

SHUSWAP

# TECH SECTOR PROFILE



**THE SHUSWAP:  
WILD IDEAS WELCOME**

## Market Overview

The Shuswap is transitioning beyond traditional resource and tourism economies into a digitally-enabled, knowledge-friendly landscape. Advancements in broadband connectivity, growth of remote work, and increasing digital adoption across local businesses have created a foundation for tech sector investment. Columbia Shuswap Regional District Areas C, D, F, and G benefit from:

- Proximity to Salmon Arm (regional economic hub) with growing tech activity.
- Seasonal and lifestyle migration, attracting digital professionals seeking quality of life.
- Improved broadband infrastructure, enabling remote work and cloud-based operations.



SHUSWAP  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
SOCIETY

# TECH TERMINOLOGY

## 1. Technology Sector

Innovate BC describes the tech sector as encompassing companies that use information and communications technologies to develop products, services, and solutions that enable digital transformation.

### Key Characteristics:

- Software development, IT support, SaaS platforms.
- Digital marketing, design, or e-commerce platforms.
- Telecommunications and networking.
- Includes smaller-scale tech companies and startups.

## 2. High Technology Sector

The high-tech sector is a subset of the tech sector involving advanced, research-intensive, and innovation-driven technologies. These firms typically invest heavily in R&D and often produce cutting-edge hardware, software, or integrated solutions that have high technical complexity or proprietary IP.

### Key Characteristics:

- Robotics, automation, and advanced manufacturing.
- AI, machine learning, and data analytics solutions.
- Cleantech, biotech, medtech, agtech, and life sciences technologies.
- Aerospace, semiconductor, and optical/electronics innovations.
- Often export-oriented with scalable, knowledge-intensive products.

# TECH SECTOR AT A GLANCE

## Canada

ICT Sector \$131.6 B GDP and 802,900 jobs in 2024.

### [Digital Technologies/ICT Profile](#)

- [2024 Sector Profile](#)

## BC

British Columbia's tech sector is the province's fastest-growing industry, featuring 11,000 companies and 220,000+ employees. Vancouver #1 for highest high tech talent concentration in Canada. The tech sector is projected to generate more new jobs than any other industry in BC over the next ten years.

Src: [BC Tech](#)

## Key 2026 BC Tech Industry Statistics

- Employment & Growth: 11,000 tech companies and more than 220,000 employees.
- Salaries: Average salaries for tech and new media jobs in BC approximately \$97,000.
- Key Sectors: AI, AR/VR/MR, Blockchain, Cleantech, Cloud/SaaS, Digital Health, Digital Media, FinTech, and Gaming.
- Workforce Diversity:
  - Women: 38.6%.
  - People of Colour: 33.1%.
  - 2SLGBTQIA+: 9.9%.
  - People with Disabilities: 5.2%.
  - Indigenous Representation: 0.8%.
- Location: 88% of tech companies are in urban areas; 12% are in non-urban areas.
- Talent Challenge: 78% of companies with talent challenges had to hire outside of BC to fill roles.

Src: [BC Tech Association](#)

Trade and Invest BC - [ICT 1 of 11 key sectors](#).

Agri Technology, AI, and AR/VR 3 of 5 emerging sectors

- [Agri Technology](#)
- [AI](#)
- [AR/VR](#)
- [High Tech Sector Profile](#)

