



Discover B.C.'s natural advantages



**British Columbia,** *Naturally.*

[BritishColumbia.ca](http://BritishColumbia.ca)





As Canada's west coast capital of opportunity, British Columbia (B.C.) is a natural fit for big thinkers, innovators and change-makers.

**Learn why B.C. is a *natural fit* for your business.**

## Why Choose B.C.

British Columbia has one of the most competitive business climates in North America and is a leader in shaping the high-skill, competitive, low-carbon economy of the future.

Our location and infrastructure keep us connected to all major markets, with the ability to do business with Europe and Asia on the same business day.

B.C.'s true competitive advantage is its people — we have a highly skilled, diverse workforce and British Columbia's reputation as one of the most desirable places to live makes us a global magnet for talent.

### British Columbia's Economic Performance Indicators

2022

Real GDP (% change)	0.4
Labour force (thousands)	2,923
Unemployment rate (%)	5.6
Inflation rate (% change CPI)	6.3
Net in-migration	103,100
Exchange rate (US/CDN dollar)	74.7

Source: British Columbia Budget and Fiscal Plan 2023/24 – 2025/26.



### Businesses benefit from our:

- Business Climate and Economy
- Talent and Workforce
- Location and Global Access
- Innovation Ecosystem
- Rich Natural Resources
- ESG Advantages
- Quality of Life



Our stable operating environment and forward-thinking mindset accelerates business growth, innovation and prosperity.



## A Vibrant Hub for Business Growth

British Columbia boasts homegrown international brands like [Slack](#), [Hootsuite](#) and [Lululemon](#) which have embedded innovation and inclusion into their culture. Our largest city, Vancouver, is one of the fastest-growing low-carbon economies in North America.

- Preferential market access through 14 trade agreements with 49 countries
- Stability with one of the highest credit ratings among the Canadian provinces
- Some of the lowest electricity rates in North America



## A Multicultural Magnet for Top Talent

From some of the world's top scientists to thousands of computer science and engineering graduates each year, British Columbia provides a highly skilled workforce and strong talent pipeline.

- 25 colleges and universities, including the University of British Columbia, which ranks consistently among the top five percent of universities in the world
- A hotspot for students worldwide, with the second-largest concentration of international students in Canada
- Progressive and robust immigration programs that give companies access to unique and specialized international workers



**Discover how B.C. attracts top talent for companies.**

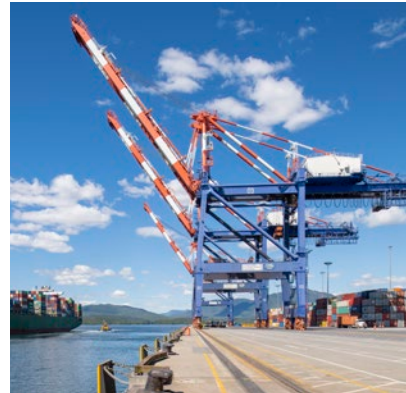


See how your business can benefit from being in B.C.

## Canada's West Coast Global Gateway

British Columbia's prime location on North America's west coast makes it easy and cost effective to do business around the world. We have 30 border crossings to the U.S., and our Pacific time zone means you can do business with New York, London or Hong Kong all within the same day.

- The [Port of Vancouver](#) (largest in Canada)
- The [Port of Prince Rupert](#) (closest North American west coast port to Asia)
- 36 certified airports, including Vancouver's YVR
- Extensive rail lines and major roads
- The highest rate of broadband and overall Internet connectivity in Canada



## A Flourishing Innovation Ecosystem

North of Silicon Valley and Seattle, British Columbia has a uniquely creative and collaborative tech culture. We have quickly grown into a thriving innovation hotspot, with more than 11,000 tech companies, including Microsoft, which recently added 500 jobs to its downtown Vancouver campus. Video gaming giant Electronic Arts is also investing in a large-scale expansion of its Canadian headquarters campus.

