

StrongerBC

for everyone

STRATEGIC PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26





Standing strong for B.C. and Canada

Together, we're protecting what matters most while building a stronger future for British Columbia

The Strategic Plan Annual Report provides an overview of the progress made on the commitments set out in Budget 2025: Standing Strong for B.C. The budget was introduced at a time of growing global economic uncertainty — including a direct attack on our workers and businesses from unfair and unprovoked U.S. tariffs.

In response, our government made responsible choices to protect the public services people count on while investing in the long-term strength of British Columbia's economy.

British Columbia is well-positioned to help build a stronger, more independent Canada. Our province has the skilled workforce, abundant natural resources, clean electricity and strategic Pacific ports needed to create good-paying jobs, strengthen supply chains and expand trade with partners around the world.

Our government is working with First Nations to unlock private investment, diversify our trading relationships and build the infrastructure needed for long-term growth. We are also investing in skills and trades training so more people can access in-demand careers and bigger paycheques.

Budget 2025 focused on protecting the services people rely on, while helping families get ahead. Over the past year, our government has continued making progress in delivering more homes people can afford, strengthening health care and growing the economy. Rents are declining faster in British Columbia than anywhere else in Canada, and home prices have stabilized in many communities. More people have been connected with a family doctor or nurse practitioner, and major job-creating projects are moving forward in partnership with First Nations.

These efforts continue to be guided by our government's commitment to reconciliation and meaningful partnership with Indigenous Peoples. Together, First Nations and our government are creating new economic opportunities, supporting responsible resource development, protecting the environment and delivering better outcomes for communities throughout British Columbia.

While global uncertainty continues, British Columbia is meeting these challenges from a position of strength. Our government will continue protecting the services people depend on, growing an economy that creates opportunities throughout the province and making responsible choices that help build a stronger, more secure future for everyone.



Building B.C.'s economy stronger, together

Building major projects faster

- Launched Look West, a 10-year strategic plan to deliver major projects faster, expand skills training and grow key sectors to strengthen B.C.'s economy. The plan aims to secure \$200 billion in private-sector investment in major projects over the next decade.
- Created a \$400-million B.C. Strategic Investment Fund so the Province can directly invest in high-impact private-sector projects.
- Expedited permitting of the North Coast Transmission Line, one of 35 priority projects identified by the Province.
- Made 187 amendments to 38 regulations across 10 ministries to reduce red tape, improve permitting timelines and make government services more efficient and accessible as part of the Better Regulations for British Columbians package.
- Issued permits for the Highland Valley Copper Mine Life Extension project, an open-pit copper mine owned by Teck Resources Ltd. approximately 17 kilometres west of Logan Lake. It extends the life of the mine into the mid-2040s and adds an additional 200 jobs, bringing the workforce to more than 1,500 people.
- Issued an amended environmental assessment certificate, as well as Mines Act and Environmental Management Act permits, for expansion of Mount Milligan copper-gold mine, the third mining project of the initial list of 18 priority projects identified by the Province. The expansion of the mine extends the life of the operation by seven years until 2035, supporting the existing 574 jobs and generating as much as \$400 million in projected capital spending.
- Accelerated permitting and approvals so critical infrastructure, including schools, hospitals and major transportation projects, can be built faster.

Reaching new trade markets

- Promoted B.C. products, from critical minerals and clean energy to forestry and agricultural products, while on a 10-day economic mission to Japan, Malaysia and South Korea with a business delegation including 19 B.C. companies, universities and associations.
- Advanced key partnerships on a trade mission to India with government and business leaders to attract investment, foster collaboration in innovation and build long-term relationships.
- Helped businesses receive free advice, funding and connections through the Export Navigator program to get ready to sell their products overseas.
- Led the largest red-tape reduction in Canada's history by lifting trade barriers through the landmark Canadian Mutual Recognition Agreement, which was signed by all federal, provincial and territorial trade ministers in Yellowknife.
- Reinforced British Columbia's leading role in reducing interprovincial trade barriers through the Trade Recognition Act, which means businesses no longer need to redo testing, approvals or certification for goods and services that may be sold, used or provided in another province.
- Supported a private-sector-led proposal to the Government of Canada to put forward Vancouver as the preferred home for the new international headquarters of the Defence, Security and Resilience Bank.