## Shuswap

### Tech Economy

- **Tech Jobs** (2025): 1650 jobs (13.2% total employment, 57.8% growth 2015-2025). Top sub-sectors: residential building construction (345), other electrical equipment and component manufacturing (242), commercial and industrial machinery and equipment (except automotive and electronic) repair and maintenance (139), architectural, engineering and related services (137), automotive repair and maintenance (131), computer systems design and related services (128), other professional, scientific and technical services (123).
- **Tech Self Employed:** 567 (74% growth 2015-2025).
- **Tech Exports** (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): \$2.97 B (16.4% of total exports). Key exports (in order): Residential building construction (\$921 M), other electrical equipment and component manufacturing (\$261 M), computer systems design and related services (\$220 M), architectural, engineering and related services (\$140 M), management, scientific and technical consulting services (\$138 M), electric power generation, transmission and distribution (\$126 M), automotive repair and maintenance (\$118 M), other professional, scientific and technical services (\$87 M), highway, street and bridge construction (\$78 M), architectural and structural metals manufacturing (\$74 M), software publishers (\$71 M), medical equipment and supplies manufacturing (\$71 M), navigational, measuring, medical and control instruments manufacturing (\$62 M).
- **Tech Employment Projection** (2025-2031): 104 (6% of sector jobs). Leading sub-sector growth (in order): other electrical equipment and component manufacturing (32), residential building construction (31), other professional, scientific and technical services (21), commercial and industrial machinery and equipment (except automotive and electronic) repair and maintenance (20), computer systems design and related services (17), automotive repair and maintenance (10).
- **Tech Key Imported Purchases** (Enterprise Import Replacement Opportunities) (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): 1) Non-ferrous metal production and processing (\$16.4 M total purchases, 100% imported); 2) Architectural and structural metals manufacturing (\$13.7 M total purchases, 34% imported); 3) Architectural, engineering and related services (\$13.5 M total purchases, 77% imported); 3) Plastic product manufacturing (\$10.1 M total purchases, 78% imported); 4) Other wood product manufacturing (\$9.8 M total purchases, 100% imported).
- **High Tech Jobs** (2025): 645 jobs (5.2% total employment (BC 8%)), 56% growth 2015-2025). Top sub-sectors: architectural, engineering and related services (137), computer systems design and related services (128), wired and wireless telecommunications carriers(except satellite) (70), management, scientific and technical consulting services (45).
- **High Tech Self Employed:** 112 (-9% growth 2015-2025).
- **High Tech Exports** (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): \$1.39 B (7.7% of total exports). Key exports (in order): other electrical equipment and component manufacturing (\$261 M), computer systems design and related services (\$220 M), architectural, engineering and related services (\$140 M), management, scientific and technical consulting services (\$138 M), wired and wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite) (\$98 M), aerospace product and parts manufacturing (\$75 M), software publishers (\$71 M), medical equipment and supplies manufacturing (\$71 M), navigational, measuring, medical and control instruments manufacturing (\$62 M), pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing (\$49 M), commercial and service industry machinery manufacturing (\$38 M), semiconductor and other electronic component manufacturing (\$34 M).
- **High Tech Employment Projection** (2025-2031): 31 (5% of sector jobs). Leading sub-sector growth (in order): computer systems design and related services (17), other electrical equipment and component manufacturing (32).
- **High Tech Key Imported Purchases** (Enterprise Import Replacement Opportunities) (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): 1) Non-ferrous metal production and processing (\$15.8 M total purchases, 100% imported); 2) Computer systems design and relate services (\$4.2 M total purchases, 74% imported); 3) Resin, synthetic rubber, and artificial and synthetic fibres and filaments manufacturing (\$3.3 M total purchases, 100% imported); 4) Communications equipment manufacturing (\$3.2 M total purchases, 100% imported); 5) Semiconductor and other electronic component manufacturing (\$3.1 M total purchases, 100% imported); 6) Electrical equipment manufacturing (\$2.5 M total purchases, 100% imported); 7) Architectural, engineering and related services (\$1.7 M total purchases, 70% imported).

### Average Wages

\$60,099 – Tech – City of Salmon Arm

\$66,123 – High Tech – City of Salmon Arm

All sectors: \$49,064 (BC \$60,308)

Source: Lightcast. 2022 latest input-output modeling available.

### Shuswap Tech Ecosystem

#### Core Innovation Nodes

[Salmon Arm Innovation Centre](#) (Powered by SASCU) - a downtown innovation hub with: makerspace (3D printing / VR / workshops), co working space, business accelerator / support services, networking & startup support hub.

