

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### RELATED MINISTRIES

**Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour  
Market Development** [www.gov.bc.ca/aved](http://www.gov.bc.ca/aved)

**Ministry of Small Business, Technology and  
Economic Development** [www.gov.bc.ca/sted](http://www.gov.bc.ca/sted)

**Ministry of Labour** [www.gov.bc.ca/lbr](http://www.gov.bc.ca/lbr)

### USEFUL LINKS

**Employment Standards** [www.labour.gov.bc.ca/esb](http://www.labour.gov.bc.ca/esb)  
Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 663-3316

**Your Job Search** [www.eia.gov.bc.ca/jobs.htm](http://www.eia.gov.bc.ca/jobs.htm)  
(Resources from the Ministry of Employment and  
Income Assistance to help clients secure a job)

**WorkLife BC** [www.worklifebc.ca/index.cfm](http://www.worklifebc.ca/index.cfm)  
email: [info@worklifebc.ca](mailto:info@worklifebc.ca)

**Small Business BC** [www.smallbusinessbc.ca](http://www.smallbusinessbc.ca)  
(Information on starting and running a small business)  
Vancouver: 604 775-5525  
Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 667-2272  
TTY: 711 (long-distance charges accepted)

**Women's Enterprise Centre**  
Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 643-7014  
[www.womensenterprise.ca](http://www.womensenterprise.ca)

**Every Job Counts**  
[www.gov.bc.ca/infrastructure](http://www.gov.bc.ca/infrastructure)

**Industry Training Authority**  
[www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca)

**Human Resources and Social Development Canada**  
[www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/home.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/home.shtml)

**B.C. Knowledge Development Fund**  
[www.tted.gov.bc.ca/TRI/research/funding/BCKDF/  
Pages/default.aspx](http://www.tted.gov.bc.ca/TRI/research/funding/BCKDF/Pages/default.aspx)

**The Provincial Transit Plan**  
[www.th.gov.bc.ca/Transit\\_Plan/index.html](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/Transit_Plan/index.html)

**BladeRunners**  
[www.bladerunners.info](http://www.bladerunners.info)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER



There's no question these are challenging economic times. To ensure our province emerges stronger and more competitive than ever before, we must keep people working in every part of B.C. That's why we're investing \$14 billion in infrastructure projects over three years, building the

roads, bridges, hospitals, schools and highways we need, while creating 88,000 jobs. We're also partnering with local governments to invest in smaller, community-based projects all around B.C. — water and sewer upgrades, sidewalks and pedestrian paths, cycling and recreation infrastructure — all projects that are improving lives for residents in communities.

We're working with partners at the federal and municipal levels of government to create more affordable housing, reduce homelessness and give people more opportunities for success. We're investing in renewing and expanding corrections facilities, to keep our communities safe. We're creating new transit options for communities — from projects like the Canada Line to new transit investments across the province. Working together, we can create jobs to support families and communities, while building the legacies that improve life for residents and strengthen the economy for the future.

Honourable Gordon Campbell  
Premier of British Columbia



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### SERVICE BC

(For information on any provincial government service or program)  
Monday to Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 663-7867  
Telephone device for the deaf (TDD) in B.C.: 1 800 661-8773  
[WWW.SERVICEBC.GOV.BC.CA](http://WWW.SERVICEBC.GOV.BC.CA)

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### ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Every British Columbian should have the tools necessary to succeed in the labour market. While the present economy has created challenges, anticipating retirements and a declining population will produce skilled labour shortages. Emerging green technologies will create demands for workers with new skills and training. B.C. is working closely with the government of Canada on skills development programs.

- » The Canada-B.C. Labour Market Agreement provides approximately \$66 million each year through 2013-14, creating and delivering skills development for B.C. :
  - The Return to Work Employment Program provides training and work experience for unemployed persons.

- An innovative \$2-million training partnership with United Steelworkers in Prince George, delivering employment and training services to pine beetle-affected communities.
- Expansion of the successful BladeRunners program, providing youth at risk with skills they need to succeed.
- A \$17-million investment in 10 skills development projects across B.C., meeting small business needs.
- » Targeted Initiatives for Older Workers (TLOW) supports training and reintegration of older workers into the labour market, helping connect their experience, knowledge and skills with employment opportunities. Over 1,000 British Columbians have participated in the program, which focuses on communities experiencing ongoing high unemployment or with a high reliance on a single industry affected by downsizing. Funding of \$30 million will support delivery of the program through March 2012.

### EVERY JOB COUNTS

#### Infrastructure and Job Creation

B.C. has committed \$14 billion over three years in infrastructure projects to help create 88,000 jobs and build much-needed infrastructure in every region.

Since October 2008, \$3.4 billion-worth of accelerated infrastructure projects has been announced, supporting 21,600 direct jobs across the province, including:

- » Cariboo – 1,105 jobs.
- » Kootenay – 691 jobs.
- » Lower Mainland/southwest – 10,149 jobs.
- » North Coast and Nechacko – 480 jobs.
- » Northeast – 2,106 jobs.
- » Thompson/Okanagan – 4,197 jobs.
- » Vancouver Island/Coast – 2,936 jobs.

#### HST - Creating Jobs, Supporting the Economy

Introducing a Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) in B.C. is the single biggest thing government can do to strengthen the economy. The HST will remove about \$2 billion in costs for job-creating industries like forestry, construction, mining and manufacturing, and it will make B.C. more attractive to new investment. When those industries are strong, they support the economy and jobs in local communities.

#### Skilled and needed workers

Now more than ever, B.C. needs the best- educated and most highly skilled workforce.

#### Trades Training

Trades and industry occupations are vital to B.C.'s economy, improving our productivity and global competitiveness. The Industry Training Authority is committed to training that is relevant to industry, community and the labour market.

With over 140 options in apprenticeship programs, expanding opportunities for youth, First Nations and women, and new flexible learning options to help apprentices achieve certification, trades training remains a great career option for British Columbians.

- » Government launched a \$90-million training tax credit program in 2007 to encourage employers to take on apprentices, attract people to apprenticeship programs, and encourage higher rates of completion for trades training. The program provides refundable income tax credits equal to 10 per cent of salary and wages paid up to \$2,000. Effective July 1, 2009, this amount doubled, allowing employers to claim up to \$4,000 annually per eligible apprentice.
- » Provincial funding for trades training has increased by 40 per cent since 2001 and B.C. now invests almost \$103 million per year on trades training.

- » Since 2001, B.C. has provided almost \$130 million in capital funding to support trades training. Projects include a new trades training facility in Cloverdale; a 19,700-square-metre Aerospace Technology Campus in Richmond; the John A. Brinks Trades and Technology Centre in Prince George; renovation of the Trades and Technology Centre in Chilliwack; and new equipment for various trades programs.

B.C. is the fastest-growing biotechnology centre in Canada, with about 90 companies located here. With 81,140 employees and a payroll of \$4 billion in 2007, the B.C. technology sector now employs more people than the mining, forestry, and oil-and-gas exploration industries combined. In the past few years, our high-tech industry has outpaced the overall economy in GDP growth, accounting for about 5.9 per cent of GDP in 2007, more than triple the 1.8 per cent it generated in 1984.