Supporting local businesses

- Created the \$40-million University of British Columbia Catalyst Ventures Fund through the InBC Investment Corporation to accelerate the growth of innovative B.C. companies built on the university's research and discoveries.

- Listened to businesses about ways to reduce red tape and help businesses grow through the Ease of Doing Business initiative, which received 260 submissions.
- Supported businesses through the BC Manufacturing Jobs Fund and Look West strategy, including:
 - » Launching a marine and coastal testbed to find new ways to solve industry challenges with made-in-B.C. technology through the Integrated Marketplace program, delivered by Innovate BC.
 - » Supporting Quantum Technology Corp., an industrial helium and hydrogen systems manufacturer in Squamish, with as much as \$400,000 to help double the size of its manufacturing space and purchase specialized equipment needed to meet growing demand in the sector.
 - » Creating as many as 45 jobs by assisting Jewel Welding Fabrication and Coatings Ltd. of Maple Ridge with nearly \$2 million to increase its production capacity of hydroelectric and water-service piping.
 - » Supporting Vancouver Island wood manufacturers in Chemainus and Cumberland with nearly \$8 million to accelerate production of value-added wood products.
 - » Supporting forestry-product manufacturers in Nelson, Castlegar, Langley and Penticton by contributing as much as \$11 million to assist manufacturers in growing their businesses by constructing new production facilities, purchasing new equipment and adding new high-value product lines.
- Through the Look West strategy:
 - » Investing \$1.9 million in research infrastructure at the University of Victoria supporting life sciences, natural resources and clean tech, including breakthroughs in quantum computing.
 - » Boosting life-sciences and biomanufacturing capabilities and emergency health readiness by providing \$33 million for research equipment and facilities for Canada's Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub, which aims to establish 100-day, start-to-finish drug development in B.C.
 - » Showcasing clean technology for transportation in northern B.C. by investing \$500,000 for three pilot projects along the corridor between Prince Rupert and Prince George to demonstrate the benefits of zero- and low-emission technology for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.
 - » Helping B.C. businesses developing new technologies by providing \$2.5 million for pilot-scale demonstrations.
 - » Accelerating the maritime industry's transition to renewable energy through the COAST (Centre for Ocean Applied Sustainable Technologies) Innovation Challenge
- Showcased the benefits of mass-timber construction by providing \$500,000 each to four new buildings in B.C. from Forestry Innovation Investment, a Crown corporation.
- Strengthened rural and First Nations communities by investing as much as \$43 million in the third intake of the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program, creating an estimated 2,200 jobs.
- Supported economic development in rural and remote communities, First Nations and not-for-profit organizations through the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program, which in its first three years has invested as much as \$142 million in more than 450 projects, creating an estimated 7,000 jobs.
- Protected food security through the B.C. Centre for Agritech Innovation by developing a new smart-farming system that automates decision-making at Windset Farms in Delta with sensors that monitor plant stress and efficient greenhouse crop management.

Growing our skilled workforce

- Announced skilled-trades training through a \$241-million investment over three years beginning in 2026-27 to double trades-training funding.
- Added 65 nurse practitioner training seats at the University of British Columbia (30 seats), the University of Northern British Columbia (20 seats) and the University of Victoria (15 seats).
- Offered future skills grants of as much as \$3,500 for short-term training opportunities to help prepare people for careers in high-demand sectors aligned with the Look West strategy. More than 300 programs are eligible for the grant at 24 public post-secondary institutions throughout B.C.
- Launched an independent review to strengthen the public post-secondary education system to ensure it is positioned to support people and B.C.'s economic growth.
- Expanded two allied health profession programs – 20 seats for master of physical therapy and eight seats for master of science in speech-language pathology – at the Vancouver Island Technology Park.
- Developed a new training program through Kwantlen Polytechnic University to develop more drought-resilient crop production systems.
- Helped develop new robotic weeding technology through the University of the Fraser Valley.
- Began construction on the Robert Bosa Carpentry Pavilion, Marine and Mass Timber Pavilion and Campus Services Centre at the British Columbia Institute of Technology Trades and Technology Campus.