Salmon Arm Industrial Park - home to 90+ high tech and advanced manufacturing companies with diverse technologies (robotics, automation, machine vision, controls, fabrication).

## Leading Tech & Advanced Manufacturing Companies

### Columbia Shuswap Regional District:

#### Armillia Tech

Sports communication technology that integrates with helmets and wearable gear.

#### Salmon Arm:

- [USNR](#) - automation equipment for sawmills (controls/optimizers).
- [Raptor Integration Inc.](#) - machine integration / automation systems.
- [Mill Tech Industries](#) - high tech manufacturing and production systems.
- [Valid Manufacturing](#) - advanced R&D engineering & design.
- [4AG Robotics Inc.](#) - autonomous agricultural robots (pilot agritech solutions).

### Ecosystem Support & Service Organizations

Key nodes that support startup growth, business development, investment readiness, and networking:

- [Shuswap Business Support Hub](#) - business planning, mentorship, and services.
- [Community Futures Shuswap](#) - rural business financing & advisory.
- [Accelerate Okanagan](#) - regional accelerator network supporting scaling.
- [Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce](#) - business advocacy & connections.
- [North Shuswap Chamber of Commerce](#) - business advocacy & connections.
- [South Shuswap Chamber of Commerce](#) - business advocacy & connections.
- [Economic Trust of the Southern Interior](#) - funding programs & growth support.
- [WorkBC Office](#) - employment and workforce support.

### Education & Talent Development

- [Okanagan College](#) (Salmon Arm / nearby) - technical, trades, and applied programs.
- [Shuswap MakerSpace / Innovation Workshops](#) - youth & community technology engagement.
- [Tech Meet Up at Salmon Arm Secondary](#) - connects students to employers and tech careers.

### Investment & Funding Opportunities

BC's innovation ecosystem attracts funding for tech commercialization, AI integration, agritech, and exports.

Example: [BC Centre for Agritech Innovation](#) supported robotics projects in Salmon Arm.

Private & Hybrid Capital – e.g. [InBC Investment Corp](#) - provincial investment in high growth tech firms (non Salmon Arm specific, but relevant to BC ecosystem).

Regional Strategy & Network Links – e.g. [BC Technology Ecosystems Network](#) (BCTEN) aligns regional hubs with broader provincial support.

### Columbia Shuswap Regional District Areas C, D, F, G Tech Economy

- **Tech Jobs** (2025): 772 jobs (16.8% total employment, 59.7% growth 2015-2025). Top sub-sectors: residential building construction (238), commercial and industrial machinery and equipment (except automotive and electronic) repair and maintenance (122), highway, street and bridge construction (94), support activities for mining, and oil and gas extraction (87), architectural, engineering and related services (59), management, scientific and technical consulting services (37).
- **Tech Self Employed:** 451 (118% growth 2015-2025).
- **Tech Exports** (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): \$32 M (9.8% of total exports). Key exports (in order): highway, street and bridge construction, support activities for mining, and oil and gas extraction, commercial and industrial machinery and equipment (except automotive and electronic) repair and maintenance, computer systems design and related services, medical equipment and supplies manufacturing, other information services.
- **Tech Employment Projection** (2025-2031): 47 (7% of sector jobs). Leading sub-sector growth (in order): residential building construction, commercial and industrial machinery and equipment (except automotive and electronic) repair and maintenance, support activities for mining, and oil and gas extraction.
- **Tech Key Imported Purchases** (Enterprise Import Replacement Opportunities) (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): 1) Non-ferrous metal production and processing (\$16.4 M total purchases, 100% imported); 2) Architectural, engineering and related services (\$13.5 M total purchases, 77% imported); 3) Plastic product manufacturing (\$10.1 M total purchases, 78% imported); 4) Other wood product manufacturing (\$9.8 M total purchases, 100% imported); 5) Architectural and structural metals manufacturing (\$13.7 M total purchases, 34% imported).

