



A thousand years ago the bravest of Norse explorers arrived on our shores in pursuit of a better tomorrow.

Five hundred years ago John Cabot set to sea in search of new world riches.

A hundred years ago our forefathers bravely fought on foreign soil and in doing so ensured the very survival of this land.

This is our chance to follow in the footsteps of those who came before us.

Now it's our turn!

Newfoundland & Labrador Defense League (NLDL)



Newfoundland & Labrador - Make it yours!

Mission Statement and Objective

Mission Statement

- DEDICATED TO THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF INITIATIVES FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR PEOPLE.

Objectives

- Promoting Newfoundland and Labrador issues on the local, national and world stage - through news media, talk shows, promotional materials, general conversation and any other suitable means available.
- Leveraging all opportunities to promote an empowered Newfoundland and Labrador to the fullest potential wherever and whenever possible.
- To discuss ideas and to assist in organizing like minded individuals who wish to help enrich the Newfoundland and Labrador experience, both inside and potentially outside, of the Canadian Dominion.
- Ensuring that the wrongs of the past are not repeated and that existing injustices are corrected for the benefit of our people.

Creating a Newfoundland and Labrador that is capable of supporting and advancing all of its citizens who wish to live, work and raise their families here. To become the most prosperous and culturally exciting place in North America.

Strategic Drivers

Natural Resources

- Offshore oil revenues are projected to increase significantly in the coming years. However, the net benefit of these revenues to the province will be substantially diminished through the loss of equalization payments (post offshore revenue agreement).
- Lack of custodial management of the fishery - there must be a collaborative approach to resource recovery that focuses on conservation, science and industry reform, and gives the province a meaningful say in its future.

Outmigration

- Rural communities have been devastated by the collapse of traditional fisheries and the phenomenon of outmigration. Debt continues to grow, while the province loses its youth, heritage and confidence in its self.

The Federal/Provincial relationship is strained

- Provincial interests are not understood by the federal government or reflected in policies and programs. The total number of federal jobs in Newfoundland and Labrador continue to decrease at alarming rates.

Hydroelectric resources have been developed for the benefit of Québec; oil resources have been developed in a manner that makes Canada the primary beneficiary; the fishery has all but disappeared.

Future Benefits

Immediate benefits

- A sense of pride by improving the lives of all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.
- The opportunity to make Newfoundland and Labrador a true part of the North American continent, and to be recognized for the value it adds to this region of the world.
- A chance to change the political and social landscape of our homeland.

Concept to achieve these benefits

- Ensuring that all injustices perpetrated (or looming over) Newfoundland and Labrador are exposed to the global community.
- Support various organizations in their struggle to improve various aspects of the Newfoundland and Labrador experience.
- Work with, and lobby political and business leaders who are capable of influencing our collective future.
- Change through a non-partisan pragmatic approach that ensures that the right direction is taken, rather than the politically expedient one.

An improved quality of life and preservation of culture for all Newfoundland and Labrador people.

Group Scope

In Scope

- Promote Newfoundland and Labrador locally, in North America and around the globe.
- Create a “buzz” in news media and throughout political circles.
- Network with organizations and individuals who can help move our cause forward.
- Actively recruit members in an effort to grow the organization into a force that can not be ignored by the political and business people within the province or Canada.
- Bring about change through non-violent and legal means.

Out of Scope

- Non-partisan alignment with any political party, except on an issue-by-issue basis; however, the development of our own political wing will be explored in the future.

NLDL will work diligently to promote our agenda within Canada however we recognize that sovereignty is a valid option that must be considered with the same level of rigor and serious thought as all others.

Group Organization

Steering Committee

Myles Higgins, Steven Penny, John Feltham, Greg Byrne, Ryan Lane, Darren Fancy, Paul Smith

Key Stakeholders

- Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
 - Government of Canada
- Citizens of Newfoundland & Labrador
 - Citizens of Canada
- Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro
- The Newfoundland and Labrador Fishing Industry
 - Oil and gas industry
 - Transportation industry

Member Locations

- Newfoundland and Labrador
 - New Brunswick
 - Ontario
 - Quebec
 - Qatar

Resource Assessment

Funding

- NLDL is currently in the process of registration as a not for profit organization
- Funding will be required for promotional materials, campaigns, and general operations.

Media Access

- News, talk shows and all access to other forms of media will be needed to promote Newfoundland and Labrador issues on the local, national and world stage.

Skills Matrix

- Distinctive skill sets will be leveraged among team members. Individuals should inform the leadership committee of specialized skills that can be used to benefit the group.

Member Base

- All members will should use every opportunity available to them to seek out and recruit like minded individuals who can help increase our membership and in turn, help promote our agenda.

Impact and Risk

The impact of our group will

- The betterment of Newfoundland and Labrador and its peoples.

Primary risks include

- Alienating citizens from “mainland” Canada.
- Isolation from conservatively minded Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.
- Potential for international trade impacts while addressing fishing rights.
- Conflict with Quebec over Churchill Falls power and road access.

Additional Details

Online Media

- Discussion Forum → <http://freenl.jconserv.net/>

Interested in becoming a member?

- To register as a member, please email the following required information to NLDL_NL@yahoo.ca
 - Full Name
 - City/Town
 - Province/State
 - Email Address
 - Reason for joining

After review and approval of your request, connection information for access to the forum web site will be supplied.