Keeping people and goods moving

- Continued construction on the Highway 17 Keating Cross Road overpass project.
- Began \$11-million worth of upgrades to two key rest areas on the Trans-Canada Highway west of Revelstoke.
- Expanded the Mount Lehman Road Interchange to five lanes to address a Highway 1 bottleneck in the Fraser Valley.
- Opened all four lanes on the landmark staḷəwəsəm (Riverview) Bridge to vehicle traffic, marking a milestone for people travelling between Surrey and New Westminster.
- Completed paving of the five-lane Steveston Interchange in Richmond.
- Began resurfacing and upgrading of Queensborough Bridge in New Westminster.
- Expanded transit service in Squamish, Prince George, Kelowna, Kamloops, Whistler, the Fraser Valley, the Comox Valley and Victoria.
- Began work on the Highway 11 Interchange Project in the Fraser Valley.
- Began construction on new Belleville ferry terminal in Victoria's Inner Harbour.
- Upgraded almost 450 kilometres of highway in the southern Interior, including 28 kilometres of Highway 97 and nearby side roads between Vernon and Oyama.



Supporting workers

- Increased the minimum wage to \$17.85 an hour.
- Announced plans to introduce a mandatory crane licensing and permitting program through WorkSafeBC to strengthen crane safety.
- Added eight more cancers to the workers' compensation cancer presumptions for firefighters.
- Introduced new medical leave for workers with a serious illness or injury, who can now take as many as 27 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave within a 12-month period to undergo medical treatment and focus on their recovery.
- Limited when employers can ask for sick notes. Under new employment standards regulations, employers cannot ask for a sick note for a worker's first two health-related, short-term absences of five consecutive days or fewer in a calendar year.

