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From : "Scott, Brian"

BCc : "Hynes, Darrell" , "Ivey, Donna" , "MacLean, Heather" , "Paddock, Jeff" , "Barfoot, Scott" , "Brown, Milly" , "Donnan, Hugh" , "Blackmore, Diane" , "Clarke, Lesley" , "Grant, Heather"

Subject : Telegram - Davis delivers campaign-style speech to BoT

Davis delivers campaign-style speech to BoT

[James McLeod](#)

Telegram

October 27, 2015

Premier Paul Davis delivered a fiercely partisan speech at the St. John's Board of Trade luncheon today, warning of the dire consequences of electing a Liberal government.

Davis promised to cut business taxes and boost spending to the sorts of government programs that goose the economy, and got applause from the largely business crowd at the Board of Trade event.

He also promised to use revenue from electricity sales on the mainland to offset some of the power rate increases that will come from the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric development.

Tuesday's speech as the second time in less than a week that Davis has delivered a campaign-style speech in St. John's.

On Friday, Davis was making the case to NAPE that public sector workers that they should strategically vote for the Tories because the Liberals would slash government spending and lay off workers.

On Tuesday, Davis was again raising the spectre of the Liberals slashing spending, but this time he tailored his message to the business crowd by talking about how that reduced spending would mean fewer dollars in the economy and fewer customers for business.

All of this is happening right before a provincial election campaign, with the formal writ period set to begin within the next couple weeks, and voters going to the polls on Nov. 30.

The provincial government is currently running a \$1.1-billion deficit, and speaking to journalists after his speech, he indicated that the tax cut and the spending increases would basically be added to the deficit.

However, Davis said that the extra money spent by government could bring back more revenue if it boosts economic activity, so it should all be viewed as an investment.