth retention and opportunity in Nova Scotia

On April 3, the Nova Scotia government announced it is eliminating the Graduate Retention Rebate, worth \$49 million per year or as much as \$15,000 for individual recipients. Just as Nova Scotia faces dramatic demographic decline, endemic out-migration and high youth unemployment, the Liberal government is diverting funding from supporting youth in the economy. All told they will take approximately \$34 million per year from support for students and graduates, \$136 million over their four-year mandate if this policy continues.

This decision sends a message that youth economic success is not a priority for the government of Nova Scotia. However, the success of our youth is a priority for Nova Scotians. We cannot afford to continue losing our young people and fail to support young newcomers. The Province of Nova Scotia must reinvest this money immediately.

By signing this letter, I am committing to vote in the next provincial election and I will not support a government that does not support youth. I am calling on the Province to return this money to our young people!

Sincerely,

Jonathan Williams
Halifax

+ 3494 identical letters from others