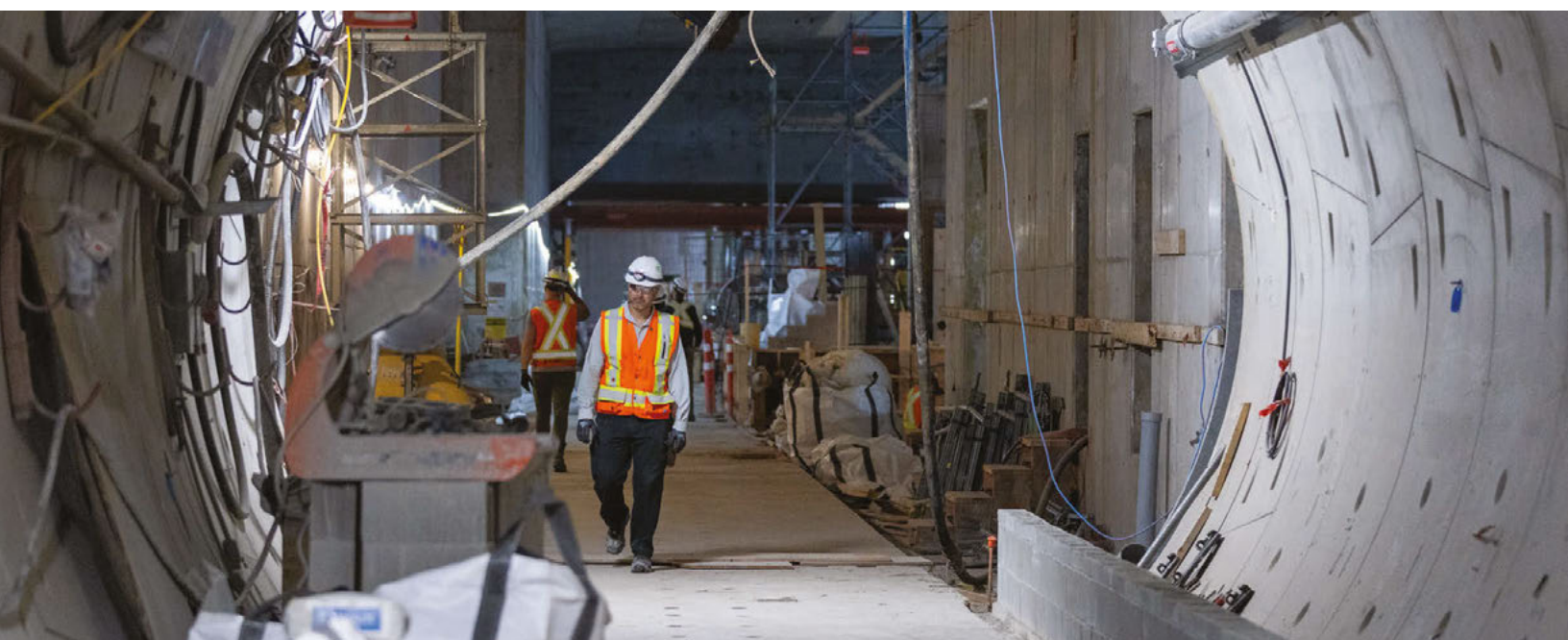


Powering growth with clean energy

- Launched a new competitive selection process to manage rising electricity demand for data centres and artificial intelligence through the Energy Statutes Amendment Act to protect electricity capacity, while enabling projects that support job creation, reduce emissions, maintain affordability and contribute to long-term economic development.
- Helped expand B.C.'s future electricity supply through BC Hydro's second call for power, which attracted one solar and 13 wind proposals, totalling more than 9,100 gigawatt hours per year with all projects requiring a minimum 25% equity ownership for First Nations.
- Invested \$35 million through the CleanBC Industry Fund to help companies adopt cleaner technologies and support the transition to electrification and net-zero operations.
- Contributed \$200 million to support the electrification of Cedar LNG through Haisla Nation building infrastructure, such as a substation, distribution lines and a 287-kilovolt transmission line.
- Took steps to power North Coast growth and clean energy, as Ksi Lisims LNG and BC Hydro signed a memorandum of understanding, providing clarity on how and when 600 megawatts of clean energy can be delivered to the proposed floating LNG facility on Nisga'a Treaty Lands.
- Signed a memorandum of understanding with the Government of Yukon to explore a connection between electrical grids, a milestone in joint energy security, economic growth and climate leadership.
- Invested more than \$12 million from the B.C. Innovative Clean Energy fund in a targeted three-year call for new made-in-B.C. clean-energy technologies to combat climate change and create sustainable jobs.
- Advanced clean-energy projects through the Community Energy Diesel Reduction Program by providing \$6.6 million to 13 remote, off-grid First Nations, helping to reduce their reliance on diesel fuel.

Moving mining forward faster

- Introduced new permit timelines so exploration permits can be processed within 40 to 140 days.
- Introduced a new permit-escalation process so that if timelines are not reached, the application will be sent to the chief permitting officer for a decision within 14 days.
- Approved the New Ingerbelle expansion at the Copper Mountain mine near Penticton, extending the life of the mine by approximately 12 years and supporting nearly 800 jobs.
- Added three projects – Northisle Copper and Gold Inc.'s North Island Project, Surge Copper Corp.'s Berg Project and Defense Metals Corp.'s Wicheeda Project – to work with the Critical Minerals Office as the projects prepare for environmental assessments and permitting processes.
- Approved reopening of the Eskay Creek gold and silver mine near Stewart as part of the Look West strategy, generating approximately 1,000 construction jobs and more than 770 operational jobs. This is the first project to be advanced through a Declaration Act Section 7 agreement, marking a historic milestone for the Province and the Tahltan Nation.
- Approved the mining permit for the Record Ridge magnesium mine near Rossland, owned by Western High Yield Resources.
- Approved Imperial Metal's permit to expand its Mount Polley mine in the Cariboo region and increase the height of the tailing storage facility. This will extend the mine's life by eight years, support local jobs and continue environmental monitoring as part of ongoing regulatory requirements.
- Signed a memorandum of understanding with three provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba) and three territories (Yukon, Nunavut, Northwest Territories) to work together to accelerate development, enhance supply-chain resilience, diversify export markets and strengthen the position of Canada's West as a preferred global supplier of responsibly sourced critical minerals.