### High Tech Economy

- **High Tech Jobs** (2025): 141 jobs (3.3% total employment, 97% growth 2015-2025). Top sub-sectors: architectural, engineering and related services (59), management, scientific and technical consulting services (37), computer systems design and related services (19), other information services (18).
- **High Tech Self Employed:** 90 (172% growth 2015-2025).
- **High Tech Exports** (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): \$7.9 M (2.4% of total exports). Key exports (in order): medical equipment and supplies manufacturing, other information services, computer systems design and related services.

- **High Tech Employment Projection** (2025-2031): 4 (3% of sector jobs).
- **High Tech Key Imported Purchases** (Enterprise Import Replacement Opportunities) (2022 – latest input-output modeling available): 1) Computer systems design and related services (\$490 K total purchases, 72% imported); 2) Software publishers (\$109 K total purchases, 100% imported).

Source: Lightcast

### Average Wages

\$58,340 – Tech - Columbia Shuswap C, D, F, G

\$47,112 – High Tech - Columbia Shuswap C, D, F, G

All sectors: \$44,110 (BC \$60,308)

Source: Lightcast. 2022 latest input-output modeling available.

The BC Government produces a [wage survey](#) - that indicates weekly earnings by industry sector/location.

[BC Workforce Profile](#) (Thompson Okanagan)

### Key Drivers

- Population & Workforce Trends: urban-to-rural migration has increased, with professionals relocating for lower housing costs and lifestyle reasons while maintaining remote careers. Strong presence of small businesses and tourism operators that require digital marketing, e-commerce, booking systems, and tech support.

- Broadband Connectivity: broadband expansion initiatives across the Shuswap have significantly improved internet speeds and accessibility in recent years, crucial for remote work, SaaS delivery, and digital collaboration.
- Lifestyle Migration: a vibrant lake-and-mountain lifestyle attracts knowledge workers, freelancers, and remote teams who value quality of life without sacrificing career opportunities.
- Business Digitization - local enterprises - especially in retail, hospitality, and professional services - are increasingly adopting digital tools (e.g., online ordering, reservation platforms, business analytics), driving demand for tech consulting and support.

### Connectivity

Connectivity is variable given rural location. Nature/speed of Internet connectivity typically requires address input via website links.

Internet:

- [TELUS](#)
- [Rogers](#)
- [Xplore Internet](#)
- [Wakey](#) (Scotch Creek area)
- [Starlink](#)

Cell:

- [TELUS Mobility](#) 5G/5G+ in large portions of the Shuswap. [Coverage map.](#)
- [Bell Mobility](#) 5G/5G+ in large portions of the Shuswap. [Coverage map.](#)
- [Rogers Wireless](#) 5G/5G+ in large portions of the Shuswap. [Coverage map.](#)

# SHUSWAP TARGET INDUSTRY: TECH



## BC COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

The Shuswap enables tech companies to attract talent, operate efficiently, and connect to B.C.'s major innovation markets.

### Why BC?

- ✓ Exceptional Talent – BC's post-secondary institutions are working collaboratively with the tech sector to attract, train, and graduate skilled workers to meet the needs of the tech sector.
- ✓ Prime Location – as Canada's gateway to the Pacific, BC's business day conveniently overlaps with afternoon working hours in Europe and morning work schedules in Asia, and synchronizes with the full working days of California and Washington state.
- ✓ Incubators and Accelerators – the Venture Accelerator Program – funded by Innovate BC, is in place to develop, coach and expand early-stage entrepreneurs as they take first steps towards their tech venture.

# WHY SHUSWAP?



Despite its rural character, the Shuswap already hosts 140 technology companies regionally and a cluster of high-tech manufacturing firms.