- Some of the highest technology sector growth rates in the country
- The second largest virtual and augmented reality sector in the world



**Come join our trailblazers — our inclination for innovation is contagious.**



## Learn more about our *natural* advantages.



### Where Rich Natural Resources Meet Next-Generation Technology

British Columbia's stunning coastline, lush forests, mountains, rivers and valleys are not only beautiful — they drive our economy and provide new opportunities. B.C.'s rich natural resources fuel everything from forestry and agriculture to mining and natural gas, while using sustainable practices and cutting-edge technologies. We are a leading producer of the minerals and metals needed to transition to a low-carbon future.

- Millions of hectares of forested land, sustainable forest practices and high-quality forestry products
- Agriculture, seafood and food processing industries that produce one of the most diverse selections of products in Canada



### B.C.'s ESG Advantages

In British Columbia, like-minded individuals, businesses, communities and Indigenous Peoples are partnering to create an economic and investment climate that is environmentally, ethically and economically conscious.

Policies are in place to reflect the values of British Columbians — from a climate plan that protects the province's prized clean air to human rights laws that help to protect all people from discrimination.

- The cleanest jurisdiction in western North America, with an average of 98% of electricity generation coming from clean or renewable resources
- A roadmap to a net-zero future
- Policies that reflect our values

Discover how B.C. does business.





## See why people are *naturally* drawn to British Columbia.

### Awe-Inspiring Mountains, Coastline and Lifestyle

In British Columbia, our temperate climate, cosmopolitan cities and natural wonders provide a quality of life that draws people from around the world. In fact, Vancouver ranks as one of the world's most livable cities.

- Award-winning universities
- An excellent public health-care system
- A diverse arts and cultural scene



Our rich culture is powered by our people. B.C. is committed to true, lasting and meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and as the most ethnically diverse province in Canada, our multicultural society helps nurture inclusiveness, understanding and mutual respect.

### Opportunity in B.C.

With rich natural resources, top talent and proven economic strengths, British Columbia offers opportunities across many industry sectors.



#### Key Industries:

- Aerospace
- Agriculture, Food & Beverage
- Clean Technology
- Digital Media & Entertainment
- Forestry
- Information & Communications Technology
- Life Sciences
- Mining
- Natural Gas



#### High Growth Sectors:

- Agritech
- Artificial Intelligence
- Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality
- Hydrogen Energy
- Marine
- Mass Timber

## Launch Your Growth From B.C.

Trade and Invest British Columbia offers confidential, knowledgeable advice and services including:

- **Strategic Support:** Obtain the information and contacts you need to make strategic investment decisions in British Columbia.
- **Business Start-Up Assistance:** Get started faster by drawing on our extensive network of government and industry contacts.
- **Business Climate Information:** Learn more about taxation, labour markets, business costs, permits and regulations.
- **Suppliers of Business Services:** Meet with experts in tax, real estate and law, as well as government permitting agencies.
- **Hosting and Site Tours:** Ask us to arrange familiarization tours to business locations throughout the province, including visiting potential sites, touring facilities and meeting with community leaders.
- **Government Programs:** Learn about the federal, provincial and local government support programs specific to your business.



## Expand to B.C.

Our stable, welcoming government has streamlined regulations and a competitive, pro-business tax system that makes it easy to get started and keep growing.



## Invest Capital in B.C.

Investors will find that our reputation for safety, a stable fiscal and political environment, a dependable legal system and top-ranked quality of life, makes us the natural choice for business in Canada.



## Buy From B.C.

British Columbia (B.C.) has built a strong international reputation for producing high-quality goods and outstanding services across multiple sectors.



## Contact Us

We are here to match sellers with buyers, investors with opportunities and companies with talented employees, whether they're selling products or services to the people of B.C. or working with our local communities to export products worldwide.

Our experienced and educated team of trade and investment professionals have access to a global network of representatives in China, Japan, Korea, SE Asia, India, Europe and the United States.



**Connect with us today.**

**BritishColumbia.ca**



# British Columbia, *Naturally.*

## Contact:

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