Delivering more homes for people

Helping more people find homes they can afford in communities they love by lowering costs and speeding up construction

- Continued work on the Homes for People action plan, with more than 5,500 homes delivered or underway in 2025-26. Since 2017, more than 99,000 homes have been delivered or are underway.
- Leveraged underused public land to deliver more than 4,000 units of lower-cost, middle-income rental homes through BC Builds, with more than 5,600 units delivered or underway since the initiative launched in 2024.
- Protected more affordable rental homes through the Rental Protection Fund, for a total of more than 2,000 homes protected since the fund was launched in 2023.
- Capped the annual allowable rent increases at the rate of inflation for the second year in a row.
- Helped more families and seniors with low incomes afford rent by expanding eligibility for the Rental Assistance Program and the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters program.
- Secured \$170 million in capital funding from the federal government through Build Canada Homes to accelerate a range of construction-ready projects in B.C.
- Established housing targets for the fourth set of priority communities, which will deliver a total of 38,930 homes.
- Helped local governments speed up the delivery of new housing through a \$9-million boost to the Local Government Development Approvals Program.

- Launched the Digitally Accelerated Standardized Housing program, an open-source platform that helps developers and non-profit organizations design and build homes faster using products manufactured in B.C.
- Helped more women and children leaving violence by opening more than 300 new homes through the Women's Transition Housing Fund.
- Took action to prevent and reduce homelessness by opening or announcing nearly 600 new supportive homes and more than 300 temporary housing and shelter spaces.
- Improved health and safety in supportive housing and ensured that the rights of tenants continued to be protected by making amendments to the Residential Tenancy Act to help address problematic tenants and guests.

B.C. is leading the country in bringing down rents. Asking rents for purpose-built apartments and condos were 12.2% lower in March 2026 than they were in August 2023 throughout B.C., saving renters an average of \$333 per month or \$4,000 per year. In Vancouver and Burnaby, asking rents were down 20% from their peak in 2023, saving renters an average of more than \$650 per month, nearly \$8,000 per year.

Strengthening health care

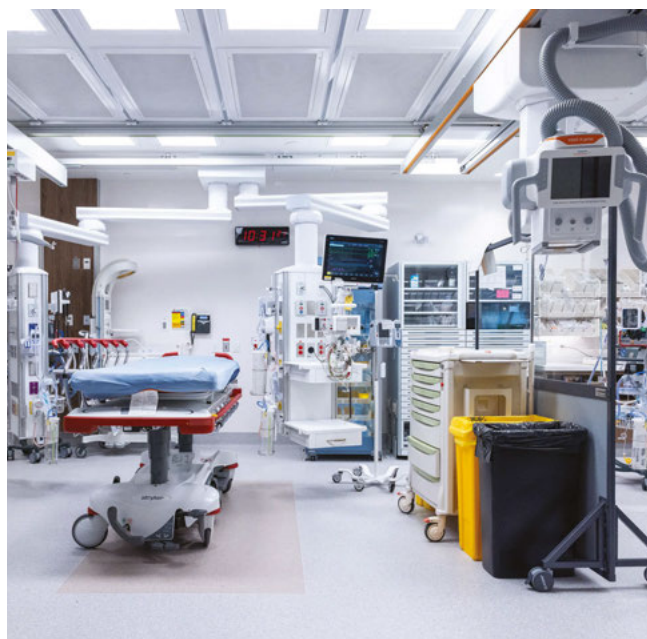
Delivering better, faster health care, hiring more doctors, nurses and care teams, and building more hospitals

