Firstly, some rearranging:

$$z\frac{dN_{\phi}}{dz} + N_{\phi} = z \sec \beta \tan \beta p_{n} - z \sec \beta p_{\phi} \quad \text{where} \quad p_{n} = p_{1} + (p_{2} - p_{1})\frac{(L - z)}{L} = p_{2} + \frac{z}{L}(p_{1} - p_{2})$$

Let $A = \sec \beta \tan \beta$ and $B = \sec \beta$, where A and B are constants.

Hence:
$$z \frac{dN_{\phi}}{dz} + N_{\phi} = zAp_n - zBp_{\phi} = zA(p_2 + \frac{z}{L}(p_1 - p_2)) - zBp_{\phi}$$

= $z(Ap_2 - Bp_{\phi}) + z^2 \frac{A}{L}(p_1 - p_2)$

Let $C = (Ap_2 - Bp_{\phi})$ and $D = \frac{A}{L}(p_1 - p_2)$, where C and D are constants.

Hence:
$$z \frac{dN_{\phi}}{dz} + N_{\phi} = Cz + Dz^2$$

After all that, consider the following ODE: $z \frac{dN_{\phi}}{dz} + N_{\phi} - Cz - Dz^2 = 0$

Using the same 'exact solution' method (James, 2001), the above ODE may be expressed in

the following form:
$$p(z, N_{\phi}) \frac{dN_{\phi}}{dz} + q(z, N_{\phi}) = 0$$

Let $h(z, N_{\phi})$ be the exact solution such that $\frac{\partial h}{\partial N_{\phi}} = p(z, N_{\phi})$ and $\frac{\partial h}{\partial z} = q(z, N_{\phi})$

Thus:
$$p(z, N_{\phi}) = z$$
 : $\frac{\partial h}{\partial N_{\phi}} = z$ \Rightarrow $h = z \int_{0}^{N_{\phi}} \partial N_{\phi} = z N_{\phi}$

and:
$$q(z, N_{\phi}) = N_{\phi} - Cz - Dz^2$$
 \therefore $\frac{\partial h}{\partial z} = N_{\phi} - Cz - Dz^2$

$$\Rightarrow h = \int_{0}^{z} (N_{\phi} - Cz - Dz^{2}) \partial z = zN_{\phi} - \frac{1}{2}z^{2}C - \frac{1}{3}z^{3}D$$

Combining the two: $h(z, N_{\phi}) = zN_{\phi} - \frac{1}{2}z^{2}C - \frac{1}{3}z^{3}D$

Hence the original ODE becomes: $\frac{d}{dz}(zN_{\phi} - \frac{1}{2}z^2C - \frac{1}{3}z^3D) = 0$

and it's general solution is: $zN_{\phi} - \frac{1}{2}z^2C - \frac{1}{3}z^3D = K$ where *K* is a constant

Boundary condition: $N_{\phi} = 0$ when z = 0 \therefore K = 0

hence:
$$zN_{\phi} - \frac{1}{2}z^2C - \frac{1}{3}z^3D = 0$$

Thus: $N_{\phi}(z) = \frac{1}{2}zC + \frac{1}{3}z^2D = \frac{1}{2}z\sec\beta(\tan\beta p_2 - p_{\phi}) + \frac{1}{3}z^2(\frac{1}{L}\sec\beta\tan\beta(p_1 - p_2))$

or:
$$N_{\phi}(z) = \frac{z[\tan \beta (p_2 + \frac{2}{3L}z(p_1 - p_2)) - p_{\phi}]}{2\cos \beta}$$
 Q.E.D