

Newfoundland and Labrador Defense League (NLDL)



Newfoundland and Labrador – Make it Yours

The Newfoundland and Labrador Defense League (NLDL) would like to take this opportunity to thank the Independent for the wonderful service it provides to Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. It's through independent voices like theirs that we all gain a greater understanding of our province.

NLDL is a non-profit organization made up of proud Newfoundlanders and Labradorians at home and around the world. We are not affiliated with any political party. The NLDL came into being in September and membership has been growing steadily ever since. Membership is open to anyone tired of the status quo in the province and is willing to stand up and be heard. Our mission statement says it best:

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

Newfoundland and Labrador is not an equal partner in Canada and the time has come for each of us to stand up and be heard. Since 1949 we've been nothing more than a resource rich colonial outpost. Our resources and people have served Canada since confederation while we've sunk further and further into obscurity. We need a stronger voice than 7 federal representatives, divided along party lines, can provide. The NLDL intends to rally public support and ensure that Ottawa no longer ignores our needs.

NLDL is committed to the advancement of our economy, political position, social standing and culture. Many of the problems we have today can be traced to decades of federal mishandling and a lack of provincial will on issues like the fisheries, natural resources and industrial development. The NLDL believes increased provincial control and improved methods of managing and developing our own future is the answer.

Our people have survived for centuries using the resources at our disposal, including the fisheries, which were once the life blood of this province. We believe all resources, whether on land or under the oceans, should be developed to maximize secondary and tertiary processing here, rather than exported for the benefit of others. Using our resources locally is the only way to foster industrial growth, provide sustainable employment and stop the tidal wave of out-migration that's raving us of our people and way of life.

The NLDL is working to provide a voice for our province on these and many other issues including transportation, immigration and equalization. We intend to work within

Canada to achieve our goals but we also recognize independence as an option. While the NLDL is not a sovereignty organization we understand that this option exists and must be considered, along with others, as a way to improve Newfoundland and Labrador's ability to survive and prosper.

If you want to learn more about the Newfoundland and Labrador Defense League visit us on the web at **www.ndl.org** or email **ndl_nl@yahoo.ca**

Thanks again to the Independent and remember, Newfoundland and Labrador belongs to all of us, it needs a strong voice and that voice is yours.