- Connected 223,000 people to a family doctor or nurse practitioner in 2025, for a total of more than 600,000 people connected since 2023.
- Hired more than 580 U.S. health-care professionals through targeted recruitment efforts.
- Launched Simon Fraser University's new Stephens Family School of Medicine, which welcomes its first 48 students in August 2026.
- Launched B.C.'s first publicly funded in-vitro fertilization program.
- Expanded free access to diabetes medications and menopausal hormone therapy under the new BC PharmaCare National Pharmacare Plan.
- Expanded access to the Long-term Care at Home program, which helps seniors access virtual care and live independently for longer.
- Announced close to \$290 million over five years with United Way BC to deliver and expand community-based seniors' services.
- Made changes to the Employment Standards Act to eliminate the need for workers to get sick notes for short-term absences from work, leaving health-care providers with more time to spend with patients.
- Completed the first step of a review of health authorities, which included reducing administrative costs and redirecting savings to front-line services.



- Opened new state-of-the-art health-care facilities, including:
 - » A health-care pavilion and expanded support facilities building at Burnaby Hospital.
 - » An upgraded emergency department at Prince Rupert Regional Hospital.
 - » The High Acuity Unit at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital.
 - » Cardiac and radiology suites at Surrey Memorial Hospital.
 - » A renovated and expanded Community Oncology Network clinic at Penticton Regional Hospital.
 - » BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre's new Complex Menopause Clinic, the first of its kind in Western Canada.
 - » An expanded neonatal intensive care unit at East Kootenay Regional Hospital.
 - » The Nelson community health campus, which includes a long-term care home and the Community Health Services Centre, which provides a wide range of community-based health services.
 - » Six urgent and primary care centres, for a total of 47 throughout B.C.
 - » New community health centres, including the Lower Columbia Community Health Centre in Trail and the STEPS Community Health Centre in Kamloops.
 - » Two First Nations-led primary-care and wellness centres in Nuu-chah-nulth and Northern St'at'imc, for a total of 14 First Nations led primary-care centres throughout the province.
 - » Connect Saanich Peninsula, a 26-bed supported living home for people with acquired brain injuries, with work underway on a second home in Parksville.
 - » An eight-bed clinical trials unit at Mount Saint Joseph Hospital in Vancouver.
- Started construction on health-care facilities to serve communities for generations:
 - » BC Cancer centres in Kamloops and Nanaimo.

- » Long-term care homes in Penticton, Cranbrook and Vancouver, as well as a long-term care village in Prince George, which will include 200 beds for seniors, a geriatric psychiatry unit, an adult day program and child care spaces.
- » New operating rooms at Vancouver General Hospital.
- » A centre for children and youth with complex-care needs at BC Children's Hospital.
- » A new MRI suite at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital.



Expanding access to mental-health and addictions care

- Opened new Foundry centres for youth in Surrey and Burns Lake, bringing the provincial total to 20 centres.
- Supported Indigenous-led treatment and recovery services:
 - » Provided funding for 15 First Nations, Métis, Inuit and urban Indigenous-led organizations providing bed-based treatment and recovery services.
 - » Broke ground on a First Nations healing centre in Pouce Coupe, the first of its kind in Canada.
 - » Advanced work on withdrawal-management, treatment and recovery services in Terrace.
 - » Provided funding for a Tsilhqot'in-led healing and wellness model.
- Opened 12 addictions treatment beds for men on the Sunshine Coast and 12 for women, female-identifying and non-binary youth in Surrey.
- Opened 10 interim withdrawal management beds at Creekside Withdrawal Management Centre in Surrey.
- Opened 10 involuntary care beds at Surrey Pretrial Services Centre.
- Opened 18 long-term involuntary care beds at Spiritwood Homes (formerly Alouette Homes) in Maple Ridge.
- Opened substance-use-recovery community centres in Abbotsford and Hope.
- Started work on 20 complex-care homes for people with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges in Nanaimo.
- Expanded Access Central, a clinical phone-line service that makes it easier for adults to get support for addictions, from Vancouver Coastal Health to include Fraser Health, Interior Health and Island Health.
- Expanded access to nasal naloxone to help reverse toxic-drug poisonings and save lives.
- Provided funding for free or low-cost adult mental-health or addictions counselling services in urban, rural and Indigenous communities.