**THE SHUSWAP OFFERS TECH COMPANIES AFFORDABLE SPACE, ACCESS TO SKILLED TALENT, LIFESTYLE-DRIVEN EMPLOYEE RETENTION, SUPPORTIVE LOCAL INNOVATION PROGRAMS, AND A UNIQUE BRAND STORY ROOTED IN LAKE-SIDE AND RECREATIONAL LIFE — ALL WHILE STAYING CONNECTED TO LARGER URBAN MARKETS.**

# TECH COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

## ① LOWER OPERATING COSTS

- Affordable real estate and industrial space compared to urban hubs like Vancouver or Calgary.
- Lower commercial rents and property taxes reduce overhead for offices, light manufacturing, or prototyping labs.
- Opportunity to acquire or lease larger spaces for R&D or manufacturing that would be prohibitive in major cities.

## ② TALENT & WORKFORCE ADVANTAGES

- Access to skilled trades, engineers, and tech professionals willing to relocate for lifestyle benefits.
- Proximity to local post secondary programs and tech training initiatives, with potential co-op students via BC programs.
- Ability to attract remote workers, freelancers, and contractors who value lakeside or small community living.

## ③ LIFESTYLE & RETENTION EDGE

- Highly desirable lake lifestyle living, outdoor recreation, and family-friendly environment.
- Can be a competitive recruitment edge for employees wanting work-life balance, outdoor activities, and smaller community engagement.
- Strong appeal for startups and founders who value community integration over urban hustle.

## ④ NICHE MARKET & CUSTOMER ACCESS

- Local and regional industries (forestry, agriculture, tourism, recreational services) create demand for specialized tech solutions.
- Tech companies can pilot products locally before scaling, e.g., automation, sports tech, environmental monitoring, or digital services.
- Opportunity to serve nearby urban markets (Kamloops, Kelowna, Vernon) without the cost of being in those cities.

## ⑤ SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS & INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

- Access to programs like:
  - Innovate BC (funding, co-op hiring, innovation support).
  - Canada Digital Adoption Program (digital transformation grants).
  - IRAP & SR&ED (federal R&D funding & tax credits).
- Local hubs such as Salmon Arm Innovation Centre provide makerspaces, coworking, and networking for tech startups.
- Active community events like Tech Meetups and collaborations with local schools and colleges encourage innovation partnerships.

## 6 BRANDING & REGIONAL IDENTITY

- Being based in the Shuswap provides brand storytelling advantages: rural innovation, sustainability, recreation tech, or lake-lifestyle integration.
- For consumer-facing tech (sports, outdoors, recreation), the location aligns with product positioning.

## 7 SCALABILITY WITH REMOTE AND HYBRID OPERATIONS

- Small communities don't limit reach; digital-first operations can serve global clients while keeping a low-cost base.
- Opportunity to combine local prototyping/manufacturing with remote software and services teams, making the location economically optimal.

### Current Columbia Shuswap Regional District Areas C, D, F, G Tech/High Tech Value-Chain Gaps

Value chain gaps occur where the flow of goods, services, or information is weak, costly, or underserved – and therefore where opportunities for new entrants are most often found. The Columbia Shuswap Regional District (including Salmon Arm) tech sector is strong in applied industrial technology but weaker in startup ecosystem, software development, talent pipelines, rural digital infrastructure, and supporting professional services.

#### 1. Early-Stage Startup Ecosystem

**Gap:** Limited startup acceleration, venture capital access, and commercialization support.

**Evidence:** The region has an Innovation Centre and Makerspace in Salmon Arm, created specifically to support startups and entrepreneurs. Local consultations [identified a need for stronger support for entrepreneurs and early-stage firms](#).

##### Opportunity:

- Rural tech incubator
- Angel investor network
- Venture studio / startup accelerator
- University/college commercialization partnerships

#### 2. Skilled Technical Workforce Pipeline

**Gap:** Engineering, software, and applied technology talent supply.

**Evidence:** High-tech manufacturing firms report the need for larger pools of skilled workers and engineers to grow.

##### Opportunity:

- Satellite tech education programs
- Coding bootcamps
- Applied engineering / robotics training
- Remote workforce attraction programs

#### 3. Software Development & Digital Product Firms

**Gap:** The existing cluster leans toward industrial technology and manufacturing, with [fewer pure software companies](#).

