

# **Toward Prosperity**

## **Human Rights Commissioners Consultation**

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2000

### **Notes:**

#### **Business Climate**

- Highlighting existing success stories is extremely important.
- Need to focus on Small and Medium Enterprises - there is a better chance of success with them than with a few large companies.

#### **Principles**

- Is there anywhere that addresses the social infrastructure that will support economic development?

#### **Labour Market**

- Cape Breton is losing its strength because it is losing its young people. Have to do something to keep our young people at home.
  - In 1973 a company came to Sable Island and then went to Scotland. When it left Scotland it left trained, vibrant communities. Nova Scotia should settle its disputes with Newfoundland over the Sub-Laurentian Basin so that we can at least get a start.
- Prosperity starts with education, but we are cutting the education budget.
  - Should be training our young people in the prosperous industries to improve upon the existing systems and successes.

#### **Role for Government**

- All three levels of government must work together.
- Need to make sure that there is a continuous intergovernmental discussion going on.
  - There has been a lot of work done at the Department of Community Services around disincentives to work etc.
- Need to depoliticise the work of the departments.
- How will this affect the non-profit sector?
- Non-profits are doing a lot of the work that government should be doing.
- Need to discourage abuse of the system.

#### **Implementation**

- Need to use the media to advantage.