



## Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Tech grows here



**British Columbia,** *Naturally.*

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

## A World-Class ICT Hub

Join one of the **fastest-growing tech ecosystems** in North America

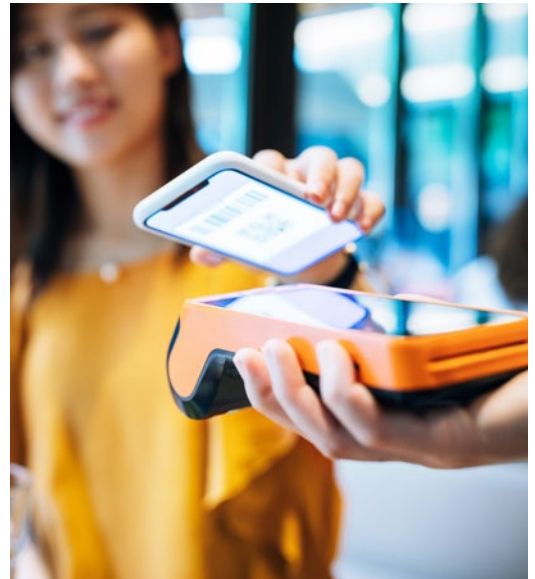


In British Columbia (B.C.), you're in great company with major global players including Amazon, Fortinet, Fujitsu, MasterCard, Microsoft, Intel, Salesforce, Samsung, SAP and Sierra Wireless, plus Canada's tech unicorns Clio, Dapper Labs, LayerZero Labs, Trulioo and Visier and more than 12,000 other exciting and innovative technology companies.

### Leading in ICT

British Columbia is home to a progressive and dynamic Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector pursuing advances in software, cloud computing, artificial intelligence (AI), information technology, the Internet of Things (IoT), telecommunications and electronics manufacturing. With more than 12,000 companies supporting over 180,000 jobs, these companies are at the forefront of developing innovative solutions and game-changing platforms by working with world-class research facilities and top-ranked local universities. B.C. is also a national leader in applied and commercialized AI, delivering cutting-edge solutions in software and hardware development, supported by globally recognized research infrastructure and a strong pipeline of top-tier talent.

Global tech giants like Amazon, Microsoft, Samsung, SAP and Salesforce have taken notice and are establishing strong roots throughout the province.



**In 2024, the global venture capital community injected \$2.5 billion across 88 deals in B.C., with 42 ICT deals strengthening the province's position as one of the most exciting tech hubs in North America.**



## The Advantages of British Columbia's ICT Sector

With multiple technology clusters in Vancouver, Victoria and Kelowna, B.C. is a magnet for major global companies and fast-growing start-ups, all drawn to the diverse and highly skilled tech talent found here.

In 2024, the Vancouver tech ecosystem was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Canada, with a Tier 1 ranking globally for market research by Startup Genome. In addition, the city of Vancouver was identified by CBRE Group Inc. Scoring Tech Talent 2024 Report, as having the highest concentrations of tech talent within the tech industry in Canada with some of the lowest costs among 50 North American cities.

British Columbia is a prime destination for investment, partnership and growth—supported by a highly developed research infrastructure, competitive business costs, a supportive government and strong international connections to the United States, Europe and Asia.

Driven by innovation and collaboration, B.C. also offers a talented and multicultural workforce, competitive taxes, and a thriving entrepreneurial tech community that fosters creativity and global scalability.

## A Prime Location

As Canada's gateway to the Pacific, British Columbia's business day conveniently overlaps with afternoon working hours in Europe and morning work schedules in Asia, and perfectly synchronizes with the full working days of the U.S. Westcoast, including California and Washington State.

B.C. has five international airports, including Vancouver (YVR), Victoria (YYJ) and Kelowna (YLW). YVR holds the title of Best Airport in North America, the only airport to earn this recognition 14 times, and offers non-stop flights to 75 international destinations.



**Companies in B.C. are advancing software development, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), cloud computing, information technology, telecommunications and electronics manufacturing.**



## Exceptional Talent

British Columbia's large, flexible and educated workforce of nearly 180,000 across the broader tech ecosystem is well represented by diverse and energetic talent. In fact, B.C. awards nearly 15,000 credentials annually in post-secondary programs that support the tech sector.