**Evidence:** Regional tech companies largely produce industrial robotics, sawmill automation, and equipment controls.

##### Opportunity:

- SaaS companies
- AI/data firms
- Geospatial software
- Forestry/agriculture digital platforms

#### 4. Rural Digital Infrastructure

**Gap:** Connectivity in rural electoral areas.

**Evidence:** Economic development groups are exploring community-owned fibre infrastructure to improve internet access in rural Shuswap communities.

##### Opportunity:

- Fibre infrastructure partnerships
- Rural telecom services
- Edge computing / rural data services
- Co-working hubs with enterprise connectivity

#### 5. Tech Professional Services

**Gap:** Limited local providers of specialized services that support tech companies. Examples of missing services - IP and patent law, venture finance, advanced digital marketing, UI/UX design, specialized engineering consulting

##### Opportunity:

- Boutique tech consulting firms
- Remote-service professional firms
- Fractional CTO / engineering services

#### 6. Applied Technology for Resource Industries

**Gap:** Technology commercialization linked to the region's core industries. Local economic drivers: forestry, agriculture, tourism, outdoor recreation

##### Opportunity:

- Forestry automation technology
- Ag-tech / precision agriculture
- Environmental monitoring tech
- Recreation technology (trail data, safety tech)

# INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Shuswap is a good fit with smaller (3-25 employees) distributed tech firms and applied technology businesses that benefit from a high-amenity/lifestyle rural environment and lower costs while serving global markets. Rural communities that have successfully grown technology sectors don't compete with large cities on venture capital, massive talent pools, or corporate headquarters, but focus on **specific niches where location, lifestyle, or proximity to natural-resource industries creates an advantage**. For the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (including Salmon Arm) these niches are: Resource & Industrial Technology; Environmental and Natural Resource Monitoring, Ag-Tech & Food System Technology; Lifestyle-Driven Remote Tech Companies; Outdoor Recreation Technology. Specific opportunity spaces aligned with a Shuswap economic profile and value proposition are as follows:

## ① FORESTRY TECHNOLOGY FIRMS

Technology supporting logging, sawmills, and forest management. Examples - forestry automation, harvesting analytics, wildfire monitoring systems, timber supply modelling software. Fit with strong forestry economy in the region and existing industrial technology cluster.

## ② AG-TECH & FOOD SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY

Technology applied to agriculture and food production. Examples - precision agriculture tools, soil and crop sensors, irrigation automation, farm management software. Fit with significant agricultural base in the Shuswap and growing demand for climate-smart agriculture tools.

## ③ ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE MONITORING TECHNOLOGY

Technology related to ecosystem management. Examples - water monitoring systems, wildfire detection technology, remote sensing platforms, carbon measurement tools. Strong alignment with regional landscapes and environmental priorities.

## ④ INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION & ROBOTICS

A continuation of the region's existing industrial tech niche. Examples - robotics for sawmills, automated materials handling, machine vision systems, equipment controls. Builds on existing regional capabilities.

## ⑤ OUTDOOR RECREATION TECHNOLOGY

Technology related to the outdoor recreation economy. Examples - trail mapping and analytics, outdoor safety tech, navigation and route platforms, recreation data platforms. Fit with Shuswap's tourism and outdoor recreation identity.

## ⑥ REMOTE-FIRST SOFTWARE FIRMS

Small SaaS firms whose teams are largely distributed. Examples - workflow software, niche SaaS platforms, digital service tools for small businesses. Fit with lifestyle-motivated founders often relocate to high-amenity rural regions.

## ⑦ TECH-ENABLED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Small firms that support technology companies remotely. Examples - cybersecurity consulting, cloud architecture services, data analytics consulting, UX/UI design studios. Works well with remote clients anywhere.

