



BC TECH
association

YEAR IN REVIEW

2017 - 2018

Tech is a tool for good in our lives, in our communities, and in our province. BC Tech is driven to make BC the best place to grow a tech company by helping firms grow and scale into anchors—the large companies that drive both BC’s tech sector and the economy. We do this by providing the places, the programs and advocating for the policies that help the tech community collaborate, learn, and grow.

SNAPSHOT OF TECH

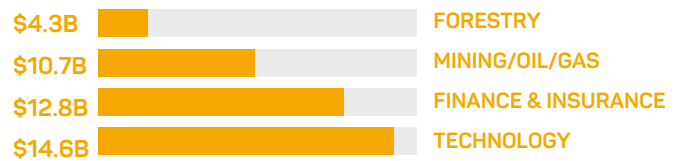
BC'S KEY SECTORS

- CLEAN TECH
- IT/ENGINEERING SERVICES
- INTERACTIVE & DIGITAL MEDIA
- LIFE SCIENCES
- AR/VR/MR
- INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

ABOUT BC'S TECH INDUSTRY

- TECH WAGES ARE **85% HIGHER** THAN THE BC AVERAGE
- **10,200** TECH COMPANIES
- **15 BILLION** IN GDP IN 2016
- **29 BILLION** IN REVENUE
- **106,000+** PEOPLE WORK IN TECH COMPANIES
- **50,000** PEOPLE IN TECH ROLES IN NON-TECH COMPANIES

*All 2016 figures, will be updated in Fall 2018



Tech is a top contributor to provincial GDP. It generates around 7% of GDP, similar to manufacturing and health care.

BC TECH'S 2017-18 IMPACT

BC TECH'S MISSION IS TO MAKE BC THE BEST PLACE TO GROW A TECH COMPANY. WE ADVOCATE FOR POLICIES THAT STRENGTHEN THE ECOSYSTEM AND CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT THAT ALLOWS TECH COMPANIES TO GROW.

VENTURE PROGRAMS

BC TECH DELIVERS A WIDE RANGE OF PROGRAMMING TO BC'S HOMEGROWN TECH COMPANIES TO STRENGTHEN THEIR BUSINESSES AND ACCELERATE THEIR GROWTH.

2017-18 VENTURE PROGRAMS:

- HyperGrowth
- HyperGrowth:Life
- Fintech Series
- Corporate Innovation
- Executive in Residence
- SAAS Growth Engine
- Expert Network
- Embedded Executive
- Connection Days

We were proud to support the success of the following participant companies in 2017-2018:



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



NEW GRADS TO TACKLE TALENT SHORTAGE

To help deal with the talent crunch facing BC tech companies, the BC government announced in January 2018 that it would create the space at four universities to graduate 1,000 more tech-trained students annually by 2023.



BC SUPERCLUSTER APPROVED

Former BC Tech CEO, Bill Tam, took the lead in pulling together the community to brainstorm opportunities and lead the BC-based Digital Technology Supercluster bid, which was announced as a winning bidder in February 2018; this was a huge boost and provided well-deserved recognition for BC's tech ecosystem.

INNOVATION HUB

BC TECH OPERATES A 26,000 SQUARE FOOT INNOVATION HUB AT 887 GREAT NORTHERN WAY. IT'S THE PLACE FOR THE TECH COMMUNITY TO COME TOGETHER, LEARN, AND GROW.

DURING 2017-18 OUR HUB TENANTS INCLUDED:

- Agartee Technology
- Basetwo Media
- BCAA
- Careteam Technologies
- Connected Displays
- Creatus Biosciences
- GeoSim Cities
- Kootour Software
- Lazymeal
- PHEMI Systems
- Plasmatic Technologies
- Realty Butler (AvenueHQ)
- VR Square Studio

THE CUBE

IN OCTOBER 2017, BC TECH LAUNCHED CANADA'S FIRST VIRTUAL, AUGMENTED, AND MIXED REALITY HUB, THE CUBE, IN VANCOUVER'S RAILTOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD. IT IS A SHARED SPACE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT AND ACCELERATE THE GROWING AR/VR/MR SECTOR IN BC.

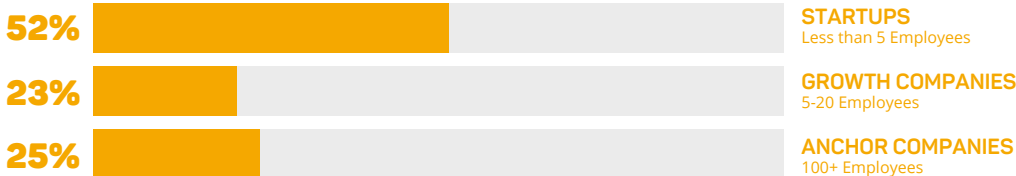
CUBE TENANTS INCLUDED:

- ABCDE Inc
- AMPD Holding
- Cloudhead Games
- Didjet Inc
- Equity Guru
- Funny Fox Holdings
- Hammer & Tong
- LlamaZOO Interactive
- Openstreet VR
- PitchPage VR
- PolyPixel
- Steampunk Digital
- uForis VR

BC TECH BY THE NUMBERS

BC TECH'S MEMBERS REPRESENT EVERY PART OF BC'S TECH SECTOR AND ALL SIZES OF COMPANIES. AT YEAR END, WE HAD 455 ACTIVE MEMBERS.

MAKE UP OF OUR TECH COMPANY MEMBERS:



IN 2017-18, BC TECH HOSTED 35 EVENTS, CONNECTING OVER 4,000 ATTENDEES. TOPICS INCLUDED:

The pains and gains of accessing government funding

Common legal problems in emerging companies

Financial empowerment through technology

BC TECH IN THE COMMUNITY

"BC Tech's Hypergrowth program helped us to develop several key relationships that have aided in our rapid growth, and provided credibility to Avenue for investment and employer brand."

- AvenueHQ Technology Inc

"Tons of insights from HyperGrowth:Life—this is time and effort well spent. All the content has been immediately relevant!"

- Careteam

"We really enjoyed our mentorship and learnings from these programs and the executive program allowed us to access great talent quickly."

- Discover Therapies



Message from the CEO



I was honoured to join BC Tech as CEO in November 2017. The 25-year BC Tech legacy is a strong one and focused on making British Columbia the best place to grow and scale a tech company. We do that by:

- Providing the place for BC's tech community to come together to learn, connect, and celebrate the tech sector.
- Delivering the programs that help tech firms build on their successful starts to grow, scale, and become the anchor companies of the future.
- Championing technology and its power to do good for British Columbians by being the go-to-source for information about the sector and its players, and the environment required to ensure that the sector keeps growing.

Tech is a part of our daily lives in BC and BC Tech is going to keep working in the coming year to have much of that tech be homegrown. This drives everything we do at BC Tech because of the benefits technology brings to people's lives, to our communities, and to the future of our province.

At this year's TIAs, we celebrated 25 years of the event and 25 years of innovation in BC. Looking to the future, BC Tech will be tackling the key challenges our sector still faces—the shortage of talent and the shortage of homegrown tech anchor companies. At BC Tech, we're building the foundation for the next 25 years.

Jill Tipping
President and CEO

2017-18 PARTNERS

BC TECH'S IMPACT IS MADE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF OUR KEY PARTNERS, DONORS, AND SPONSORS.
WE THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN 2017-18:



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