Building safer, healthier communities

Keeping K-12 schools safe and supportive places for students and staff

- Announced \$745 million for new and improved schools, additions and site purchases for future schools throughout B.C.
- Provided funding for 25 school communities throughout B.C. to each receive \$200,000 to build new accessible school playgrounds.
- Introduced legislation to enable school districts in B.C. to support families with more child care, including for infants and toddlers, on school grounds. Districts will also be allowed to provide care during non-school days, such as professional development days, and winter, spring and summer breaks.
- Funded the creation of more than 2,000 licensed child care spaces, including more than 30 child care spaces on school grounds, for a total of more than 43,000 since 2018-19.
- Launched early-literacy screening for kindergarten students to identify early signs of reading difficulties and ensure that timely, targeted supports are available.
- Invested \$1.1 million to support the Walking School Bus program, which provides supervised walks to schools for elementary children in select communities, helping them start their day off with fresh air and exercise.
- Mandated cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillation learning for students as part of Grade 10 physical health and education.

Making life better for post-secondary students

- Introduced legislation and an action plan to strengthen support for post-secondary communities in preventing and responding to sexual violence.
- Celebrated five years of the B.C. Access Grant, a program that since 2020 has supported more than 100,000 students with more than \$213 million in up-front, needs-based, non-repayable financial assistance.
- Announced more than 350 new student beds and a dining hall for Kwantlen Polytechnic University's Surrey campus.
- Partnered with Royal Roads University, the University of Victoria, Camosun College, the Justice Institute of B.C. and the Sooke School District to open the Royal Roads University John Horgan Campus.
- Committed \$75 million to extend the U-Pass BC program until 2030. In partnership with TransLink, the program ensures that post-secondary students who use transit in the Metro Vancouver region have access to discounted transit fares.



Protecting safe and inclusive communities in B.C.

- Passed legislation to further strengthen the Intimate Images Protection Act, making victims of intimate-image abuse eligible for as much as \$75,000 in damages, which is 14 times higher than the previous \$5,000 limit.
- Invested \$300,000 in grants to community-based organizations for projects battling racial inequity and fostering intercultural understanding.
- Passed a new law to hold vaping-product manufacturers and wholesalers accountable for deceptive practices that prioritize profit over people.
- Launched a new integrated, provincewide service-delivery model to give people in B.C. quicker, easier access to support services for problem gambling.
- Created a new co-ordinated provincial response team to enhance the detection, investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes, while expanding support for victims and targeting organized crime networks operating in B.C.
- Launched the B.C. Extortion Task Force to strengthen investigations into the extortion threats targeting families and businesses in the South Asian community.
- Strengthened response to repeat violent offending with an additional \$6 million invested in the Special Investigation and Targeted Enforcement program.
- Funded the training of more police officers at the Justice Institute of British Columbia's police academy with a 50% expansion of seats.
- Introduced legislation to improve graduated licensing programs to create a simpler, more accessible process for new drivers, while improving safety standards for motorcycle drivers.
- Funded expansion of the B.C. RCMP Hate Crime Unit to step up the fight against hate-motivated offences.
- Provided funding for B.C.'s Path Forward Community Fund to ensure that Indigenous people have the resources they need to address violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people.
- Launched a new virtual counter service connecting court registry staff to people anywhere in B.C., providing free, convenient help and advice navigating the court system.
- Opened B.C.'s 10th Indigenous court, offering Indigenous Peoples within S'ólh Téméxw (Stó:lō territory) the opportunity to access culturally appropriate justice informed by local Indigenous traditions and practices.
- Launched HealthIM, a digital mental-health screening tool that supports police response to mental-health-related calls, in Nelson, on southern Vancouver Island and expanded to the East Kootenays.
- Introduced new legislation to extend 2024's Safe Access to Schools Act to ensure students, staff, parents and caregivers continue to access learning environments without obstruction and created similar protections for people accessing places of worship.