Canada's immigration programs support international talent attraction to strengthen industries across the country. The BC Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP) programs and services can support the tech sector in navigating immigration pathways to meet talent needs. For more information about provincial immigration programs that can help B.C. innovate, such as the BC PNP Tech initiative please visit [www.welcomebc.ca/immigrate-to-b-c/for-employers](http://www.welcomebc.ca/immigrate-to-b-c/for-employers)



## Quality of Life

British Columbia is a great place to live. The Economist Intelligence Unit ranks Vancouver as one of the world's most liveable cities, and Vancouver ranks 10<sup>th</sup> of 173 cities in the Economist's 2025 Global Liveability Report. These studies reflect British Columbia's high levels of stability, health care, culture, environment, education and infrastructure.



**British Columbia also has a host of private incubators and accelerators that offer coaching and access to seed funding.**

# Education, Research & Development and Accelerators

British Columbia's 25 public and a strong network of private post-secondary institutions work collaboratively with the region's growing and vibrant tech sector. For example, the University of British Columbia—ranked second in Canada for both engineering and computer science—holds more than 40 of Canada Research Chairs and has produced over 260 spin-off companies.

Across the province, B.C.'s renowned computer science and engineering programs continue to produce thousands of graduates annually, contributing to a strong pipeline of tech talent. These world-class institutions house a wide variety of cutting-edge research labs and centres of excellence, including:

- The Centre for Artificial Intelligence Decision-making and Action
- The Communication Networks Laboratory
- The Institute for Computing, Information and Cognitive Systems
- The Laboratory for Advanced Wireless Communications Research
- The Quantum Algorithms Institute
- SFU's Big Data Hub
- The Stewart Blusson Quantum Matter Institute

These research labs are further supported by a vibrant accelerator community spearheaded by Innovate BC through its Venture Acceleration Program—a publicly funded program designed to guide, coach and grow ambitious early-stage entrepreneurs and their tech ventures. The program is delivered by a network of regional accelerator partners across the province:



Region	Delivery Partner
Nechako, North Coast, Northeast	Hubspace northerninnovation.ca
Thompson, Nicola, and Cariboo	Kamloops Innovation kamloopsinnovation.ca
Vancouver Island / Coast	Innovation Island innovationisland.ca
Victoria, Vancouver Island	Victoria Innovation, Advanced Technology & Entrepreneurship Council viatec.ca
Mainland / Southwest	entrepreneurship@UBC start.entrepreneurship.ubc.ca
	Foresight Cleantech Accelerator Centre foresightcac.com
	New Ventures BC newventuresbc.com
	VentureLabs venturelabs.ca
Thompson / Okanagan	Accelerate Okanagan accelerateokanagan.com
Kootenay	Kootenay Association for Science & Technology kast.com

## Supportive Government

- B.C.'s general corporate income tax rate is 12%. When combined with the federal rate, businesses pay an overall rate of 27%. B.C. has the lowest provincial personal income taxes in Canada for single individuals earning up to \$125,000.
- B.C. is home to InBC Investment Corp., a \$500 million strategic investment fund introduced by the Government of British Columbia in 2020, which will invest on a triple bottom line basis to achieve returns for people, the planet and profits.
- B.C. offers fast, easy and reliable global transportation systems. We continue to strengthen our infrastructure to meet the demands of tomorrow.
- B.C. has high rates of broadband and overall Internet connectivity in Canada.
- Vancouver has the highest concentrations of tech talent and one of the best credit ratings in Canada.



According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, Canada will continue to be a top country for doing business in the G20 over the next five years and has consistently ranked among the top 10 countries in the last five years. Canada's financial system is one of the soundest in the world.





## British Columbia's Competitive Advantages

- Skilled, experienced and deep talent pool
- Excellent public infrastructure
- Competitive corporate and personal income taxes and tax incentives
- A high rate of broadband and overall Internet connectivity in Canada
- Prime location
- High quality of life



Join some of the largest ICT companies in British Columbia, including:

- Amazon
- Avigilon
- Fortinet
- Global Relay
- Hootsuite
- Intel
- MasterCard
- Microsoft
- Samsung
- SAP

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[BritishColumbia.ca](https://www.britishcolumbia.ca)