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News Release

For Immediate Release

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TIANB awaits further clarification to the budget cut to Tourism

FREDERICTON, NB

The Tourism Industry Association of New Brunswick (TIANB) is pleased to see a fiscally responsible budget announced yesterday.

A surplus of \$23.1M and payment of \$49.2 M against the net debt addresses our concerns expressed last year about the government having a stronger commitment to address the net debt because New Brunswick stands as one of the most indebted provinces in Canada.

Difficult decisions had to be made and the Progressive Conservative government held true to their promise of a balanced budget during their 18-month mandate.

Although it appears that there is an \$8M cut to the Tourism budget, there was a one-time injection of \$8M added to the 2018-19 budget for the Tourism Growth Strategy.

“TIANB is looking forward to the main estimates to see how the cuts to the Tourism, Heritage and Culture budget will affect the tourism industry,” says Carol Alderdice, President and CEO.

“We are relieved to learn there will be no new taxes. That is good news for our industry when one considers the rising cost of doing business in NB,” says Dan Myers, Chair.

The Tourism Industry in New Brunswick supports over 42,000 employees and represents close to 9% of the province’s labour force. Visitors spend roughly \$1.3 billion dollars in New Brunswick. Tourism contributes more than \$520 million annually to the provincial GDP. The tourism share of provincial GDP ranks with the combined share of agriculture, forestry and fishery in New Brunswick’s economy.