Digital Media & Creative Technology Small digital studios. Examples - game development, VR/AR experiences, animation and visual effects, digital content production. Fit with lifestyle-oriented creative entrepreneurs often prefer rural living.

# TECH BUSINESS RESOURCES & INCENTIVES

Expansion-focused financing/export programs, R&D & industry supports, and tech-specific programs

## SHUSWAP

### [Accelerate Okanagan](#)

Regional accelerator network supporting scaling.

### Chambers of Commerce

Business advocacy & connections.

- [North Shuswap Chamber of Commerce](#) - business advocacy & connections.
- [South Shuswap Chamber of Commerce](#) - business advocacy & connections.
- [Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce](#) - business advocacy & connections.

### Community Futures Shuswap

Business and economic development services. Primary local touchpoint for financing and business coaching.

- [Launch-a-Preneur Program](#) - fostering new business start-ups in the region by encouraging participants to support one another as they build their businesses from concept to launch.
- [Business Toolkit](#) - Downloadable templates for business planning, cash flow analysis, legal checklists, and loan applications.

### [Salmon Arm Economic Development Society High Tech and Advanced Manufacturing Sector Profile](#)

### [Salmon Arm Innovation Centre \(Powered by SASCU\)](#)

Downtown innovation hub with: Makerspace (3D printing / VR / workshops), co working space, business accelerator / support services, networking & startup support hub.

### Salmon Arm Industrial Park

Home to 90+ high tech and advanced manufacturing companies with diverse technologies (robotics, automation, machine vision, controls, fabrication). Employs 800+ workers globally servicing markets.

### [WorkBC](#)

Employment and workforce support.

## BC

### [BC Government links to Tech Industry Organizations, Government Support & Programs, and Resources and Tools](#)

### [BC Employers Training Grant](#)

Provides funding to help British Columbia employers train and upskill their workforce, supporting business growth and employee development.

### [BC Venture Acceleration Program](#)

Supports early-stage technology and knowledge-based companies with mentorship, business development guidance, and access to resources to accelerate growth.

### [Business Programs and Services Portal](#)

A central provincial page listing programs related to advisory services, funding, export support, permits, and procurement opportunities for B.C. businesses.

### [InBC](#)

Strategic investment fund supporting the growth of B.C. businesses making a positive impact in BC.

### [Innovate BC](#)

Provincial agency that supports tech companies in British Columbia with funding, programs, and resources to grow and scale.

- [High Tech](#)
- [2023 Data Highlights](#)

### [New Ventures BC](#)

Annual competition and accelerator support for BC tech startups with cash prizes and mentorship.

### Trade and Invest BC

- [Agri Tech Brochure](#)
- [AI Brochure](#)
- [Clean Tech Brochure](#)
- [Digital Media and Entertainment Brochure](#)

## CANADA

[Annual High-Tech Indicators \(Canada\)](#).

### **Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC)**

Provides financing, advisory services, and learning resources tailored to innovation and technology adoption.

### **Canada Business Benefits Finder**

Government of Canada tool that asks a few questions and generates a customized list of government benefits and programs a business may be eligible for.

### **Canadian Technology Accelerators**

Help high-potential Canadian tech companies scale globally by providing mentorship, market access, and connections in key international innovation hubs.

### **Futurpreneur Canada**

Offers startup financing, mentorship, and resources for young entrepreneurs aged 18–39 - widely used by tech founders in Canada.

### **Industrial Assistance Research Program**

Provides funding, advisory services, and innovation support to help Canadian small and medium-sized businesses develop and commercialize new technologies.

### **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)**

Federal department that fosters a growing, competitive, and knowledge-based Canadian economy through innovation, business support, and science initiatives.

### **MITACS**

Canadian nonprofit that drives innovation by connecting post-secondary researchers with industry through research internships and collaborative projects.

### **Scientific Research & Experimental Development (SR&ED)**

#### **Tax Incentives**

Provides Canadian businesses with tax credits and refunds to encourage investment in research and development.

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