Supporting children, youth and families

- Committed to invest \$475 million to significantly increase financial supports to help meet the needs of children and youth with disabilities and expand access to more free community services.
- Invested \$3.4 million to support the Community Adult Literacy Program, which plays an essential role in providing basic literacy to adults, families and Indigenous communities.
- Signed a co-ordination agreement with the T̓silhqot̓in Nation and the federal government, establishing responsibilities and processes for providing co-ordination services to T̓silhqot̓in children and young adults.
- Signed a child and family services agreement with Huu-ay-aht First Nations to help keep Huu-ay-aht children and youth connected to their culture and community and ensure that the Nation has real involvement in planning for its children and families.
- Signed a community agreement with the Lhtako Dene Nation to help Lhtako Dene children and youth stay connected to their culture and community, ensuring the Nation is meaningfully involved in planning for its children and families.
- Committed to mandate that child care providers participating in the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative must offer at least 9.5 hours of care per day before charging for extended hours, ensuring that families are not charged extra fees for hours that should reasonably be expected to be included in their base fee.
- Provided \$500,000 to the Raise-a-Reader campaign, which supports literacy for young readers and families by increasing awareness and raising money to fund community-based programs throughout B.C. Since 2017, the Province has donated \$4.5 million to the campaign.

Making life easier for families in B.C.

- Awarded more than \$139 million to more than 4,600 community organizations through the Community Gaming Grants program.
 - Proposed amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act to enable ICBC to renew or replace driver's licences, BC Identification and photo BC Service Cards online.
 - Continued to close the connectivity gap, with 97% of homes having access to high-speed internet, including 80% of rural homes and 87% of homes in First Nations communities, up from 57% and 66%, respectively, in 2017.
 - Expanded support to eligible social housing providers to receive as much as \$800,000 for equipment upgrades to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in social, non-profit housing.
- Launched the Better Homes Energy Savings Program Condo and Apartment Rebate to provide rebates of as much as \$5,000 to support the purchase and installation of electric heat pumps in individual suites in multi-unit residential buildings.



Ensuring communities are safe in emergencies

- Ahead of the 2026 wildfire season, invested \$14 million to expand on-the-ground firefighting equipment, such as trucks and camp infrastructure.
- Through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, provided:
 - » Nearly \$4 million for firefighting equipment and training for volunteer and composite fire departments throughout B.C.
 - » Almost \$20 million for disaster-risk reduction, climate adaptation projects and emergency-preparedness initiatives.
 - » More than \$5 million to help communities expand their capacity to provide emergency support services through volunteer recruitment and retention efforts, volunteer training and the purchase of emergency support services equipment.
 - » Nearly \$7 million to support 139 emergency operation centre projects, benefiting 183 communities.
 - » Nearly \$2 million to 51 local governments and First Nations to develop and update their emergency response plans.
- Provided more than \$27 million for 57 projects to support First Nations and local governments for projects that enhance their ability to withstand and adapt to natural and climate-caused hazards.
- Released the provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment and B.C. Hazard Insights Tool to help experts better understand how different hazard scenarios could affect people and communities.
- Invested \$50 million in a pilot program to help small communities save as much as 1.5 billion litres of water each year and increase resiliency during droughts, while lowering costs for people who use less water.
- Announced a new plant and animal health centre that will help farmers and veterinarians quickly detect and respond to animal and plant diseases that could threaten animal safety, food supply and public health.



A stronger future for B.C. and Canada

As we reflect on the progress made this year, it is important to look ahead

Global uncertainty and U.S. tariffs continue to create challenges for workers, businesses and communities in British Columbia. Despite these pressures, B.C. is well-positioned to help build a stronger and more self-reliant Canada.

With our skilled workforce, abundant natural resources, clean electricity and access to growing markets through our ports that are a gateway to two-thirds of the world's

population, B.C. has many of the advantages needed to create good-paying jobs and support long-term growth. As Canada works to reduce its dependence on a single trading partner, British Columbia will play a key role by connecting Canadian goods and resources to growing markets around the world.

Our government will continue protecting the services people depend on while investing in the opportunities that will strengthen communities and grow the economy. By working together, we will build a stronger, more resilient British Columbia that can meet any challenge and seize the opportunities ahead.





